2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

IRS violations 'seriously disturb' Rubin

WASHINGTON (AP) — Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin promised strong action Friday after an IRS report found the use of enforcement quotas in the Arkansas-Oklahoma office may have led to the mistreatment of taxpayers.

"I am seriously disturbed ... that an emphasis on statistical goals and expectations could have affected taxpayers' rights to fair treatment and employees' rights to a fair evaluation system," he said in a statement.

Still, he said, "the vast majority of IRS employees are committed to doing their jobs right."

The IRS report was promised by agency officials in September as they endured searing criticism at Senate hearings. It found the Arkansas-Oklahoma office's practice of evaluating its agents by the seizures and levies they made was unfair to both taxpayers and the agents. It laid the blame for the policy on a "service-wide climate."

"This is an unacceptable finding and one that demands strong action," Rubin said.

Race to get second candidate

Continued From Page 1

"I feel that I have a lot to offer to help meet these ends. A commissioner must not only have the tools to conduct the financial affairs of the county, but the willingness to work with a shovel or drive a truck should his road foreman need the help."

Richburg said he is seeking office because he enjoys living in Scurry County and wants to see it prosper.

"I want to see younger generations able to stay in Scurry County, if that is their desire, and have a business environment that will allow them the opportunity to earn a decent living."

Two years ago, Richburg married Ruth Tate. She has been employed at Western Texas College for more than 20 years.

They live on a small farm north of Hermleigh. They have four children at home, one attending Western Texas College and three in Snyder public schools.

The family attends Hermleigh Church of Christ.

Child burned by wall plug

Snyder EMS personnel, the fire department and law officers responded to a report of a possible fire and a child being burned at 7:48 p.m. Friday at an apartment in the 4400 block of Avenue U.

A 10-year-old female was transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital for treatment of injuries received when an electrical outlet shorted out as a lamp was being plugged in. The girl was treated and released and the damage at the apartment was limited to the outlet area.

One person was arrested Friday as a 28-year-old male was taken into custody at the sheriff's office for public intoxication.

Officers responded to a report of someone searching through a vehicle in the 2600 block of 46th Street Thursday night and to two reports of someone making threats over the telephone. No offense reports were filed in any of those cases.

A coronet that was reported stolen Wednesday at Northeast Elementary was located as was a vehicle which had been reported stolen on Wednesday. Dispatchers were notified at 3:12 Saturday morning that the vehicle had been located in San Antonio.

At 2:39 a.m. Saturday, officers responded to a report of loud music in an apartment in the 4400 block of Avenue U and investigated a report of a celluar telephone theft at 6:17 Saturday morning.

Martin Gomez reported that someone had taken the telephone from a truck parked in the 2000 block of Industrial. An offense report for Class C theft was submitted.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Computer raffle is museum fund-raiser

The Scurry County Museum is selling raffle tickets for a computer. Proceeds will go toward helping the museum improve its financial position.

The computer being raffled is a KG6MMX 200 one with a 15 inch monitor, a 2.1 Gig Hard Drive. 32 MB RAM, 10X CD-Rom, sound blaster, MS mouse, Windows 95.

The drawing for the computer will be held next Sunday 21 at a location to be announced.

The computer system will be available for viewing at Bar H Bar next Saturday. Other locations and times are to be announced.

Tickets are now available at Snyder Health Mart Drug, Nathalie's and the museum.

According to James R. Cave, Scurry County Museum Board president, "The museum is striving to end 1997 in a zero or positive cash position. It is essential that the museum do this, since it is applying for operating funds from foundations and governmental agencies."

The museum is located on the southwest corner of the WTC campus. Its winter hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday. Other times by appointment. Call 573-6107 for additional information.

Woman's 2-year term is probated

A 36-year-old Snyder woman was sentenced to two years in a state jail facility, probated for five years, after pleading guilty Friday in 132nd District Court.

Moira Elizabeth Lindsey of 1302 Lear pleaded guilty to criminal mischief, scratching and causing damage on Oct. 10 to a vehicle owned by Valerie Greene.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong also fined Lindsey $500 and ordered her to make restitution totaling $2,938.88.

Obituaries

Donna Willis

1946-1997

Donna Willis, 51, died Friday, Dec. 12, at her home in Snyder after a lengthy illness.

Funeral service is set for 1 p.m. Sunday in the Wright Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Marvin Collier, pastor of the Community Baptist Church, will officiate. Cremation is planned.

Born Oct. 19, 1946 in New York City, Miss Willis was a former roustabout for Texaco. At the time of her death, she was a correctional officer at the Price Daniel Unit in Snyder.

Survivors include her father, Raymond Willis of Sweetwater; a brother, Barry Ray Willis of Sweetwater; a nephew, Bradley Ray Willis of Big Spring; a niece, Rae Ann Willis of Big Spring; a cousin, Keith Allen Holley of Dallas; and two special friends, Alice Daniels and Ann Lord, both of Snyder.

Ethel Glass

1906-1997

SWEETWATER — Funeral service for Ethel Glass, 91, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Cate-Spencer and Trent Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Lyndel Hix officiating. Burial will follow in the Loraine Cemetery.

Mrs. Glass died Thursday, Dec. 11, in Rolling Plains Hospital.

Born Aug. 9, 1906 in Hamilton County, Mrs. Glass was a homemaker and a longtime member of the Broadway Baptist Church. She had been a resident of Sweetwater since 1955.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Ivy and Doyle Graham of Sweetwater and Patsy and Dealon Stanley of Big Spring; a son and daughter-in-law, Marshall and Shirley Burrus of Snyder; 12 grandchildren; 20 great-granchildren and several nieces and nephews.

Grandsons will serve as pallbearers.

For Courteous, Professional Service

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Legion/VFW Christmas party

The American Legion and VFW will hold a Christmas party from 6:30-8:30 p.m. Saturday at the American Legion. Ladies are asked to bring a dessert. Men and women need to bring a $10 gift.

First Baptist musical

"Everlasting Light," a Christmas carol for a dark world will be presented by the music ministry of the First Baptist Chruch at 8:15 and 10:45 a.m. Sunday.

'A Christmas Story'

The Western Texas College planetarium will present "A Christmas Story" this Sunday and next Sunday at 2 p.m. There is no charge for admission.

Heritage Village open house

Heritage Village will be open from 2 until 4 p.m. Sunday. Visitors can see the nativity scenes in the Dodson House and cookie jar collection in the Dermott School.

Party for children

VFW Post 8231 will hold a Christmas Party for area children from 2-4 p.m. Sunday. Santa will present a gift and refreshments will be served.

Chamber board to meet

Snyder Chamber of Commerce board will meet at 11:30 a.m. Monday. On the agenda are hotel/motel fund requests, introduction of new board members and officers, upcoming events and an executive session to discuss personnel.

AARP installation dinner

The AARP installation dinner will be held at 5 p.m. Monday at Rudy's. All members are encouraged to attend.

Blood pressure clinic

Total Home Health of Post will have a free blood pressure clinic from 9-10 a.m. Tuesday at the Fluvanna Cafe.

Mesquite Country Emmaus

Mesquite Country Emmaus Christmas Candelight Service will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church. Members, family and friends are welcome.

Safety awareness program

Total Home Health of Post will host a free safety awareness program and Christmas tea from 3-4 p.m. Wednesday in the Golden Terrace Apartments meeting room. Everyone is welcome.

Watson in concert

Church of the Hills presents Johnny Ray Watson in concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday. A fellowship will follow the service. Those attending may wish to bring a snack. The church is located off the intersection of U.S. Highway 84 and FM 612. Look for the lighted cross on the hill.

Support group ministry

Three support groups for divorce recovery, cancer/grief and caring for aging parents will meet at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. For more information, call the church office at 573-2631. Anyone is welcome to attend and child care will be provided.

Parents Night Out

Snyder Senior Class will sponsor Parents Night Out, a babysitting service, from 5:30-9:30 p.m. next Saturday, for children 4 years old through the 4th grade. For reservations, call Jill at 573-7073 or Traci at 573-1400 by Thursday.

'Does Santa Really Care?'

Snyder First Church of the Nazarene, 2462 S. 208, will present "Does Santa Really Care?" at 10:45 a.m. next Sunday. Everyone is invited. Santa will be there.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:
25-32-34-35-38

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
9-1-6

Snyder, Texas
Colorado City, Texas

McDonald's

Call Us For Your Birthday Party
573-7732

Elves are at play,
loading the sleigh.
Packages piling high. DON'T LET SANTA PASS YOURS BY.
The 19ths the day
they're pulling away.
So SHIP yours today, insuring
bright eyes & glowing
faces on Christmas Day.

MAIL CENTER & MORE

Your Wrapping, Packing & Shipping Headquarters
3012 Varsity Square
HOURS Wed. & Fri. 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; Mon., Tues. & Thurs 9 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Feature

Seve
cros

A cross, the u
Christianity, h
erected on a mo
na ranch.
Getting the 2
place was no ea
Parks, who
project. But it h
worth the effo
The engine

THE SNYDE
NE

Scu
Co
Fo
by Sh
Go

months to plan
Eddie and othe
the cross near
using railroad b
the RS&P Rail
inches wide
thick. The cross
wide.
The beams
about 2,000 p
mated. Measuri
lot of time.
Besides Edd
Parks, and br
helped with th
One Saturda
ber, they bega
cross, and ha

Hallm
The S
Bring your
list to Hallm
holiday sea
we'll make
no one is fo
From nostal
we have jol
that are sur
chuckle to
Santa. Com
the very be

Several volunteers help erect cross on a ranch in Fluvanna

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Scurry County Folks

by Shirley A. Gorman

A cross, the universal symbol of Christianity, has recently been erected on a mountain at a Fluvanna ranch.

Getting the 27-foot structure in place was no easy task, said Eddie Parks, who spearheaded the project. But it has definitely been worth the effort.

The engineering feat took months to plan and execute. First, Eddie and other volunteers built the cross near the ranch house, using railroad bridge timbers from the RS&P Railroad. Each was 14 inches wide and eight inches thick. The cross beam was 13 feet wide.

The beams probably weigh about 2,000 pounds, Eddie estimated. Measuring them required a lot of time.

Besides Eddie, his dad, Martin Parks, and brother, D.M., also helped with the construction.

One Saturday in mid September, they began to work on the cross, and had to overcome a series of obstacles, including a chain saw that acted up.

"It was like the devil didn't like what we were doing," Eddie said.

Putting the cross together took most of one weekend, he said, leaving the installation for the following weekend. But by then, word of mouth had spread and more volunteers were available to erect the cross.

Since the trail to the cross is very steep, climbing up and down was tiring, Eddie said. The following week, he brought a backpack which made things easier.

David Cain, who works for Patterson Drilling, helped tremendously because he brought a front-end loader that first Saturday which made everything a lot easier, Eddie said.

However, the hill was too steep to get the equipment up there so they dug the six-foot hole by hand.

Then they began disassembling the cross and securing it with chains before hauling it to the base of a mountain located in a canyon on the Parks' family ranch.

A crowbar was used to divert the cross around trees and rocks on the steep hill.

Once the pieces of the cross reached the top, all of the volunteers reassembled it, Eddie said.

To hoist it, they built an A-frame similar to what is used to lift windmills. Patterson Drilling donated a truck that Saturday.

Once the cross was at the top, Eddie said excitement really began to build. After the cross was erected, he said it was a "very humbling experience." All of the volunteers formed a prayer circle around the base.

Tommy Williams videotaped the cross as it was being raised and planted in the ground. Musician Bill Hodges has written a song based on seeing the cross in his rearview mirror. Eddie said they hope that song can be used as a background for the video.

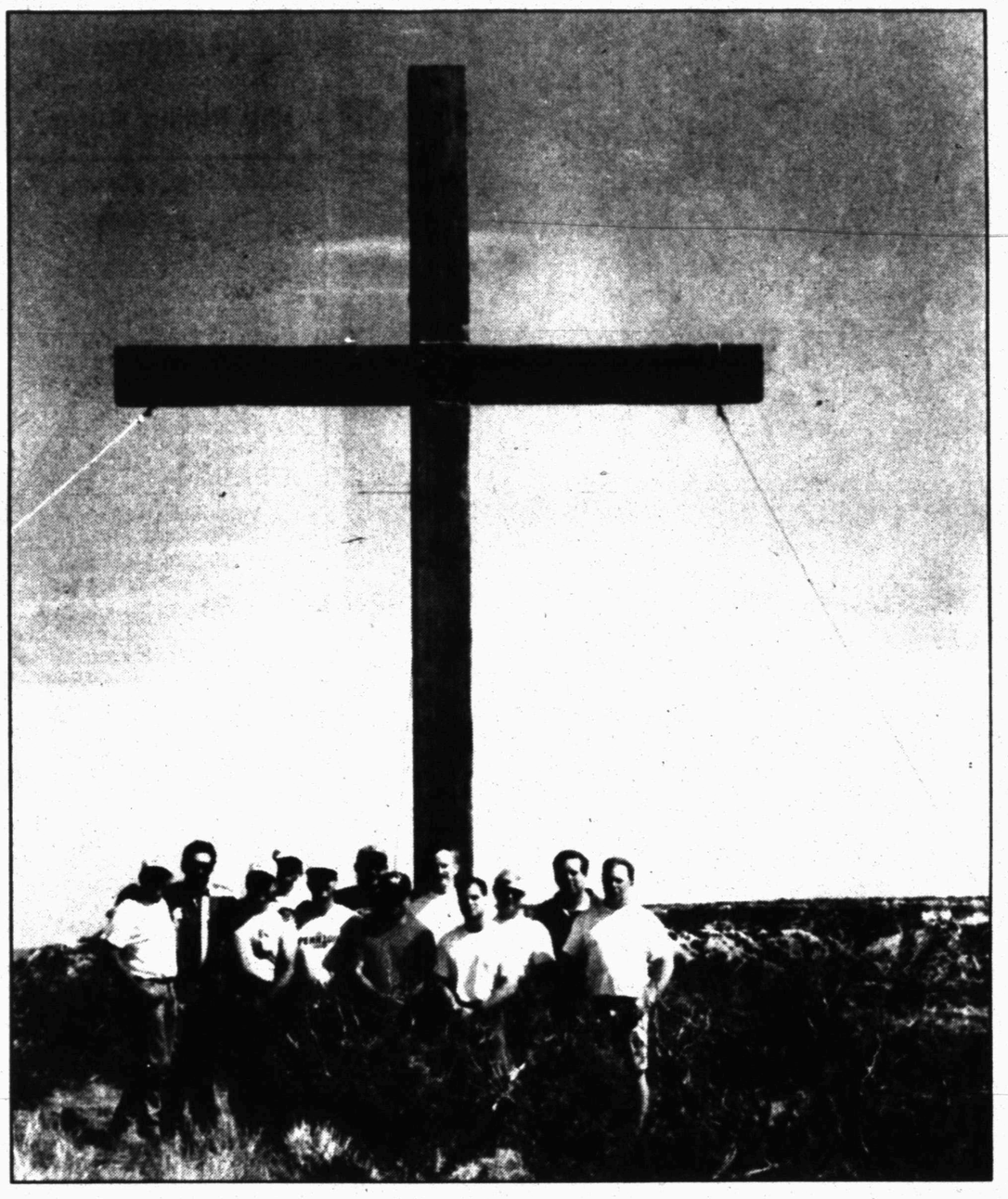
What made the project a success was the cooperative effort of so many people, Eddie said. The fellowship between all of the workers deepened the experience for everyone.

