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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY
Jan. 2, 2004
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THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Wade Warren

Have I missed something during the holiday hullabaloo, or is Texas Tech the only Texas university to win a bowl game this go-round?

We really hated to see tu lose their bowl game, but certainly not as much as Coach Mack Brown.

It didn't take long for the anti-Brown forces to get together following the 28-20 loss to Washington as there is a web-site devoted to speeding up Brown's departure from Austin — firemackbrown.com.

It seems that the fact that Brown claps a lot on the sidelines has really agitated many burnt orange types.

"Have you ever noticed that every time we see Mack on the sidelines, he's clapping his hands? Is he congratulating his team for fumbling on fourth and three, or is he exhorting his team to overcome the lousy game plan and lack of preparation," questioned one respondent to the web site.

We were on the sidelines at the Tech-tu game in November and shot a few pix of Brown. And by golly, in all but one picture he's clapping.

Another texas fan suggested Brown is applauding his multi-million dollar salary.

This could be true.

He has a contract through 2011 and his current compensation is $1.709 million yearly — win or lose.

In addition, he receives $300,000 per year in an annuity from contributions from longhorn boosters but paid through the university.

We all would be clapping. Some of us might even be jumping up and down with a pay envelope such as Brown's.

Another texas fan is still upset on the Major Applewhite — Chris Simms deal.

"I was almost over the way Major was treated, but now, that fire is burning again after watching Chance (Mock) look like he was stuck in a tar pit. The kid has already "quit" the team! He shouldn't have even been on the trip," said the longhorn fan.

Mock is said to be transferring to Sam Houston State for his senior year which is why this fan is a little upset about him playing in the bowl game.

"Go to Huntsville and film 'The Longest Yard, Part 2', he added.

And what's this, a texas fan saying something nice about Tech's Bob Knight.

"Say what you will about Bob Knight's personality, but at least he was man enough to return his salary when his squad underachieved. I have more respect for Knight than Mack," said the fan.

This guy is even upset because Brown will get a bonus this year just for turning 53 years old.

Respondents to an on-line poll on the web site are in favor of texas dumping Brown. If so, whom will they get to replace him?

Hey, was that Steve Spurrier walking down Sixth Street New Year's Eve?

Deadline here for primaries

At noon today, no new candidates had filed for the March 9 primaries.

The filing deadline is today.

Two filings occurred on Monday when two deputy clerks in the courthouse announced that they will seek to replace Diana Williamson as county tax-assessor collector.

Williamson said she will not seek re-election.

Magali Bernal, a chief deputy county clerk, and Jana Young, a deputy in the tax office, each filed Monday afternoon as candidates on the Republican ballot.

The only other contested race is for county commissioner, precinct one. That contest will not be decided until November since incumbent Ralph Trevey is a Democrat and challenger Terry Williams, a current member of the Cogdell Hospital board of managers, has filed as a GOP candidate.

Incumbents who have filed for re-election on the Republican primary ballot include District Judge Ernie Armstrong, District Attorney Dana Cooley, County Attorney Mike Hartman and Precinct 3 county commissioner Howard Limmer.

The only other candidate to file for a spot on the Democratic ballot is Sheriff Darren Jackson.

The county GOP chairman is Drew Bullard and the county Democratic chairman is Jerry Gannaway.

Accident kills one in Borden County on New Year's Day

A 22-year-old Borden County man was killed in a one-vehicle accident Thursday morning in the vicinity of Lake Thomas.

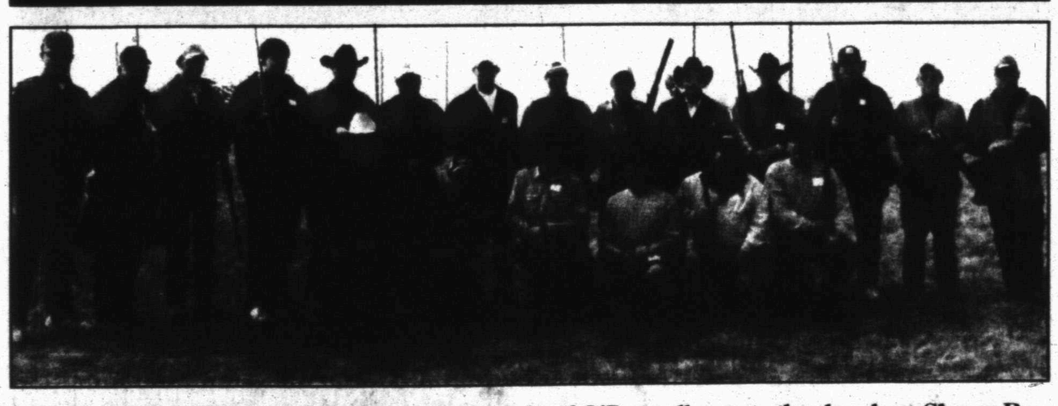
John Harding died at the scene of the accident on FM 1785 near the Fairview School west of the lake in Borden County.

According to Borden County Sheriff Billy Gannaway, Harding was driving a 1997 Chevrolet pickup that veered off a roadway on a curve. He overcorrected the vehicle and the vehicle overturned, ejecting Harding who was not wearing a seatbelt.

The accident occurred sometime after 1:30 a.m. and was discovered by a passing motorist at 10:45 a.m.

Corp. Hector Cantu, DPS trooper stationed in Lamesa, investigated the accident. Borden County JP Jane Jones ordered an autopsy and the body was transported to Lubbock.

