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home of Ronnie Price

FRIDAY

Snyder Daily News

Ask Us

Q—When did Texas enact a state sales tax, and how much was it at that time?

A—Texas enacted the state sales tax in 1961 at 2 percent. It is now 6.25 percent.

In Brief

Wrong gesture

CANBERRA, Australia (AP) — President Bush gave the V-for-victory sign as he drove in his armored limousine past some demonstrators here in Australia's capital.

A friendly gesture?

Not down under. In Australia, holding up two fingers to form a "V" has the same meaning as a middle-finger salute in the United States.

It's not clear if Bush had been apprised of the local customs before his passing encounter on Thursday.

Glass in food

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS, Texas (AP) — A store pulled baby food jars from shelves after a couple claimed their infant had swallowed glass fragments from a jar of mixed cereal with apples and bananas.

Cheryl Mahaffey said her 4-month-old son, Michael Don Mahaffey, began throwing up Wednesday night after eating half a jar of the Heinz cereal.

"I looked and there was glass on me and glass all over him," she said Thursday. "He spit up quite a bit of glass this morning."

Lab explosion

MENLO PARK, Calif. (AP) — An experiment involving controversial cold fusion exploded, killing one scientist and injuring three others in a blast that sent glass and metal flying.

No measurable amounts of harmful chemicals or radioactivity were released in Thursday's explosion at SRI International, a private laboratory, fire officials said.

Company spokesman Dennis Maxwell said the experiment was not considered dangerous, but experts in cold fusion research said such trials have been known to cause small explosions.

Local

State tryouts

Four Snyder High School students will be competing in all-state tryouts Saturday at Texas Tech University in Lubbock.

They are seniors David Cozart on French horn, Andy Rumpff on percussion and Chris Gober on trombone, and junior Julie Zeck on flute.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Thursday, 60 degrees; low, 28 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Friday, 28 degrees; no precipitation.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, increasing cloudiness. Low in the mid to upper 30s. Light southeast wind. Saturday, mostly cloudy with a 20 percent chance light rain. High 55 to 60. Southeast wind 5-15 mph.

Almanac: Sunset today, 5:53 p.m. Sunrise Saturday, 7:43 a.m. Of 2 days in 1992, the sun has shone 2 days in Snyder.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



COMING DOWN — City employees Paul Gutierrez and Tony Zamarripa, left to right, and William Myers, on lift, remove decorations from the light poles along College Ave. (SDN Staff Photo)

Annual board appointments due soon by commissioners

Scurry County Commissioners Court will soon begin the annual task of county board appointments.

With some 32 county board terms expiring on Jan. 15, the court will either appoint new representatives or reappoint those currently serving.

"We are in a restructuring phase," said County Judge Bob Doolittle, concerning when the appointments will be made. "We will have to find out if people want to continue serving, and if they are happy where they are."

Terms scheduled to expire in mid-January include hospital board Place 2, currently held by Bill Wilson III; Place 4, held by Jim Palmer; and Place 6, occupied by G.A. Parks, Jr.

The airport board will have four seats with expiring terms: Olin Bunch, Place 2; Rodger Blackard, Place 4; Dub Buchanan, Place 5; and Weldon Key, Place 6.

Terms expiring on the board of county development include Eddie Johnson, Place 1; Max von Roeder, Place 3; and Harold "Pete" Hester, Place 4.

The court will consider appointments for six seats on the child welfare board including Place 1, held by Shannon Grantham; Place 3, Jesse G. Price; Place 4, occupied by Mrs. Weldon Wiggins; Place 5, held by Frances Denman; Place 6, held by Cindy McAnally; and Place 8, currently held by Barbara Burney.

The county welfare board will see three terms expiring this year. Seats held by Henry Ramos, Place 1; Mrs. Albert Lewis, Place 4; and Doug Vineyard in Place 6 are scheduled for consideration by the court.

Other boards with expiring terms include the Scurry County Greivance Committee, veteran's land board and the veteran's land board farm and ranch committee, which is appointed by the county judge.

Each of these boards have three representatives, with all terms expiring this year.

Scurry County Commissioners Court will hold its monthly business meeting Jan. 13.

Two more toss hats in ring; Key reaches back to get his

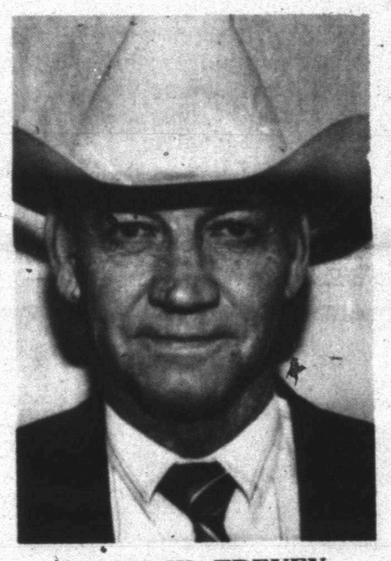
The Scurry County political scene grew more intriguing as two people filed for candidacy and another withdrew.

Lifelong Scurry County resident Ralph W. Trevey today became the fourth person to announce he will run for Precinct 1 County Commissioner in the March 10 Democratic primary.

According to the county clerk's office, John Leftwich has also filed on the Democratic ticket to oppose incumbent Keith Collier for county sheriff.

Meanwhile, Republican Steve Key announced that he is withdrawing his candidacy for county sheriff.

"Due to business considerations, I can't devote enough time needed for a campaign," said Key, who had filed on Tuesday.



RALPH W. TREVEY

Trevey joins Tommy Marricle, Weldon Beck and Frank Garcia in running as Democrats for the Pct. 1 post, which is currently held by Republican Jerry Morgan.

Morgan, appointed to the post last July following the resignation of Duaine Davis, is unopposed in seeking the GOP nomination for a full four-year term.

Trevey is a graduate of Snyder High School who attended college for a year and a half. He is a member of the Scurry County Cotton Producers board and a deacon at the First Baptist Church of Snyder.

"It is my desire, if elected, for a responsible, responsive and conservative government," said Trevey, 47.

On Thursday, Republican Eddie Don Floyd announced his can-

(see CANDIDATES, page 8)

Up 300 percent...

Commonwealth prices soar

MOSCOW (AP) — Pressured by Russia's mammoth price increases, other members of the new Commonwealth of Independent States said today they will follow suit, sending an inflationary shudder across the former Soviet Union.

Belarus raised its prices an average of 300 percent today to keep Russians from surging across its borders in search of cheaper goods.

Ukraine and Moldova took similar steps Thursday, when Russia freed prices in state stores. Kazakhstan said it will boost prices starting Monday, and the Central Asian republics said they may do the same next week.

The price increases could start a trade battle that would endanger the fragile commonwealth, already shaken by the failure of the leaders of 11 former Soviet republics to agree on unified control of conventional armed forces.

In a worst-case scenario, the republics could try to one-up each other, raising prices and wages higher and higher in a destructive inflationary spiral.

Already, Ukraine has doubled its minimum wage to 370 rubles a month, exceeding Russia's new minimum of 342 rubles.

On Jan. 10, Ukraine also will introduce coupons to protect its food supplies. Ukrainian citizens will receive 25 percent of their wages in the coupons, which look like banknotes and will be necessary to purchase food and clothing.

Russia, by far the largest and most powerful member of the new commonwealth, set off the price increases by freeing prices Thursday in an effort to boost production.

Supporters of President Boris Yeltsin's risky move say the drastic measure will give factories and farmers an incentive to boost production.

Critics, however, contend it is pointless to free prices when basic industries remain government-owned monopolies and agriculture is still dominated by inefficient collective farms.

While state stores remained as understocked as ever, the price of bread roughly tripled, medicine quadrupled, and gasoline rose five times across Russia. Price regulations will remain on some basic goods, including bread, sugar,

(see PRICES, page 8)

Session important only to lawmakers

AUSTIN (AP) — On the first day of the Legislature's special session on redistricting, prayers were lifted for fairness and comparisons were made between the political battle and the Alamo.

But does the public really care about redrawing state House and Senate district boundaries?

"The attention span may be about two seconds on what happens down here during this special session," said House Speaker Gib Lewis, D-Fort Worth.

He said people are more concerned about the economy, as they should be.

But 150 House members, and 31 senators, have a lot at stake in drawing boundaries for districts from which they and future lawmakers will run.

On Thursday, legislative leaders predicted quick work on redistricting, but the special session quickly ran into problems.

A Senate redistricting plan was delayed by Republicans, forcing senators to sit tight until Saturday before considering the measure.

Meanwhile, a House committee voted 8-4 for a redistricting proposal that minority plaintiffs said would land the state back in court.

The proposal would institute a federal three-judge panel's plan for the 1992 elections, and then change for 1994 to a district map that was agreed to by the minority groups and a majority of the House.

But James Harrington, an attorney for the minority plaintiffs, said the three-judge plan for 1992 would do too much damage to Hispanics and blacks. Harrington said Hispanic groups would chal-

(see SESSION, page 8)

Tourism...

1/2-cent sales tax focus of meeting

The city's ½-cent sales tax election topped discussion during a meeting of the tourism and retirement committee Thursday.

"We need the resources to attract new people and businesses to Snyder," stressed Mayor Troy Williamson. "If these funds are not available, we are way out of the ballpark."

The tax, if accepted by voters on Jan. 18, is estimated to generate $300,000 in monies to be used for economic development and $100,000 for ad valorem tax relief.

Williamson explained that many cities in the area have already implemented this tax, and said it is essential for Snyder to pass the tax in order to compete for new businesses.

"We need this to pass. We need it for the future of Snyder. Every time you go out of town to shop, you are paying their taxes and improving their economy," said the mayor.

In a motion made by Art Feinsod, the tourism committee voted unanimously to endorse the ½-cent sales tax.

Williamson noted that a fact sheet will be released early next week, explaining the importance of the election.

Other discussion by the committee included the success of the lighted Christmas parade and the decorating of the square. According to Chamber President Nelda Huddleston, plans will soon be underway for 1992's events.

"Now that we have done this once, we need to let more people know about it, and get more people into Snyder to see it," said Huddleston.

Plans are to have the event published in Texas Monthly and Texas Highways magazines as an annual event, along with White Buffalo Days.

Chamber manager Ricky Fritz asked committee members for guidelines on expenditures for attracting events to Snyder.

"We want to do enough to bring in events, but we don't want to do too much," said Fritz.

Committee members were informed of an upcoming junior Hereford sale, scheduled for June 26-27. The event will be sponsored by Texas 4-H clubs and the Texas Hereford Association.

The SDN Column — By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The penalty for bigamy is two mothers-in-law."

Keeping tabs on our neighbors:

Kim Pease, publisher of the Rotan Advance, took his barbs and ribbing in stride recently after an error in his front-page column.

Pease said the mistake didn't go unnoticed for long. Pease said even a newspaper guy knew it was Noah, not Moses, who perservered for 120 years in building the ark.

Pease apologized to all the Bible scholars and wise guys who called to comment on the factual irregularity.

Walter Buckel, in the Lamesa Press-Reporter, hopes the new year will yield better things from the halls of legislation.

Much of the legislation passed these days reminds one of the elected official who asked a lawyer friend to draw up a dog law for him to present to other lawmakers.

"What kind of dog law do you want?" inquired the lawyer.

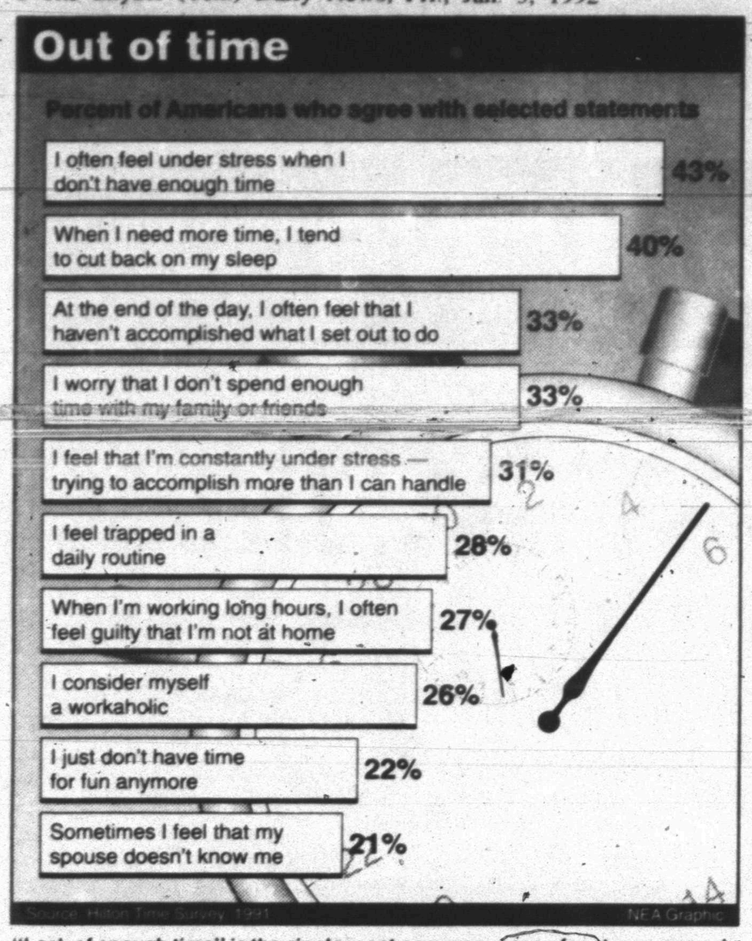
The legislator said, "I want a safe, comprehensive, kindly, and warmhearted one that will satisfy the voters and not interfere with the rights of dogs."

Larry Crabtree, in the Vernon Daily Record, was visiting with a local doctor who said he had difficulty getting away from his practice.

Even at a round of holiday parties, persons would corner the doc and ask about a variety of physical ailments.

The doctor finally found a way to get even when a woman began describing all the aches and pains she had been experiencing. Pressed for a reply, the doc thought for a moment and replied with a serious expression:

"Well, this is just a guess, of course, but it sounds to me like you have a fairly serious case of middle age."



"Lack of enough time" is the single most common reason for stress, according to a survey of Americans. Forty percent of those asked said they frequently cut back on the number of hours they sleep in order to have more time during the day.

Competing interests slowing dismantling of Soviet nukes

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is having difficulty figuring out how to spend the $400 million Congress gave it to help dismantle and store Soviet nuclear weapons, government and private sources say.

The administration didn't ask for the money to begin with, and having gotten it, several government agencies are competing for a piece of the action. A host of scientific groups and foundations are tripping over each other to give the benefit of their advice.

The result so far, according to the sources, is that nothing much is being done. A team of experts — led by Undersecretary of State Reginald Bartholomew — is supposed to travel to the republics to discuss what to do.

As of Thursday no date had been set for the trip, and the State Department declined to discuss it, saying an agenda is still being formulated.

"The combination of a very complicated issue and competing bureaucracies is not a good one," said one administration official familiar with the non-proliferation programs. "Everyone has ideas, everyone wants a piece of the pie."

Secretary of State James A. Baker III wants most of the money to help the republics dismantle some of the 15,000 short-range nuclear weapons that former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev promised to eliminate.

But Russia, where most of the weapons are deployed, has made clear it can dismantle the weapons alone and doesn't want the United States looking over its shoulder.

Instead, the Russians want the United States to build a giant storage site for the plutonium and other radioactive components from the dismantled weapons, said the administration official, who like the other sources spoke on condition of anonymity.

The problem is compounded by disagreements and confusion within the former Soviet republics about what to do with the money, several administration officials said.

Some Russian government scientists want the money for joint projects with U.S. nuclear laboratories on peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

"They're trying to sort themselves out over there. And frankly, they've got problems that to them seem more urgent — like no food," a State Department official said.

Congress provided the $400 million five weeks ago after dire warnings from Kremlin officials that their empire's massive nuclear arsenal was facing an uncertain future with the breakup of the Soviet Union.

The lawmakers' sense of urgency was fueled by assessments from U.S. intelligence officials that extreme economic straits might force Soviet scientists to sell nuclear material — as well as expertise — to Third World nations with nuclear ambitions.

Academic and scientific groups accuse the administration of dragging its feet and lacking either willingness or ideas for dealing with the problem.