For Eddie, the added benefit is the "satisfaction of obeying the Lord. It's (the cross) a great example of what the Lord did for us. And it's an affirmation that the Lord will not be stopped."

Since the cross was erected, it has become a gathering place. The First Baptist Church men's class has held a sunrise service there.

The cross is open to other religious activities as well, Eddie

See Cross, Page 4B



LABOR OF LOVE — In September, several Scurry County volunteers banded together to erect this cross on a mountain at a Fluvanna ranch. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Brief glance at Walk to Emmaus

(Editor's Note: The following information was taken from "What is Emmaus" by Stephen D. Bryant, copyright 1995 by The Upper Room)

The Walk to Emmaus is a spiritual renewal program. It seeks to develop Christian disciples and leaders who in turn strengthen the local church.

The 72-hour short course in Christianity includes 15 talks by lay people and clergy members. Themes include the grace of God, disciplines of Christian discipleship, and what it means to be the church.

Emphasis is focused on prayer, meditation, special worship times and daily Holy Communion.

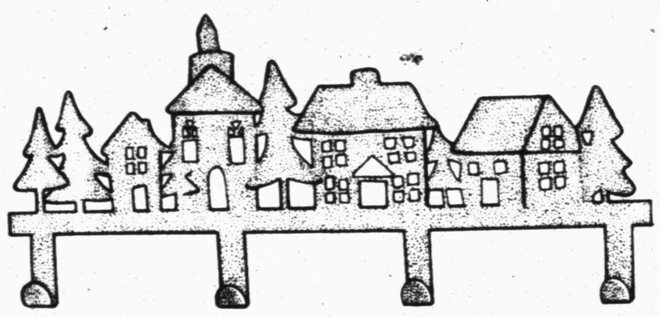
Those who attend become part of the "Emmaus community" who help support other 72-hour experiences in various ways including with prayer vigil and preparing and serving meals.

Men and women attend separate Walks which usually begin Thursday evening and conclude Sunday evening.

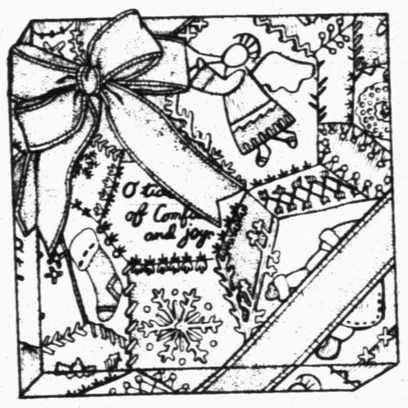
Each day focuses on distinct phases. Day One: God and the relationship God offers. Day Two: Jesus Christ and each disciple's response to the grace of God in the context of Christian community. Day Three: The Holy Spirit and the call to live as an active member of the body of Christ through service in church and community. The Fourth Day is living every day as a walk with Christ in the company of one another, through regular prayer, study and service.

Hallmark—Sending You The Season's Best!

Bring your shopping list to Hallmark this holiday season, and we'll make certain that no one is forgotten. From nostalgic to cuddly, we have jolly gift ideas that are sure to bring a chuckle to your favorite Santa. Come in soon for the very best selection.



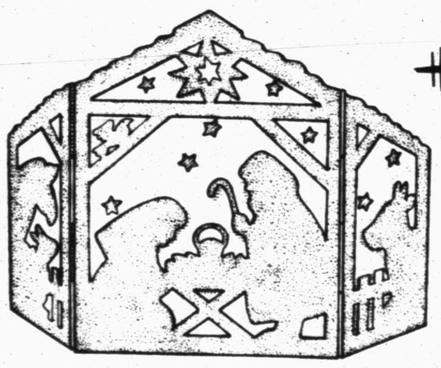
Wall Stocking Hanger



You'll Go Crazy Over Our Christmas Gift Wrap!

This holiday season, let Hallmark dress your packages in the hand-crafted look of our Crazy Quilt pattern. Your family and friends will adore the design and delight in the nostalgia.

Hallmark



Our fabric patchwork Christmas tree is the perfect addition to your holiday decorating and entertaining. Use it as a centerpiece on your holiday table or give it as a gift to someone special.

$9.99

Add Some Old-Fashioned Fun To Your Holidays!

Hallmark Barbie COLLECTIBLES

Victorian Christmas Collection

Hallmark Has The Perfect Holiday Cards For Everyone On Your List!

Whether you're looking for traditional designs or whimsical characters, we have just the right cards to warm your family and friends this holiday season.

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-5:00

Free Gift Wrapping on in store purchases

Gift Wrap Service

Boxed Christmas Cards Free Printing

Snowman Bowl

Hallmark Has Value Cards For Valued Kids!

99¢

Share a hug and a smile this holiday season with a 99¢ Christmas Kids Card. We have a huge assortment of sizes and sentiments sure to please your favorite elves. So come in soon and stock up on value.

The Pleasure's Mine

2502 Ave. R Snyder, Texas 915 / 573-6536 Layaways

Virginia Bloom Owner

DEC 13 1997

ENGAGEMENT ANNOUNCED — Marisa Click of Abilene and Jared Bailey of Snyder have set their wedding for 2 p.m. on Jan. 17, 1998 at Calvary Baptist Church in Abilene. The bride-elect is a 1996 graduate of Abilene High School. She is a communications major at Hardin-Simmons University and is employed by Baskin-Robbins in Abilene. Miss Click is the daughter of E.A. and Donna Click of Abilene and the granddaughter of Carroll and Wanda Murphree of Rotan. The prospective groom, a 1996 graduate of Snyder High School, is a finance major at HSU and is employed by Fiesta Foods in Abilene. He is the son of Robert and Reba Bailey of Snyder and the grandson of Horace and Betty Carter of Rotan and Anita Franklin of Springtown. (Contributed Photo)

Twin sisters adopt twins

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — The translator did a double-take when Joyce Rodie appeared in a Russian court to adopt infant twins.

"Weren't you just here a few weeks ago?" she asked.

Actually, Mrs. Rodie's identical twin, 41-year-old Jane Bragg, had also adopted twin babies from Russia just a few weeks earlier. A telephone call to the Ohio agency that arranged the adoptions eased the translator's concerns.

Soon, Mrs. Rodie and her husband, John, boarded a plane to back to the United States with 5-month-old Seth Eugene and Sydney Elizabeth.

"It's a dream come true," Mrs. Rodie said as she reflected on the adoption on Thanksgiving Day.

"When we first saw them in the photos we thought they were beautiful," she said as she adjusted the tiny bow tie of Seth's Christmas suit and smoothed Sydney's festive green velvet romper.

Mrs. Rodie's and Mrs. Bragg's blue-eyed babies were born three weeks apart in May in two Russian towns. The children had been abandoned by their mothers. The Braggs brought their babies, Chandler Eugene and Casey Ann, home to Kennesaw on Oct. 15.

Mrs. Rodie and Mrs. Bragg said fertility problems led them to consider adoption.

Make a Wish

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Kevin Sharp's star rose after the Make-A-Wish Foundation helped a dream come true when he was a teen-ager.

Now 27 and a spokesman for the organization that grants wishes to seriously ill children, the rising country music star is doing his part to make some sick youngsters happy.

Looking for a profession?

For a good steady job, get your education and learn to be a HAIRDRESSER or MANICURE SPECIALIST

Call Howard College Cosmetology (915) 264-5062

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

12-13-97

North
♠ Q 9 8 4 3
♥ 9 2
♦ A 7
♣ A 9 6 3

West
♠ K J 6 2
♥ 8 4 3
♦ K 2
♣ K 8 5 2

East
♠ 7
♥ K Q 10 6 5
♦ J 10 8 4 3
♣ J 7

South
♠ A 10 5
♥ A J 7
♦ Q 9 6 5
♣ Q 10 4

Vulnerable: Neither
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		Pass	2 ♥
Pass	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ 3

From which corner of the globe?

By Phillip Alder

From which country does the writer of the following snippet come? "We agreed on Stayman, Blackwood at every opportunity, and normal signals." His teammates were "a long-standing partnership with many agreements, the main one being that a second bottle of wine should be consumed at each meal break."

Well, the extra lubrication obviously worked, as the quartet won a major team event. They were helped by this deal.

At both tables, after North's pass, East opened with a weak two-bid, supposedly showing a six-card suit and some 5-9 high-card points. When it was passed back to North, he had an easy balance with two spades. Now the writer, Ted Chadwick, sensibly passed. His partner couldn't open: how could they make game? Also, North was surely bidding partly on South's known values. North racked up an overtrick for plus 140.

At the other table, South made an undisciplined jump to three no-trump.

West led the heart three. As South is marked with the heart ace, East should play the 10, making declarer, if he has the jack, use up his second stopper immediately. However, East put up the queen. With this lucky layout, a duck by declarer will bring home the contract, but South won the trick. He continued with the ace and 10 of spades. West won with the king to return another heart, East correctly playing the 10 this time. Now the contract was dead.

That comedy of errors was from Australia, where a friend was surprised to hear that I drink wine because I enjoy the taste, not because I want to get drunk. "Australians only drink to get a buzz," he told me.

© 1997 by NEA, Inc

Snyder Duplicate Bridge Scoreboard

Jane Hinton directed at the Duplicate Bridge Club at the Snyder Country Club.

TUESDAY
Dec. 2

Three tables.
1. Pat Floyd, Margaret Presswood.
2. Dot Casey, Barbara Yorgesen.
3. Louise Thompson, Rube McKinley.

FRIDAY
Dec. 5

Five tables.
1. Ann Davis, Nita Talbott.
2. Marjorie Brown, Jane Hinton.
3. Rube McKinley, Barbara Yorgesen.

SUNDAY
Dec. 7

Four tables.
1. Linda West, Monte West.
2. Martha Fagin, Maribeth Vestal.
3. Dora Blakey, Shirley Stewart.

TUESDAY

Four tables.
1. Jane Hinton, Billisue Hinton.
2. Margaret Birdwell, Tizzy Hall.
3. Charles Blakey, Barbara Yorgesen.

Double-ring ceremony...
Parker, White united

Ronda Lynn Parker and Justin Heath White were united in marriage in a 2 p.m. double-ring ceremony Oct. 18 in the Roscoe Church of Christ. Phil Collard, minister of the church, officiated.

The bride is the daughter of Ronny and Donna Parker of Roscoe, and Larry and Vicki White of Snyder are parents of the bridegroom.

The church was decorated with off-white tulle pew bows centered with white satin bows. Spiral candelabras with greenery and tulle bows, ficus trees and a wrought iron unity candle stand, made by the bride's father, decorated the altar area.

Shane Parker, brother of the bride from Roscoe, and Steven McDonald of Huntsville served as ushers and candlelighters.

During the lighting of the candles, Ursula Santiago of Waxahachie sang "Standing Right Next to Me."

The Pot Belly Boys, a singing quartet from Roscoe, and Randall Smith sang "The Maker Said Take Her" while the grandparents were seated and the mothers lit the taper candles for the unity candle. Members of the Pot Belly Boys include Freddy Freeman of Roscoe, Joe Brad McVey of Maryneal, Hershel McDonald of Roscoe and Jimmy Wilson Smith of Roscoe.

As the wedding party entered, Randall Smith sang "I Do."

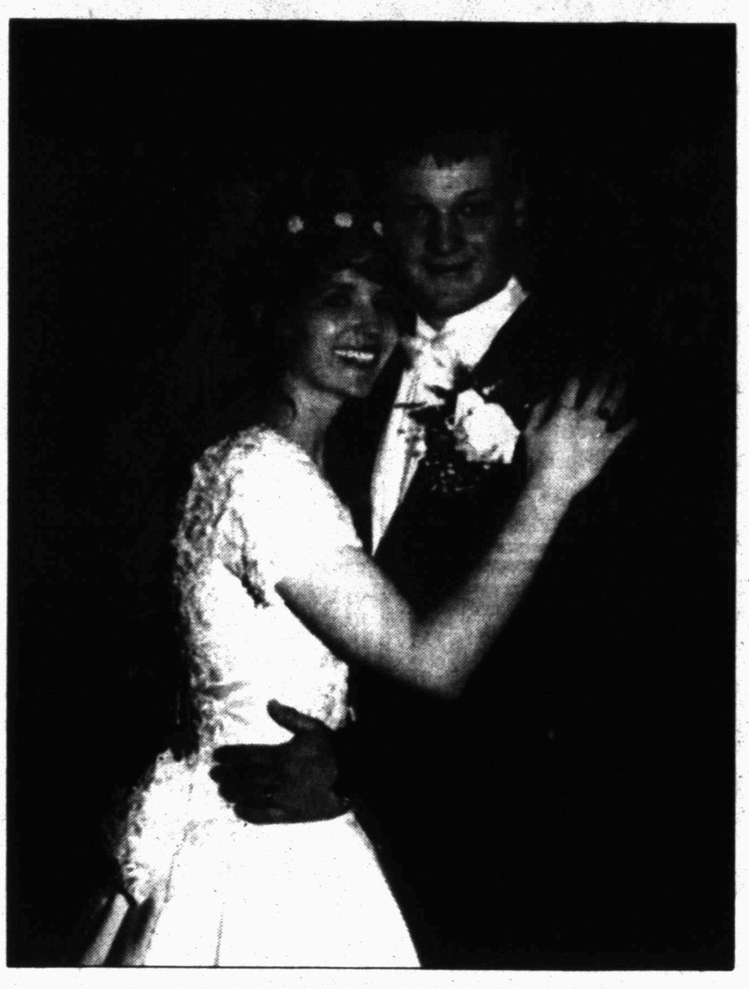
The bride was escorted by her father to "The Bridal March," sung by The Pot Belly Boys, Suzanne Smith of Colorado City, Cherry Wright of Roscoe and Marna Allen of Roscoe and Linda Freeman of Roscoe.

The bride wore a white satin, short sleeved gown featuring a princess neckline. Beading adorned the sleeves and bodice front and back. A V-shaped waistline was accented with box pleats. A pleated tulle bow with beading was attached to the back of the back waist. Streamers cascaded down most of the train.

Her veil of tulle, with a beaded headpiece, cascaded to elbow length.

The bride carried a bouquet of white lilies and white roses, accented with English ivy and various other greenery. It had streamer of white ribbon, ivy and greenery.

During the lighting of the unity candle, Joe Brad McVey sang "Look At You Girl."



Mr. and Mrs. Justin Heath White (Contributed Photo)

Heather Griffith, cousin of the bride from Abilene, served as maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Jennifer Stewart and sister of the groom, Jodi White, both of Snyder, and Lisa Parker of Roscoe, sister of the bride.

Bridesmaids were dressed in burgundy crepe dresses with short sleeves, empire waistlines and princess cut necklines. The back bodice had a bow that tied slightly above the waist. They carried bouquets of silk cream magnolias with burgundy accents.

Jason Coy of Snyder served as best man. Other attendants were Jason Miller of Snyder, Ricky Sollis of Lubbock, and Reece Martin of Canyon. They were dressed in black tuxedos with burgundy cummerbunds. Each wore a white rose and greenery boutonniere.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with a white vest and tie. His boutonniere was of white roses, burgundy accents, baby's breath and greenery.

Alexis Cleckler of Roscoe was flower girl and the ring bearer was Benjamin Lopez of Sweetwater.

The registry table was decorated with a flower arrangement with burgundy and cream color flowers in a basket on an ecru table runner, handmade by Lucille Schwartz of Canadian, grandmother of the bride. Jandi Wells of Lubbock registered guests.