Services are pending with Nalley-Pickle & Welch Funeral Home in Big Spring.



RIGHT ON TARGET — Kaleb Crutcher, (top left) of O'Donnell counts the dough as Shawn Barbour of Silverton looks on. Crutcher was a round winner at a turkey shoot benefiting the Scurry County Rodeo Association on New Year's Day. Shooters from throughout West Texas met for the competition. (SDN Staff Photo)

2004's first baby...

Benson Charles Larsen and mom, Jennifer Larsen

First baby of 2004 receives gifts

Scurry County's first citizen for 2004 arrived New Year's Day at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Jennifer and Charles Larsen of Hamlin became the proud parents of Benson Charles Larson, weighing 8 lbs., at 7:17 p.m. Thursday.

Benson's paternal grandparents are Anne Collins and Jack Larsen of Hamlin. His maternal grandparents are Kelly Brown of Abilene and Johnnie Andrus of Hamlin.

"I had no idea that he would end up being the first baby of the New Year," said Jennifer. "But it's really wonderful that it ended up that way. We're very proud of him."

Jennifer entered the hospital Tuesday to induce labor. The procedure was supposed to last a much shorter time.

"There were three other women who came into the hospital after me, and gave birth before me," said Jennifer. "I couldn't believe it."

For being the first baby of 2004 Jennifer and Charles received gifts totaling $1,400 from area businesses. The items donated were a spa manicure from A Cut Above, $50 savings bond from American State Bank, a diaper bag and teddy bear from Bealls, a receiving blanket and assorted baby items from Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary, a basket of baby goodies from Cogdell Memorial Hospital OB department. Also donated was a birthday baby figurine and angel pin from Countryplace, shampoo from The Cuttery and free oil changes from Dennis Quick Auto, Fast Oil Change and Kwik Kar. Jennifer will also enjoy a free one-hour massage from Emergence Bodywork, flower bouquet from Friendly Flowers, a Brighton key chain from Hackfeld's, a cut and style from Hair Razors, plus an intercom/baby monitoring system from HBC Radio Shack and a cash donation from Jaramillo's. McWilliam's Pharmacy gave the parents a baby pack from Burt's Bees and there were gift certificates from O'Reilly Auto Parts, Pizza Inn, Pizza Hut, Spanish Inn, Special Occasions and The Shack. Additionally, a teddy bear from Pleasure's Mine, two free games from Snyder Lanes, a $100 savings bond from Snyder National Bank, free food coupons from Sonic, baby formula and diapers from United Supermarket, $25 gift card from Wal-Mart and a $500 savings bond from West Texas State Bank.

"It's overwhelming to have gotten such nice gifts. We really appreciate them," said Jennifer. "I would also like to express my gratitude to Dr. Robert Rakov and the staff at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Everyone has been wonderful to us."

Two die in plane crash

DALLAS (AP) — Dr. David Knowles' small plane crashed and skidded into the garage of a North Dallas physician's home, killing Knowles and his passenger and setting into play a dramatic rescue by the homeowner's caretaker.

Elnora Denmark, who has looked after Dr. Bud Thompson for four years, carried him from the burning home and placed him on the lawn as firefighters worked to put out the flames Thursday morning.

"She's an angel. She saved his life," said Sanders Thompson, Bud Thompson's son.

Denmark, 51, recounted the ordeal with tears streaming down her cheeks.

"I just heard a big crash and I thought it was a bomb," she told reporters. "And I thought 'Just come back to myself' because it almost knocked me out.

"And then I flew through the other area of the house and I went to get Dr. Thompson, which I've been taking care of for four years."

Neighbor Matt Sousa, who rushed to the scene, recalled Denmark telling him she needed to "get something" and disappearing through heavy smoke to find Thompson, a 79-year-old stroke patient who is partially paralyzed.

"I kept screaming at her to get out," said Sousa, 34, who was unaware that Thompson was inside. "Then she came out and she had the little man in her arms."

Knowles, 59, of Bullard and David Moore, 55, of Jacksonville died when the single-engine 1975 Bellanca crashed about 10:10 a.m.

ASK US

Q—What year did the Alabama player come off the bench to tackle the Rice player heading for a touchdown?
A—1954.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Jennifer Garza...

... is 20-years-old and has lived in Snyder all of her life. She is the daughter of Edward and Rita Yruegas and Fermin Garza of Waco. She has two brothers, Edward and Alex Yruegas. Jennifer has been employed as an admitting clerk for one year at Cogdell Hospital. Her hobbies are crafts and reading.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Be brave if you lose and meek if you win.
—Harvey Penick

Best Available Copy

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Fajita lunch

The Ira junior class will host a fajita lunch from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. on Saturday in the ag barn prior to the Ira livestock show. Cost is $6 per plate.

Grand jury

The Scurry County grand jury is expected to consider at least 10 felony cases when it convenes at 9 a.m. Monday in 132nd District Court.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "God Has Spoken of Mercy," followed by "Where is My Honor?"

Lions meet Tuesday

Snyder Lions Club will resume regular meetings Tuesday at noon at the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Stanfield Parent Council

The Stanfield Paent Council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the teachers' lounge.

Scurry Masonic Lodge

Scurry Masonic Lodge #706 will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at Scurry County Masonic Hall.

Snyder Chapter Council

Snyder Chapter Council will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12, at Scurry Masonic Hall.

SHS band boosters

Snyder High School band boosters will meet at 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 12, at the band hall.