"The Bush administration has no program beyond exhorting the Soviets to be good citizens, guard their nuclear weapons carefully and destroy those they've promised to destroy," said Christopher Paine, a senior researcher with the Natural Resources Defense Council.

The private group, which promotes nuclear non-proliferation, is just back from conducting workshops in Russia and Ukraine on storage and dismantling of nuclear weapons.

The administration should undertake, in tandem with Russia, much deeper cuts of both sides' arsenals, Paine said.

Administration officials are divided on whether they should reduce the U.S. arsenals further — with some, like Baker, advocating a waiting period until events in the former Soviet republics become clear.

Involuntary bankruptcy move criticized by Zale chairman

DALLAS (AP) — The nation's largest jewelry retailer, Zale Corp., will push ahead with cost cuts despite an attempt by some bondholders to throw the company into Chapter 11, its chairman said.

"We believe this action by just a handful of our creditors is very unfortunate. Their action is definitely not in the best interests of our creditors and our employees," Zale chairman Irving R. Gerstein said Thursday.

Bondholders led by the Dallas investment firm Barre & Co. filed an involuntary bankruptcy petition against Zale on Wednesday.

The petition did not affect the company's four retail chains — Zale's, Bailey Banks & Biddle, Gordon's and Corrigan's — which operated normally Thursday.

Zale was considering how to respond to the petition, Gerstein said. It has 20 days to do so.

The company could consent to the filing and restructure $850 million in debt through the formal court process, or it could ask a bankruptcy judge to throw the petition out, claiming the bondholders don't represent all its creditors.

The involuntary Chapter 11 petition was filed two days after Zale announced cost cuts designed to keep it out of bankruptcy court. They include closing 400 of its 2,000 stores and freezing all debt payments.

About 2,500 of the company's 12,500 employees nationwide would lose their jobs because of the closures. Zale also planned to cut its headquarters staff and reorganize divisions.

In his statement Thursday, Gerstein said Zale would push ahead with those plans.

Final decisions about what stores to close will take about two months while closing them could take another two months, Zale spokeswoman Lisette McSoud said Thursday.

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Astrograph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Jan. 3, 1992

New and different ambitions could be awakened in you in the year ahead. These hopes and aspirations are likely to make a big change in your life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your way of doing things today is likely to be a bit superior to that of individuals with whom you'll be involved. However, you must be tactful when you assert yourself. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences governing you in the year ahead. Send for Capricorn's Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing $1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-8428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You'll be very good at working out tedious complications today — if you're left to your own devices. If you have a problem to resolve, seek a secluded environment.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You might have an opportunity today to help a friend who needs your assistance. Kindness you show will assure you of this pal's support in the future.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) As the day progresses, you might become a bit more serious and somber. Loosen up a bit, or else you'll make those you're involved with feel ill at ease.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If possible, try to conclude your business matters as early in the day as possible; this is the period of time when you'll be thinking clearly and your ideas will be more pragmatic.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) If you get involved in something today where you plan to share expenses with another, it's best to have a clear-cut understanding in advance as to who pays for what.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Try not to be too opinionated today, especially in situations where you're dealing with individuals on a one-to-one basis. If each party has to give a bit, be open-minded regarding concessions.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Things may work out today in such a way that you might be stuck with some essential, last-minute assignments. Try to plan ahead for this contingency — in case it does occur.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) This evening, if you're desirous of some type of exposure, go where the bright lights are, but try to avoid crowded venues. You'll be more comfortable with a small group of friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) A matter you've been anxious to dispose of can be concluded to your satisfaction today, provided you make it a priority issue. If not, it's apt to linger around longer.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Much of value can be learned from your discussions with others today, but you must do more listening than talking. The secret is to find out what they know instead of impressing them with your knowledge.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Financial trends look encouraging today, not necessarily for making more money but for being able to use your present resources more effectively.

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Plant geneticist is trying to improve foraging crop

WASHINGTON (AP) — An Agriculture Department plant geneticist says a long-unappreciated forage crop called birdsfoot trefoil may become more popular in the United States if he can equip it with a trait common to its Moroccan "cousin."

Paul R. Beuselinck said he found rhizomes, or underground runners, on wild birdsfoot trefoil in Morocco that allow the plant to proliferate so much that it is not wiped out by root diseases that damage trefoil in this country.

Beuselinck wants to move the rhizomes genetically into American varieties, which look like a fine-stemmed alfalfa with yellow flowers.

"If successful, I expect acreage of this perennial crop to double in size and help pastures that are now planted only to grass or are unimproved," said Beuselinck, who works for USDA's Agricultural Research Service in Columbia, Mo.

Trefoil tolerates poor soil conditions and abuse from grazing animals much better than alfalfa, the leading forage fed to dairy cows, he said. It also is palatable to animals, nutritious and does not cause bloat that grazing animals occasionally get from eating other legumes.

But its popularity as a forage crop has been hampered by its susceptibility to root diseases, Beuselinck said.

"That's where the rhizomes of the Moroccan types could pay off," he said. "Rhizomes are like above-ground runners that produce new strawberry plants, except rhizomes are below the soil. Rhizomes can root and make new daughter plants. Even if the mother plant dies from disease, new stands of rhizome-producing trefoil would survive."

"If commercial trefoil had rhizomes, root disease would become less important, much like a human having a rash," he said. "We get a rash, but it doesn't kill us. Rhizome-producing trefoil could live in spite of disease."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been diagnosed as having a prolapsed mitral valve with a mild leak. What is the preferred treatment for my condition?

DEAR READER: Nothing.

Mitral valve prolapse is a common condition, of unknown cause, marked by weakness or floppiness of one of the valves in the heart. This may cause slight leakage that does not, in its mild form, require therapy. MVP is more common in women and is often associated with periodic bursts of rapid pulse (tachycardia).

Moderate/severe forms of MVP may require drugs (such as calcium channel blockers) to prevent these attacks of tachycardia — or surgery may be necessary to repair the valve.

Any patient with MVP — or any other valvular disease — should have prophylactic antibiotic treatment before and during dental work. This therapy will prevent endocarditis (infected heart valves), a dangerous complication in patients with weakened heart valves.

Although you may not require specific treatment for MVP, you should follow your physician's instructions about follow-up. This probably will include periodic ultrasound examinations, which will enable the doctor to determine if your MVP is worsening over the years.

DEAR DR. GOTT: It pains me to admit that our 56-year-old son has AIDS. We'd like him to visit for a short time, and his doctor says we are not in danger of catching it. As parents, what should we know that will help us cope with his condition?

DEAR READER: AIDS is truly a catastrophe for patients and families alike. Each case must be personalized.

If your son is scheduled to visit you, I believe you can help him by being supportive and non-judgmental. Show him you love him and that he remains important to you.

This is by necessity a very general answer. You should query your son's physician about specifics (such as diet, activity, hygienic measures and support groups) that depend on the severity of your son's infection and his general state of health.

To provide further information, I am sending you a free copy of my Health Report "Blood — AIDS." Other readers who would like copies should send $1.25 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3369. Be sure to mention the title.

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THE WORLD ALMANAC DATE BOOK

Jan. 3, 1992

Today is the 3rd day of 1992 and the 13th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1879, construction of the Brooklyn Bridge began.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Lucretia Mott (1793-1880), U.S. abolitionist; J.R.R. Tolkien (1892-1973), author-scholar; Victor Borge (1909-), comedian, is 83; Robert Loggia (1930-), actor, is 62; Dabney Coleman (1932-), actor, is 60; Bobby Hull (1939-), hockey star, is 53; Mel Gibson (1956-), actor, is 36.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1983, the Dallas Cowboys' Tony Dorsett scored a touchdown on the longest run from scrimmage, 99 yards, in a 31-27 loss to the Minnesota Vikings.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "All that is gold does not glitter; not all those that wander are lost." — J.R.R. Tolkien

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1911, no snow fell on Tamarack, Calif. In fact, no snow fell on Tamarack until the 9th. However, by month's end, the U.S. record monthly snow of 390 inches had fallen.

SOURCE: THE WEATHER CHANNEL®
1992 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Day before new moon (Jan. 4).

TODAY'S BARB
BY PHIL PASTORET

Some very smart fellow invented the executive meeting to keep the bosses out of the way so the rest of us could get something done around the office.

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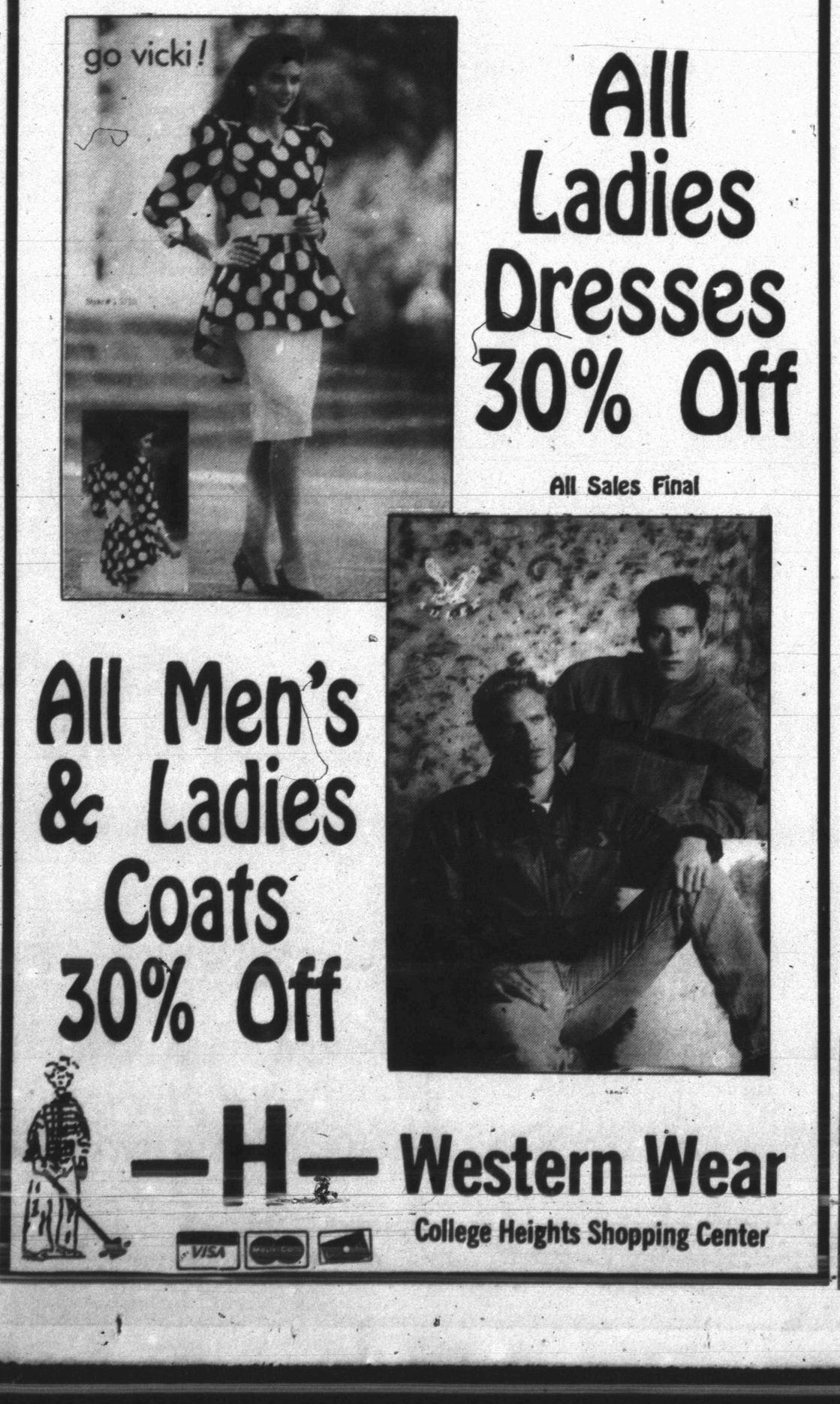
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Community Calendar

FRIDAY

Free blood pressure clinic; Cogdell Memorial Hospital emergency waiting room; 1-2:30 p.m.

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

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

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park; For more information call 573-2101 or 573-3657 or 573-3956; 8 p.m.

Alateen; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-5524 days, 573-2101 nights; 8 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous (closed); Park Club in Winston Park; For information, call 573-8626, 863-2348 or 573-9924. (Last Friday of the month is open birthday meeting); 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Alateen Step Study Group; Park Club at Winston Park; For information, call 573-8929 or 573-5164.

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

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626 or 573-2349; 10 a.m.

10 a.m. For more information, call 863-2348, 573-8110 or 573-6820.

Scurry County Museum; Western Texas College; open from 1-4 p.m.

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

Health care, retirement issues growing as population ages

WASHINGTON (AP) — The needs of the baby boom generation threaten to engulf the nation's health care and retirement systems as the size of the elder population soars over the next 40 years, a private study said today.

The number of Americans 65 and older will hit 65 million by the year 2030, compared with 30 million senior citizens today, the Population Reference Bureau said in a report, "The Baby Boom — Entering Midlife."

Baby boomers in the next 20 years "will set the agenda for the nation's public policy choices in education, work-family policies, retirement programs and health care," said the report's authors, Leon Bouvier and Carol De Vita.

The key question will be "how do we invest in America's future" of retiring baby boomers "while meeting the social, economic and political needs of today?" they said.

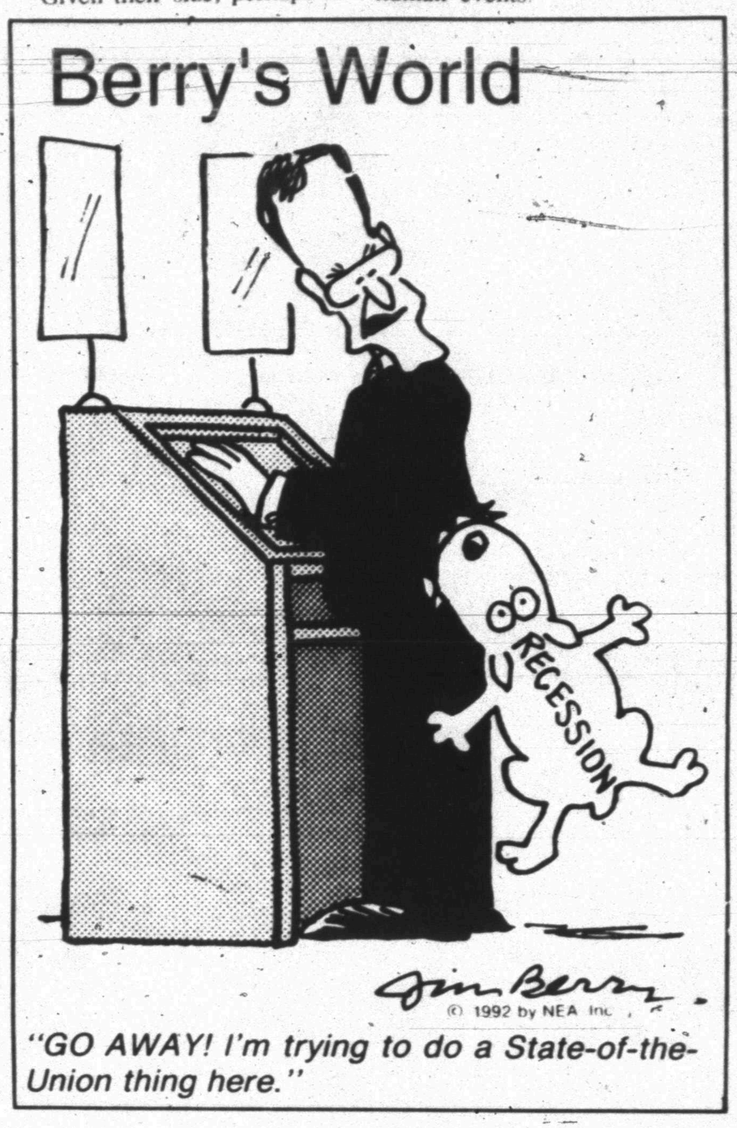
Baby boomers are Americans born from 1946 to 1964, so by 2030, the oldest surviving boomer will be 84 and the youngest 65.