Following the ceremony, a reception was held in the fellowship hall.

The bride's table was covered with a muslin cloth and an off-white lace overlay; a denim box pleated skirt was highlighted with a scalloped lace along the edge of the table. A lace bow centered the front of the table.

A four-layer stacked traditional white wedding cake iced in white, was accented with white rose buds and greenery. It stood on an elevated mirror and the base was surrounded with greenery and baby's breath. It was completed with a porcelain bride and groom cake topper.

Punch, from a crystal bowl and cake was served by Kacey Holt of Roswell, N.M., and Jodi Gonzales of Spur.

The groom's table was covered with a muslin box pleated skirt. A burgundy and cream checked raffia border outlined the top edge of the table. The cake was a two-layer red velvet cake with chocolate icing. White and dark chocolate curls surrounded the top and sides of the bottom layer, and a burgundy and cream checked bow flowed down. The cake was placed on an elevated mirror surrounded by mesquite and greenery. Ice tea was served from a crock tea pitcher and porcelain pigs decorated the table.

The bride's and groom's tables and cakes were decorated by the bride.

The couple's honeymoon was to Ruidoso, N.M., and they have made their new home in Snyder.

The bride, a 1993 graduate of Roscoe High School, received an associate of arts degree from Western Texas College and a bachelor of science degree from Texas Tech University. She is employed by Scurry County.

The groom is a 1993 graduate of Snyder High School and is employed at Snyder Heating and Air Conditioning.

'Crime' writer makes plea for literacy

LONDON (AP) — Crime writer Ruth Rendell, literary authority on the corpus delecti, wants to see some live bodies in England's libraries.

Making her first speech to Parliament on Thursday as the new Baroness Rendell, the writer made a plea for literacy.

Books should not be crowded out by computer technology and viewed as "curiosities from a former age," Rendell said. "To be literate is to turn the soul's eye towards the light."

"I have to express an interest because I have written many books with bodies in libraries or less salubrious places," she joked.

Rendell is the author of the Inspector Wexford novels. She also writes psychological suspense stories under the name Barbara Vine.

OPEN TIL 3:00 P.M. ON CHRISTMAS EVE

Pins Are Great For Stocking Stuffers, Secret Pals, Teachers or That Special Someone. $15.99

"Symbols of the SAVIOR"

Star - Matt.2:2 "We have seen HIS star in the east and have come to worship HIM."

Angel - Luke 2:10,11 "And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for behold I bring you good tidings of great joy...For unto you is born this day in the City of David a Savior which is CHRIST the LORD."

Fish - Matt. 4:19 And HE (JESUS) said to them, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men."

Cross - I Cor. 1:18 "For the preaching of the cross... is the power of GOD."

Heart - John 3:16 "For GOD so loved the world that HE gave HIS only begotten SON, that whosoever believeth in HIM should not perish, but have everlasting life."

COUPON
10% Off
Any Purchase
With This Coupon
Thru Christmas Eve 1997

Men's Shopping Night - Thursday 5:00-8:00 p.m.

TIMBER & Threads

1801 25th Street
Snyder, Texas
(915) 573-4018

Monday-Saturday
10:00-5:30

Gifts

- Lighted 3X Makeup Mirrors
- 5X Big Eye Makeup Mirrors
- Whiting & Davis Cigarette Cases
- Floral Hanging Laundry Clothes Bags
- Style Saver Pillows
- Brighton Jewelry
- Baby Ewey Sheep
- Cake Candles
- Socks & Tights

Linda's Style Shop

1413 Hailey 235-1397
Sweetwater, Texas 1-800-372-1066

Favorite Holiday Recipes

SPICED TEA MIX

1 cup Tang
1 cup sugar
½ cup instant tea
1 3-oz. pkg. Kool Aid lemonade mix
1 tsp. ground cinnamon
½ tsp. ground cloves

Combine and mix well. Store in jars or a sealed container.

To serve, mix 2 or 3 tsp. of dry mix with 1 cup boiling water. Nice to put in pretty containers and give as gifts.

Submitted by Deborah Davis

E-Z COBBLER

1 stick margarine
1 cup flour
1 cup sugar
3 tsp. baking powder
¾ cup milk
1 No. 2½ can fruit, your favorite kind

Melt margarine in medium baking dish. Combine flour, sugar, milk and baking powder. Mix well and pour over margarine. Do Not Stir! Pour fruit over mixture. Bake 350 degrees for 30-40 minutes.

Submitted by Deborah Davis

CORN RELISH

¾ cup sugar
½ cup Crisco oil
¼ cup white vinegar
½ tsp. celery seed
¼ tsp. whole mustard seed
1 can (17-oz. size) whole kernel corn, drained
1 can (16-oz. size) sauerkraut, pressed to remove liquid
½ cup chopped green pepper
½ cup chopped onion
1 jar (2-oz.) diced pimiento, drained

Add all ingredients, mix, cover and refrigerate at least overnight. Drain and stir before serving. Serves 6 to 8. Very colorful.

PARTY PASTA SALAD

1 pkg. (12 oz.) corkscrew pasta
1 can (20-oz.) pineapple chunks
1 cup vegetable oil
½ cup white vinegar
1 tbsp. Dijon mustard
1 tbsp. Worchestershire sauce
1 clove garlic, pressed
Salt and pepper to taste
3 cups cauliflower florets
3 cups broccoli florets
1 red bell pepper, seeded and chopped
1 cup whole almonds, toasted

Cook noodles according to directions. Drain pineapple, reserve 3 tbsp. juice for dressing. Combine juice, oil, vinegar, mustard, Worchestershire sauce, garlic, salt and pepper in screw-top jar. Shake well. Combine noodles and cauliflower in large bowl. Pour dressing over salad. Toss to coat. Cover and marinate in refrigerator overnight. Add broccoli, pepper and almonds. Toss to coat. Makes 12 to 15 servings. Pretty in white, red, green and yellow.

Submitted by Janelda Davis

Waldorf Chicken Salad

1 cup uncooked medium macaroni shells, cooked and drained
2 cups cubed cooked chicken or turkey
2 cups chopped apples
1 cup (4 oz.) cubed cheddar cheese
¾ cup sliced celery
½ cup mayonnaise or salad dressing
¼ cup applesauce
2 tsp. Wylers chicken flavored instant bouillon
½ cup chopped nuts

In large bowl combine all ingredients. Mix and chill.

Hint: use bouillon powder dry, don't mix with water. Makes about 7 cups.

POTATO-TUNA SALAD

½ cup olive or vegetable oil
¼ cup white wine vinegar
2 tbsp. lemon juice
1 clove garlic, minced
¾ tsp. Tabasco hot sauce
¼ tsp. salt

Mix all ingredients in large bowl. Add 2 pounds cooked small red potatoes, cubed

2 cans (6½ to 7 oz. each) tuna, drained and flaked
1 cup sliced celery
½ cup sliced green onions

Mix together, refrigerate at least 1 hour. Serve over fresh spinach leaves. 6 to 8 servings.

Submitted by Janelda Davis

ROCKY ROAD BROWNIES

1 cup margarine
4 squares unsweet baking chocolate
2 cups sugar
1 tsp. vanilla
4 eggs
1½ cup flour
¼ tsp. salt
3 cups marshmallows
1 cup salted peanuts

In a pan combine margarine and baking chocolate. Melt over low heat. Stir in sugar and vanilla. Add eggs, beating well. Add flour and salt. Stir well. Spread in 13x9-inch baking pan. Bake 23 to 28 minutes at 350 degrees. Sprinkle marshmallows and peanuts over top. Bake 2 to 3 minutes until golden brown.

For glaze:

2 tbsp. margarine
1 square chocolate
1 cup powdered sugar
2 to 4 tsp. milk

Mix margarine and chocolate, melt over low heat. Add sugar and milk. Stir until smooth. Drizzle over marshmallows.

Submitted by Luann Grice

SALSA PRONTO

1 can (14½ oz.) Del Monte Mexican Style Stewed Tomatoes
¼ cup finely chopped onions
2 tbsp. chopped fresh cilantro
2 tsp. lemon juice
1 small clove garlic, minced
⅛ tsp. hot pepper sauce (may substitute minced jalapeno pepper to taste for hot pepper sauce)

Use blender on tomatoes for 2 seconds to chop. Mix other ingredients.

GUACAMOLE DIP

½ cup salad dressing
1 large avocado, peeled and mashed
1 tomato, seeded, chopped
2 tbsp. each: chopped onion, chopped green chilies
1 tsp. lemon or lime juice

Mix ingredients well, refrigerate. Serve with veggies or tortilla chips. Makes 2 cups.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

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

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

Al-Anon meeting (smoke Free), brown bag lunch; Park Club in Winston Park. For more information, call 573-1579 or 573-5525; noon to 1 p.m.

AARP installation dinner; Rudy's; all members are urged to attend; 5 p.m.

Delta Kappa Gamma; Martha Ann Woman's Club; hostesses, Judy Barkowsky, Billie Hartsfield, Dorothy Kayser, Allyce McMullan, Monette O'Day, Maribeth Vestal; 7 p.m.

Stargazers FCEC; 3117 Ave. T; 7 p.m.

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-9458, 573-8626 or 573-8929; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Art Guild Study Club; MAWC; hostesses, Rea Adams, Vondell King; 3:30 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

TOPS TX56, (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information call Peggy Eubank at 573-6509.

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

Hermleigh Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Lodge; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-1141 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956, 573-2101,573-1141 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Altrurian Daughters Club luncheon; MAWC; "Christmas Cheer," by David and Judy Brown; hostesses, Francene Noah, June McGlaun; 11:30 a.m.

Cosmorama Study Club; at Classic Interiors; hostesses, Laurie Grinslade, Jean McMillon; 4 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Upper Colorado SWCD meeting; country club; noon.

Al-Anon meeting (smoke free), noon to 1 p.m., brown bag. Park Club in Winston Park. For information call 573-4203 or 573-5525.

Three support groups: Divorce Recovery, Cancer/Grief, and Caring for Aging Parents; in Family Life Center of First Baptist Church; 6:30 p.m.; for more information call the church office at 573-2631. Anyone is welcome to attend and child care will be provided.

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762; 6:30 p.m.

Snyder Chapter No. 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th; 7:30 p.m.

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

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

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointments; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

NA Anonymous; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-3667, 573-1579 or 573-0949; 6 p.m.

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

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 573-8929; 8 p.m., open meeting (last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting, pot luck at 7 p.m.).

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349; 10 a.m.

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

Narcotics Anonymous Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 5 p.m.

Beginners Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club at Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 7 p.m.

BUSINESS WOMEN MEET — Judy Camp, center, received the American Business Women's Association, Scurry Charter Chapter scholarship. Shown with her are Paula Camp, left, and Vern Beasley. (Contributed Photo)

Camp named scholarship recipient

Scurry Charter Chapter of American Business Women met Dec. 11 at the Martha Ann Woman's Club for a Christmas party and to present a scholarship to Judy Camp.

A festive gift exchange was headed by Barbara Scrivner, followed by brief business session. Announcements included the spring convention which is to be held April 24-26, 1998 in Marshall; and the chapter will again head up the concessions for the May 16-17, 1998 arts and crafts show.

Pat Faver was hostess to 17 members and five guests including Anita Brown, Jackie McNew, Judy Camp, Paula Camp and Louise Poston. Carol Young presided and Vern Beasley gave the invocation.

During the chapter's November meeting, Scrivner introduced Brenda Hedges, owner of Advantage Capital since October of 1996, who gave a program on women and finances. Ira Postmaster Leona Wiggins gave the vocational talk. Sixteen members and three guests, Hedges, Darla Huddleston and Meg McCormick, attended. Tracey Williamson led the invocation and Beasley gave the benediction.

Museum to give away a computer

The Scurry County Museum is offering chances to win a computer to raise operating funds.

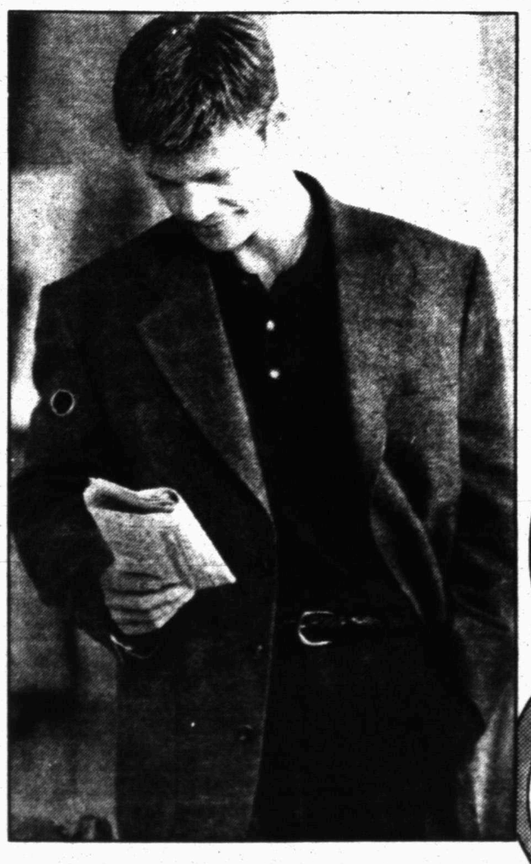
Chances cost $5 each and can be purchased from any board member. Tickets are available at Nathalie's and Snyder Healthmart. The computer will be given away on Dec. 21.

"In God We Trust" became the official motto of the United States in 1956. It had appeared on coins since 1864.

Custom Framing and Matting
Harley Bynum Photography
3403 Snyder Shopping Center 573-4190

COUNTRYPLACE
573-1817
Florist
AFS Wire Service
Registry
Gifts
Collectables
'Bride & Groom'
Sherry Fuston & John Abendschan
Kori Ince & Mark Williams
Amanda Davis & Cory Beltz
Rachel Haines & Travis Massingill
Alanna Stirling & Chris Stansell
Brittany Lee & Gilbert Orosco
'Baby Shower'
Donald & Tammi (Hardy) Deere
Randy & Christy James
Gery & Janice Camp
Jody Rankin
Free Setups, Call In Orders
Welcome, Decorated With Personal Touch
Full Service Floral - Fresh & Silk
4213 College Ave. 915-573-1817 Snyder Visa Discover MasterCard

It's Time!
Wrap It Up At Bar -H- Bar



Open Sunday
1 p.m. - 5 p.m.
Thurs. & Fri.
Dec. 18 & 19
Open Late Until
8 p.m.
-H-
Family Outfitters

Store Hours:
M-F 9-6;
Sat. 9-5:30
3219 College Ave.
Snyder, Texas
Phone 573-6763

Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

Tommy Ward, 1998 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Rocker A Operating, 1998 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

John T. Wilson, dba Rocker Ranch, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Bobby Joe Furlow, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

LAI Trust, 1998 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Bruce and Becky Stewart, 1997 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

James Randy Isham, dba Tarrant County Auto Adjusters, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Anita Felan, 1997 Pontiac from Big Country Autoland.

Snyder National Bank, 1998 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

Mable Glass, 1998 Mercury from Wilson Motors.

Cade Furlow, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Monroe A. Moore, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Sidney Reynolds, 1997 Ford Expedition from Wilson Motors.

RWW Farms Inc. and R. Chris Williams, 1998 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Carole C. Haynes, 1998 Chevrolet van from Big Country Autoland.

Max A. Blackwell, 1998 Cheverolet Suburban from Big County Autoland.