First Baptist support group

First Baptist Church sponsors a support group for persons facing difficulties — including cancer, divorce, grief, etc. It meets on the first floor Adult 6 Department at 6:30 p.m. Thursday.

LVN testing dates

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

Doodle Bug writers club

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

Windbreak trees

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

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Houston ranked second on fattest city list

HOUSTON (AP) — After three years of holding the title as America's fastest city, Houston shed the weight of the title.

The city dropped to No. 2 on the Men's Fitness list of "fattest cities" in America. Detroit moved to the top spot.

Civic leaders credited initiatives started under Mayor Lee Brown's Get Lean Houston program and the work of the city's first fitness czar, former Mr. Universe Lee Labrada, for the accomplishment.

Labrada, who was criticized for using the city's fitness Web site to sell his supplements, has a 28-inch waist and 6 percent body fat. He was named fitness czar after the 2002 ranking.

"This is one championship title I don't mind giving up to another city," said city councilwoman Carol Alvarado. "Congratulations, Detroit."

But despite Houston's small step downward on the list, Dallas, San Antonio and Fort Worth moved up.

Dallas ballooned from last year's ninth fattest city to third; San Antonio went from No. 13 to No. 4; and Fort Worth jumped from 16th to sixth.

Men's Fitness has published the list of the top 25 fattest cities for six years. The report will appear in the February issue, which hits newsstands this month.

Peter Sikowitz, the magazine's editor-in-chief, applauded Houston's efforts to get fit.

He said the city has improved its sports participation and promoted better nutritional habits.

To determine the top 25 fattest cities, the magazine looked at the 50 largest cities in 14 categories, such as air quality, climate, commute time, total number of fast-food and pizza restaurants, and number of health clubs and sporting goods stores.

"Habits are hard to change. For a city to go down a notch, it's significant," Sikowitz said in today's editions of the Houston Chronicle. "It's not just a matter of vanity but it's about well-being. It's really about quality of life."

While some Houston residents ignored the list others took action.

The news prompted state Sen. Mario Gallegos to start his own diet plan in 2002. He eliminated carbohydrates and dropped from 285 pounds to about 250 pounds.

He acknowledges he strayed from the plan during the holidays.

"I was getting big," Gallegos said. "Now it's nice to see the belt hang out like a tongue."

With Houston changing its oversized ways, Labrada said Wednesday he plans to take the health and fitness campaign he created for the Bayou City to a national audience.

"It's not one city's problem, it's America's problem," said Labrada, referring to the nation's obesity rate. "People needed to know there was a problem. There's still work to be done."

Chicago topped nation in murders in 2003

CHICAGO (AP) — Despite a sharp drop in homicides, Chicago has regained a title it didn't want: America's murder capital.

The city finished 2003 with 599 homicides, police said Thursday. That was down from 648 a year earlier and the first time since 1967 that the total dipped below 600.

Still, the nation's third-largest city outpaced all others for the second time in three years. New York, with about three times the population, ended the year with 596 homicides. Los Angeles, which had the most murders in 2002 at 658, wound up 2003 with an estimated total just under 500.

Chicago's new police superintendent, Philip J. Cline, joined colleagues elsewhere in blaming homicides largely on a volatile mix of gangs, guns and drugs.

But officials pointed to a new system established in June, partly inspired by New York's computerized crime analysis unit, that contributed to an 18 percent drop in Chicago murders in the second half of 2003 compared with a year earlier.

In New York, the unofficial murder tally of 596 compared with 584 in 2002. That was a 2 percent jump but still made 2003 the city's second straight year below 600 — dramatically less than the 2,245 homicides recorded in 1990.

St. Louis logged its lowest murder total in more than four decades, a showing that police credited to aggressive efforts to track down violent offenders.

Police said there were 69 killings in the Gateway City in 2003, matching the total of 1962. The number was a 39 percent decrease from the 2002 total of 113.

St. Louis Police Chief Joe Mokwa said the addition of 100 more officers to the force and "the strategy of confronting the most violent offenders has left our neighborhoods more stable."

Baltimore homicides increased for the first time since 1998 as authorities said killings became more targeted, often in connection with the drug trade.

As of Wednesday, Baltimore reported 271 killings in 2003, compared with 253 in 2002. It was a 7 percent increase and the highest homicide total during the four-year tenure of Mayor Martin O'Malley, who campaigned on a pledge to reduce annual totals to 175.

Baltimore Police Commissioner Kevin P. Clark said part of the increase was due to gunmen hitting their victims with more bullets.

"They are not looking to shoot a guy in the leg to send a message," Clark said. "They are out to kill these guys."

Preliminary figures from the District of Columbia showed the homicide rate dropping 6 percent in the nation's capital, from 262 in 2002 to 247 last year. But 2004 began with two homicides in about nine hours.

No final figures were available for Detroit, but an FBI report in mid-December put the city on a pace to end 2003 with its fewest homicides since 1968. The total would be about 365, the FBI said.

Appeals Court reverses verdict

El Paso (AP) — An appeals court has reversed felony convictions of an El Paso Environmental consultant, who was found guilty of allowing thousands of gallons of animal rendering waste to be dumped in Southern New Mexico.

But the court has ordered the trial court to re-sentence Hector Villa III on lesser charges.

The New Mexico Court of Appeals ruled there was sufficient evidence that Villa attempted to violate the Water Quality Act. The court instructed the trial court to re-sentence Villa on a lesser offense of attempted violation, a misdemeanor.

Villa's lawyer, Jaime Olivas, said Thursday that it was impossible for Villa to be guilty because the underlying permits creating the offense had expired. Villa was convicted nearly two years ago.