By 2030 there will be more Americans over the age of 65 than under the age of 18, according to demographers' estimates.

That reduces the number of younger working people available to support the growing number of retirees.

Baby boomers are trying to "provide for their children, assist their aging parents and plan for their own futures," the authors said.

"Given their size, perhaps no other generation in history has had, or will have, as much influence in determining the course of human events."



"GO AWAY! I'm trying to do a State-of-the-Union thing here."

Line-of-duty deaths among cops decline

WASHINGTON (AP) — The number of law enforcement officers killed in the line of duty last year seems to have dropped significantly, and bullet-resistant vests are getting much of the credit.

At least 130 law enforcement officers lost their lives in 1991 — 74 to assailants and 56 to accidents, according to preliminary figures announced Thursday by the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund and the Concerns of Police Survivors, or COPS.

Craig W. Floyd, chairman of the memorial fund, said the preliminary total was likely to rise slightly as late reports are received, but "I think this is going to be a good year."

In 1990, 150 federal, state and local police officers died in the line of duty, according to FBI statistics. The figure has fluctuated only slightly over the past decade, averaging 153. The low was 133 in 1986, the high 165 in 1980.

Thirty-one states lost 115 officers, with Texas losing 14, followed by California, 10; Florida and Missouri, seven each, and Michigan, six. In addition, 10 officers from U.S. territories and five federal officers died.

The officers were an average of 37 years old with 10 years of experience. Six were women.

Floyd said that while crime is on the upswing, with increasing firearm-related violence likely to lead to more slayings of police officers, the officers are getting better training, weapons and protection.

Bullet-resistant vests "have been a big help in keeping the numbers lower than they would be" without them, he said. Of the 74 officers slain last year, 46 were shot, according to the memorial fund and COPS.

What used to be considered an inconvenience is now a necessity, and the old, bulkier vests have been replaced by lighter-weight, more comfortable garments, Floyd said.

"What we're seeing there is a lot more use of the vest than in the past," he said.

Studies vary on how many officers wear the vests. Floyd said one indicated that more than 70 percent of the front-line officers are using them, with a lower percentage among those in office jobs.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Places in the News

ROMANIA

Of all the former Soviet bloc countries, Romania is democracy's greatest challenge.

As the communist regimes of Poland, Hungary, East Germany and Bulgaria were being peacefully swept aside, Romania's rigid authoritarian government of Nicolae Ceausescu tight-fistedly held on to control. Violent anti-government protests in Timisoara two years ago sparked a bloody coup in the capital, Bucharest. That toppled Ceausescu: He and his wife were executed soon after.

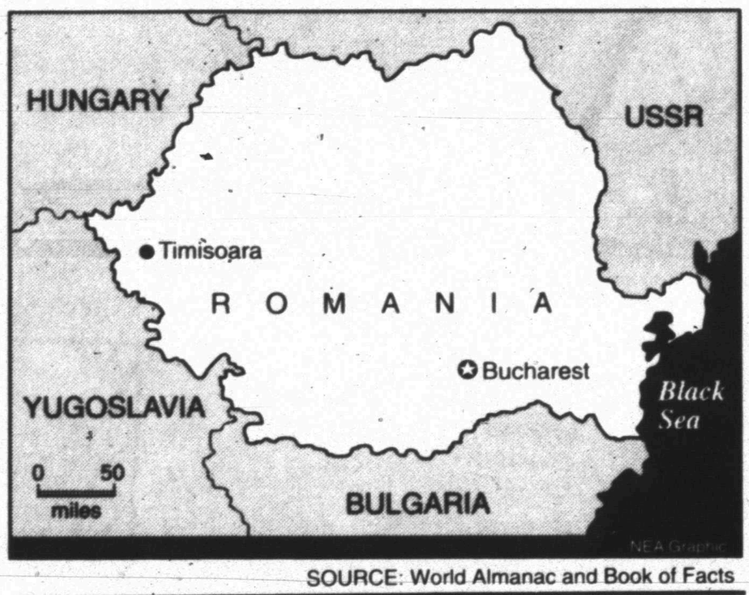
In December 1989, the National Salvation Front, the country's only organized political party after the fall of the communists, swept to power in Romania's first open election. The new government, headed by President Ion Iliescu and Prime Minister Petre Roman, consisted of many former communist officials who now called themselves reformers.

Romania's fortunes have floundered under the new government. As goods and services became unregulated, prices soared. Inflation is now running at over 200 percent annually, while unemployment, unheard of in communist days, is now rampant.

Recently, thousands of coal miners from the Jiu Valley descended on Bucharest in a week of bloody clashes with police. It left three dead and over 300 injured. Roman and his cabinet resigned, and the government fell.

Government officials say the miners were attempting a coup and that they were being manipulated by communists who lead their union and oppose further democratization.

But most observers believe that the growing public unrest and anger over higher prices and fewer jobs is strengthening the hands of the hardliners. A return to authoritarian rule looms ever larger in Romania's future.



SOURCE: World Almanac and Book of Facts

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

NORTH 1-3-92
♠ A 10 4
♥ A Q 2
♦ 10 6 4 3
♣ 10 5 4

WEST
♠ J 9 7 6 2
♥ 9 8 5 4 3
♦ - - -
♣ K J 6

EAST
♠ K 3
♥ J 10
♦ Q J 8 2
♣ Q 9 8 7 3

SOUTH
♠ Q 8 5
♥ K 7 6
♦ A K 9 7 5
♣ A 2

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 6

Avarice kills the contract

By Phillip Alder

Many players spend their bridge lives at the duplicate table. There overtricks and matchpoints are the order of the day. If you make your con-'ract exactly, when you could have netted an extra trick, you will probably end up with a poor matchpoint score.

When these same players turn to rubber bridge, they will lose contracts that are guaranteed with the correct line of play, because they want to try for overtricks. Today's deal is a good example. How would you play in three no-trump, West leading the spade six, either at the rubber-bridge table or in a duplicate tournament?

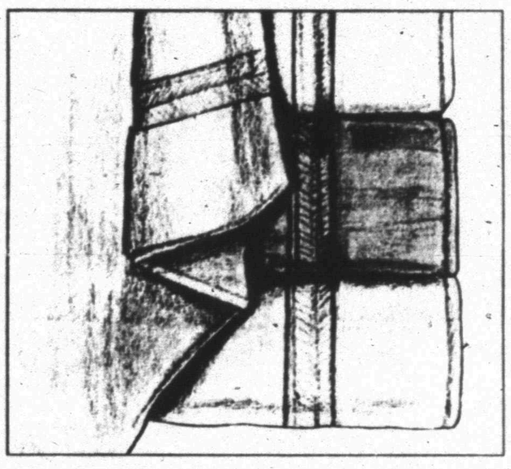
You have seven top tricks. Unless West has all four diamonds, the contract is ensured by winning trick one with dummy's spade ace, leading a diamond and covering East's card. Here that picks up the whole diamond suit and, ironically, an overtrick results.

However, a duplicate player will be worried that the diamonds are coming home for five tricks and that the opening spade lead is away from the king or K-J. He will play low from the dummy at trick one. Here this leads to potential disaster. East wins with the spade king and switches to the club seven. Declarer wins the second round of clubs and experiences a sinking feeling. With the opponents' club tricks ready to run, he has to bring in the diamond suit without loss. The natural play is to cash the ace, with the hope of finding either a 2-2 split or West with a singleton honor. Here luck is out to lunch and the contract goes down — though declarer played the diamonds "correctly."

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Washcloth, Reg. $3.99 ..... $3.19
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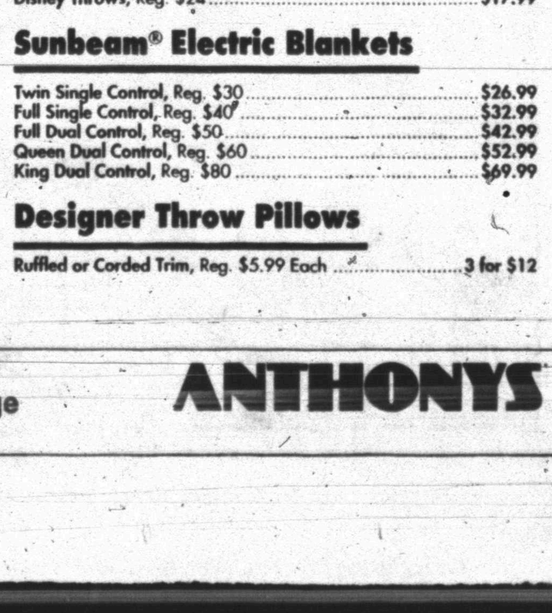
Waterproof Mattress Pads
Twin, Reg. $10.99 ..... $8.99
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Queen, Reg. $14.99 ..... $12.99
King, Reg. $16.99 ..... $14.99

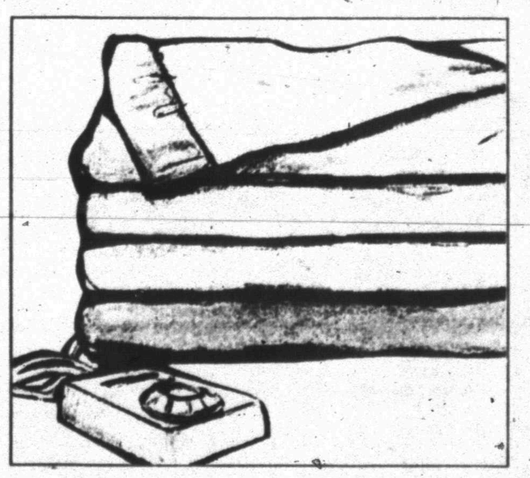
1" Vinyl Mini Blinds
23" Width, Reg. $7.99 ..... $4.99
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Designer Window Toppers
Reg. $9.99 ..... $7.99
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Queen Flat or Fitted, Reg. $11.99 ..... $9.59
King Flat or Fitted, Reg. $14.99 ..... $11.99
Standard Cases, Reg. $6.99 ..... $5.59
King Cases, Reg. $7.99 ..... $6.39

Coordinated Sheet Sets
Twin, Reg. $14.99 ..... $11.99
Full, Reg. $21.99 ..... $16.99
Queen, Reg. $27.99 ..... $22.99
King, Reg. $31.99 ..... $26.99





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60x80" Fur Pile Throws, Reg. $20 ..... $14.99
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Sunbeam® Electric Blankets
Twin Single Control, Reg. $30 ..... $26.99
Full Single Control, Reg. $40 ..... $32.99
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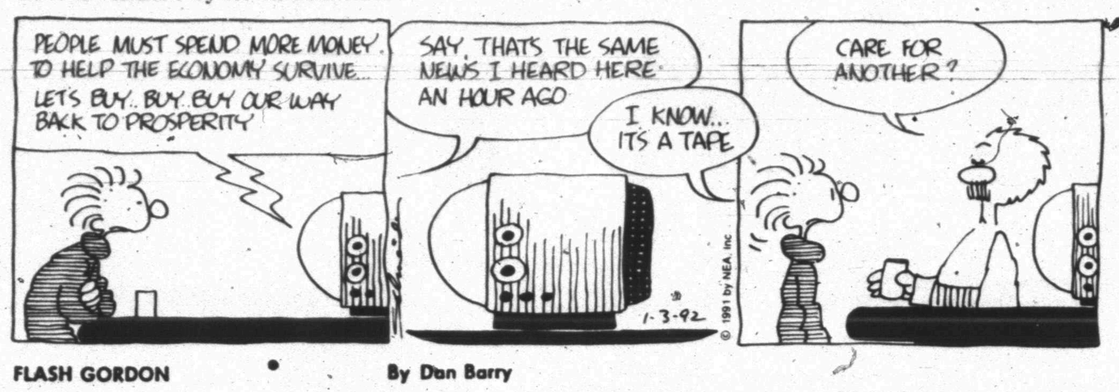
THE BORN LOSER® by Art and Chip Sansom



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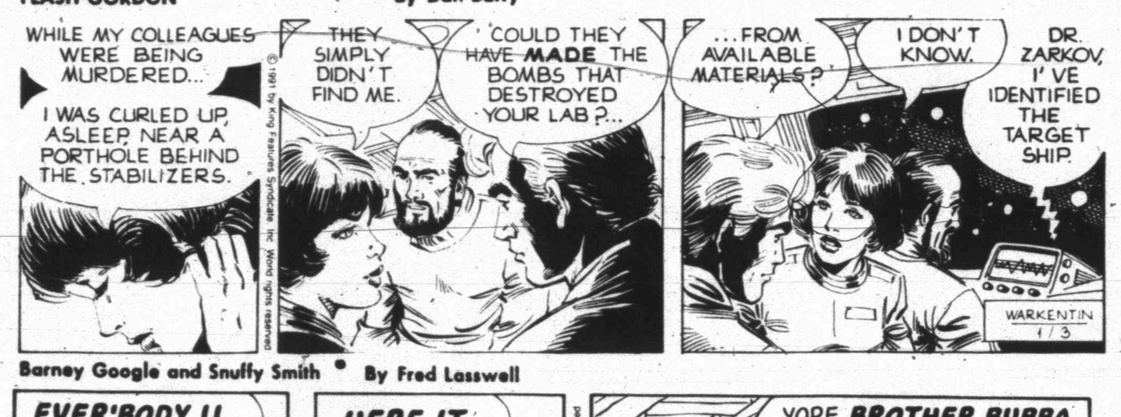
EEK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



WINTHROP® by Dick Cavalli



FLASH GORDON • By Dan Barry



WINTHROP® by Dick Cavalli



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith • By Fred Lasswell



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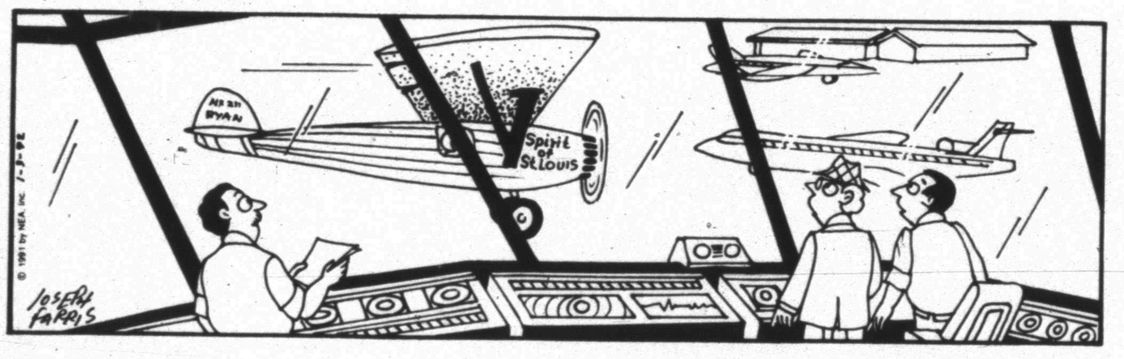
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NEA PUZZLES

ACROSS

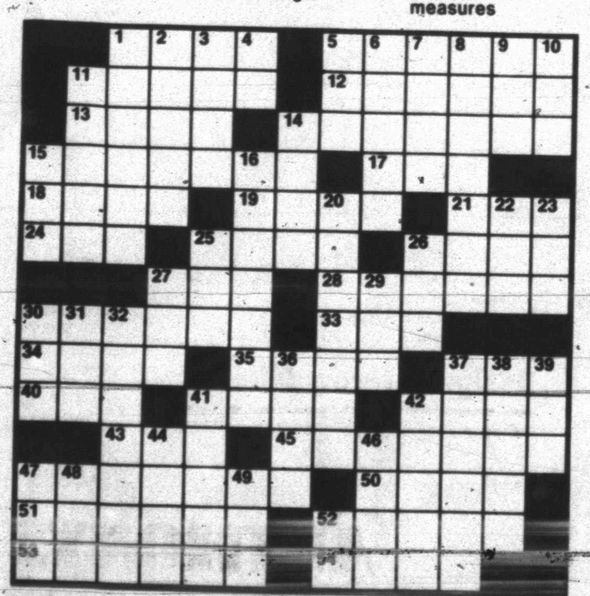
1 Popular songs
5 Savage
11 Poisons
12 Heart part
13 Clare Boothe —
14 Citrus fruits
15 March triumphantly
17 Limb
18 Singer Ed —
19 Type of playing marble
21 Tax agcy.
24 The (Ger.)
25 Lhasa — (dog breed)
26 Small ox
27 Actress Ruby —
28 Charred
30 Best
33 Stop
34 Speeds
35 T of TV
37 Defense dept.
40 Become ill
41 Authentic
42 Put on the payroll
43 — Paulo
45 Former soldier
47 Drop
50 Work cattle
51 Hour fraction
52 Ridge
53 Experimented with
54 Remainder