Ronnie L. and Sally Cox, 1998 Chevrolet Blazer from Big Country Autoland.

Jay and Amy Lewis, 1997 Chevrolet from Big Country Autoland.

Bill and Jean Sealy, 1998 Buick from Big Country Autoland.

William E. Ward, 1998 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

Associates Leasing Inc., 1998 Ford Expedition from Jordan Ford.

Rhonda Askins, dba AU Ranch, and Kathy Underwood, 1998 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Permian Communications, two 1998 Ford pickups from Wilson Motors.

Angie Harris, 1997 Mercury from Wilson Motors.

Morris L. and Niki H. Chaney, 1997 Dodge pickup from Snyder Chrysler.

Monica Chandler, 1997 Pontiac from Big Country Autoland.

Adam P. and Belia Romero, 1998 Pontiac from Big Country Autoland.

William M. Kerr Jr., 1998 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

Marriage License

Monroe Fred Rannefeld Jr. and Noma Ruth White, both of Snyder.

Leon Guadalupe Hernandez and Amanda Becerra Rodriguez, both of Snyder.

Raul Rivera and Sheryl Rae Rivera, both of Snyder.

Filed in District Court

Anna Bell Drum, et al, vs., BT Energy, a partnership, and Oilex International Investment Inc., petition for declaratory judgment.

Action in District Court

In the marriage of Janie Soliz and Alfonso F. Soliz, divorce granted.

Deed Records

Jeanette Lemons to Bobby Lemons, tract one being the southwest one-quarter of Section 205, Block 97, HJ&TC survey; tract two being the southwest one-quarter of the northwest one-quarter of Section 205, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Eloise Farris Myers to Deanne Devers Sims, Larry Taylor Devers and Christie Rae Devers Clark, all of Lots 1-16 and Lots 16 and 16, in Block 1 of the Andress Heights Addition.

Deanne Devers Sims, Larry Taylor Devers and Christie Ray Devers Clark to Larry T. and Barbara Bills, all of Lots 1-6 and Lots 15 and 15 in Block 1 of the Andress Heights Addition.

Tom E. Henry to Iva Jo Henry, Lots 1 in Block D of the Towle Place Addition.

Leslie Gill, Bessie McCauley, Edd Gill and Louise Stevens to Clint and Cheryl Hembree, a 100 x 150-foot tract out of the northwest one-quarter of Section 209, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Debbie K. Word to David M. Word, Lot 2 in Block 7 of the Park Place Addition.

Gevena French to Larry Burton and Rebecca Wesson, all of Lot 5 in Block 4 of the West Side Heights Addition.

William Malcolm and Jennifer V. Rainwater to Dan and Harriet Massaro, Lot 22 in Block 1 of the Scott and Browning Addition.

West Texas State Bank to Andrea Velasquez, individually and dba A's Silkscreen, all of Lot 2 in Snyder Shopping Center.

Dale Nolan to James F. and Doris J. DeFreese, the east 100 feet of the north 100 feet of Lot 1 in Block 22 of the T.N. Nunn's Addition.

Barbara Ann Gray to Eddie Don Gray, tract one being out of 125 acres in Section 96, Block 3, H&TC survey; tract two being a tract out of Section 179, Blck 3, H&GN survey; and tract three being the east 35 feet of Lot 3 and the west 15 feet of Lot 4 in Block 16 of the Wilmeth Addition.

Bridal Registry

Rachel Haines and Travis Massingill
Amanda Davis and Cory Beltz
Sherry Fuston and John Abendschan
Rosa Berkley Swigert and James Swigert
Kori Williams and Mac Williams
Brittany Lee and Gilbert Orosco
Jerri Martin and Derek Freeman

Infant Registry
Tammi and Donald Deere

Phone In Orders Welcome
Free Delivery To Bridal Shower

Classic Interiors
2520 Ave. R. East Side of Square
573-1701
Open Mon.-Fri., 9:30-5:30, Sat. 10:00-4:00

Federal panel seeks new push to make U.S. airlines safer

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Aviation Administration and the airline industry should develop a plan to improve airline safety that would include a restructured FAA, with a division handling day-to-day management of airline traffic, a national commission is recommending.

The 21-member National Civil Aviation Review Commission on Thursday proposed major changes in how the government regulates and finances air travel to avoid gridlock in the skies and airline crashes at a rate of one a week.

To pay for the improvements, the commission suggested earmarking user fees from airlines and passengers to let the FAA avoid undergoing the annual budget process on Capitol Hill.

The commission, created by Congress last year, said the changes are needed to cope with a projected huge increase in air travel. Unless the current accident rate is cut, the commission said a plane would crash every seven to 10 days by 2010.

"We face aviation gridlock caused by growth in air traffic combined with an air-traffic control (system) crippled by antiquated technology, inadequate funds and management flaws," said former Rep. Norman Y. Mineta, D-Calif., the commission chairman.

Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater said the commission's recommendations will form the basis of legislation the Clinton administration plans to send to Congress next year.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., chairman of the Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee, promised hearings on the report when Congress reconvenes.

"The commission's report is a compelling wake-up call about the vital need to improve the funding, management and modernization of the nation's aviation system," McCain said.

The commission said the new FAA organization would be responsible for managing the current air-traffic system and have authority to borrow money to finance improvements. Most of its money would come from user fees, such as ticket taxes. The commission did not suggest specific taxes or fees after current levies expire.

"The U.S. transport system is falling into a hole," the commission said. "Climbing out of this hole will take a great deal of money and time."

While the Air Line Pilots Association praised the recommendations, the association representing owners and operators of smaller planes said the commission exaggerated the problems.

"The sky isn't falling," said Phil Boyer, president for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association's legislative action division. He said the recommendations "would give FAA a blank check, diminishing congressional oversight of FAA spending."

San Antonio school district OKs sweeping uniform policy

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Tenth-grader Nicole Grier likes the idea of waking up each morning and dressing in a simple school uniform of khaki pants and a white blouse.

No worries about what to wear. No expensive clothes to buy.

"Just put it on," said Ms. Grier, a student at Sam Houston High School.

Monica Estrada, a junior at Fox Tech High School, disagrees.

"I don't really like it. I don't think it expresses everybody's individuality. I think they should use it for the elementary school and middle schools, not high schools," she said.

Starting next fall, students in the San Antonio Independent School District — from kindergarten through high school — won't be demonstrating their individuality with clothing.

School board trustees voted unanimously Monday to require uniforms for all pupils in the 60,000-student district, making it the largest district in Texas with a uniform policy for all campuses and apparently one of the first in the nation.

Noting success with uniforms at a district middle school, board members said they want the emphasis at their schools to be on learning, not children's appearances. And, they said, they want to crack down on gang activity that sometimes correlates with certain types and colors of clothing.

"It follows several months of community meetings among parents, students and educators," said San Antonio School District spokeswoman Rene Lynn. "The calls that we've gotten here at the school district so far have been overwhelmingly in support (of the new policy)."

The decision is in keeping with a national trend toward uniforms in public schools.

The Long Beach Unified School District in California started the movement in 1994 by requiring its pupils in kindergarten through eighth grade to wear uniforms. Earlier this year it expanded the policy to cover one grade at one high school, and is considering making the policy mandatory for all students in all schools, districts spokesman Dick Van Der Laan said. Currently about 65,000 of the district's 86,000 students wear uniforms.

Several other urban districts — including Chicago, Phoenix and Baltimore — have individual schools where uniforms are required.

In Texas, Eagle Pass, with about 10,000 students, became the first Texas district to require uniforms for all students. The Houston, Dallas and Fort Worth school districts have individual campuses that have opted for uniforms.

Eagle Pass and San Antonio are ahead of the pack in mandating uniforms for all high school students, said Marjorie Walsleben.

Albright tops group's list role models

WASHINGTON (AP) — Atop the list of women serving as terrific role models for today's girls is Secretary of State Madeleine Albright, the Ms. Foundation said.

The foundation, which advocates for women's issues, said Thursday it planned to issue an annual list of top 10 women role models.

"Their achievements create new opportunities for today's girls," Ms. Foundation President Marie Wilson said in a statement.

The foundation noted that Albright is the highest ranking woman to serve in the U.S. government but said that was not enough. "The role model that's missing is a woman in the Oval Office," Wilson said.

The foundation's other role models include: Gen. Claudia Kennedy, the Army's first three-star general; Dee Kantner and Violet Palmer, the National Basketball Association's first female referees; Nobel Peace Prize winner Jody Williams, who led the campaign to ban land mines; Phile Chionesu, a public-housing advocate who organized the Million Woman March; actress Ellen DeGeneres, who brought lesbian issues to the fore when she and her TV character said they were gay; and talk show host Oprah Winfrey, who encouraged the nation to read through her on-air book club.

Rounding out the list were 8-year-old science whiz Kira Colvin, who earned a perfect score on the Grade 4 National Science Olympiad; Christy Haubbeger, who started Latina, a magazine for Hispanic women; and Harvard student Irene Ng, the only Asian-American lead on a TV series, Nickelodeon's "The Mystery Files of Shelby Woo."

Cross

Continued From Page 1B

said. "It's God's cross, not my cross."

Improvements are still being made to the area. They have hewn some rough steps on the side of the mountain, making access to the cross easier.

Eventually, Eddie said, they want to install lights.

Future plans being considered include establishing a complex similar to Camp Buttman near Merkel. Should that come to pass, Eddie said he would like to have a summer camp for crippled and underpriviledged children.

Eddie said the cross is on the mountain because of the combined effort of many people. The idea originated with him, but it took the combined efforts of many Christians for it to come to fruition.

He said he was returning from a Mesquite Country Community Walk to Emmaus (see separate story, page 1B) where he had shared a spiritual experience with 80 other men when the idea to put a cross on the mountain first occurred to him.

Plans for the cross began to take shape about a year ago. At the time, Eddie said he was undergoing a process of Christian growth that he described as phenomenal.

He said the project was delayed for a time because "my life got very busy."

However, the cross "laid on my heart" and eventually he discussed it with his brothers.

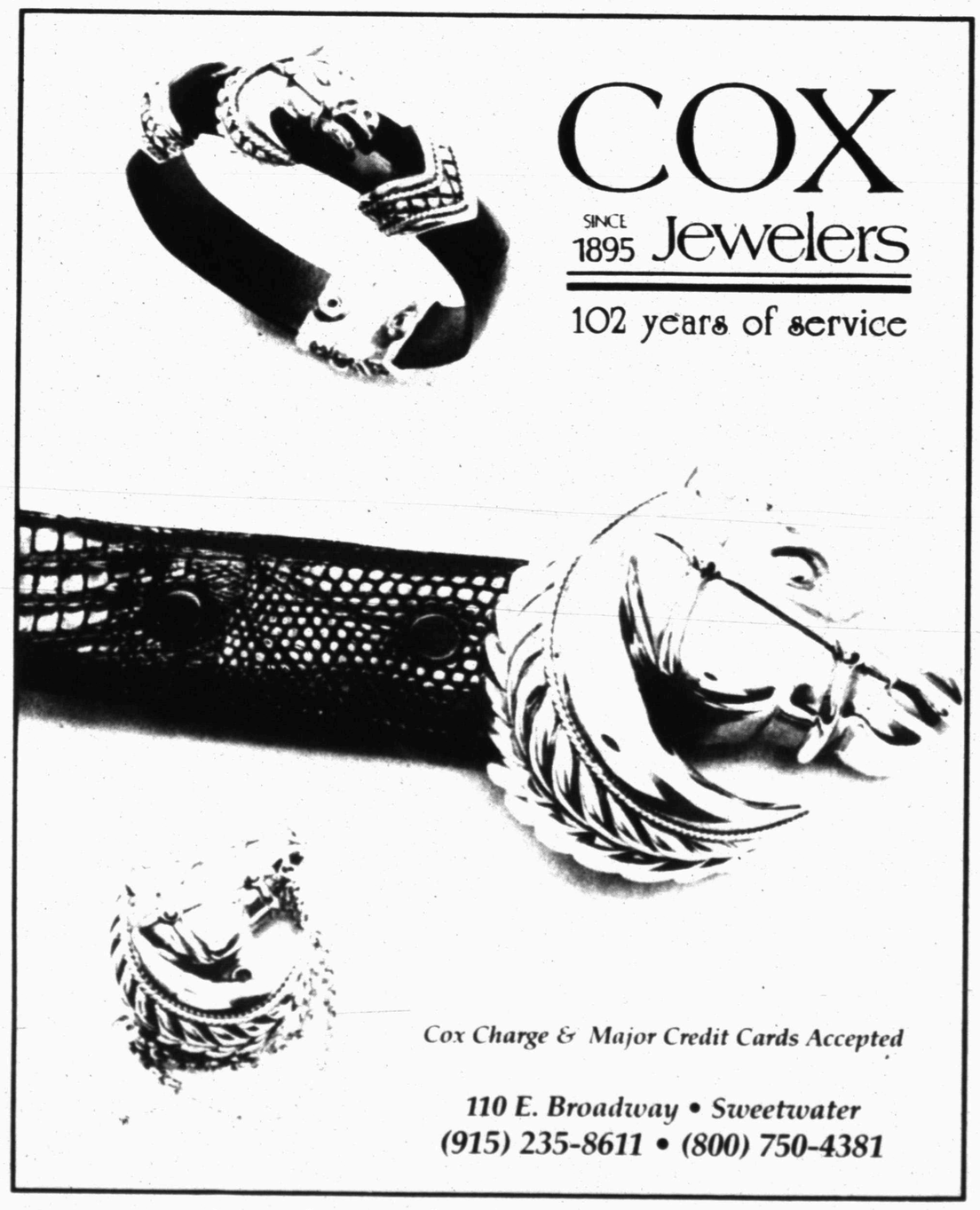
They and a small group of other volunteers got together that first weekend to accomplish what they could.

As plans began to materialize, Eddie said the right people were placed in his path.

He said he's glad that the mountain finally "found its purpose."

Eddie grew up on the family ranch. He works for Reef Chemical.

Volunteers include Art, Josie, Dallas and Joe Haubert; Ricky Nickerson; Shawn Ragland; Bill Hodges; John Harper; Johnny Barrow; Bubba Dennis; David Beard; Steve Mackey; Steve Rich; David Cain; Larry Thompson, who photographed the event; Wade and Travis Hatter; Ben Murphy; D.M. Parks; and Carl Wambach, a foreign exchange student from Germany, currently living with D.M. and his family.



SHE'S BACK!
Expert Hair Design
welcomes

Esme' Olvera
"Now an Independent Hair Stylist"
Monday-Friday
9:00 - ?
Specializing in
•Perms •Color
•Formal Styles For Prom, Weddings & Etc.
401 37th Street
573-0312

Teen-ager coping with partial paralysis

PADUCAH, Ky. (AP) — Melissa Jenkins spends her days in a hospital bed, hoping against all odds she will walk again, chatting with her twin sister and reading the compassionate cards that keep coming.

Paralyzed from the chest down in a shooting rampage that killed three of her high school classmates, Missy was the most seriously injured among the five students who survived gunshot wounds. The bullet entered her left shoulder and spiraled down toward her spinal cord before exiting.

With her 16th birthday approaching on Christmas Eve, Missy appears faithfully optimistic. But her doctor says it's unlikely she will walk again.

"She can live a normal life," Dr. Monte Rommelman said Thursday, "but it will be from a wheelchair."

Missy and seven other students were shot Dec. 1 at Heath High School after they ended an informal prayer gathering in the school lobby. A classmate, 14-year-old Michael Carneal, was indicted Friday as an adult on murder, attempted murder and burglary charges.