The appeals court agreed the permits had expired, but said Villa should be found guilty of the attempt, the El Paso Times reported.

Olivas has petitioned New Mexico's highest court to hear an appeal. A hearing date is pending.

"We are confident that (Villa) will be ultimately exonerated," Olivas said.

Today's chuckle

Dog survives being run over by trains

ROSEMOUNT, Minn. (AP) — If cats have nine lives, then this dog has at least three.

A wee dachshund from Rosemount earned the nickname Railroad Joe recently, after running away from owners Tom and Cindy Caruth.

The stubby-legged dog took up life on the tracks and made a legend of himself by getting run over by freight trains at least three times in five days — twice by the same conductor.

The steel wheels nipped one of his floppy ears and sliced off part of his tail. But each time he ducked low enough between the rails for the trains to clear him.

"It's hard telling how many trains went over that poor little dog," said Union Pacific conductor Terry Vanderlinden, the man who ran over Joe twice.

Vanderlinden thought he killed Joe the first time in early November, about a mile from the Caruths' home.

"We saw him, and he was feisty. He was barking at us," Vanderlinden said. "I said, 'Oh boy, this is bad.' We just mowed him down."

Five days later, he was riding the tracks in the opposite direction, heading for South St. Paul. He spotted Joe on the tracks within a mile of where he first encountered him.

"We couldn't believe it. It was the same brown dog with a green tag, only this time he's not feisty," Vanderlinden said. "We plowed him down once again."

This time, Vanderlinden circled back to the area in his own vehicle. After walking on the tracks, he found Joe shivering in weeds, near starvation.

"He was bones when I found him," he said.

Tom Caruth said his family's 3-year-old pet "looked like a wet rat" when they were reunited through the tag on the dog's collar.

"He laid by our fireplace for two straight days," Caruth said. "His tail's a little shorter now. But he's fine."

World Almanac

Friday, Jan. 2, 2004

Today is the second day of 2004 and the 12th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1492, the Moors were driven out of Spain as Granada fell to the forces of Ferdinand and Isabella.

In 1788, Georgia ratified the U.S. Constitution and became the fourth state.

In 1893, former slave Frederick Douglass delivered an address at the Chicago World's Fair.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Isaac Asimov (1920-1992), scientist/writer; Roger Miller (1936-1992), country singer/songwriter; Cuba Gooding, Jr. (1968-), actor, is 36; Christy Turlington (1969-), model, is 35.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1984, Miami upset heavily favored Nebraska in the Orange Bowl, 31-30, as Nebraska failed on a two-point conversion at game's end.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I'm not a speed reader. I'm a speed understander." — Isaac Asimov

TODAY"S FACT: The normal temperature in Honolulu, Hawaii, in January ranges from 66 to 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 28 — Number of Bowl games played in the 2003-2004 college football season.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Dec. 30) and full moon (Jan. 7)

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Two brothers suffer from rare chromosome disorder

MACHIAS, N.Y. (AP) — Four-year-old Dalton Eisenhardt and his 2-year-old brother, Wyatt, don't protest or complain about the machines that hold onto them with tubes and cords during every moment of their lives. Despite the tracheotomies, the feeding tubes and ever-present nurses, the boys smile.

It his harder for those who love them.

The young brothers are fighting a rare and puzzling chromosome disorder, and doctors in Buffalo, 45 miles north, have been unable to find anyone anywhere with the same condition. They cannot tell the Eisenhardts what might come next, what toll the disorder ultimately will take.

So far, dozens of hospital stays, surgeries, doctors' appointments and consultations have produced only more questions. The family hopes that by telling its story, a doctor or other parent will recognize the disorder and tell them what to do.

"We don't know what to expect," said their mother, Vicki Eisenhardt, in the living room where she spends most of her time caring for her two youngest sons while her husband works as a carpenter. A 10-year-old brother, Tyler, is healthy.

"What we know we've learned from Dalton," she said.

The boys have a disorder called unbalanced translocation chromosome 15. Their mother explains the chromosome has an extra piece, a slight defect that affects every organ in the boys' bodies.

A year ago, doctors gave Dalton six months to live, saying the damage to his lungs was too great.

"Here we are a year later," his mother said. "Doctors can speculate, but only God knows."

"We're not giving up," added her sister, Kim Claus, one of several nurses who cares for the boys full-time.

Dalton has been hospitalized 34 times and undergone 19 surgeries. Worrisome episodes where his skin grows gray and clammy have been increasing. Wyatt spent 100 days in intensive care after his birth. His problems have mirrored his brother's.

Snuggled into his mother's lap one afternoon this week, Wyatt grinned at visitors as his brother slept, blue breathing tubes spilling from both their necks. On this day, Dalton was tired and would spend most of the day in bed. Wyatt was just up from a nap that had been interrupted to have a buildup of saliva suctioned from his tube.

Dalton has an appointment next week with a specialist in New York City. This week the family was scrambling to secure a flight after learning the small airline that initially offered tickets could not fly the oxygen tanks the boys need to breathe because of federal aviation rules.