DOWN

1 Trucker
2 Ear bone
3 Abound
4 Ocean liner (abbr.)
5 Remote
6 Where Naples is
7 Sea eagle
8 Ropes on ship
9 Pool-shooter's need
10 Printer's measures
11 Accuse
14 Units of resistance
15 Wander
16 Laboratory tube
20 White wine
22 Spawn
23 Pitiful
25 Roman bronze
26 Moreover
27 — Moines
29 Chemical suffix
30 A govt. org.
31 3, Roman
32 Wrestling holds
36 Roof edge
37 Most terrible
38 Praying figure
39 Lion's home
44 Way
42 Jinxes
44 Be adjacent to
46 Ripped
47 UK time
48 Tell tales
49 Guided
52 Acctg. entry

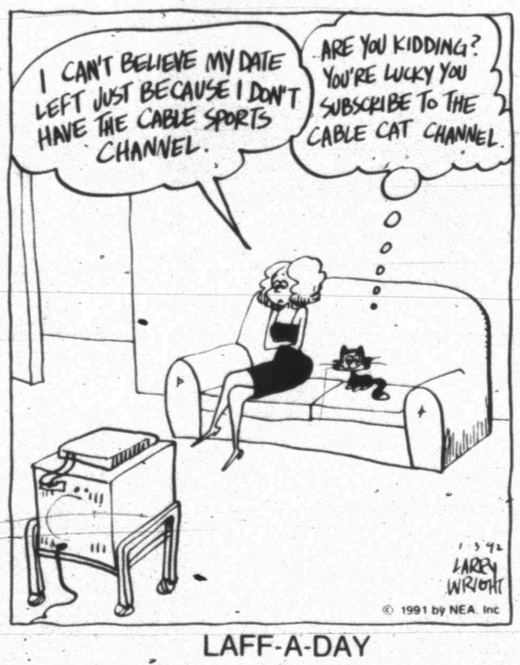
Answer to Previous Puzzle

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



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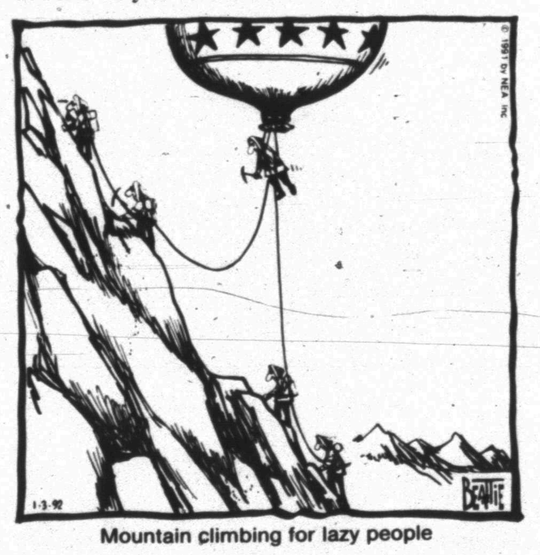
LAFF-A-DAY

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"Please find out why my door's been sealed."

SNAFU® by Bruce Beattie



Mountain climbing for lazy people

DENNIS THE MENACE



Lady Cards drop Rotan B...

Ira takes first-round victory

By PHIL RIDDLE
SDN Sports Editor

IRA — The host Ira Bulldogs, led by a 31-point performance from Kory Clark, cruised past Southland 49-37 Thursday to advance to today's second round in the 1992 Dog Pound Classic basketball tournament here.

In girls' action, Hermleigh's Lady Cardinals slammed Rotan B, 60-12, while Ira fell to Southland, 51-39.

The Hermleigh boys' squad was tripped by Rotan's B team, 60-44.

Ira, which will take on Rotan B in one of today's boys' semifinals, jumped out to a 16-13 first-quarter lead and stretched the margin to 33-25 at the end of the first half.

The second half was a defensive battle with the two teams combining for just 28 points.

Ira's 12-4 third-quarter burst, however, was enough to lift the Bulldogs, now 11-3, into the second round of championship play.

Clark's 31, including seven three-pointers, was tops in the game. Teammates Justin Box and Chris Haynes added nine and seven points, respectively.

Southland's Jason Haire put in 15 to lead the Eagles while brother Justin Haire nailed 14.

Hermleigh's Bill Breitweiser scored 27 in the Cards' losing cause Thursday. Chris Lambaren added 13.

Breitweiser hit seven straight points in the second quarter as the Cardinals drew to within three, 27-24. Rotan opened the second half with a 9-0 spurt and iced the game in the third frame.

Hermleigh's boys, now 2-9 on the campaign, will play Southland at 8 p.m. today in a consolation bracket tilt.

The Lady Cardinals improved to 7-5 with their hammering of Rotan B Thursday. They continue their quest for the girls' title against Southland at 6:30 p.m.

The HHS girls dominated the entire game, taking a 13-0 lead after a quarter and holding a 35-2 advantage at the half.

A total of four players wound up in double figures for Hermleigh including the game's high scorer Jennifer Herl, who poured in 17, Amy Anderson with 15 and Sherry Sandefur and Michelle Payne with 14 each.

"I've been waiting for something like this to happen," bubbled Hermleigh coach Barry Kimball of his squad's offensive output.

Ira's Lady Bulldogs, led by Amy Oppegard and Mauricia Rosas with 11 points each in Thursday's opening round loss to Southland, slid to 0-15.

Ira and Southland went into halftime with the score knotted at 23-all. The Lady 'Dogs edged to a 34-31 advantage at the end of three quarters before a 20-5 fourth-quarter blitz by SHS.

Cori Weaver's 14 points topped the Lady Eagles, trailed by 13 by Linda Carter.

Other first-round girls' games featured Westbrook knocking off Rochester 57-34 and Loraine pounding Rotan A, 79-33.

Westbrook meets Loraine at 3:30 p.m. today in one championship semifinal followed by the Hermleigh-Southland game.

Consolation games include Rochester versus Rotan A at 3:30 p.m. and Rotan B against Ira at 6:30 p.m.

Besides the Ira-Rotan B boys' battle today, Westbrook, a 65-46 winner over Rochester Thursday, takes on Loraine, which thrashed Rotan A, 79-33 in the first round, at 5 p.m. in the championship bracket.

Rochester takes on Rotan A at 5 p.m. and Hermleigh battles Southland at 8 p.m. in consolation bracket action.

Games continue Saturday with consolation, third-place, and tournament title contests in both boys' and girls' divisions.

Boys					
Ira	16	17	12	4	-49
Southland	13	12	4	8	-37

Leading scorers: Ira — Clark 31, Box 9, Haynes 7; Southland — Jason Haire 15, Justin Haire 14. **Record:** Ira 11-3.

Hermleigh	10	14	8	12	-44
Rotan B	11	16	14	19	-60

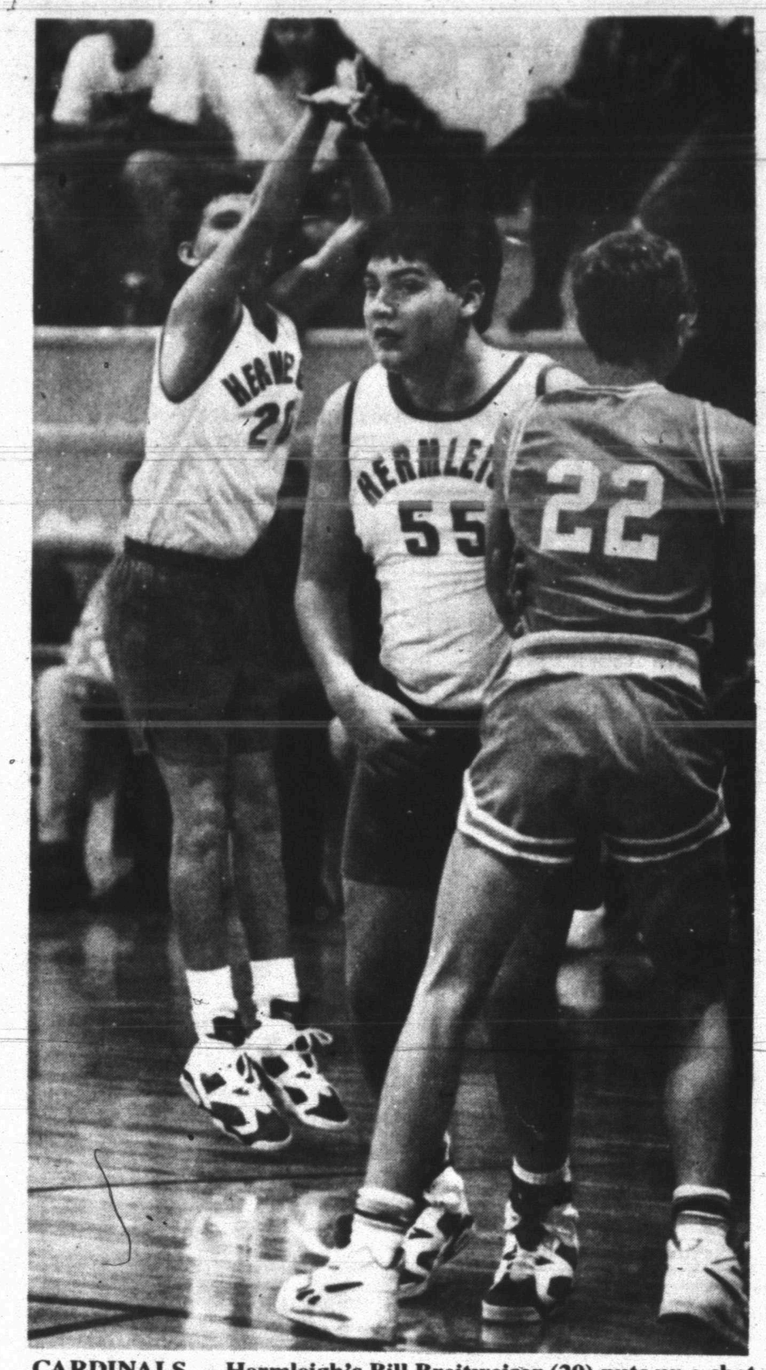
Leading scorers: Hermleigh — Breitweiser 27, Lambaren 13. **Record:** Hermleigh 2-9.

Girls					
Ira	11	12	11	5	-39
Southland	14	9	8	20	-51

Leading scorers: Ira — Oppegard 11, Rosas 11; Southland — Weaver 14, Carter 13. **Record:** Ira 0-15.

Hermleigh	13	22	12	13	-60
Rotan B	0	2	2	8	-12

Leading scorers: Hermleigh — Herl 17, Anderson 15, Sandefur 14, Payne 14; Rotan B — Dunaway 4, Hermand 4. **Record:** Hermleigh 7-5.



CARDINALS — Hermleigh's Bill Breitweiser (20) puts up a shot behind a pick from Chris Lambaren (55) in Thursday's 60-44 loss to Rotan B in the first round of play at the Ira Dog Pound Classic. See related story this page. (SDN Staff Photo)

Merkel entertains SHS cage squads

Snyder's boys' and girls' basketball teams, surging in opposite directions, will take on Merkel in non-district basketball action today.

Games begin at the MHS gym with the girls' JV tilt at 4 p.m. followed by the 5:30 p.m. boys' junior varsity game, the girls' varsity contest at 7 p.m. and, finally, at 8:30 p.m., the varsity boys.

The Lady Tigers hold a 2-15 mark after being defeated by Odessa Permian Monday night at Scurry County Coliseum.

The game was the first for SHS since an eight-day holiday break.

"I was hoping the break would help us," said Snyder coach Laurie Welch. "We were kind of lethargic," she said. "We didn't play well on defense and we gave the ball away too much on the offensive end."

Senior Daisy Braziel paced Snyder with 11 points in the loss.

The SHS girls will try to rebound against a team that has already beaten them this season. The Lady Badgers posted a 62-43 victory in an early-season trip to the county coliseum Dec. 10.

Snyder's Tigers, 12-6, are coming off a third-place finish at the prestigious McMurry University Holiday Classic, beating Abilene Wylie, Odessa High and Wichita Falls Rider.

In taking third at the event, Snyder averaged almost 70 points in four games, including a 56-50 loss to Sweetwater in the semifinal round, and allowed just 52 a game.

"It was a good tournament for us," said SHS boys' chief Bud Birks. "We had two days of really intense basketball after having a few days off. It helped us get our minds back on business."

SHS senior Hayward Clay and junior Barron Wesley were named to the all-tournament team. Clay poured in 71 points in four games, including a 24-point effort against Wichita Falls Rider in the third place game. Wesley managed 52 points for the Tigers and hit 17 in the quarterfinal contest against Odessa High.

In the opener at McMurry, an 86-56 win over Wylie, every member of the Snyder team scored, including five in double figures. Clay put in 17 followed by Eric West with 16, Wesley's 15, and 14 each from Jeff Wortham and Jerry Don Tippens.

The season continues for the Tigers on Saturday when they host Seminole at 7:30 p.m.

The Lady Tigers have one more game, a Jan. 7 home date with San Angelo Central, before beginning District 2-4A competition at Levelland.

The Snyder boys start district play Jan. 17 with a trip to Estacado.

USA Today and CNN Poll...

Coaches give Washington share of title

SEATTLE (AP) — Joann Piquette's sweatshirt proclaimed her the "Best Husky Fan on Earth."

She had plenty of friendly rivals for the title.

Piquette and hundreds of other University of Washington fans, draped in purple and gold, welcomed home the co-national champions Thursday when they returned from their 34-14 victory over Michigan in the Rose Bowl.

"We didn't go to the game in Pasedena, so we felt we needed to come out here," said Piquette, a 1956 Washington graduate who greeted the Huskies players at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport. Piquette wore gold shoes, purple sweat pants and a hat clinking with football booster buttons dating back to 1982.

"They were classy, they were good ... what more can you ask for?" Ben Remak said of the undefeated Huskies. Remak's own husky, Dog James, named for Washington coach Don James, tugged at his leash while the crowd pressed forward for autographs from the players.

"I think we're the best team in the nation," said Mark Heflen of suburban Kent. Heflen attended 11 of Washington's 12 victories this season, flying to Southern California and Arizona to see out-of-state games.

"If we'd play Miami we'd smoke 'em," Heflen's son-in-law Kenneth Andersen said.

The college coaches apparently agreed, as they selected Washington No. 1 in the final USA Today-CNN poll. The sports writers, however, selected Miami the national champion by four points over Washington in The Associated Press poll. It was the closest final vote in the poll's 56-year history.

Going into the New Year's Day bowl games, the Huskies ranked second behind Miami in the AP poll and were tied for first with the Hurricanes in the USA Today-CNN poll.

Miami trounced Nebraska 22-0 in the Sugar Bowl Wednesday night after the Huskies downed Michigan. Both the Huskies and the Hurricanes finished 12-0.

Wearing stuffed-animal Husky hats and waving pom-poms and balloons, Washington fans of all ages packed into a small airport parking lot to cheer the returning heroes.

"Without taking anything from other teams, we're No. 1 and we deserve it," Seattle Mayor Rice told the whooping crowd.

Washington Gov. Booth Gardner proclaimed Jan. 2, 1992, as Rose Bowl Champion Huskies Day.

Huskies quarterback Billy Joe Hobert had mixed feelings about the poll results.

"I'm satisfied, we split," Hobert said as he hauled his suitcase through the airport parking lot.

But if there was a chance to meet the Hurricanes on the field?

"We'd like to play it out with Miami," he admitted. "There's been a lot of talk about it, but it will never happen. You'd have to get to get the NCAA to endorse it and then you'd have to get the players to come back from vacation to play it."