One other student, Shelley Shaberg, 14, also remains hospitalized. Her family will say only that she is "fine" and recovering.

Missy's room at Lourdes Hospital is filled with balloons, flowers, stuffed animals — including a talking bear and a croaking felt frog — and a message-of-hope poster from her church, the 32nd Street Church of Christ. She talks with her twin sister, Mandy, about friends at school and activities she's missing.

She misses her pet cat and the family dog.

"I feel good," Missy said. "I'm going to be determined. I'm going to keep saying I can, and I hope I will walk. I have to be happy. I'm a happy person."

Missy got a visit Wednesday night from her principal, Bill Bond, who in the days after the shootings confessed to feeling that he somehow let down his community.

"He came in all upset," Missy recalled, describing another visit by the principal days earlier. "I wasn't. I felt fine. That's just me. I think that's what made him feel a lot better."

Physicians had believed the bullet severed her spinal cord. Rommelman said recent tests show the cord itself intact, but with serious swelling and disruptions around it. Missy has no feeling or movement below her chest.

A family friend, Shawn Jones, described her as "unbelievably brave and courageous."

"It's incredibly difficult to come to terms with this type of devastating injury," he said. "She hopes against hope that things will get better, and in part it is that hope that's helping her carry through."

Jones said: "In fact, there is little, if any, substantial probability or possibility that Missy Jenkins will ever walk again."

Rommelman estimated Missy's medical care will cost $500,000 to $750,000 over her lifetime.

Doctor given 12 to 19 years in wife's slaying

DETROIT (AP) — A microbiologist who stood trial four times before pleading no contest to strangling his wife with duct tape was sentenced to 12 to 19 years in prison.

Prosecutors had been preparing to put Dr. Charles Fisher, 57, on trial a fifth time when he entered the plea to murder Nov. 4. As part of his sentence Thursday, Fisher agreed not to be buried next to his wife, Ella.

Ms. Fisher was found wrapped with duct tape in their home in 1984. Fisher claimed an intruder had knocked him out and attacked his wife.

Two of his first-degree murder convictions were overturned, and the other two trials ended in mistrials.

Fisher has already spent 8½ years in prison and will be eligible for parole in four more years.

Report: Lottery sales down first quarter

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas lottery ticket sales during the first quarter of this budget year plunged nearly 10 percent as compared with a year ago, according to a forthcoming report.

The report, to be presented to lottery commissioners next week, says sales dropped $89.6 million during the three-month period, the Austin American-Statesman reported today.

The drop translates into an $11 million decrease in state revenue and puts the lottery on pace to fall up to $1.7 billion below projections for the current two-year state budget.

The lottery was expected to generate sales of $8.3 billion and revenues of $3 billion to Texas for the two-year cycle that started Sept. 1.

If the slump continues, the lottery could become the biggest threat to Texas' fiscal health.

The report shows that sales for the first 13 weeks of the 1998 fiscal year were $833.3 million, down from $923.2 million for the same period a year ago.

Proceeds to the state during the period were $272 million, down from $283 million last year.

The decline is the first since the lottery started in 1992.

Sen. Bill Ratliff, the Mount Pleasant Republican who chairs the Senate Finance Committee, said he sees no crisis on the horizon.

"Nothing," he said when asked to predict the effect of a continued sales slump on a state budget of more than $80 billion. "It would appear that the state's economy is moving forward at a rate that will make up for any shortfall in the lottery."

Linda Cloud, the lottery's acting executive director, said last week's sales of $74 million — which coincided with a new ad campaign — offers some encouragement.

December, usually a big month for ticket sales, will offer a meaningful yardstick on which direction sales are headed, Ms. Cloud said.

"We don't expect instant-game sales to get back as high as they were for a little while yet," she said. "Players have to get over this stage fright that every game out there is a low-payout game."

Senior Center Menu

MONDAY

Boneless barbecue ribs, sweet potato patty, green beans, tossed salad, pineapple pudding

TUESDAY

Country Fried Steak w/cream gravy, mashed potatoes, green peas, cucumber-onion salad, bread pudding

WEDNESDAY

Chicken and dumplings, asparagus, glazed carrots, raw vegetable salad, banana pudding

THURSDAY

Pork chop, parslied sliced potatoes, spinach, pickled beets and onion, red applesauce

FRIDAY

Fried fish, brussel sprouts, hominy, tomato wedge, pineapple flop cake

Senior Center News

Snyder Day Care will be singing in the dining room at 11:30 a.m. Monday. The AARP's installation dinner will be at Rudy's at 5 p.m.

On Tuesday, the Hoss Clayton Band will perform at 11 a.m. Seniors interested in the carrolling and pot luck night are to meet at the center at 5 p.m.

Seniors are invited to bring a covered dish, join in the carrolling and return to the center for the meal.

Bingo begins at 10 a.m. Wednesday and line dancing at 1 p.m. The Tri-Chem group meets at 9 a.m. Thursday, the Sunshine Choir visits Snyder Oaks at 10 a.m. and the Senior Saints will entertain at 11 a.m.

Friday's events include the bridge tournament and the blood pressure clinic which both begin at 9:30 a.m. Pat Reynolds will entertain at 11:30 a.m.

Activities for for Saturday, Dec. 20, include the bake sale at Wal-Mart which begins at 9 a.m. Seniors are asked to bring their baked goods to the store.

Seniors interested in delivering the Christmas cards and favors to the nursing homes and hospital are asked to call 573-4035.

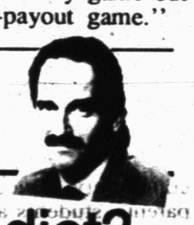
Volunteers who are able to help with the home-delivered meals are asked to phone the center. "We cherish our volunteers, but the holidays are busy for all of us and we often have a difficult time finding enough help prior to the holidays," say center staffers.

Cochran sues New York Post

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Johnnie Cochran Jr.'s new court fight is with the New York Post, which he accuses in a $10 million lawsuit of libeling him.

Nutrition

By Ed Blonz, PH.D.



How do I structure a vegetarian diet?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: My teen-age daughter has been a vegetarian for the past two years. I am concerned about her nutrition. She cares more about the ethical treatment of animals than about eating vegetables. Consequently, she tends to eat much more starch than she should. When she is hungry, she will eat something just to fill her up rather than something that's good for her. She is overweight, but is willing to try things that may help her lose weight. My question is: Can you help me with sources for foods that will give her the nutrition she needs and won't just be empty calories? She needs protein to give her energy without leaving a craving that she would fill with a package of crackers or the like. — R.S.

DEAR R.S.: I just returned from the 1997 International Conference on Vegetarian Diets in Austin, Texas. This conference, which was organized by the Oldways Preservation and Exchange Trust, a Massachusetts-based food think tank, was a wonderful assemblage of scientists, culinary professionals and journalists. The conference addressed a number of important vegetarian issues, including the one you face in your family. There are many reasons why an individual might choose to follow a vegetarian style of eating, and the circle continues to grow. What all of us share — vegetarians included — is a need to understand what the body requires and how to select and prepare foods to satisfy those needs.

The people at Oldways have designed a "Vegetarian Diet Pyramid" based on the traditional eating patterns of healthy vegetarian people of many cultures. This is the same organization that designed eating pyramids for the Mediterranean diet, the Asian diet, and the diets of Latin America.

Having a vegetarian pyramid to look at could serve to focus your daughter's mind on the big picture of which foods are needed to turn her ethically based eating style into a win-win decision for health. If you would like to receive a copy of the new vegetarian pyramid (or any of the other pyramids), send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to: Oldways Preservation and Exchange Trust, 25 First Street, Cambridge, MA 02141.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: Thank you for your column. I know doughnuts are terrible for me, but I have a weakness for them. I am not overweight, and I am in good health, so if I do indulge occasionally, which variety is the healthiest choice? — T.C., San Diego

DEAR T.C.: Sorry to put a damper on your food passions, but I find it difficult to say many good things about the health attributes of doughnuts. If you think about it, they are little more than absorbent dough that is deep-fried in oil. It is no wonder that the fat content of a doughnut can range from about 10 grams for a plain cake doughnut to more than 20 grams for the glazed, cream-filled variety. But it is not just the fat: Higher-fat whole foods, such as avocados or nuts, can be great additions to the diet. What counts is the type of fat, and whether or not the food contains nutrients the body needs. In the case of the whole foods, the fat is primarily monounsaturated fat, which has been found to contribute the least to the risk of heart disease.

Then, there is the fact that avocados and nuts also contain fiber and other valuable nutrients.

The doughnut has little in the way of nutritional assets. It is deep-fried in partially hydrogenated vegetable oil — perhaps the worst fat there is to consume. If you look at the ingredient statement of a package of doughnuts, you will find partially hydrogenated oils listed first or second.

Keeping some perspective here, it is safe to say that a doughnut every now and then is not going to give you heart disease. The fact of the matter is that I don't really know of a commercially produced doughnut that I would label "healthful." The only fat-free doughnut I know of is a bagel.

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

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is the author of the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

1997 NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.

Monday - Wednesday Only

Storewide 25% Off

Excluding Snow Village & Bridal

Gourmet Food Baskets
Create Your Own
25% Off

Special Sale On Selected Items

Classic Interiors
2520 Ave. R. East Side of Square
Snyder, Texas 573-1701

Kathleen Weaver, M.D
Orthopedic Surgeon

What's So Great About Cogdell Hospital?

"The people. They care. They work hard. They care about the patients. One of the reasons I didn't want to move to the big cities is because I would have to run people in and out. Here people are people. They're not numbers. When a person comes to Cogdell they receive the very best personal care.

We've made some significant changes and it's getting better and better. Our operating room and our ability to be efficient is very reliable. We've got some wonderful people in charge of the operating room.

The most important thing to me is to give personal care. Nothing done by rote. Everything is done for the individual. After you've had major trauma you're trying to get someone back to 'normal.' In orthopedics we're putting things back together.

Cogdell is two hours away from any major center. We can give the same quality care in our scope as any of the major centers. It's the old fashioned doctor/patient relationship.

In our physical therapy program...I don't think there's anybody in this area that can compete with us. We have a truly outstanding physical therapy department. Our new facility is going to be great. The community has been gracious. Our facility is going to be state-of-the-art. Our goal is to make sure that everyone works as a team."

At Cogdell, it doesn't get any better than this. And that's something you can count on for life.

Cogdell Memorial Hospital

Shopping at the mall...(humbug!)

Deanie Francis Mills

Boy, nothing will get you out of the holiday spirit quicker than Christmas shopping at the mall.

I thought I was so smart, going on a Wednesday. Thought I'd be able to get around the crowds by avoiding Saturday shopping. After all, it's one of the perks of working for yourself and setting your own hours, right?

How was I supposed to know it was some kind of school day off in Lubbock? When I drove up and saw the school buses, I knew I was in big trouble.

Insanity. Chaos. Madness. And that was just in the parking lot.

I have an attitude problem anyway when it comes to shopping for relatives I see maybe once a year, who live in other states, and who make more money than I do. I have no idea what their homes look like, what they need, what they want — or why they don't just buy it for themselves in the first place.

And the nieces and nephews are mostly all in high school or college by now, all going their separate ways, and I just know that no matter what I pick out for them, they're probably going to hate it anyway. When I ask them what they want, they say, "Cash."

Yeah well, so do I, but that doesn't mean I'm going to get it for Christmas.

So I wind up tromping through the mall with my lip stuck out, nursing my sore feet and my bad attitude while I try to think of something to buy for somebody I don't really want to be buying for in the first place, if you know what I mean.

This year, things were supposed to be easier in the Mills family. We each drew names, which meant I had only four gifts to buy instead of a dozen.

To make things easier, each one of us submitted three things we might like, and set a limit of $25. Our family drew two nieces, a nephew, and a sister-in-law. After "cash," the kids asked for things like clothes that were fairly easy to pick. The sister-in-law asked for "earrings."

Sounds easy, wouldn't you think?

Turns out there are two kinds of earrings; either cheap costume jewelry earrings for under ten bucks, or jewels for around a hundred bucks and up. Oh, heave a big sigh and roll my eyes! That leaves only one reasonable alternative: Look for The Sale.

One department store had The Sale — 60% Off all their earrings. Sounds good. Sounds like you could get some really nice earrings within the $25 limit.

Unfortunately, that sort of thinking runs rampant throughout the mob, and the next thing you know, you're crammed up against a glass jewelry case with dozens of other people, trying to catch the eye of one or two beleaguered store clerks who are running frantically around waving the only key in their possession. You have to wait for the key even to find out what things cost, much less get a close-up look at them.

So you wait.

People are so aggravating in a situation like this. They have no idea what they want, or whether they even want anything, so you stand there on aching legs and throbbing feet and wait and wait while they dither around and ask to see this one and ask to see that one and talk amongst themselves about the other one and then leave without buying anything.

I gave up. It was either leave, or run screaming through the store, so I left.

I have now finished my Christmas shopping, with the exception of one gift: those blankety-blank EARRINGS!

Heck with it. I wonder if the woman would just settle for cash.

As a rat terrier, she's useless

Bill McClellan

You've probably noticed we've been running the "Hank the Cowdog" series here in the newspaper.

I don't have a cowdog named Hank. What I have is a rat terrier. And her name is Skeeter.

I looked for information about rat terriers on the Internet. It says they were so named because they are good at chasing rats.

If that is so, then something is wrong with my rat terrier. Or perhaps she is too discriminating to be of any use at what mother nature apparently decided her worthfulness is all about.

That's another way of saying she doesn't do the rat thing.

Well, at least she doesn't do the *mouse* thing. You would think that a rat terrier would also help you with your mice problem, but as I said, perhaps she is too discriminating.

We've had a mouse problem this summer and now winter too. I find I am not alone in this. Apparently the entire county has been beseiged with mice. Most people don't want to admit they've had mice though, because it sounds "unclean."

But I suppose mice like clean houses, too. They may prefer them, in fact.

One thing is sure, Skeeter does not strike fear into the heart of mice. She basically ignores them. In fact, she might be afraid of them.

We were playing catch with her favorite stuffed toy, Lambchop, the other day, when suddenly there came a rustling behind a paper sack in the corner. It was obvious Skeet heard it because she pricked her ears up and looked at the sack. Instead of investigating, she just picked Lambchop up off the floor and brought her to me.

You'll note that I just called Lambchop — a stuffed animal which doesn't even have a head — a "she." That's because most animal lovers are pretty warped people. We have to name the toys and basically treat these four-legged bags of fur as if they were three-year-old children.

"Where's your momma, Skeet?" I will say, if I am busy and Skeet won't leave me alone. And, for a second at least, she will go off looking for her "momma," which is, of course, my wife, Dixie.

Pretty tricky, huh?

No. Last weekend I was napping on the couch, when I awoke to someone whispering, "Where's your daddy, Skeeter? Where's your daddy?"

Someone wanted to go shopping, and I don't mean Skeeter.

Anyway, the bag rustled again so I pitched Lambchop over in the corner and directed Skeet to "Go get Lambchop."

She moved in cautiously. Sniffed a little from two feet away. Then backed off altogether. She gave me a look, which could be interpreted to mean, "If you want Lambchop, *you* get Lambchop. I ain't goin' near that bag." And she trotted out of the room.

For all her fear of mice, she's an extremely hyper dog. I don't know what it is, but whatever she has makes attention deficit disorder seem like low gear. She needs constant attention, but other than wanting her neck and head rubbed, she really doesn't know precisely what it is she wants.