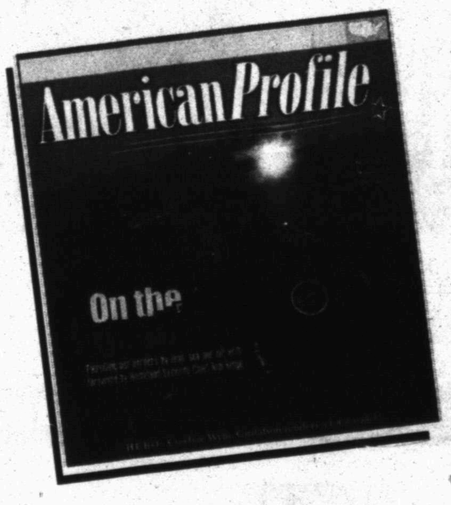
"This is not a trip of luxury. This is a trip of necessity," Eisenhardt said, frustrated at the obstacle.

The boys' beds and shelves full of supplies and equipment have taken over the living room. Nurses, therapists and medical supply deliveries create a revolving door in the family home, and although insurance pays most costs, unseen expenses like the electricity needed to power the machines add up.

In Next Week's American Profile...

Patrolling our borders

In the war against terrorism, the men and women who are on the frontline here at home are those who guard and patrol our nation's borders from the land, sea, and air. Read about three of them.



In Addition...
- Baked fish
- Our Picks

American Profile
Celebrating Hometown Life

events

LOTTO TEXAS™
TEXAS LOTTERY
RESULTS

Thursday's Lottery Numbers

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 2-24-26-32-21.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Prize per winner: $0.

Matching four of five: 103. Prize: $566.

Matching three of five: 3,364. Prize: $12.

Matching two of five: 37,185. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 6-5-4
(Night) 3-0-9

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Houston light rail opens for business

HOUSTON (AP) — The nation's fourth largest city has at least one New Year's resolution: take the train.

Amid a festival-like atmosphere and thousands of people who waited hours in line for a ride, Houston's $324 million light rail system made its inaugural trips on Thursday.

The 7.5-mile starter line will offer service from downtown Houston south to Reliant Stadium.

After years of debate and false starts, the rail system under construction since 2001 debuted during opening ceremonies filled with music, confetti and speeches. Mayor Lee Brown, one of the system's staunchest supporters, was at the controls when the first light rail car entered the southern most station on the line.

Following a ribbon cutting ceremony, several hundred invited guests packed two trains for the first trips.

"It was a very, very smooth ride," said John Lewis, 56, a retired postal service supervisor. Lewis and his 7-year-old grandson Darshawn Birks were among the first to ride the train.

Lewis said he first thought light rail was going to be more of a novelty but after riding the train, he plans on making an effort to use the system instead of his car whenever possible.

"I'm excited about riding it," he said.

The initial trip began south of Reliant Stadium and went north through the Texas Medical Center, the city's museum district and through downtown. It took about 30 minutes. The light rail tracks pass along a series of fountains in a downtown block, which also made their debut Thursday.

Some people waved as the train passed by while others, with puzzled looks on their faces, were still getting used to the idea of seeing trains through city streets.

The trains stopped, but didn't pick up passengers, at each of the line's 16 stations, which are made of steel beams and glass and feature the works of local artists.

The system began offering rides to the general public Thursday afternoon. All along the line's stations, thousands gathered for a chance to ride light rail. Rides will be free through Sunday and after that a one-way trip will cost $1.

Joe Cavazos, along with his wife Leti and two daughters, got in line two hours before public rides began.

"It was fantastic," Cavazos said as he departed one of the sleek, silver cars at a downtown station. "The city is not going to move forward without mass transit. The traffic is horrendous. We need trains badly."

While it's not a bullet train, a light rail car can travel up to 66 mph and must follow the same speed limits as vehicles on city streets.

Brown, whose last day as mayor was Thursday, said he was glad to be able to leave office knowing he had accomplished his goal of bringing light rail to Houston.

"I know Houstonians will take to Metro rail like a duck to water," Brown said. "We are now a much better city. We have entered a new era in Houston."

The line's debut follows November's successful ballot proposition that authorizes up to $640 million in revenue bonds to start building the rail line's next 22 miles.

Metro officials hope the line will eventually expand to about 80 miles, including a proposed eight-mile commuter line that would stretch southwest to Missouri City. Total cost of the project is estimated at around $8 billion.

It was built entirely with transit authority funds, but each phase of expansion will need voter approval.

U.S. humanitarian aid bound for Iran

FALFURRIAS (AP) — President Bush says the humanitarian aid the United States is sending to Iran's earthquake victims shows Americans are generous, despite concerns about Iran's support of international terrorism.

"What we're doing in Iran is we're showing the Iranian people the American people care, that we've got great compassion for human suffering," Bush said as he made an appeal directly to Iran's pro-democracy forces in Iran.

The president spoke to reporters in southern Texas, where he and his father went quail hunting on New Year's Day, and didn't alter his administration's public stance toward Iran — a nation he has labeled, along with Iraq and North Korea, as an "axis of evil." The president continued to call on Iran to give up its nuclear weapons and do more to fight terrorism, but his words lacked the harsh, warring tones of earlier statements he's made about the nation.