"Coaches are smarter," 10-year-old Jaaron Smith yelled from his perch atop his father's shoulders. "They've seen the teams and the sports writers just hear about them. The coaches play the teams."

Jaaron's dad agreed.

"Sports reporters are more erudite, they have more degrees, but coaches know what it's like to get it done on the field," said Doug Smith of Kent.

NFL playoffs

by The Associated Press
All Times EST

First Round
Saturday, Dec. 28
Kansas City 10, LA Raiders 6
Atlanta 27, New Orleans 20
Sunday, Dec. 29
Dallas 17, Chicago 13
Houston 17, New York Jets 10

Second Round
Saturday, Jan. 4
Atlanta at Washington, 12:30 p.m.
Houston at Denver, 4 p.m.
Sunday, Jan. 5
Kansas City at Buffalo, 12:30 p.m.
Dallas at Detroit, 4 p.m.

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 12
AFC Championship
NFC Championship

Sullivan gets TCU position

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Auburn University assistant football coach Pat Sullivan today was named head football coach at Texas Christian University, school officials announced.

Sullivan, a Heisman Trophy winner at Auburn in 1971, will replace Jim Wacker, who left the job last month to take over coaching duties at the University of Minnesota.

School officials announced Sullivan's appointment to TCU in a Thursday news conference at Daniel Meyer Coliseum.

Sullivan had served as quarterbacks coach for six years at Auburn.

Sullivan, Auburn's all-time leading passer with 6,284 yards, passed for more than 200 yards in a game 21 times during his career with the Tigers. He was a two-time All-America and led the Tigers to three bowl games.

NBA glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	18	9	.667	—
Boston	19	10	.655	—
Miami	14	17	.452	6
Philadelphia	13	17	.433	6½
New Jersey	11	18	.379	8
Washington	11	18	.379	8
Orlando	6	23	.207	13
Central Division				
Chicago	24	4	.857	—
Cleveland	20	9	.690	4½
Milwaukee	15	14	.517	9½
Detroit	16	15	.516	9½
Atlanta	14	15	.483	10½
Indiana	12	18	.400	13
Charlotte	8	24	.250	18
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Utah	20	12	.625	—
San Antonio	16	13	.552	2½
Houston	16	14	.533	3
Denver	12	17	.414	6½
Dallas	12	17	.414	6½
Minnesota	4	24	.143	14
Pacific Division				
Golden State	20	8	.714	—
Portland	19	11	.633	2
Phoenix	19	11	.633	2
LA Lakers	17	12	.586	3½
Seattle	16	13	.552	4½
LA Clippers	17	15	.531	5
Sacramento	9	20	.310	11½

Thursday's Games

Cleveland 110, New York 103
LA Clippers 109, Charlotte 102, OT
Atlanta 123, Phoenix 105
Milwaukee 92, Minnesota 91
Detroit 106, Houston 83
Utah 107, Portland 103
Seattle 113, Miami 109, OT
Golden State 125, Denver 111
Sacramento 114, Philadelphia 110

Friday's Games

Cleveland at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Milwaukee, 9 p.m.
Indiana at LA Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday's Games

New York at Washington, 7:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
LA Clippers at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
New Jersey at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Houston at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Orlando at Denver, 9 p.m.
Dallas at Utah, 9:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Indiana at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Miami at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Ira tournament

Dog Pound Classic
at Ira
Boys
Thursday, Jan. 2
Game 1 — Westbrook 65, Rochester 46
Game 2 — Loraine 91, Rotan A 69
Game 3 — Rotan B 60, Hermleigh 44
Game 4 — Ira 49, Southland 37
Girls
Thursday, Jan. 2
Game 1 — Westbrook 57, Rochester 34
Game 2 — Loraine 79, Rotan A 33
Game 3 — Hermleigh 60, Rotan B 12
Game 4 — Southland 51, Ira 39
Friday, Jan. 3
Boys
Game 5 — Westbrook vs. Loraine at 5 p.m.
Game 6 — Rochester vs. Rotan A at 5 p.m.
Game 7 — Rotan B vs. Ira at 8 p.m.
Game 8 — Hermleigh vs. Southland at 8 p.m.
Girls
Game 5 — Westbrook vs. Loraine at 3:30 p.m.
Game 6 — Rochester vs. Rotan A at 3:30 p.m.
Game 7 — Hermleigh vs. Southland at 6:30 p.m.
Game 8 — Rotan B vs. Ira at 6:30 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4
Boys
Game 9 — Consolation: Winner Game 6 vs. Winner Game 8 at 2 p.m.
Game 10 — 3rd place: Loser Game 5 vs. Loser Game 7 at 5 p.m.
Game 11 — Championship: Winner game 5 vs. Winner game 7 at 8 p.m.
Girls
Game 9 — Consolation: Winner Game 6 vs. Winner Game 8 at 12:30 p.m.
Game 10 — 3rd place: Loser Game 5 vs. Loser Game 7 at 3:30 p.m.
Game 11 — Championship: Winner Game 5 vs. Winner Game 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Lady Dusters battered by Classic hosts, 73-50

BRENHAM — Host Blinn College posted a 73-50 win over Western Texas College in the first round of action at the Blinn Women's Basketball Classic here.

The Lady Dusters, now 5-10 on the season, were paced in the losing effort by La Shunta Jackson's 10, nine by Angela Murray and Tami Kajs' eight.

Shantel Reynolds scored 19 points to lead the Lady Bucs followed by 10 points each from Jennifer Littles and Alex Martin.

The Lady Dusters fell behind early, trailing Blinn 41-24 by halftime, and couldn't make up the lost ground.

Western Texas had previously beaten Blinn, 57-43, at the early-season Howard Classic.

Action continues today in the tournament with The Dusters taking on San Jacinto, a 68-57 winner over McLennan College Thursday, at 6 p.m. Also, McLennan College faces Angelina College in today's 4 p.m. contest and Howard College plays host Blinn at 8 p.m.

In last night's other game, nationally ranked Howard was upset by Angelina, 72-69.

The round-robin event winds up with games Saturday, including WTC versus McLennan at 4 p.m.

The Lady Dusters will return to Western Junior College Athletic Conference action Jan. 9 when they travel to Levelland to square off against South Plains College.

WTC (50) — Kajs 3 2-2 8; Hoffpauir 2 0-0 5; French 3 0-0 7; Murray 2 5-7 9; Jackson 4 2-3 10; Mendez 1 2-2 4; Cook 1 0-0 2; Garrett 0 2-2 2; Brown 1 1-4 3; TOTALS 17 14-20 50.

BLINN (73) — Hughes 0 0-2 0; Cann 0 0-0 0; Semper 1 2-2 4; Thomas 1 0-0 2; Gilbert 1 0-0 2; Hart 3 1-4 9; Littles 4 2-3 10; Martin 4 2-3 10; Webb 1 1-2 3; Skinner 3 0-0 6; Taylor 2 4-4 8; Reynolds 7 5-11 19; TOTALS 28 17-31 73.

3-point goals: none. **Total fouls:** WTC 19, Blinn 16. **Fouled out:** none. **Halftime score:** Blinn 41, WTC 24. **Record:** WTC 5-10.

Houston group seeks title game

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Sports Association says a national championship college football game between Washington and Miami could be played Jan. 11 in the Astrodome, a television station reported Thursday.

HSA Vice President John Elsner told KRIV-TV the association has been in negotiations with another group about the prospect of holding such a game. He would not identify the other group.

"We were contacted several weeks ago by a third party who asked if the Astrodome would be available on the night of January 11th for a possible college football game," he said. "To make a long story short, the date is available."

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(2 yrs. overseas - 5th Air Force)
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(Last 15 yrs. in Scurry County)
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Pol. Adv. Paid For By Tommy Marricle, Snyder, Tx.

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Hook
2:00 - 4:30 - 7:00 - 9:30
WEIRD IS RELATIVE.
Addams Family
2:10 - 4:10 - 7:10 - 9:10

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The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within three days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement.

All out of town orders must be accompanied by cash, check or money order. Deadline 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday prior to any day of publication. ~~Deadline Sunday & Monday, 4:00 p.m. Friday.~~

020 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Well I see on the front page of the Sunday SDN that if passed, the proposed sales tax increase would be expected to bring in about $400,000 a year and $100,000 would be designated for "ad valorem tax relief." Now that's bait. Sucker bait. It would not bring you one penny of relief, because as said before, taxes go only one way: **UP.** You will take note of the fact that the "Economic Committee" has three times as much to spend on "development" as the "relief" that the taxpayer gets. Don't be a fool and vote to raise your own taxes. Use common sense and **VOTE AGAINST ANY RAISE IN THE SALES TAX.** Think about it folks! **THINK!** These facts and common sense thoughts courtesy of Brady Bynum.

070 LOST & FOUND

LOST on Christmas Day near Intersection of 1611 and Hwy 84: 2 Bird Dogs. 1 Male, brown & white; 1 Female, lemon & white. $50 Reward. Call 573-4913.

LOST: Blue Greyish Cow. Lost in the Lloyd Mountain Vicinity. R—brand on right hip. Heavy with calf. If seen please call 573-5736 or 573-2358.

LOST: Snyder High School Senior Ring. C.K.K. **REWARD!** 573-9448, 573-6273.

MISSING from KSNY area since Christmas Eve: White female, short-haired cat with some Siamese markings. Straight line down center of nose separates black & white. Call 915-573-5112 (leave message). REWARD!

090 VEHICLES

1987 CHEVROLET CAVALIER, 63,000 miles, good condition. Asking $3750. 573-5283.

1977 EL CAMINO PICKUP, runs good, good rubber, power, air, all electric. Priced to sell. See at 207 30th. 573-9773.

1981 FORD 1-Ton Truck with welding bed. See at 303 36th. 573-5291.

FOR SALE: 1983 Grand Prix, good condition, new tires, loaded. $2000 or best offer. Call 573-7277.

FOR SALE: 1985 Dodge Ram Maxi Van. Call 573-8406.

1988 SUNBIRD; Welding Trailer with vise, tool box. 573-4372 after 5:00 p.m.

140 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

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Call 1-800-880-9000
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Don Fox 573-3995
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150 BUSINESS SERVICES

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LUPE'S CAR CLEANING SERVICE: Wash & Clean your Cars & Pickups for $20. Pickup & Delivery. Monday-Friday. 573-8791.

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NEW HOME Sewing Machines: Electrolux Cleaners, Quality Service All Machines. Stevens, 1101 James, Sweetwater, 1-235-2889.

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YOU ALWAYS HIT THE MARK WITH THE CLASSIFIEDS 573-5486

160 EMPLOYMENT

EXPERT HAIR DESIGN needs a clean, hardworking Cosmetologist. Full-time. 573-0312 for interview. 401 37th St.

INDEPENDENT In-Store Product Demonstrators needed in Snyder. Call 505-256-3366 or write to: Elite, P.O. Box 37307, Albuquerque, NM 87176-7307.

11:00-7:00 LVN needed. Must be able to work without supervision. Above average salary. Excellent benefits. Contact Nina Kemph, RN DNS, Snyder Nursing Center, 5311 Big Spring Hwy.

NEED: RN for weekend relief. Competitive wages, company benefits. Contact Sandra Givens, Administrator, Snyder Nursing Center, 573-6332. EOE.

Don't Miss the Deadline!
Get Your Classified Ad in by 4:00 P.M. the Day BEFORE You Want It in the Paper!
(4:00 P.M. Fri. for Sun. & Mon.)
ALL ADS ARE CASH in advance unless you have an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News. ALL GARAGE SALES must be paid in advance.

R.N. NEEDED for 3-11 shift. Excellent salary and benefits. Contact: Jo Ann Merket, R.N., D.O.N., Monday/Friday 7-3 at Mitchell County Hospital. (915)728-3431.

THE FISHER COUNTY Nursing Home in Rotan is now accepting applications for a part-time LVN for weekend day shift. $10.00/hr. Call Tracie at 915-735-3291.

WANTED: Dependable, fast learner, to substitute for several Snyder Daily News Carriers. Must have dependable car. If interested, come to the back of the S.D.N. around 12:30 p.m., ask for Shirley or June.

210 WOMAN'S COLUMN

ALTERATIONS for Men and Women with a Professional Look. Blanche's Bernina, 2503 College, 573-0303.

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EXPERIENCED House Cleaning. Call 573-2850.

19 YEAR OLD will babysit week nights & weekends. References available. Toni, 573-0068 after 6 p.m., Monday-Friday.

220 FARMER'S COLUMN

ALFALFA, Horse Quality, $4.50 bale, stored in barn. Lubbock, 806-794-9731.

260 MERCHANDISE

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FOR SALE: Firewood. $90 Cord, $50 ½ Cord. Delivered. 573-6025.

METAL DETECTORS: White's Electronics Dealer. New and Used. 915-728-2494, Colorado City.

MESQUITE FIREWOOD for sale. For more information, call 235-5028 after 5 p.m. or 653-6092.

PECAN TREES, Fruit Trees, Shade Trees. Fresh. Not shipped in. Wholesale Prices. 1-365-5043.

290 DOGS, PETS, ETC.

ALL BREEDS GROOMING. Collars, Leashes, Harnesses. Hill's Science Diet Dog Food. Scurry County Vet Clinic, 573-1717.

FOR SALE: Blue Heeler Puppies. Call 573-8643.

FREE Sheltie Dog. Female. Call 1-235-3843.

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

310 GARAGE SALES

ASSOCIATION FOR Retarded Citizens is now accepting donations of usable items for our Garage Sale. Call 573-4186 or 573-3729 for pick up.

GARAGE SALE
3011 Ave Y
Sat. 8-2
Rollaway, glassware, antique mantle clock, riding lawn mower, bar stools & more. Come see.

GARAGE SALE
108 Milburn
Sat. 8-?

TRASH & TREASURE SALE
2411 Ave R
Sat. 9-12
Store fixtures, Levis, work boots, fabric, patterns, teen girl clothing, etc.

YARD SALE
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Weather permitting. Girls clothes, dishes, bikes, 10-speed, purses, shoes, misc. Homemade Hot Tamales.

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COMMERCIAL OFFICE Building for rent: 1902 37th St. Call 573-4909 or 573-5285.

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"New Years Special"
Balloon Burst
Be the one to win a free months rent on a 1 or 2 bed. apt. Come see why we're special.
across from Hospital
5400 College 573-0879

330 HOUSES FOR RENT

1707 AVE E: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, $225 month. Call 573-6193.

CEDAR CREEK AREA- 1611 Firestone Drive, 2-2-2 Townhouse, fireplace, dishwasher, total electric, nearly new, $600/mo. 573-9001.

FOR LEASE OR Lease to Buy: 5 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, Northeast School District, Outside storage building, $475/mo. 573-4060.

FOR RENT: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, 2 carport, with storage room, fully carpeted, $260 month, $150 deposit. References required. 573-9773.

FOR RENT: 3 bedroom, 2 bath, unfurnished House. Call 573-5652.

IRA AREA: 2 bedroom, 1 bath, single garage, unfurnished. $225 with deposit. 573-8635.

335 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

MOBILE HOME LOT- to Rent to Own. $40 per month. 50'x150' lot. All utilities. Ready to move on. 573-4203 after 7 p.m.

340 MOBILE HOMES FOR SALE

$4995.00 BUYS 2 bedroom Home. All appliances and air. Homes of America, Odessa, 915-363-0881. Se Habla Espanol.

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$138.00 MONTHLY, 3 bedroom Mobile Home. Free Delivery and Set-Up at your location. 10% down, 180 months, 11.00% APR. Call 915-550-4033. Se Habla Espanol.

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Country superstar not used to the attention

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas (AP) — The public took no time in realizing that Clint Black was a star.

But Black took 11/2 years to come to the same conclusion.

After releasing "Killing Time" in May 1989 — an album that included five number one country singles — Black spent 18 months on the road and in the studio, insulated from reality by promoters, managers and other assorted music-industry types.

"There was no way to relate to real life," Black recalled during an interview from his Los Angeles home. "It was all business; it was all surrounded by publicity."

When Black finally took a break, he returned to his hometown of Houston to unwind.