And it's pretty sad, because she stays in the house all day. When we get home from work, she comes after us like wet on water.

It is like she *knew* we had left her for good and were never coming back again and now here we are and praise the Lord and Merry Christmas and I love you, I love you, you're home, it's wonderful, it's wonderful, it's wonderful, I love you, I love you, I love you. Now let me lick your ears.

So maybe the mice keep her company while we're gone. The ones that survive the traps, the bait and the sticky mats, that is.

Last night, I tried a new approach. Kind of a "Skeeter see, Skeeter do" idea. I tried getting down on the floor and acting like a mouse. It didn't impress the dog, but my wife was in complete agreement.

"He's a rat, for sure Skeeter," she said.

In answer to which Skeet walked over and licked my face, as if to say, "Yeah, but I love him, anyway."

I guess she's pretty intelligent after all.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

TAAS test to award promotions

The San Antonio Express-News

Gov. George W. Bush apparently was not listening very closely when the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund filed its lawsuit against the state.

The federal class-action lawsuit seeks to stop the state from requiring that students pass the 10th-grade Texas Assessment of Academic Skills before moving into the next grade.

In the suit, MALDEF points out the pitfalls of using a single test as an academic measuring stick, namely, the high failure rate of minorities and economically disadvantaged students.

But here comes Bush, in his campaign kickoff last week, with a plan to push a proposal requiring that fifth- and eighth-graders pass the TAAS before advancing.

Eighth-graders also would have to pass an end-of-course science exam and third-grade students would have to pass the reading portion of the TAAS.

Such standards are unreasonable because they disregard the rest of a student's school career. If a student doesn't perform well on a standardized test, but otherwise does well in school, what will be his or her fate?

MALDEF notes that in high school, the alternative tends to be extreme: Students drop out.

Bush would be fooled to think the same might not happen in elementary and junior high schools across this state if his proposal is implemented.

Local educators, for example, say about 80 percent of third-graders pass the TAAS statewide.

Under the Bush measure, the other 20 percent would have to be retained, an outcome that educators say is not economically feasible.

This isn't to say that standardized tests should no longer be used to measure what students know. On the contrary, the tests still can be an effective tool to gauge a school's performance and ensure accountability. They should be used as such.

But it shouldn't be a student's only open door to educational opportunity especially one that can so easily be shut.

Friendly admonition

The Dallas Morning News

As the world's foremost economic and military power, the United States is used to lecturing other countries. But the United States could stand an occasional remonstrance, especially from a friend.

Canada's ambassador to the United States, Raymond Chretien, said things in Dallas last week that Americans needed to hear. He rejected a suggestion that his remarks were "criticism," preferring to cast them in more diplomatically correct terms as an exegesis of "worrisome trends."

Mr. Chretien said he was "disappointed" that Congress had failed to give President Clinton "fast track" authority to negotiate free-trade agreements.

In diplomatic speak, that's tantamount to saying that the United States had grossly erred. If Congress does not relent by April, when inter-American heads of state are to meet in Santiago, Chile, to plan a Pan American free-trade area, Mr. Clinton "will go with both hands tied behind his back," Mr. Chretien said. So true.

Mr. Chretien decried the United States' creeping unilateralism — that is, its growing tendency to adopt foreign policies without consulting or enlisting other countries. As examples, he held up the law that applies economic sanctions against countries that invest in Cuba, and the United States' failure to pay more than $1 billion in arrears to the United Nations. Once again, he's correct.

The sanctions on Cuba have not weakened Fidel Castro's grip. They have weakened U.S. relationships with key allies, whose support is necessary on issues of more consequence, such as Iraq's possession of mass-destruction weapons. The failure to pay U.N. arrears comes as the United States depends heavily on the international body to legitimize its pressure on rogue states.

Mr. Chretien was wrong about some things. For example, his suggestion that Canada needs trade barriers to protect its musicians and authors from their U.S. counterparts was disingenuous.

But his larger point was well taken: The United States is abdicating many of its global leadership responsibilities. For that he deserves not reprobation but thanks.

Letters

Doesn't say much

Dear Editor:

In response to Bill McClellan's "Robbed of Intelligence," Dec. 6-7, 1997:

I am not going to argue the intelligence of the criminals Mr. McClellan wrote about. But perhaps we need to shed light on some real stupidity.

Does Mr. McClellan know what recidivism is? If crime is truly on a downward spiral as sources in Washington claim, then why is recidivism at an all-time high?

The taxpayers of Texas have been duped into spending 1.5 billion dollars in the past decade on prison beds for "recividists." These people are not being sent back to prison for commiting new feloneous acts.

Late to report, lack of a job, behind on fees — these are the real reasons that recividism is at an all-time high. This is no accident. It is simply business as usual and all these prisons springing up in all these obscure places is good for the economy. But it's still money that could and should be spent elsewhere.

Education, medical aide, our state parks.

There are more people behind bars in Texas than in most countries in the world. This does not say much for us as a "people"... or as humane Texas.

Thank you,
Randy L. Gillam

Surprising revelations about youth

Joseph Perkins

I've written a number of columns over the years about teen-related issues, but I really hadn't reflected on my own adolescence. That is, until recently, when I stopped at a traffic light next to a bright yellow school bus, which was ferrying a full load of youngsters.

I thought back to my high school days in Greensboro, N.C., when I rode a bus to school along with most of the kids in my neighborhood. I recalled that the bus drivers were high school students themselves: teen-agers entrusted with the lives of 25 to 30 of their classmates.

Today, a grizzled thirtysomething years old, I am amazed that school systems in North Carolina gave teen-agers so much responsibility. In 1997 there is less than zero possibility that any school system in America would dare allow teen-age bus drivers to chauffeur fellow students to and from school.

But are teen-agers today any less responsibile than they were 15 or 20 years ago? I thought I would investigate this myself. So I took the time to talk to a number of teen-agers, of various ethnicities and family income levels.

This exercise proved a revelation. First, I found the youths I spoke with to be no less or more responsible that the kids of my generation. I was also struck by their impressions of various measures that adults have either proposed or put in place to save teen-agers from themselves.

Some of these measures, I was told, are totally ineffectual. Like the government crusade against teen-age smoking, including bans on cigarette vending machines and regulation of advertising that supposedly is targeted to youths.

"I don't think people give us the credit we deserve," says 17-year-old Julie Moe, "I don't think we can be influenced by a couple of billboards. Like Joe Camel. Come on. I don't even know anyone who smokes Camel cigarettes. Joe Camel is not even a factor."

The teens had mixed feelings about efforts to reduce the amount of sex and violence to which they are exposed by way of music and television programming.

"My brother listens to some of it (gangsta rap)," said 16-year-old Steven Deineh, "It's about guns and gangs. I hate it." But he does not agree that teen-agers should be restricted form buying such music. "That's like taking away our rights," he said.

The same goes for parental consent laws, said Deineh, like those requiring permission before a minor can have his or her body pierced. "We should have the freedom to do what we want with our own bodies," he says, "like dying our hair."

Some teens would extend this to the thorny area of abortion. "My girlfriend is pregnant, and she's going to have an abortion," said 16-year-old "Junior" Hernandez. "Her parents don't know and my parents don't know." Junior believes that he and his girlfriend have the right to make the decision without their parents' consent or even knowledge.

Now I must say that I did not entirely agree with the teens I talked to. Most important, I don't believe that the rights of parents should be subordinated to those of their teen-age children. As long as youths live under their parents' roof, or as long as parents foot the bills of their teen-age children, then parental advice and consent should be sought for every major decision these teen-agers make.

Having said that, I do agree with the youths I talked to that adults have gone overboard with laws imposing teen curfews, dictating dress codes, cracking down (supposedly) on underage smoking and drinking, and enforcing "zero tolerance" in schools of even the most harmless so-called "weapons."

Such laws presume that teen behavior needs to be controlled by the government. But most teens exercise self-control. And at least some of them I met are responsible enough that I wouldn't even be afraid to see them behind the wheel of a school bus.

Spacecraft keeps on going, communicating

WASHINGTON (AP) — Since Pioneer 10 was launched, six presidents have held office, wars raged and ended, the Soviet empire has crumbled, and astronauts who walked the moon have become old men. But the venerable spacecraft is like that famous battery bunny — it's still going.

Pioneer 10 still is helping astronomers explore the universe and will do so for a while yet. But by next Christmas, the little spacecraft slowly will fade from radio contact and then slip into the silent oblivion of deep space.

"It will be kind of like losing an old friend," said John D. Anderson, a Jet Propulsion Laboratory scientist who helped build Pioneer 10.

Anderson, who watched Pioneer 10's launch in March 2, 1972, said the spacecraft now is more than 6 billion miles from Earth, farther than any other machine ever, and is streaking away at a speed of more than a half-million miles a day.

Scientists at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration stopped sending instructions to Pioneer 10 earlier this year because its return signal was too weak to give clear data. The distance was so great — roughly 25,000 times farther than the distance between the Earth and the moon — that it took nine hours for a signal to reach the craft.

But Anderson said Pioneer 10 can still send back a carrier wave, sort of a radio hum that lets the Earth know it is OK.

Anderson said NASA, using a 70-meter dish antenna designed for deep space communications, made the last contact Nov. 30.

"It is still quite healthy," the scientist said. "It's just that the power source is so weak that you can't receive the data from scientific instruments."

All contact will be lost next year, he said, when the craft moves beyond the range of even the most sensitive equipment. The signal will fade and finally become undetectable.

Pioneer 10 was launched as the first probe to Jupiter. After a close-up study of the giant planet, it was accelerated by the slingshot effect of Jupiter's gravity and gained enough speed to leave the solar system.

Since then, it has moved past the orbits of Uranus, Neptune and Pluto, left the solar system in 1983 and is now in what astronomers call the Kuiper Belt. To Pioneer 10, the sun is only a bright star.

A nuclear heater supplies power to Pioneer 10, and Anderson said the atomic element will continue to work for hundreds of years. In about 30,000 years, he said, the spacecraft will approach within a few light years of a star called Ross 248.

Anderson said the nation got "a bargain" from Pioneer 10's $100 million cost. It lasted far longer than expected, and NASA has built up an extensive library of deep-space data from the craft.

"It will continue to benefit science for decades," he said. "All of that data has been archived and is available to anyone."

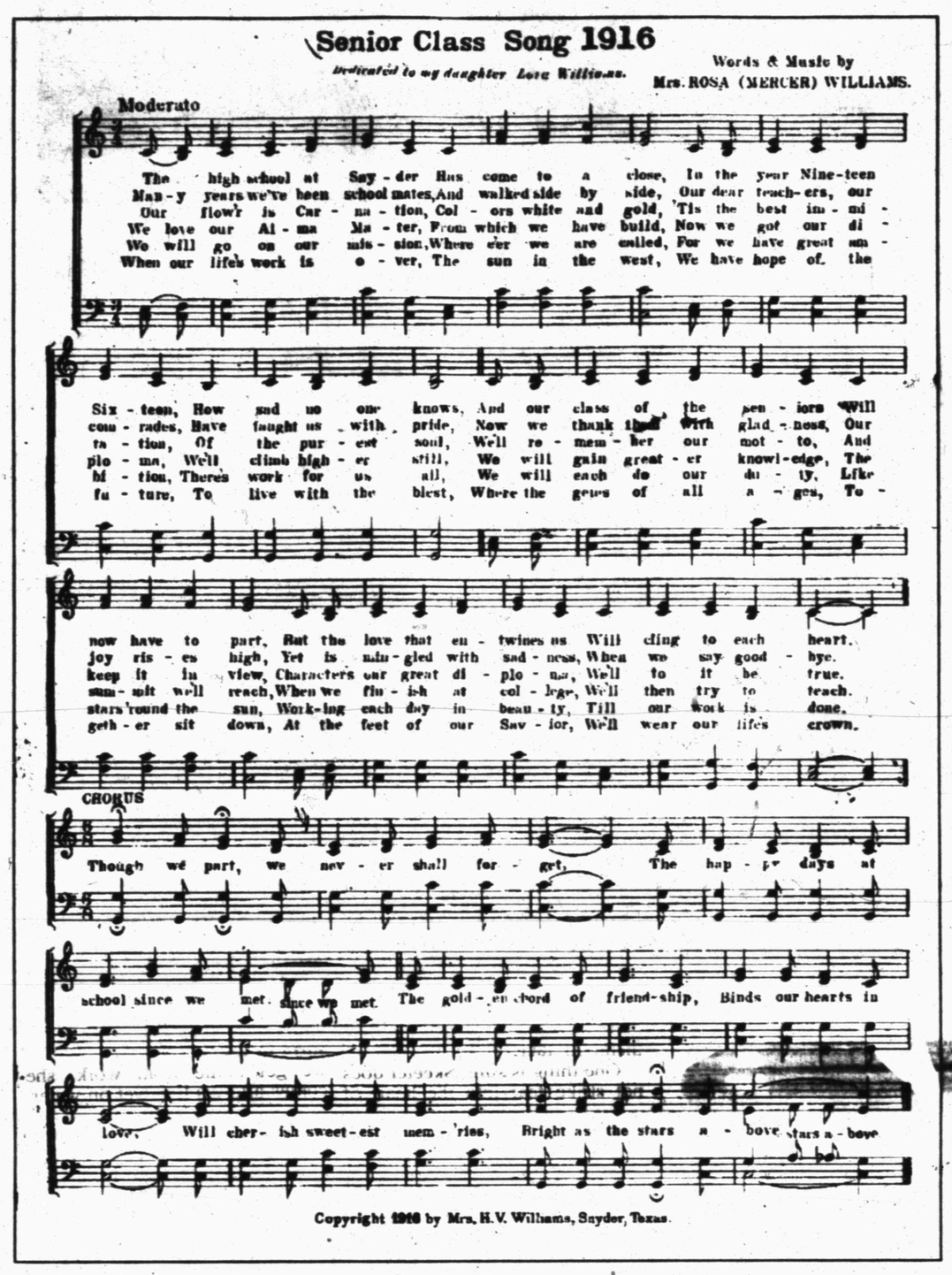
The Pioneer 10 data, he said, are enabling him and two other scientists to challenge the announced discovery of a planet that is said to orbit a pulsar star 1,200 light-years away.

Anderson said that by comparing the radio energy from the star and Pioneer 10, researchers found evidence that radiation from the distant sun was causing the radio waves to change slightly every 25 days. He said this change matched the rotation of the sun. This suggested that data interpreted by other researchers as evidence that a small planet orbited the pulsar may have been in error.

The electronic blip thought to represent a planet may, in fact, be caused by solar radiation, Anderson said.

A report on the study is published Friday in the journal Science.

During World War I, some Americans began calling sauerkraut "liberty cabbage."



SHS senior class song found

This copy of an old Snyder school song was discovered recently in an old trunk of family keepsakes at the home of Henry and Virginia Clark.

"It was probably something used when my mother, Mrs. A.C. Preuitt, played for a school event," Virginia Clark said. "It would be interesting to know if someone in Snyder remembers singing or hearing this song."