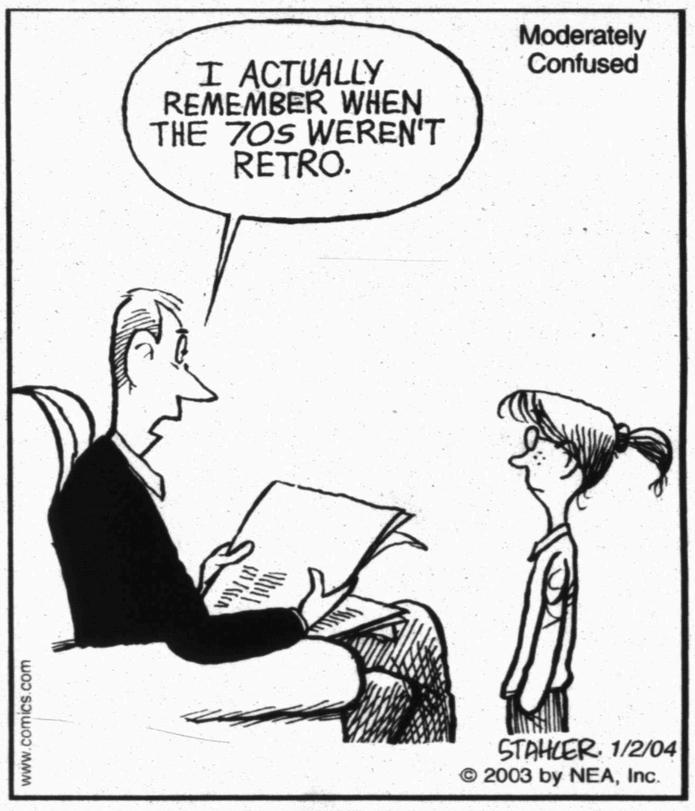
The Washington Post reported today that the United States has approached Iran about sending a high-level humanitarian delegation to Tehran. It would be the first public U.S. official visit since 52 Americans were held hostage in Iran for 444 days from 1979 to 1981.

The newspaper said the delegation, headed by Sen. Elizabeth Dole, R-N.C., also would include an unspecified member of the Bush family. Iran's President Mohammad Khatami has not yet responded to the overture, the newspaper quoted U.S. officials as saying.

White House officials have raised the possibility that Iran's acceptance of American aid following a massive earthquake that killed nearly 30,000 may be a sign of slow movement toward better relations between the longtime enemies. Secretary of State Colin Powell has said recently there were encouraging developments in Iran and that Tehran was demonstrating a "new attitude" on some issues.

Bush said the United States is glad the Iranian government has allowed U.S. humanitarian aid flights into the country. But he added, "The Iranian government must listen to the voices of those who long for freedom, must turn over al-Qaeda that are in their custody and must abandon their nuclear weapons program."

He said he hopes Iran will hand over members of the al-Qaeda terrorist organization to their countries of origin, scrap its nuclear weapons in a verifiable way and abide by an accord it signed on Dec. 18 to open its nuclear facilities to international inspectors.



Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Spice husband wants to add to marriage makes wife sick

DEAR ABBY: "Burt" and I have been married 14 years. We have two beautiful children — a boy and a girl — ages 8 and 11. Burt works in sales. I am a designer and run my business out of our home, so that I can be here when the children come home from school.

For the last couple of years, Burt has complained that the "spice" has gone out of our marriage. He did some Internet research and found a swingers group in our community. At first, he only did some chatting online, but now he wants us to go to one of their parties. I told him I'm against it, but he insists. The idea of exposing myself to strangers is mortifying. But the more I tell him no, the more insistent he becomes.

Should I agree to it to save our marriage? — **WAVERING IN VIRGINIA**

DEAR WAVERING: No. If you do, the dynamics of your marriage will change forever — and not for the better.

Great sex is all about great communication. If a dish isn't spicy enough, I see nothing to be gained by diluting it. To do something that makes you uncomfortable or is morally repugnant will not only not save your marriage, it could also be the straw that breaks the camel's back. A healthier solution for what ails your marriage would be to consult a sex therapist or a marriage counselor.

**

DEAR ABBY: My husband has Parkinson's disease with dementia. I have good friends who ask me to coffee or lunch to get me out of the house, but what I'd really like is if they'd ask my HUSBAND out to coffee or lunch.

Every hour I'm away, I worry about him. Plus, I have not been by myself in this house for eight years.

Please pass on a message to your readers. If you really want to help, offer to take out the ill person, and give the caregiver some quiet time. — **NEEDING A BREAK**

DEAR NEEDING: To expect someone not trained in caring for a patient with dementia to take the person out into unfamiliar surroundings is asking a lot. It may be too much responsibility for your friends to assume.

A better solution would be to arrange for respite care for your husband. You could have your quiet time, or time alone in the house, by asking your husband's doctor which senior centers in your vicinity are equipped to provide safe activities for him on a regular basis. Either that, or contact Faith in Action at www.FaithinAction.org or (877) 324-8411. It's a national program that helps establish community programs providing volunteer care to neighbors with long-term health needs.

**

DEAR ABBY: I just returned from visiting my 26-year-old daughter, her 27-year-old live-in fiance and their 4-month-old twins. They live in Kansas, where they own their home, and both have good jobs.

During dinner Saturday night, my daughter asked me if I plan to pay for their wedding next June. Am I obligated to help them financially? — **THEY LIVE IN KANSAS**

DEAR KANSAS: No, you are not. A wedding is a gift from the parent or parents. It is not, and should not be considered an obligation. Your daughter and her fiance are self-supporting and can pay for their own wedding. If you wish to contribute money toward their wedding, it would be a generous gift. But under no circumstances should you feel put on the spot to do so.