"That was the first time I was able to put myself back in my original element," Black said. It was then that he realized going home would never be the same.

"For the first time, I could see people recognize me and whisper," he said. "It's like, you put out this record, make this guy famous and recognizable, and then you put him back in his real life. It's like being beamed down from Star Trek. It was strange."

Black said he's still not comfortable with all the attention. But he admitted that there are worse things to have to grow accustomed to. "It's nice to have special favors, like getting moved up in lines," he said. "I'm not real comfortable — but I'm adjusting."

What Black is adjusting to is life as one of country music's top acts. With the exception of crossover-king Garth Brooks, nobody has made a bigger splash in C&W circles in the past few years than Black. His first two albums have combined sales approaching 5 million copies. He has been named "one of the 50 most beautiful people in the world" by People magazine, and appeared on television 40 times in the past two years, with everyone from Bob Hope to Geraldo.

Black has been labeled a "new traditionalist," one of several country artists to emerge in the past couple of years whose styles are more in sync with older stars like Merle Haggard and Marty Robbins than the music they grew up with — the syrupy, poppish pap that was dominating C&W in the "Urban Cowboy" era of the late '70s and early '80s.

But he didn't always see himself as a country singer.

When Black was touring the Houston club circuit, accompanying himself on acoustic guitar, he believed he fit in more closely with rock acts like the Eagles or Crosby, Stills and Nash than what was passing for country at the time.

Black wasn't entirely unfamiliar with the rock world. As bass player in his brother Keith's band, he had covered a lot of ground. Although the group was booked mostly at C&W bars, they played the occasional chili cook-off as well, and took those opportunities to branch out a bit, tearing into heard-edged stuff by the likes of the Psychedelic Furs.

But Black's own music was a far cry from the furs. His decisions to go the country road was made when pop music began evolving toward synthesizers and mechanized drum beats, while at the same time artists like George Strait and Reba McEntire were putting the steel guitar back into C&W songs.

Black's instant success on the country charts is ample evidence that he made the right decision. But he says the popularity of "Killing Time" proved fatal to his creative time.

"With the success comes a great deal of irony. You find yourself running in '10,000 different directions, and paying less attention to the things that matter," Black said. "when you become successful, the things you would rather pay attention to become secondary."

The resulting follow-up album, "Put Yourself in My Shoes" was something of a disappointment for Black. Although the record sold well, he says it lacks the variety of his debut. He blames the shortcomings on the haste with which it was recorded — about a month was spent putting the songs together, but the work had to be fit in around other obligations.

For his third album, due this spring, Black said he's taking more time. Basic tracks were cut in November, and work will resume after the holidays.

Black is on a concert tour that included a recent stop in Corpus Christi. A "special guest" on the tour is Merle Haggard, a man with whom Black is frequently compared.

The inclusion of Haggard on the tour was the brainchild of Black's manager. Options were being considered to give the show additional selling power, in light of the tight economic times draining the entertainment budgets of most country fans.

"He thought of Merle. I laughed and said, 'Sure.' " But Black's skepticism probed unfounded. Haggard agreed and has become a "special guest" on the tour, a title separating him from opening act Lorrie Morgan.

Black said he was a little concerned at first about being billed above a man who is one of his biggest influences. After all, Black's first musical memory is listening to Haggard's "Okie from Muskogee" on the radio at age 5.

"It was kind of strange at first, but he likes it that way," Black said, pointing to a tour Haggard mounted a few years ago with George Jones and Conway Twitty. "They used to fight for who went first, because they didn't want to work late."

Black has no problem citing his influences, which in addition to Haggard range from Marty Robbins to Leon Redbone.

"With the success comes a great deal of irony. You find yourself running in 10,000 different directions, and paying less attention to the things that matter. When you become successful, the things you would rather pay attention to become secondary." Clint Black

One arrested; 2 wrecks noted

Police made one arrest and worked two traffic accidents Thursday and early today.

Officers arrested a 21-year-old female in the 100 block of Old Lubbock Hwy. at 2:11 a.m. today for driving while intoxicated. The subject was transported to the county jail.

At 12:29 p.m. Thursday, police officers worked a two-vehicle accident in the 3200 block of Houston which sent a passenger to Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Treated and released from the emergency room was 39-year-old Laura Powell of 2506 Ave. V. Involved in the accident were a 1979 Ford pickup driven by William Powell of Rt. 2 and a 1982 Toyota driven by Matilda Olvera of 3303 Houston.

At 12:13 p.m. Thursday, officers worked a two-vehicle accident at 300 26th St. Involved were a 1976 Pontiac driven by Tammy Marricle of 304 26th St. and a 1984 Jeep driven by Regina Sterling of Rt. 1. No wrecker or ambulance was needed.

Top video list

by The Associated Press

The following are the most popular videos as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Copyright 1992, Billboard Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission.

Video Sales

1. "Fantasia" (Disney)
2. "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves" (Warner)
3. "Home Alone" (Fox)
4. "The Rescuers Down Under" (Disney)
5. "Ghost" (Paramount)
6. "How the Grinch Stole Christmas" (MGM-UA)
7. "The Jungle Book" (Disney)
8. "It's a Wonderful Life: 48th Anniversary Edition" (Republic)
9. "The Simpsons Christmas Special" (Fox)
10. "The Terminator" (Hemdale)

Video Rentals

1. "City Slickers" (Columbia)
2. "Backdraft" (MCA-Universal)
3. "The Silence of the Lambs" (Orion)
4. "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" (Live)
5. "What About Bob?" (Touchstone)
6. "FX2: The Deadly Art of Illusion" (Orion)
7. "Soapdish" (Paramount)
8. "Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves" (Warner)
9. "Out for Justice" (Warner)
10. "Only the Lonely" (Fox)

Museum creates days when pilots trained over W. Texas

COLEMAN, Texas (AP) — It s not a typical museum. There are no curators, exhibits or even a fee to get in. But there is history.

Instead of holding a collection of ancient artifacts, the Coleman Warbird Museum features a dozen working airplanes, mostly of World War II vintage.

"The museum here is the planes, and we restore them, repair them and get them back to flying status," said Randy Long, one of the museum's mechanics and pilots. "Some of the planes we sell, and some of them we keep. They all get flown as regularly as possible."

The planes are housed in four hangars at the Coleman Municipal Airport and are owned by Coleman Warbird Museum Inc., a company owned and run by Kenny Day, president, and Bill Laws, vice president and secretary.

Day and Laws both spend time traveling to find more planes to restore, and both were out of town during a recent visit by the Standard-Times.

"The warbirds, those are their interests — specifically World War II planes," Day's wife, Judy, explained, adding that her husband's dream had always been to return to Coleman where his grandfather was a World War II pilot instructor at what is now the Coleman Municipal Airport.

In those days pilots at the airport trained in PT-series aircraft.

"PT" stands for primary trainer and was the first type of airplane the new military pilots would learn to fly, Long explained.

After they completed their training in Coleman they would go to another airstrip and train in "BT" (meaning basic trainer) planes and eventually graduate to "AT" (advance trainer) aircraft before going on to fly actual combat planes, he added.

The training aircraft often had guns, but not with as much firepower as the actual combat planes, he said.

Most of the planes the museum keeps are of the trainer variety, because those are easier to maintain and less expensive to operate, Long said.

Secret to working with wild animals is 'not hitting them'

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The secret to working with wild animals is staying alive, Raymond Figueroa, chief trainer and supervisor of mammals at the San Antonio Zoo, says, only half jokingly.

"You have to be patient with them," he said. "I never hit them, and I never let anybody else hit them unless it's absolutely necessary."

Saturday was Raymond Figueroa Day at the zoo in honor of his 40 years of service. Figueroa, 58, is known affectionately as "the Elephant Man" but says he isn't ready to retire after four decades of rubbing elbows with wild beasts.

Figueroa said he'd like to complete a half-century of service.

"I'd like to make it another 40 years," he said.

Zoo Director Louis R. DiSabato, who presided over the ceremony, said Figueroa started in maintenance and worked his way up.

Zoo employees, guests and visitors watched as DiSabato presented Figueroa with a framed collage of photographs showing Figueroa with various animals.

DiSabato also gave him a poster with two pictures: one taken in 1963 with young elephants on either side of Figueroa and one taken recently of the same elephants, now about three feet taller.

Figueroa said his career at the zoo really was a fluke. When he was 17, he heard that a lumber company had a job opening, and he went to apply, he said.

"They told me that they weren't hiring, but they did say that the zoo was hiring," Figueroa said. "So I came by at noon Sept. 6, 1951, and I started at 1 p.m."

Figueroa said the role of zoo employees has evolved from simply feeding and cleaning to educating the public.

"The education of our keepers is more intense now, also," he said.

Figueroa's wife, Sheila, said her husband does more than talk about his job.

"He's even come home with a baby bear," she said. She said the Himalaya cub had been rejected by its mother, and animal keepers were taking turns caring for it.

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2509 31st-3-2-2, 72T.
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Warring sides in Croatia still fighting as cease-fire nears

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia (AP) — The warring sides in Croatia pounded each other relentlessly today shortly before a new cease-fire was to begin.

Meanwhile, Serb leaders met in Belgrade to proclaim a new smaller Serb-dominated Yugoslavia.

If the Serbs try to include tracts of Croatia where Serbs predominate, the cease-fire to end the civil war in secessionist Croatia could fall apart.

One Serb leader said the truce terms were unacceptable, but a draft agreement on forming the new state indicated Serbia might be willing to find a negotiated settlement to the conflict.

The war began after Croatia declared independence on June 25, and it has claimed thousands of lives. Serb irregulars and the Serb-dominated Yugoslav army have seized about a third of the republic's territory.

Croatian and federal army commanders on Thursday signed the cease-fire agreement, to take effect at 6 p.m. today (noon EST).

But fierce fighting was reported on battlefields across the republic.

Federal jets bombed Daruvar, 60 miles east of Zagreb, overnight. The city has been an important staging area for a major Croat advance along that front.

A heavy exchange of artillery fire began after midnight around the key eastern city of Osijek, Croatian radio reported. Numerous shells slammed into the center of the Croat-held city, where one person was killed and 13 wounded in a similar bombardment on Thursday.

Artillery and small-arms fire exchanges were reported from the central Adriatic coast.

Obituaries

Zada Chapman

1902-1992

Services are set for 4 p.m. Saturday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel for Zada Chapman, former Scurry County district clerk, who died at 10:12 p.m. Thursday in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Officiating at the service will be Tom Holcomb, minister of the East Side Church of Christ where Mrs. Chapman was a member. Burial will follow in the Snyder Gemetery.

Mrs. Chapman, 89, was a school teacher for many years and served two terms as district clerk in Scurry County, retiring in 1974. She had also been manager of the Frontier Stamp store in Snyder and for many years was cashier at the Palace and Ritz Theatres.

Born May 7, 1902 in Loving, Tex., Mrs. Chapman was preceded in death by her husband, Tom, on June 22, 1971.

Survivors include two sons, Durwood Chapman of Austin and Sonny Chapman of Kermit; two sisters, Azlee Reeder of Fluvanna and Iva Reeder of Dublin; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Hilton Ward

1919-1991

Services will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel for Hilton Ward, 72, who died Tuesday night at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Dorothy Pierce

1923-1992

DECATUR — Funeral services are set for 1 p.m. Saturday at Coker Funeral Home Chapel for Dorothy Lee Pierce, 68, who died Thursday at Cogell Memorial Hospital in Snyder. Burial will follow in the Oaklawn Cemetery.

Mrs. Pierce had been a resident of Snyder since August and had moved from Decatur. She married Glenn H. Pierce on June 12, 1943 in Uvalde. She was a homemaker.

Survivors include her husband of Snyder; two sons, David W. Pierce of Snyder and Dr. Glenn D. Pierce of Albuquerque, N.M.; a daughter, Dana Hodel of Boulder, Colo.; and seven grandchildren.

Patsy Wright

1938-1992

WICHITA FALLS — Services are set for 10 a.m. Monday at the Hampton-Vaughn Funeral Home Chapel for Patsy Janette Wright, 53, who died Wednesday.

Graveside services willl follow at 4 p.m. in the Snyder Cemetery.

Mrs. Wright was a former resident of Snyder. She was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Wright Sr., in 1984.

Survivors include three daughters, Patricia Kembro of Wichita Falls, Barbara Carrigan of Palmdale, Calif., and Sandra Early of Snyder; one son, Kenneth Wright Jr. of Wichita Falls; three brothers; four sisters; and 10 grandchildren.

Petroleum prices

NEW YORK (AP) — Petroleum cash prices Thursday as compared with Tuesday's prices.

	Thu.	Wed.
Refined Products		
Fuel oil No. 2 NY hbr bg gl fob	.4865	.4615
Gasoline unl prem RVP NY hbr bg gl fob	.5970	.5910
Gasoline unl RVP NY hbr bg gl fob	.5570	.5525

Prices provided by Oil Buyer's Guide.

X-prices are for RVP grade of gasoline.

Petroleum - Crude Grades		
Saudi Arabian light $ per bbl fob	16.15	15.45
North Sea Brent $ per bbl fob	18.45	17.75
West Texas Intermed $ per bbl fob	19.50	19.10
Alask No. Slope del. US Gulf Coast	16.50	16.05
Alask No. Slope del. West Coast	15.20	15.15

34 Cubans fly to Miami on board helicopter; all requesting asylum

MIAMI (AP) — A Russian-made Cubana Airlines helicopter carrying 34 refugees seeking asylum landed this morning at a small airport in suburban Miami, police and Cuban exile groups said.

"There are men, women and children aboard," said Metro-Dade police spokesman George Reyes.

Maj. Bryan Whitman, a Defense Department spokesman in Washington, said all 34 refugees requested political asylum and were in the hands of Customs officials.

The aircraft was spotted on Coast Guard radar about 65 miles at sea off Homestead Air Force Base south of Miami, said Kathleen Bergen, spokeswoman for the Federal Aviation Administration in Atlanta.

The helicopter touched down without difficulty at Tamiami Airport, a small strip for private planes about 10 miles southwest of Miami International Airport, said FAA control tower supervisor Mike Jones.

Candidates

Continued From Page 1

didacy for Precinct 3 County Commissioner. He is seeking the post held by Democratic incumbent C.D. Gray Jr., who has also filed for re-election.

Republican Modean Riley Konvicka announced on Tuesday that she will be running for county tax collector, a post held by Democrat Rona Sikes, who is also bidding for another term.

Also announcing his candidacy this week was Democrat Ernie Armstrong, who is seeking a third term as district attorney.

Running for re-election for 132nd District Court judge is Republican Gene Dulaney. Democrat Bobby Goodwin, former Scurry County Judge, is running for the constable seat being vacated by Bill Love.

The only other local office up for re-election is that of county attorney, currently held by Pete Greene. To date, no one has filed for that office.

Prices

Continued From Page 1

cooking oil, baby food and vodka.

Managers of state stores now are free to negotiate with their suppliers to pay whatever is necessary to obtain other goods. But the stores are then restricted to a maximum retail markup of 25 percent, the Izvestia newspaper reported.

In an interview with the weekly Moscow News, Yeltsin adviser Konstantin Kagalovsky predicted that higher prices would fill the stores with goods in about one week. Then, he said, competition will cause prices to subside.

But in a side-by-side article, a research institute headed by economist Grigory Yavlinsky said food would remain in short supply and that the rate of inflation would vastly exceed the Russian government's predictions.