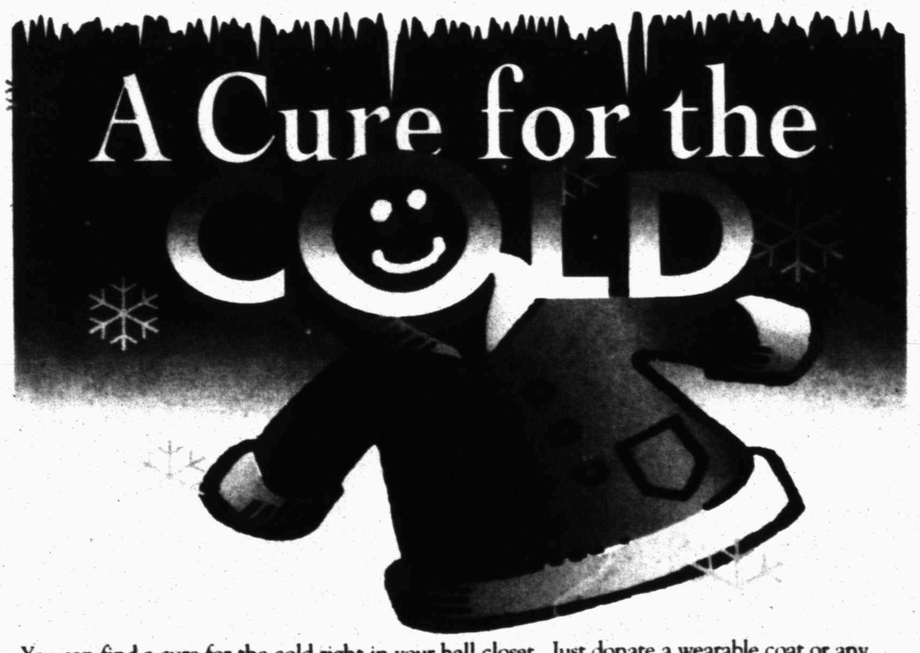
Anyone who has any information about the song is asked to contact the Scurry County Museum where the historical item has been placed.

Mrs. Preuitt came to Snyder as a young piano teacher in 1920. She was asked to finish out the teaching year for the pupils of Mrs. Barnes who was retiring.

Two years later, Irene Clark met and married A.C. Preuitt. They are Virginia's parents.

Mrs. Preuitt was active in music work in church, civic and school events for many years.

A Cure for the COLD



You can find a cure for the cold right in your hall closet. Just donate a wearable coat or any gloves, scarves, blankets or earmuffs during the "St. Mary Cure for the Cold" coat drive. It's a perfect way to help those in need, and in return for your generosity, you'll get a special Cure for the Cold magnet. All donations will be distributed by the Scurry County Ministerial Alliance. So, please, give a coat to someone who needs it. You'll be left with a warm feeling all over.

Recipient Scurry County Ministerial Alliance

Drop-Off Location St. Mary Family Healthcare Center
5009 College Avenue • Snyder, Texas.
For more information, please call Christy Thompson at 573-1300.

Sponsoring Physicians Jim Burleson, M.D., *Family Practice*
Bid Cooper, M.D., *Family Practice*
Thomas Kerr, M.D., *Internal Medicine*
Gary Nussey, M.D., *Family Practice*
Paul Thompson, M.D., *Family Practice*

Sponsors KASTEN! your choice! LONE STAR CLEANERS

ST. MARY
Family Healthcare Centers
Building Healthier Communities

ALLSUP'S ALLWAYS Low Prices
ALLWAYS OPEN • ALLWAYS FAST
The Grocery Store for People on the GO!!!

BIG 44 OZ. PAPER CUP
Honcho Fountain Drink
EACH 69¢

ALL VARIETIES
Doritos® Chips
REG. $2.19
2 FOR $3

1 1/2 LB. LOAF - ALLSUP'S
Bread 69¢ EACH OR 2 FOR $1.19
HORMEL LIGHT & LEAN
Ham or Turkey 8 OZ. PKG $1.69
SPORT CAP
Allsup's Water 1.5 LTR. BTL. 99¢
FRENCH ONION OR GREEN CHILI
Shurfine Dip 8 OZ. TUB 89¢
15 CT. 9 INCH PLATES OR 20 CT. 16 OZ. CUPS PLASTIC
Solo Party Ware YOUR CHOICE 99¢
DECKER
Snack Makers 2 OZ. PKG 99¢

Pepsi-Cola
6 Pk. Cans $1.59
3 Liters $1.69

COMBO MEAL DEAL
Allsup's Rib-B-Q Sandwich, Potato Wedges & a Tallsup
$1.99

BREAKFAST COMBO
Allsup's Sausage or Canadian Bacon & Egg Biscuit, Hash Brown & 22 oz. Fountain Drink or 16 oz. Coffee
$1.89

Coca Cola Christmas Ornaments 2.99
Tomato Sauce 4/1.00
16 Oz. Gataorade 79¢
Wise Tissue 4 Roll Pack 49¢

CHECK YOUR FRIENDLY ALLSUP'S STORE FOR ADDITIONAL MARKDOWN SPECIALS!
ALLSUP # 156 - 3911 COLLEGE AVE. - SNYDER, TEXAS 573-8735
ALLSUP #276 - HWY. 84 - HERMLEIGH, TEXAS 863-2412

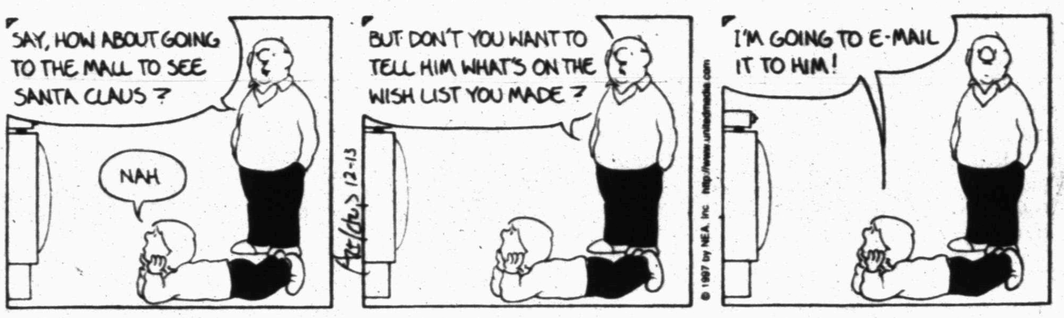
PRICES EFFECTIVE 12/14/97-1/3/98 • OFFER GOOD WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

DEC 13 1997

Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

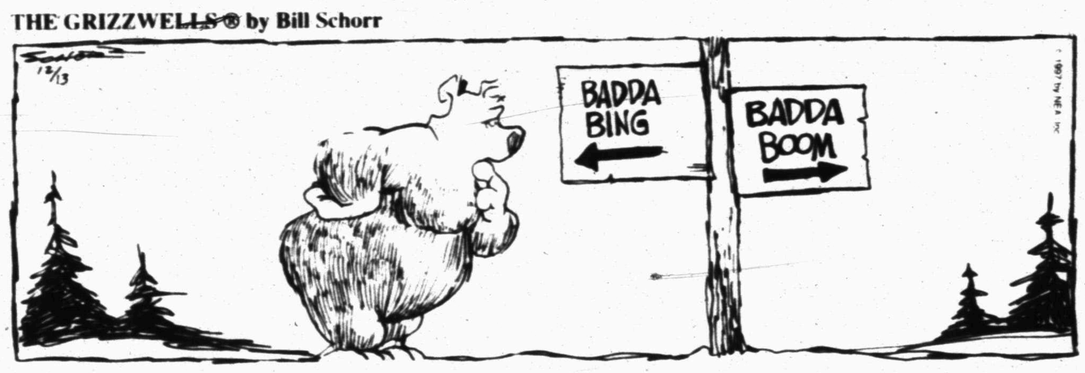


EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider

Barney Google and Snuffy Smith ® by Fred Lasswell

BLONDIE ® by Dean Young and Stan Drake

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender

BETTY™ by Delainey and Rasmussen

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Naval meal
5 High plateau
9 Hearing organ
12 Garment piece
13 Potato
14 Roman 2,001
15 Thunder-shower
17 Enclosure
18 Composer Dvorak
19 Like paint in an old house
21 Advise, old style
23 Neither's partner
24 Long time
27 Author Jean M. —
29 Small monkey
32 Vans and semis
34 Draws out
36 Mildest
37 Take aback
38 Island of exile
39 Safecracker (sl.)
41 Fleur-de- —
42 Swift aircraft (abbr.)
44 What you walk with
46 Leave suddenly (2 wds.)
49 — Marner
53 Flightless bird
54 Overcome (from the heat)
56 Feel poorly
57 Wyatt —
58 Exude
59 Hindu cymbals
60 Miss Kett of the comics
61 Cal. abbr.

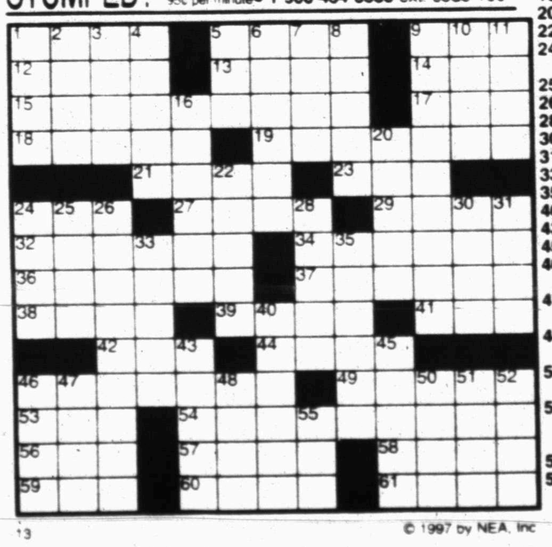
DOWN

1 — Breckinridge
2 Of the dawn
3 Short play
4 Sp. title
5 Ida. time
6 Epic poem
7 Confident
8 Madison Avenue workers
9 Based on experience
10 Prayer end
11 Finger jewelry
16 Sly ones
20 Waterlily
22 Powdery
24 Diminutive suffix
25 Spoken
26 Lamebrain
28 Shelf
30 Actress Garr
31 Doctrines
33 Halt
35 Reader's —
40 Work
43 Pith helmet
45 Wearies
46 Stew ingredient
47 Freshwater fish
48 College group
50 Weak, as an excuse
51 Leave — — (give a gratuity)
52 Paving stone
55 Vacation spot

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for Answers • Touch-tone or Rotary Phones 95c per minute • 1-900-454-3535 ext. code 100



© 1997 by NEA, Inc

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

HERMAN® by Jim Unger

"I plugged it in to see if you'd fixed it."

"DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW HARD IT IS FOR ME TO BE A GOOD BOY ALL YEAR LONG?"

Hank the Cowdog: Yummy sardines

(Editor's Note: "Hank the Cowdog" by John R. Erickson is being serialized in the Sunday editions of Snyder Daily News. "Hank the Cowdog" books and audio tapes are on sale at the SDN.)

Slim slammed the mailbox shut—that's kind of a tongue-twister, isn't it? And turned onto the little road that led to his house. When we reached the front door, he pushed it open and said, "Get in there, dogs, and catch a mouse."

I went streaking inside. Drover

Fifth of 12 chapters

went inside too, but he didn't "streak." He lollygagged around, as he ususally does, and at that speed he couldn't catch a mouse even if the mouse threw up his hands and surrendered.

Paws, I guess. Threw up his paws. Mice don't have hands, see.

Right away, I flushed out three head of mice and chased one of them to the three sacks of trash sitting beside the back door. He dived into the trash and so did I.

My goodness, what a mess. The mouse managed to escape—I mean, who could find a little mouse in that mountain of garbage? the mouse managed to escape, but only by the tiniest of margins.

Unfortunately, the three sacks of garbage didn't manage to escape and they, well, became "rearranged," shall we say, all over the west side of the kitchen. Sardine cans. Vienna sausage cans. Bean cans. Cans filled with cold bacon grease and cigar butts and coffee grounds.

Yes, the, uh, rearrangement caused quite a mess.

I was standing there, giving the area one last noseatory scan, when Slim walked up. "That's probably enough, Hank. I'm sorry I brought up the subject of mice."

He opened up one of the cabinet doors and reached for a can of...something. Ah ha, it was the sardines he had promised. He looked back at me and grinned. "You ready for this, pooch?"

All at once, my tongue shot out and swept across my lips.

Slim laughed and held up a small flat can. Again, my tongue shot out and swept my lips. It appeared that my mouth had begun to water, so to speak.

"Yummy sardines!"

I moved my front feet up and down. A whine leaped out of my throat, and yes, my mouth was watering like crazy. Could we hurry this deal up?

He squinted his eyes at the can. "There's just one little problem, Hankie. This can's pooched up in the middle, which means the sardines might be spoilt."

No problem there. Shucks, I ate spoiled sardines all the time, and could we HURRY UP?

"That's why I saved 'em for you, but I don't want you getting sick in my house."

Sick? That was ridiculous. No dog in history had ever gotten sick on sardines. I could almost taste 'em, yummy sardines.

"Well, I reckon we can give it a try, but if you get to feeling sick, let me know."

Sure, you bet, anything at all.

He opened the can and set it down on the floor. Right away, I turned a menacing glare towards Drover and showed him some fangs. "These are MY sardines, pal, so don't even think what you're thinking."

"I was just thinking that sardines make me sick."

"Fine. Go chase your tail."

Having disposed of Drover, I turned back to my feastly treasure and...WOW! Those were some wonderful-smelling sardines, and I was so excited that my legs were quivering.

Sardines packed in oil! My favorite kind.

Slim watched with a lopsided grin as I tore into those yummy delicious awesomely wonderful sardines. I gobbled them in huge bites, hardly noticing that, yes, they had a slightly rancid taste to them.

Maybe they were a little past their prime, but that was no big deal. As you may know, we dogs have a digestive system that allows us to eat many food items that would make others ill.

Great sardines! Don't know as I'd ever had better, which just went to prove what I'd alway said: A little age on a sardine didn't hurt a thing.

Slim watched me eat for a while, then he got down on his hands and knees and started picking up the garbage mess.

"I don't understand what brings these derned mice into my house. You'd think a mouse would rather stay outside where it's nice and clean." After finishing up the chunks of yummy sardines, I threw myself into the task of licking the oil out of the can. See, I wanted to do my little part to keep the house clean.

The only trouble with sardine cans is that they don't stand still. Every time you take a lick, they move across the floor. They're not as fast as mice, but by George, you have to stay with 'em and chase 'em down.

A lot of your ordinary dogs don't have the patience to tackle a major sardine job and stick with it to the end. They'll get tired of chasing that can across the floor and just give up.

Not me. I followed it all the way across the kitchen and was out in the middle of the livingroom when, suddenly and out of nowhere, I heard a tap at the door.

Then someone said, "Yoo-hoo, Slim? Are you home?"

Well, you know me. I'm never too busy to bark and I never make careless assumptions about who's at the door. Fellers, I bristled up and barked!

And you'll never guess who it was.

Many users drop widely praised but costly medication

NEW YORK (AP) — Despite an inherited disease that raises her cholesterol to nearly three times the normal level, Joyce Doerr quit the cholesterol-lowering medicines she needs to stave off a heart attack.

"If you can't afford it, you can't afford it," said Ms. Doerr, 56, a bartender in Egg Harbor City, N.J., who has no insurance and was paying $100 a month for Zocor, made by Merck & Co.

As many as half of the nearly 500,000 Americans who are supposed to take a daily dose for life quit before the so-called statin drugs do any measurable good, according to doctors, researchers and drug makers.

Because high cholesterol has no symptoms, some patients on statins don't feel any better and see no reason to keep taking them. Others are under the mistaken impression that statins are like antibiotics and need to be taken for only a short time. Some patients complain of side effects.