**

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

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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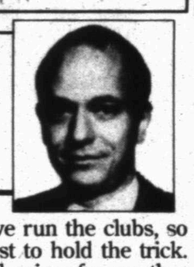
Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 01-02-04
♠ A K 8 7
♥ J 4
♦ J
♣ Q J 10 7 5 4

West
♠ Q 10 6
♥ 9 6 2
♦ A K 10 8 7
♣ K 2

East
♠ 5 4 3 2
♥ Q 10 8 7
♦ 6 3 2
♣ 9 6

South
♠ J 9
♥ A K 5 3
♦ Q 9 5 4
♣ A 8 3

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
			Pass
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ A

Friday, Jan. 2, 2004

The defensive pay of the year

By Phillip Alder

Every year, the International Bridge Press Association hands out awards for the top performances of the year. The 2003 prize for the best defense went to Eric Greco for his display on this deal, which occured during a team event at a regional tournament in Iowa.

Do you see any way that three no-trump could fail?

At the first table, West led the diamond eight. After winning with dummy's jack, declarer ran the club queen. West won with the king and cashed his two top diamonds, so South claimed the rest for plus 630.

At this table, Greco led the diamond ace: jack, two, five. Greco, seeing that the contract could not be beaten by normal means and hoping declarer would misread the layout, exited with a low diamond. South, after winning with his diamond nine, went into the dummy with a spade, finessed the club queen ... and won the trick.

You or I would now play a club to the ace and claim two overtricks. But declarer, not blessed with X-ray vision, took a second club finesse. Greco won with his club king and continued the perfect defense by leading the spade queen.

If South had won in the dummy, he couldn't have run the clubs, so he allowed West to hold the trick. Declarer was hoping for another spade play, so that he could discard his blocking club ace on dummy's spade ace. But Greco didn't err; he shifted to a heart.

Declarer won only one spade, two hearts, one diamond and two clubs — an amazing three down: minus 300.

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Rush guitarist fights deputies

NAPLES, Fla. (AP) — The lead guitarist for the rock band Rush faces criminal charges after a New Year's Eve fight with sheriff's deputies.

Alex Zivojinovich, better known by his stage name Alex Lifeson, was arrested for what deputies described as drunken, violent behavior at the Naples Ritz-Carlton hotel.

Deputies said they used a stun gun on Zivojinovich, 50, who faces six charges that include aggravated battery on a law enforcement officer, resisting an officer with violence, and disorderly intoxication.

Also arrested were his 33-year-old son Justin Zivojinovich and wife Michelle Zivojinovich, 30.

Justin Zivojinovich said his father, who was still in Collier County jail late Thursday, had his nose broken by deputies.

Cinema 1 & 2
1907 Scurry Snyder Tx.
573-4567

Cheaper by the Dozen PG
Fri. 2:15, 7:15, 9:15
Sat. 2:15, 7:15, 9:15
Sun. 2:15, 7:15
Tues. 7:15, 9:15
Wed. 7:15
Thurs. 7:15

Peter Pan PG
Fri. 2:00, 7:00, 9:20
Sat. 2:00, 7:00, 9:20
Sun. 2:00, 7:00
Tues. 7:00, 9:20
Wed. 7:00
Thurs. 7:00

Tuesday Poor Boy Night $3
Wed. buy drink-get free popcorn
Matinees - Fri., Sat., Sun.
Closed Monday

MOVIES

Cheaper by the Dozen PG

When Tom Baker (Martin) gets a job offer to coach football at Northwestern University in Chicago, he and his wife, Mary (Hunt), move to the big city, which is a big change for them and their 12 children, who range from preschool-age twins Kyle and Nigel all the way up to 22-year-old Anne (Perabo) who has already left home.

Peter Pan PG

Peter Pan is the boy who won't age, who lives in Neverland with other ageless kids, the Lost Boys. Tinkerbelle, a fairy, gives three children: Wendy, John, and Michael Darling the ability to fly; and soon they're off to Neverland, where they're soon in battle with the evil Captain Hook and his band of pirates.

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A Word of Thanks

A toast to all of you that made the National American Miss 2003 such a great experience and pleasure for our daughter, Larissa Early. Thank you for your sponsorship. May your New Year bring you many blessings, joys and peace throughout the New Year and those to follow.

God Bless You All

Connie Key
Liz Blair
Nicholas Schwartz
Marida and Bob Watlington
Pauline Davis
Randall Martin
Barbara Stinnitt
Jimmy and Linda Roemisch
Wanda and Bill Early
John Reed
Teresa Kerianen
Joan Treadway
Francene Noah
Ginny and David Griffith
Mike and Carolyn Robbins
Jay and Jennifer Roemisch
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JAN 02 2004

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ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

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SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

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FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

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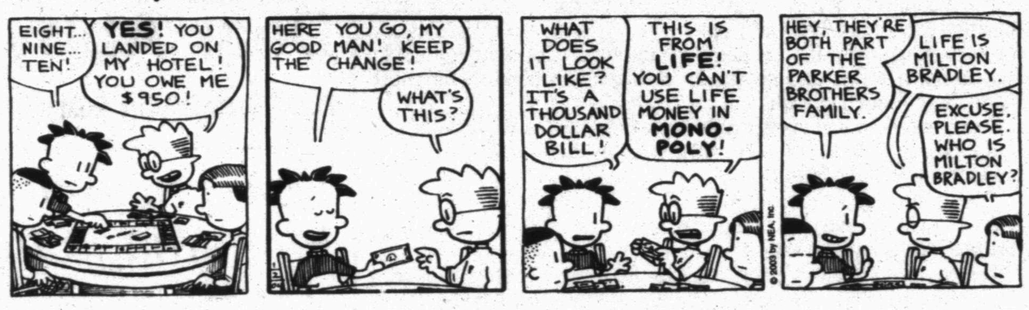
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