Markets Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	693/4	691/8	693/4	+1/4
AlliedSignal	423/4	417/8	421/4	+1/4
ALLTEL Cp	393/8	391/4	393/8	
AmStor s	331/2	333/8	331/2	
Amer T&T	395/8	391/8	393/8	+1/8
Ameritech	645/8	64	645/8	+1/2
Amoco	511/4	501/4	507/8	-3/8
AndarkPtr	241/2	24	24	+1/8
Arkla	121/4	12	12	-1/4
ArmcoInc	51/4	51/8	51/8	-1/8
AtlRichfld	1101/2	1091/4	1093/4	+3/8
BakerHugh	203/8	193/4	201/4	-1/8
BancTexas	7-16	7-16	7-16	
BellAtl	49	483/8	487/8	+3/8
BellSouth	525/8	521/4	521/2	+1/8
Beth Steel	141/4	137/8	141/4	+1/8
Borden	327/8	325/8	325/8	-1/4
Caterpllr	441/2	433/4	437/8	+1/4
Centel	331/2	33	33	-1/4
CentSo West	541/4	541/8	541/4	
Chevron	691/2	687/8	693/8	+1/2
Chrysler	135/8	123/8	131/2	+1
Coastal	261/4	251/2	253/4	+1/2
CocaCola	821/8	801/4	82	+13/4
ColgateP s	483/8	471/2	475/8	-3/4
ComlMetl	211/8	211/8	211/8	
CyprusMn	225/8	223/8	221/2	
DallSemicn	8	77/8	8	+1/8
DeltaAirl	671/2	661/2	671/4	+1
DigitalEq	573/4	557/8	571/8	+15/8
Dillard	1251/4	1231/2	125	-3/4
DowChem	545/8	537/8	54	-3/8
DresserInd	201/2	20	203/8	+1/4
duPont	465/8	461/4	463/8	-1/8
EstKodak	493/8	481/2	485/8	-5/8
EljerInd	63/4	65/8	63/4	
Enserch	141/8	133/4	141/8	+3/8
Exxon	605/8	593/4	603/8	+3/8
FtCtyBcp	13-16	3/4	13-16	+1/8
FlowerInd	157/8	153/4	153/4	-1/8
FordMotor	301/4	293/8	297/8	+3/4
GTE Cp	343/4	341/8	341/8	-3/8
GnDynam	54	533/4	537/8	+1/8
GenElct	77	763/8	761/2	-1/8
GnMill	751/4	741/4	75	+1/4
GenMotors	323/4	311/4	323/8	+13/8
GnMotrE s	621/2	613/4	613/4	+1/4
GaPacif	563/4	553/4	561/2	+1/2
GlobMar	23/8	23/8	23/8	
Goodrich	421/8	417/8	42	+1/8
Goodyear	531/2	525/8	533/8	+1/8
GtAtlPac	271/2	271/4	271/2	-1/8
Gulf StaUt	101/4	101/8	101/8	-1/8
Haliburtn	301/4	293/4	297/8	-5/8
Hanson	201/4	20	201/8	+1/8
HoustInd	44	435/8	437/8	-1/8
IBM	911/8	901/8	905/8	+3/8
IntlPaper	703/8	695/8	697/8	-1/8
JohnsJhn	112	1101/8	1103/4	-1 1/2
K mart	473/4	471/4	473/8	-
Kroger	20	193/4	20	
vjLTV Cp	15-16	7/8	15-16	+1/8
Litton Ind	903/8	897/8	903/8	+1/4
vjLoneStar	35/8	33/8	35/8	+1/8
Lowes	331/2	33	331/4	+1/4
Lubys	147/8	141/2	147/8	+1/2
Maxus	73/8	71/8	71/4	-1/8
MayDSt	531/4	521/4	525/8	-1
Medtrn s	961/4	943/4	96	+3
Mobil	691/2	683/4	69	+1/8
Monsan	681/4	675/8	681/8	+1/4
Motorola	661/8	653/8	661/8	+5/8
Nationbk	403/4	401/8	401/2	+1/8
Navistar	23/4	25/8	25/8	-1/8
Nynex	81	803/4	807/8	-1/8
OryxEngy	265/8	257/8	265/8	+1/8
PacTelesis	443/4	441/8	443/4	+1/4
PanhECp	157/8	151/2	153/4	+1/8
PenneyJC	563/8	55	553/8	
PepBoys	181/4	177/8	177/8	-3/8
Phelps Dod	661/2	66	661/2	+3/8
PhilipPet	241/2	241/4	241/4	-1/8
Polaroid s	267/8	26	263/8	-5/8
Primerica	391/2	39	391/4	-1/8
ProctGamb	931/4	925/8	931/8	+1/8
PubS NwMx	93/4	95/8	95/8	
SFePC	135/8	133/8	133/8	
SaraL	557/8	547/8	551/8	-5/8
SearsRoeb	383/8	381/8	381/8	-1/2
Shrwin s	26	253/8	257/8	+1/8
SmthBchm	831/4	823/4	831/4	-5/8
SmthBch eq n	773/8	763/8	771/4	-3/8
Southern Co	341/2	341/8	343/8	+1/8
SwstAirl	333/4	331/8	333/4	+1/2
SwstBell	651/2	645/8	653/8	+1/4
SterlingChm	43/4	43/8	43/4	+1/4
SunCo	293/4	291/2	295/8	
TNP Ent	193/8	191/8	191/8	
Tandy	281/4	277/8	281/8	-3/8
TempleInl	513/4	503/4	515/8	+3/8
Tenneco	321/8	311/2	317/8	-1/4
Texaco	617/8	611/4	615/8	+1/4
TexasInd	201/8	197/8	197/8	-3/8
TexasInst	317/8	311/4	317/8	-1/8
Tex Util	417/8	413/4	417/8	
Textron	393/8	387/8	393/8	+1/4
USWst	381/2	381/8	381/4	-1/4
USXMar n	241/2	24	241/4	
USX-USS n	281/8	271/2	28	+3/8
UnCarbde	211/4	207/8	21	
UnPac s	501/4	495/8	497/8	-3/8
UnitTech	531/8	521/2	521/2	-5/8
Unitel	237/8	231/2	233/4	
Unocal	223/4	221/2	223/4	
WalMt	581/2	551/2	573/8	-1 3/4
WestghEl	183/8	18	18	-1/4
Wolwth	281/8	267/8	281/8	+1 1/8
Xerox Cp	677/8	671/8	671/2	-1/4
ZenithE	73/8	71/4	71/4	-

Hospital Notes

DISMISSALS: Vanice Lovett, John Thomas, Dovie Vineyard, Sylvester Milton, Penni Mayes and baby boy.

Census: 40--Longterm, 31; Medical, 8; CCU-1.

Session

Continued From Page 1

lenge such a proposal in state court.

The committee also approved a bill that would postpone the primaries until April 11 if a Senate redistricting plan fails to win court approval in time for the election to proceed on March 10.

It appeared that the opening prayer in the House was going unanswered. Rev. Marvin Griffin of Austin's Ebenezer Baptist Church had urged "district lines that rise above partisan politics and are fair, flawless, equitable and acceptable."

Despite the problems, Lewis, and Senate leaders said they expected to finish the session next week.

In the Senate, David Sibley, R-Waco, used his right as a senator to delay consideration of a redistricting plan that represented a settlement with minority plaintiffs and has been agreed upon by 20 Democratic senators.

Republicans claim the plan would reduce their numbers in the Senate. "The Alamo held out 13 days, I don't know if we have it in us to hold out that long or not," Sibley said.

Midland Rep. Tom Craddick, president of the House Republican Caucus, summed up his feelings saying, "The session is a joke and a sham. There is no reason to have one. I think we're just down here wasting time and money."

Officials checking claim that POWS were questioned by KGB officer

WASHINGTON (AP) — U.S. officials are trying to determine if a former KGB officer is telling the truth about American prisoners of war being questioned by the Soviets years after the end of the Vietnam war.

The State Department and Congress want to talk to retired Maj. Gen. Oleg Kalugin when he comes to this country next week.

Kalugin, who made the claim in a book and in interviews with reporters from the United States and Australia, has been interviewed twice by U.S. Embassy officials in Moscow, the last time as recently as last week.

But there are problems with his story — dates that change, names that can't be remembered, and the claim that a couple of these American prisoners were later returned alive to the United States. Aside from one defector, nobody has come home alive from captivity in Vietnam since 1973.

Those discrepancies don't bother Sen. Bob Smith, R-N.H., vice chairman of the special Senate committee investigating the fate of the 2,273 Americans still listed as missing from the Vietnam war.

"I have no reason to say that he's not credible or no reason to say that he is," Smith told reporters Thursday.

Smith, who said he is inclined to believe that American POWs are still alive in Southeast Asia, complained that people are too quick to discredit someone making claims such as Kalugin's.

"I've seen enough shooting of the messengers over the years on this issue," he said.

Kalugin said Thursday that at least three Americans, two in the military and one from the CIA, were interrogated by Soviets in 1978.

He said the three "were the remnants — several, a dozen or so — who stayed in Vietnam long after the war was over. Why the Vietnamese kept them, I don't know."

Kalugin has told his story in the last few weeks to television interviewers from Australia and the United States, The Associated Press, the Los Angeles Times and the New York Daily News.

U.S. Embassy officials in Moscow talked to him on Nov. 26 and Dec. 27, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said Thursday. "These claims are being investigated fully and actively by the embassy," Boucher said.

Kalugin said he didn't question any of the Americans and had never been to Vietnam. He also said no American prisoners were brought to the Soviet Union.

"He doesn't know any names of either the prisoners or those who did any of the questioning," said Air Force Capt. Susan Strednansky, a Pentagon spokeswoman. "So it doesn't give us any information we can follow up."

But in his interview with the AP, Kalugin did name the agent in charge of the interrogations, Oleg Nechiporenko, whom he said was working in the Soviet consulate in Mexico City.

Boucher said U.S. officials are eager to question the interrogator.

President Bush eyes expanded military ties with Singapore

SINGAPORE (AP) — President Bush arrived in Singapore today to press arrangements to boost the U.S. military presence in that island state as the Pentagon goes packing from the Philippines.

Bush began the second leg of his four-nation trip to the Far East after assuring Australian business leaders that the United States would not abandon its "special responsibility" for stability in the region.

The United States is looking to Singapore to help fill the gap left by the forced U.S. pullout from Subic naval base and its abandonment of Clark Air Base in the Philippines, the traditional U.S. stronghold in the Pacific.

The Bush administration wants to shift some security resources to bases and ports in this tiny tropical city-state on the southern tip of the Malay peninsula, U.S. officials said.

That would likely include the U.S. command structures currently based at Subic Bay, as well as expanded rights to use Singapore bases and make ports of call, said one official, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

A November 1990 agreement signed by Vice President Dan Quayle and then-Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew already provides U.S. warships and planes wider use of the city-state's bases. Bush hopes to expand on that arrangement.

Bush also was expected to announce in Singapore that he will lift the U.S. trade embargo against Cambodia where warring factions signed a peace treaty two months ago, U.S. officials said.

The embargo dates to April 1975, when Khmer Rouge rebels forced the pro-Western government from power.

Bush, after spending the first three days of his 12-day trip in Australia, becomes the first U.S. president to visit Singapore, a republic of 3 million people crammed into the smallest nation in Southeast Asia.

Bush will meet Saturday with Prime Minister Goh Chok Tong and President Wee Kim Wee as well as Lee Kuan Yew, who ruled the island republic for 31 years before stepping down in November 1990.

On his final day in Australia, Bush vowed to resist protectionist pressures even as he sought to defend U.S. wheat subsidies that have hurt Australian farmers.

Bush said the protectionist pressures at home are mounting in this election year. "None of us are pure," he reiterated. "Not one country can say; 'We don't protect in some way or another.'"

But he pledged that as long as he remains president, "We are not going to go ... down the protection path."

Bush was accompanied to Singapore by U.S. corporate executives he brought along mostly to press the case for removal of trade barriers in South Korea and Japan, the next stops on his journey.

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Dear Abby



Widow Ponders Telling Her Pushy Suitor to Shove Off

By Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: I have been widowed for nine years and am blessed with many friends — mostly women, although three very nice gentlemen are available to escort me when an escort is needed, with no strings attached.

I met a gentleman about a year ago at a church social, and we have been dating. He is neat in appearance, polite and very generous. He is about my age, and a rather recent widower. My problem is that he is not content with a kiss at the door — he has roaming hands, and makes me feel like I owe him something in repayment for the money he has spent on me.

I was content with my life before I met him. At my age — 70 — I do not need this kind of hassle whenever he takes me home. I have been tempted to tell him off and send him away, but he keeps telling me over and over that he is extremely lonely and would be miserable without me in his life.

How should I handle this? I don't want to hurt him.

NO NAME OR CITY, PLEASE

DEAR NO NAME: The generous gentleman with roaming hands, who keeps reminding you that he is lonely and would be miserable without you in his life, is playing on your sympathy. Turn a deaf ear, my dear. Don't give him any more than you want to and don't worry about "hurting" him. I have a feeling he can take care of himself.

* * *

DEAR ABBY: It is 4 a.m. and I can't sleep, so I got up to write to you.

I read in the newspaper that a 21-year-old junior at the University of Florida in Gainesville drank himself to death by rapidly downing 23 shots of liquor on a dare from friends.

What a nightmare! Although he was a stranger to me, I ache for his family.

Of course, it was a foolish thing for the young man to have done, but I wonder if those "friends" who dared him were ever punished.

Perhaps if you print this, it will prevent others from being a party to such a tragic happening. Thank you for being there, Abby. I had to unload on someone.

ARIZONA GRANDMOTHER

DEAR GRANDMOTHER: That's what I'm here for. I share your concern. Perhaps a reader will write and tell us as, Paul Harvey says, "the rest of the story."

* * *

DEAR ABBY: Is there some way to invite friends from out of town to come visit and stay with us, and at the same time diplomatically suggest how long they are welcome to stay?

DELICATE QUESTION

DEAR QUESTION: Yes. Say, "We would be delighted to have you visit us for a week" or for two weeks, or however long you want them to stay.

* * *

To get Abby's booklet "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a long, business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054. (Postage is included.)

9 youths escape from JDC in El Paso

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — Authorities at the county's Juvenile Detention Center were to decide whether to keep heavy exercise equipment which nine youths used in a New Year's Eve escape.

Two of the youths remained at large late Thursday, police said. The rest of the group had been recaptured Tuesday and Wednesday by a search party comprised of police officers and U.S. Border Patrol agents in helicopters.

The youths were on recreational time when they engineered their escape.

"They took apart a weight machine and used the iron bars as battering rams and used them to assault the staff," center Director Samuel Santana said Thursday.

Santana said four correctional officers suffered minor injuries, but did not have to be hospitalized. The officers were not armed, which is standard in juvenile facilities.

Santana said the door that the youths broke through was made of steel and iron and was about one-inch thick.

He said it was the first escape in the facility's three-year history, but this escape will mean the center staff will have to review the rehabilitation program and the recreation facilities to prevent future escapes.

He said the exercise equipment is an integral part of the youths' rehabilitation.

"We always have to provide a certain amount of large muscle exercise, but we may be able to substitute the machines," he said.

Police were urging citizens to be cautious if they spotted the escapees still at large.

"All those kids in the program are considered serious and violent," Santana said.

The escaped youths ranged in age from 14 to 16. The youngest had been held at the center on an attempted murder charge. Santana said escape charges and aggravated assault charges were pending against the youths.

Bush says campaign will be 'dog-eat-dog fight' to finish

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush says the presidential campaign will be "a dog-eat-dog fight" and expects to be re-elected with or without a national economic recovery.

"I will do what I have to do to be re-elected," Bush said.

In an interview with broadcaster David Frost, airing tonight, Bush acknowledged that public confidence "probably is worse than in the last recession."

But Bush said he expects the economy will be doing better by the November election and that the public now recognizes his administration is trying to turn the economy around.

"I think the economy is going to be doing much better," Bush said. "I think confidence will be coming back. I think people now know that we are trying hard. I don't think they did at first.

"I think also you got a whole wealth of other performance out there that the American people are grateful for. But I'm certainly going into this as a dog-eat-dog fight and I will do what I have to do to be re-elected."

The president is expected to formally announce his candidacy for re-election in early February, after his State of the Union address and the presentation of his next budget, a White House official said Thursday.

The official, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said Bush thought that announcing his candidacy earlier would complicate efforts to get bipartisan support for his economic proposals.

Bush and his wife, Barbara, were interviewed by Frost Dec. 23. The program, "Talking with David Frost," airs Friday at 9 p.m. EST on Public Broadcasting Service stations.

Mrs. Bush expressed concern that more education is needed about treatment and prevention of AIDS. She said sexual abstinence, not safe sex practices, must be urged.

"There's no such thing as safe sex," Mrs. Bush said. "I really believe that. There may be semi-safe sex, but I don't think you can really say it's safe."