But doctors suspect the major reason is a lifetime bill of $65 to $200 a month.

Many people have no prescription drug coverage. Others have prescription drug plans, but they don't cover statins. Neither does Medicare. As a result, many of those most likely to suffer heart attacks — the elderly — are also among those least able to pay.

"As long as I work I can afford any medication because I pay only the first $10," said Sorel Sulimovici, a suburban New York biochemist whose insurance has paid for his Zocor prescription for two years. "But for many retirees who are on Medicare it's very expensive. I know of a few cases of people over 65 who need the statins but can't afford to take them."

Drug makers are experimenting with programs to boost compliance, including telephone reminders and free drugs for those who can't afford them. Many doctors save up free samples for those can't pay.

Mrs. Doerr has enlisted in a University of Pennsylvania study that gives the drugs away, although she might be in a group that receives dummy pills instead.

But while many cardiologists see statins as miracles in tablet form, neither doctors nor drug makers have found a way to keep patients on them.

Nashville cardiologist Dr. Tracy Collister said he can't get his own mother to take the drugs because of a side effect he's sure is imaginary.

"She says it's making her hair thin," he said with chagrin.

By age 60, most people have lost 50 percent of their ability to taste and 40 percent of their sense of smell.

$6 million gift

CARMEL, Calif. (AP) — Clint Eastwood and his former wife sure made someone's day.

They planned to give a $6 million gift to the Big Sur Land Trust, payable in the transfer of a 134-acre parcel of ranch property on scenic coastal Highway 1 in Monterey County. Sixty-three of 73 lots in a subdivision of the actor-director's ranch will be kept as open space.

Scenic Mountain Medical Center announces the arrival of three full-time physicians to Big Spring.

Cezary Kuprianowicz - Board Certified, Pulmonology
1605 West 11th Place Big Spring 915-264-1300

Rory N. Minck, MD - Board Certified, Obstetrics and Gynecology
1603 West 11th Place Big Spring 915-268-0200

Guido Toscano, MD - Board Certified, Internal Medicine
1605 West 11th Place Big Spring 915-264-1400

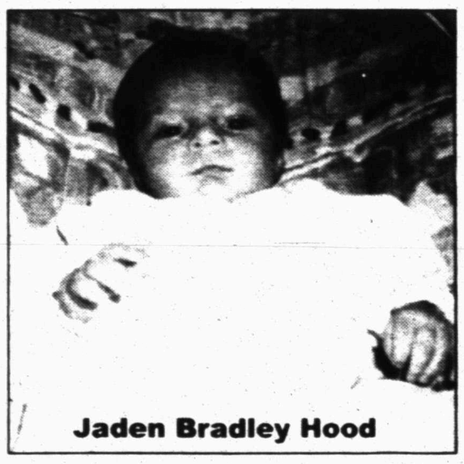
All three physicians are accepting new patients. Please call for appointment.

You are cordially invited to the Grand Openings!

Thursday, December 18th 3:00 - 6:00 pm
Appetizers and Refreshments
(Both Buildings are Northwest of the Hospital in Big Spring)

Baby's First Christmas

Make their First Christmas One To Remember!



Jaden Bradley Hood

PARENTS & GRANDPARENTS SHOW OFF YOUR

NEW BABY

IN OUR CHRISTMAS EDITION OF THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS!

Bring Us A Cute Picture Of Your Child Or Grandchild Right Away

The Cost Is Only $15 Per Ad

The Deadline Is 5:00 p.m. December 19

DEC 13 1997

What shoppers never see — cleanup of mess

LIVINGSTON, N.J. (AP) — A half-hour before closing at the Livingston Mall, Karen Glevis surveys the damage — the misplaced belts, the missing gloves, the mismatched pile of hastily folded sweaters.

"It can take 45 minutes to refold a table of sweaters," sighs the assistant manager at Sears, anticipating a weary night of picking up after messy shoppers.

At the Disney store, baseball caps and discarded Winnie the Pooh dolls litter the carpet. Compact discs have fallen waay under the racks at Sam Goody. And after enduring the footsteps — and food droppings — of several hundred children, the Santa set needs a good vacuuming.

The holiday season usually means more store hours for shoppers. But it can add several hours to a mall's after-hours routine, as employees stay into the night to regroup and restock for the next morning.

It can be an exhausting bummer.

"We have had to stay until 2 a.m. before," Ms. Glevis says. "We don't leave until it's ready for tomorrow."

The longer holiday hours — many stores stay open until 11 p.m. and reopen at 8 a.m. — give employees less time to get organized. And the extra business adds a ton of paperwork at the end of a night, Sam Goody assistant manager Earl Hall says.

Not every store has to spend hours cleaning up after shoppers. At the San Francisco Music Box Co., crammed with knickknacks, assistant manager Karen Lamanna says, "I just vacuum, count the money and get out."

But for high-volume stores, or ones where customers can easily pick things up and put them somewhere else, it's a nightmare.

"It's horrible," says Hallmark cashier Tanya Senior, who finally had the time to buy four stuffed animals after her shift.

"All the cards are on the floor," she says. "People take them out and don't put them back in the right place."

Other stores sometimes revamp their floors at night after closing. At 11 p.m. last Friday, an army of employees at The Gap, The Limited and other clothing stores busily replaced that day's outfits with new ones.

Nearby, Brenda Haas, who has a day job in the mall's marketing department, delicately tossed white "snow" under a 37-foot Christmas tree, making sure the phony drifts were flawless.

"It's my job to make sure that the center looks great for the weekend," she says. "If the snow doesn't look perfect, then I'm not happy."

At Sears, one worker replaced a half dozen belts onto the rack, another searched for lost mates to shoes, while still others restacked and refolded piles of khaki pants, sweaters and turtlenecks.

Dazzling Christmas display accepted

METAIRIE, La. (AP) — Angry neighbors once asked the state Supreme Court to order the plug pulled on Al Copeland's eye-popping Christmas lights. The dazzling display is bigger than ever and the neighbors — well, they just don't seem to mind anymore.

You can't miss Copeland's house — two-story toy soldiers, a giant faux snowman, glowing angels, bigger-than-life reindeer, lights in the trees and on the house. Oh so many lights — a million of them, costing $125,000, in a display that took two months to put up.

There are Christmas carols, too, played on hidden speakers. In the back yard are two generators that power the vast homage to the holiday.

So why no fuss?

It's because the crowds that set Copeland's neighbors into a panic have dwindled and so have the problems in this quiet New Orleans suburb.

"If I were to fight him (in court) now I would lose because it's no longer a nuisance," said Burt Klein, who led the legal battle to get rid of his neighbor's blazing display.

Copeland, a restaurateur who made a fortune before he lost his Popeyes fried chicken chain in bankruptcy, has been in at least two tiffs for appearances' sake.

Earlier this year, a state judge threw out Copeland's claim that he was libeled by novelist Anne Rice. She criticized his Straya restaurant in a newspaper ad as gaudy and tacky, worse even than a flophouse. The judge said her comments were protected by free-speech rights.

But before that was the battle over the Christmas display.

Copeland first began the large displays in 1975, and in time, thousands of gawkers flocked to Metairie.

Klein recalled visitors urinating on his lawn, knocking on his door, vandalizing the neighborhood and leaving garbage. The crowds made it a nightmare to go to and from his own little piece of heaven on Earth.

The Louisiana Supreme Court ordered the display dismantled in 1985, saying Copeland had disobeyed its order to limit the show. Copeland moved the display to Popeyes headquarters, and lost an appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Copeland had stayed with modest displays at his home until a few years ago. But now the lights are back in full force.

"I think it's a great deal to watch the kid's eyes glow," Copeland said. "I just enjoy it, my whole family does."

So does Klein, who even flipped the switch that turned on the lights three years ago when Copeland returned to grand-scale lighting.

"When I used to see them go up it was a frustrating time, but now I give directions on where to place the lights," Klein said.

Other displays in town have captured the attention of some who used to crowd Copeland's, but a steady stream of pedestrian and street traffic still flows by his house.

"What is Christmas if not a lot of lights and for children," said his neighbor Maria Aleman, "and we're all children."

Motel 6 lawsuit loses class action status

MIAMI (AP) — Hundreds of people who accused Motel 6 of discriminating against them will have to pursue their legal claims individually after an appeals court yanked the class-action status of a suit against the motel chain.

Blacks and other minorities accused the Dallas-based no-frills chain of denying them rooms when there were vacancies, charging them higher rates than whites, relegating them to back sections dubbed "ghettos" or giving them unclean rooms with broken furniture.

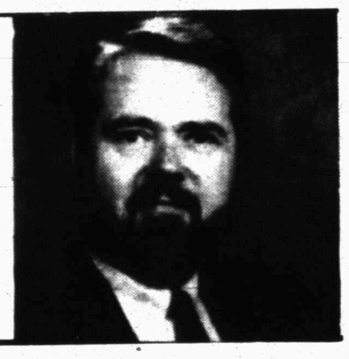
The 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Wednesday that the complaints against the chain of 750 motels were too diverse, including many issues that are not common to all the complaints.

The appeals court said the facts of individual cases are distinct and must be considered as separate claims. A court would have to look at different evidence in each case, including reservation status and other nonracial reasons for denying a room, such as a prospective guest's behavior.

Rhode Island is also known as the Ocean State.

Minding Your Own Business

By Don Taylor



Great communicators aren't born — they're made

Long before I achieved any success in life, I observed the lives of successful men and women. I was curious about the characteristics that took them to the top.

One day I discovered a common denominator. There is a definite link between a person's ability to inform, persuade and inspire and their proficiency in getting ahead. Those who can speak forcefully, fluently and convincingly climb the ladder of success more quickly.

Once I saw the powerful correlation between speaking and success, I set out to improve my public speaking skills. I accepted all offers to speak. Gradually, I improved and made the transition from willing volunteer to paid professional.

Here are several tips for improving your speaking ability. Use them to build skills and accelerate your career.

Building your speaking skills

•**Develop an area of expertise**. Study your topic thoroughly and blend in your own experience and uniqueness. Don't give a "book report" of others' information. Become an expert yourself. When you have something important to say, it's easy to find an audience.

•**Take time to learn about your audience**. Know who they are, what they need and their level of experience and expertise. Do your homework and talk to audience members before your presentation.

•**Don't just define problems, propose solutions**. Several years ago, I heard a highly-qualified speaker spend three hours defining a challenging business problem. At the end of his presentation the audience had only one question, "What do we do?" the speaker didn't have an answer.

•**Define, outline and refine**. First, define the central theme or thought of your presentation. Then outline the opening, body and close. Leave some space in your outline so you can add ideas as you develop them. Finally, edit and refine your concepts until they flow smoothly.

•**Keep your focus**. Successful speakers limit the number of ideas they try to present in any given speech. All ideas should link to your central theme. Begin with the idea, develop it and then summarize it.

•**Put yourself into your speaking**. Personal stories, experiences and beliefs allow you to relate to your audience. Reveal your human nature so your audience will feel that you are one of them.

•**Watch your time**. The best way to ruin a good 30-minute speech is to make it last an hour. If you're scheduled to speak for 30 minutes, speak for exactly 30 minutes. Meeting planners don't rehire speakers who blow the time limits.

•**Practice, practice, practice**. Prepare your presentation well ahead of time. Then practice your delivery. Time each practice and keep editing sections until they are smooth and connected. A tape recorder can help you find and eliminate mistakes, stumbling blocks and awkward phrases.

•**Use humor sparingly**. Unless your goal is purely to entertain, use humor carefully. Avoid off-color jokes, ethnic stories and inappropriate topics. The best humor is clean, original, funny and presented well.

•**Anticipate questions**. Research your topic until you know it thoroughly. Then anticipate questions and smooth out your answers ahead of time. If you don't know the answer, say so. No one knows everything. However, if there are many questions you can't answer, you need to do more homework.

•**Join a Toastmasters Club**. Toastmasters helped me learn new skills, polish presentations and develop marketable techniques. For a listing of local clubs call (800) 9we-speak or check out the Toastmasters web page at http:..www.toastmasters.org.

•**Read "The Toastmasters International guide to Successful Speaking,"** by Jeff Slutsky and Michael Aun. These two authors have crafted an excellent book for the beginner or seasoned veteran.

Use these tips to increase your speaking skills. It takes commitment, practice and patience, but it can change your life.

Don Taylor is the co-author of "Up Against the Wal-Marts." You may write to him in care of "Minding Your Own Business," P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105.

HOLIDAY SAVINGS PARADE

97 Geo Metro CP8521
$169.95 mo.
Sale Price 10,679. 1,000 down +TT&L. 3.9% APR. 60 mos.

97 Malibu CP8385
$249.95 mo.
Sale Price 14,983. 1,000 down +TT&L. 3.9% APR. 60 mos.

97 Geo Metro CP8451
$199.95 mo.
Sale Price 11,909. 1,000 down +TT&L. 3.9% APR. 60 mos.

97 Geo Prizm CP8712
$249.95 mo.
Sale Price 14,999. 1,000 down +TT&L. 3.9% APR. 60 mos.

2.9% For 36 mo. On Most Cars In Stock
No Payments Until February 1998!

97 Pont. Sunfire
$257.63 mo.
Sale Price 14,232. 1,000 down +TT&L. 3.9% APR. 60 mos.

97 Suburbans In Stock
$4,000 Off

97 Malibu C8425, MSRP 16,245
$13,999

97 Z34 Mte Carlo C8402, MSRP 21,163
$18,296

97 Geo Prizm CP7587
$11,995

97 Grand Am PT8885, MSRP 16,179
$12,995

97 S10 Pickup
$1500 Rebate

97 Bonneville PT7494, MSRP 25,144
$21,995

Big Country's USED SALES CENTER

TRUCKS
84 Chev. Suburban 4X4 ..... $3,995
88 Chev. Suburban 4X4 ..... $6,995
90 Chev. 3/4 Ton Work Truck $6,595
92 Chev. S-10 Extended Cab..... $7,995
92 Chev. Extended Cab Nice $11,995
94 GMC Ext. Cab Nice $14,595
93 Chev. Suburban Silverado $14,595
95 Chev. Extended Cab Low Miles $15,995
95 Chev. 3/4 T. Ext. Cab 4X4 ..... $17,995
97 Chev. 3/4 Ton 4X4 ..... $21,995
97 Chev. Sportside Cruise, Tilt, AM/FM Cass., Chrome Wheels $299 mo.*
*TT&L down, 36 mos.@12.25% APR. Final pmt. $8788. WAC.

CARS
89 Geo Metro..... $2,595
87 Chry. 5th Ave... $3,395
90 Geo Prizm $3,395
91 Chev. Lumina .. $4,995
95 Ford Aspire $4,995
96 Merc. Cougar $13,595
95 Olds 98 ..... $12,995
95 Buick LeSabre $14,595
96 Olds 88 ..... $14,595
96 Buick Regency $15,595
96 Chev. Corsica Low Miles, Tilt, Cruise, AM/FM Cass., Pow. Win/Locks ..... $199 mo.*
*TT&L down, 36 mos.@12.25% APR. Final pmt. $3955. WAC.

BILL WILSON'S Big Country AUTOLAND
East Hiway Traffic Circle, Snyder
Sales Hotlines 573-5456, 1-800-573-5459
We're On The Net www.snydertex.com/autoland

Come By And Talk To Our Sales Staff!
Sam Byrom, Matt Dickey, Steve West, Tommy Berry, John Walker, Charlotte Smith, Daryl Drain, Randy Dryden, Carter Wiggins