She also predicted that "in four or five years, you're going to find every major company has day care right on the job. And they'll have better workers."

On the economy, Bush acknowledged most Americans don't feel better off than when he was elected three years ago. He predicted "that will turn around," and suggested that critics have exaggerated the public's bad feelings about the economy.

Killer fungus destroying cocoa crops in Peru's Highlands sections

SANTA LUCIA, Peru (AP) — A killer root fungus is proving surprisingly effective at wiping out coca plants in the Upper Huallaga Valley, which provides much of the world's supply of cocaine, authorities say.

"It's wrecking a great amount of crops," said Diego Garcia-Sayan, director of the Andean Jurists Commission, an independent human rights group that also studies drug trafficking. "It has done much more than the eradication efforts did."

Analysts say anti-drug efforts have not had as great an impact on the Upper Huallaga's coca-growers as has the emergence of the fungus and the spread of violence by Maoist-inspired rebels into the region.

A study by the National Agrarian University identified fusarium oxysporum as the fungus responsible for killing an estimated 15,000 acres of coca plants in the Upper Huallaga, known as the world's "cocaine cradle."

About 250,000 acres of coca grow along the 150-mile-long Upper Huallaga, perhaps half the total grown throughout Peru. Fungus damage has been centered around Uchiza, a town 10 miles from Santa Lucia.

Some coca farmers blame the fungus' appearance on the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, saying they have seen helicopters with hoses spraying chemicals on their fields. A U.S. Embassy spokesman denied the reports.

Agronomists say the fungus is common in jungle and tropical highland areas where single-crop cultivation predominates. First signs of the fungus, which attacks the roots, causing the leaves to wilt and plant to die quickly, were reported two years ago.

Peru produces at least 60 percent of the world's coca leaf, with half that coming from the Upper Huallaga, which is about 250 miles northeast of Lima.

Cultivation of the leaf used to produce cocaine, however, is spreading to other areas of Peru.

Maj. Edwin Montero, the commander of a U.S.-supported police base in Santa Lucia that targets the cocaine trade, said recent raids hit two areas not previously targeted and hundreds of miles to the south.

Peruvian police and DEA agents aboard U.S.-supplied helicopters netted 372 pounds of semi-refined cocaine in a November raid on Palma Pampa, 300 miles southeast of Santa Lucia.

Incumbent files

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price filed Thursday for reelection.

He will face two challengers in the March 10 Democratic primary, state Rep. Fred Blair of Dallas and Felicia Agent, a records administrator.

"A number of people have encouraged me to remain," said Price, who had considered running for the new 30th Congressional District.

Blair said the County Commissioners Court has been suffering from a leadership crisis as far as its third precinct is concerned. Ms. Agent said she wants to make a positive change in the district.

A Dallas jury deadlocked last month on Price's trial on a felony assault charge. He was accused of breaking a construction worker's ankle during a scuffle last summer. Prosecutors said they had not decided whether to try him again.

The commissioner is awaiting trial on a charge of raping a former county employee in April 1990.

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Gay bashing incidents rising

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Robert Eikleberry became a statistic in what activists say is a national epidemic of gay bashing when four men dragged him out of his car, called him names and one beat him with a baseball bat.

Eikleberry, a 42-year-old electrician, hasn't been able to work since the attack Oct. 30 that left him with three cracked ribs and bruises over his body.

In a case that galvanized New York City's homosexual community, 29-year-old Julio Rivera was beaten and stabbed to death last summer by three men who police said had gone out hunting for homosexuals. One pleaded guilty to manslaughter, and two were convicted of murder in November.

"The gay community is under siege in this country. We are fighting an epidemic of violence," says Robert Bray, spokesman for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force in Washington.

Reported harassment of homosexuals in 1990 rose an average 42 percent over 1989 in six cities, the task force said. It documented 1,588 anti-gay incidents during 1990 ranging from threats to murder in New York, Boston, Chicago, Minneapolis, San Francisco and Los Angeles.

Reports of assaults at least doubled in each of the cities and more than tripled in Minneapolis-St. Paul over that year.

In New York, reports of such violence jumped from 289 in 1988 to 554 for the first 11 months of 1991, said Matt Foreman, executive director of the New York City Gay and Lesbian Anti-Violence Project.

Bray, Eikleberry and other activists say gay bashing increases as more homosexuals come out of the closet and as many heterosexuals blame them for the spread of AIDS.

The "increased visibility has garnered us additional power and tolerance in some places," Bray said. "The price we've paid is we've become an easier target for bigots and bashers."

Many crimes still go unreported because victims don't want their names and addresses published in newspaper accounts of the incidents. Some fear their employers, landlords and relatives could find out they are gay or that they could be attacked again.

Foreman said his group received about five times as many reports of gay bashing in 1990 as city police did.

Eikleberry, who owns a gay bar in this Midwest city of 193,000, was dragged out of his car and attacked in a downtown area frequented by gays and lesbians.

Rents: high and low

Monthly rent on an average one-bedroom unit, 1990

5 most-expensive cities

Honolulu, Hawaii	$980
New York, N.Y.	$775
Boston, Mass.	$765
San Jose, Calif.	$735
Washington, D.C.	$725

5 least-expensive cities

Oklahoma City, Okla.	$305
Colorado Springs, Colo.	$325
Austin, Tex.	$330
Wichita, Kan.	$330
San Antonio, Texas	$330



Source: Parade NEA Graphic

Rents in Honolulu for a one-bedroom apartment are by far the most expensive in the nation — nearly $1,000 per month. For a bargain — in a slightly less tropical climate — the same apartment is $305 in Oklahoma City.

Bill of Rights

How the First Amendment was born

NOTE: The following excerpt is from "The First Amendment Book" by Robert J. Wagman (Pharos Books). In the foreword to the newly published book, Burl Osborne, president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, writes: "Here we are in the bicentennial year of the Bill of Rights, trying still to establish that the First Amendment to the Constitution of the United States means exactly, and only exactly, what it says. That is what this book is about."

By Robert J. Wagman

In the years immediately following the end of the Revolutionary War, the new United States was governed under the Articles of Confederation, which had been initially drafted in 1776, but not ratified until 1781.

As early as 1785, various concerned leaders — men like James Madison, Thomas Jefferson and Alexander Hamilton — began to talk about ways of strengthening the central government under the articles.

These informal talks led to a convention in Annapolis in September 1786. That gathering, in turn, issued a call for a convention of all 13 states to be held in Philadelphia to draft a new national constitution to implement a strengthened central government. It convened in May 1787.

As the delegates struggled to reach a consensus, several different philosophical wars raged. The primary one was between those who favored a strong central government, the Federalists, and those who wanted power to remain with the states, generally the Anti-Federalists.

Another major philosophical argument was over whether the new constitution should contain specific guaranteed rights of citizens.

George Mason had drafted a Declaration of Rights that had been included in the Virginia state constitution. It stipulated that all government authority comes from the people, and it enumerated a list of specific rights guaranteed to all citizens. Among other things, it guaranteed the right of freedom of the press and freedom of speech. Mason wanted to include the same kind of specific guarantees in the new federal constitution.

A majority of the delegates, however, opposed the idea of including any explicit listing of individual rights. They were not opposed to a guarantee of individual liberties; rather, as they saw it, what they were in Philadelphia to do was to establish a strong new central government based on specific enumerated powers. They did not want to start the process by making a list of what the new government could not do. But, more basically, they simply assumed that any powers not specifically given to this new central government were reserved for the states.

Eight of the 11 states initially ratifying the new Constitution did so on the understanding the first order of business of the new national legislature would be to modify the document with a bill of rights.

At the Philadelphia convention, James Madison of Virginia had not been a proponent of Mason's attempt to insert a bill of rights into the new Constitution. But, in running for the first Congress, he pledged to introduce amendments. On June 8, 1789, after apologizing for taking up the time of his colleagues, Madison rose to introduce his suggested plan of amendment.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.

— Amendment I, Constitution of the United States (1791)

The first proposed amendment, taken directly from Virginia's Declaration of Rights, would have required a change in the Constitution's preamble to declare that all power is vested in the people, that government ought to be exercised to directly benefit the people and that people have an absolute right to reform their government from time to time as they see fit.

The second and third concerned congressional housekeeping matters, one having to do with population levels for congressional representation, the other with the effective date of subsequent congressional pay raises. The next five dealt with guarantees of personal rights and liberties.

Then he turned to the subject of free press and free speech.

Madison believed deeply that one of the flaws of the English system of government was the absence of a safeguard for the press. He believed the new American Constitution should protect the right to publish and write and speak from any interference from the national government.

Then he continued on down the list of what, with relatively little change, would eventually become the Bill of Rights: right of assembly, right to form a militia and to bear arms, right to be secure from unreasonable searches, the prohibition of excessive bail, the prohibition of double jeopardy, the right to a speedy public trial.

The House gave its required two-thirds approval to a total of 17 amendments and forwarded them to the Senate for its consideration.

Many in the Senate believed Madison's version wordy and repetitive. So, taking quill pen firmly in hand, they moved to shorten and combine a number of the House suggestions to make them more succinct.

After a limiting try was defeated and after considerable debate, the House's third and fourth amendments — religious freedom and press and speech freedom — were combined.

They were merged into what ultimately became the First Amendment.

By June 1790, nine states had approved the "Bill of Rights" amendments; it would be a year before the 10th (Vermont, which had not even been part of the Union when the amendments were passed) would follow suit.

In Virginia, the Anti-Federalists prevented the calling of a ratification convention, but eventually the opposition was worn down. On Dec. 15, 1791, Virginia became the required 11th state to ratify the 10 amendments. The Federal Bill of Rights was now a part of the Constitution.

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THE FIRST AMENDMENT BOOK



ROBERT J. WAGMAN

Cold war may be over, but tribalism in world lives on

WASHINGTON (AP) — There's been a cease-fire agreement in El Salvador. North and South Korea may be headed for an accommodation. Moscow and Washington have halted arms deliveries to Afghanistan. Not a bad week for peace.

All this may tempt some to forecast an eventual end to armed conflict. But the evidence indicates otherwise.

"War shows no sign of going out of fashion," the Economist magazine says in its current edition. It counted wars of varying intensity in 32 countries, 18 of which have lasted 10 years or more.

What has changed is that Moscow and Washington no longer engage in proxy wars, much to the benefit of people in Angola and Cambodia, to name two of the countries where peace has broken out after long years of superpower competition. In El Salvador, the cease-fire is due to start next month.

What has not changed is mankind's penchant for tribalism, a trait that transcends ideological considerations. Tribalism preceded the Cold War and has survived it as well. Any Yugoslav or Sri Lankan can tell you that.

Yugoslavia is the scene of Europe's first full-scale civil war in more than 40 years, and ethnicity is at the heart of it.

For sheer brutality, it's hard to match the conflict in Sri Lanka, where the dominant Sinhalese have been fighting the minority Tamils — when the Sinhalese have not been fighting among themselves.

The current phase of the Protestant vs. Catholic conflict in Northern Ireland began more than 20 years ago. Religion is the core issue between Arabs and Israelis and in the hostility between largely Christian Armenia and the largely Muslim Azerbaijan.

At the State Department's last count, there were eight insurgencies going on in luckless Burma. In South Africa, the ruling white tribe has its hands full with their restive black countrymen.

Tribalism, of course, has been a major source of conflict over the years throughout Africa. In some countries, the authority of the central government extends only to a few square blocks of the capital while the rest of the country is under the thumb of rival tribes.

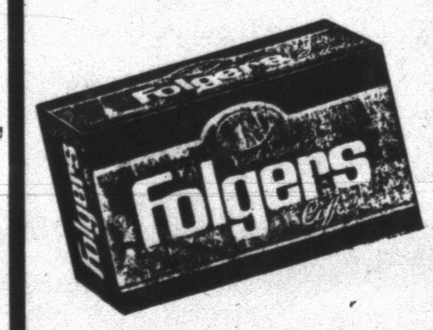
In some cases, ethnic rivalries seemed easier to contain during the Cold War. An example is Somalia, where the United States was once firmly ensconced because of the country's strategic position.

But with the end of the Cold War, the United States has been losing interest in Somalia. Rivalry among the various "clans" in Somalia has become so fierce that virtually all foreign embassies have shut down.

In Afghanistan, the situation looks only marginally better than it did when Washington and Moscow were pouring in weapons. The rival factions are still receiving weapons from countries like Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Iran. Beyond that, Afghanistan is another of those countries where rebel fighters have acquired the habit of fighting each other in addition to the central government.

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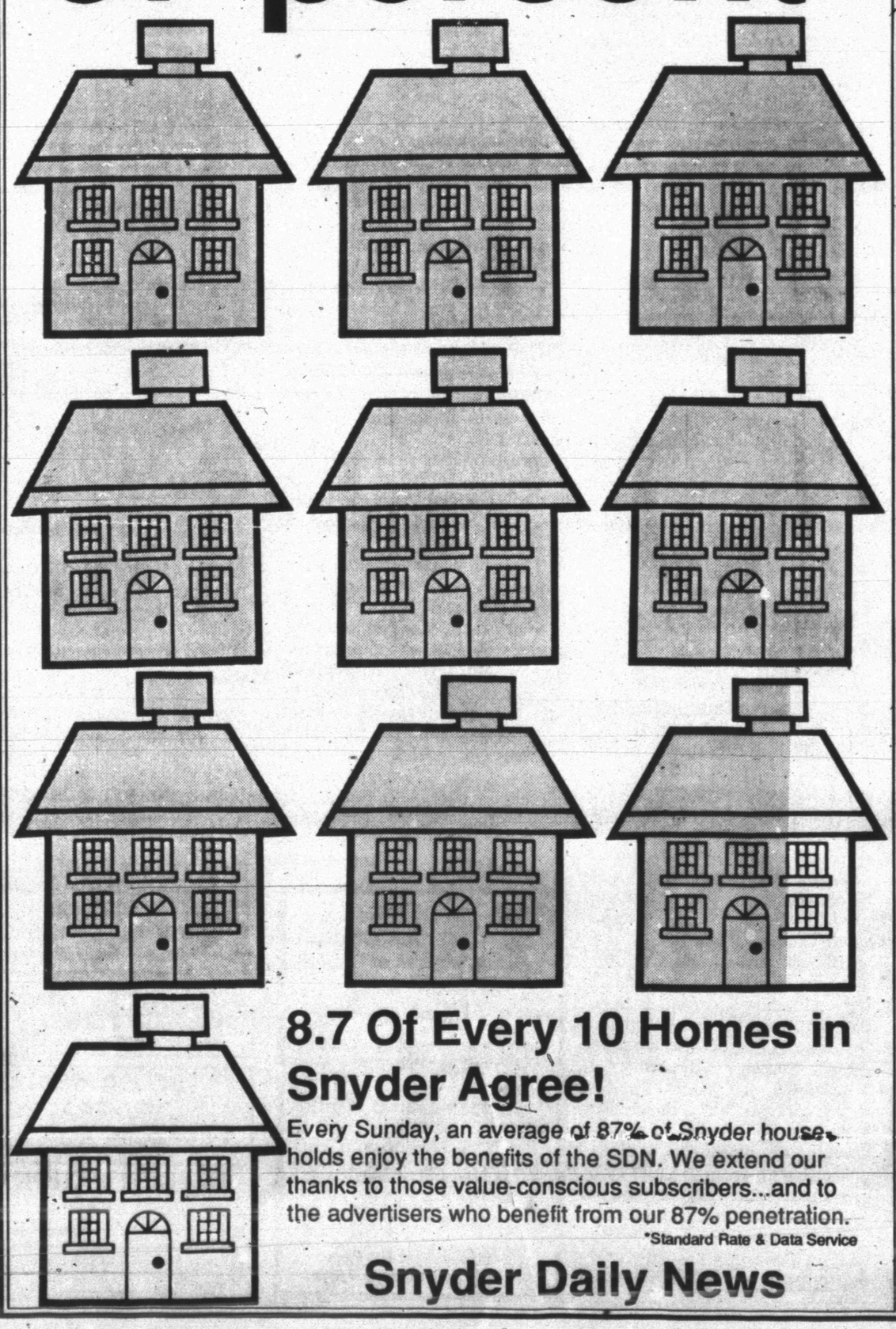
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