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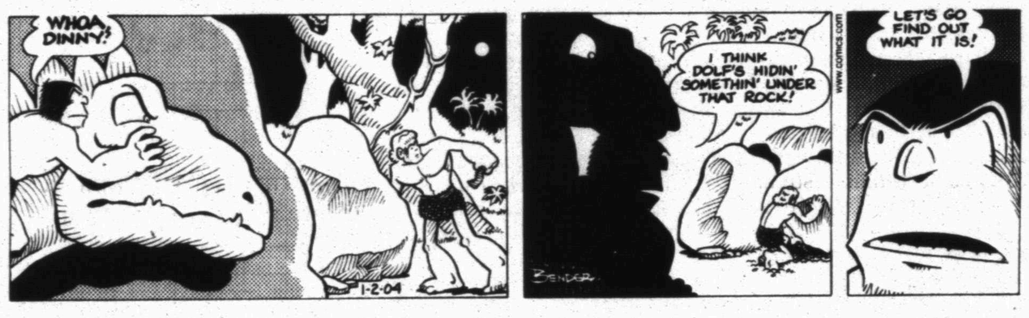
ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"This is a much bigger apartment than we're used to."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Limo passengers
5 Soda-can opener
8 Quick swim
11 Gullets
13 "Ben- —"
14 Keats opus
15 Postgame discussion
16 Roswell crasher
17 Gator Bowl st.
18 Garden plantings
20 Bid
22 Where Pago Pago is
24 Wyo. neighbor
25 Got acquainted
26 Mattress category
28 Ms. McEntire
32 Clean water org.
33 Thumb through
34 Vanna's boss
35 Greases
37 Theory
39 "Road movie" locale
40 House part
41 Deborah — of old films
42 John, in Aberdeen
43 Yvette's boyfriend
45 Dice throw
47 Chili bean
50 —, vidi, vici
51 Small number
52 Seine vista
54 Be of benefit
58 P.O. service
59 — Andreas Fault
60 Edge past
61 Dawn goddess
62 Kid
63 "Soft Watches" painter

DOWN

1 TV accessory
2 Umbrage
3 Boot liner
4 Colony of bees
5 So
6 — Wiedersehen
7 Act moody
8 Remove, as a hat
9 Loafing
10 Fall fruit
12 Takeoffs
19 Oahu beach
21 Grow wheat
22 Brown tone
23 In the least (2 wds.)
24 Soak
25 Comment from Tabby
27 Take a bus
29 Like a wolf's howl
30 Actor — Aherne
31 Bard's river
36 Thin board
38 Sports complexes
44 Clammy
46 Intense, as colors
47 Skin detail
48 The skinny
49 Buntline and Beatty
50 Flue
53 Thai neighbor
55 Tooth puller's org.
56 — -advised
57 Aloha token

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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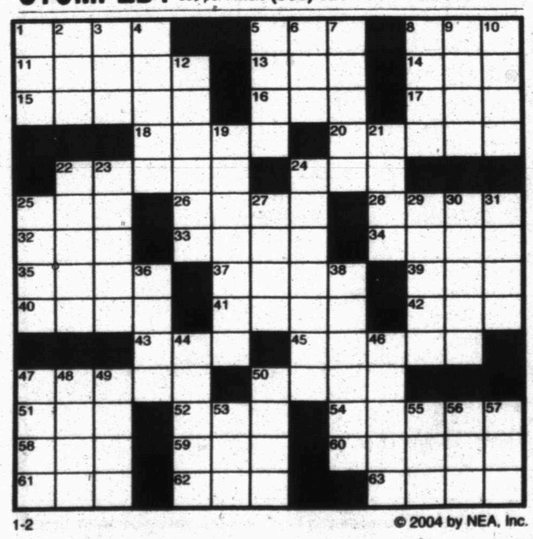

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"WE'RE LUCKY, JOEY. WE'RE TOO SHORT TO BE A 'PAIN IN THE NECK'."

Best Available Copy

SPORTS

USC stakes claim to piece of national title

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Point made.

Top-ranked Southern California laid out its case for the national championship the best way it knew how — by dominating No. 4 Michigan with a 28-14 victory Thursday in the Rose Bowl.

Matt Leinart threw three touchdown passes and caught another to lead the Trojans past the Wolverines with a performance that should be enough to persuade voters to leave USC atop the poll.

The Associated Press' No. 1 team has never dropped in the rankings after winning its bowl, and it doesn't look as though it will happen this time, either.

While the Trojans are primed to win their first title in 25 years, they would have to share it. Voters for the USA Today/ESPN coaches' poll are obligated to crown the winner of Sunday's Sugar Bowl between No. 2 LSU and No. 3 Oklahoma, playing in the BCS championship game.

The Trojans were left out of the Bowl Championship Series title game because of a weaker schedule, but they felt right at home in front of a sellout crowd of 93,849.

Leinart, the game's MVP, shredded the nation's sixth-ranked pass defense for 327 yards, and the Trojans (12-1) had a season-high nine sacks and even blocked a field goal by Michigan (10-3).

Orange Bowl
No. 10 Miami 16,
No. 9 Florida St. 14

MIAMI (AP) — Jarrett Payton ran for 131 yards, Jon Peattie kicked three field goals and Miami shut out Florida State in the second half.

It was Miami's fifth consecutive victory in the heated series — its longest winning streak since 1957. Florida State (10-3) lost consecutive bowl games for the first time since the 1979 and 1980 seasons.

Like several other memorable games in this storied rivalry, the outcome was decided by a kicker.

Not only did Peattie hit a career-long 51-yarder to give the Hurricanes (11-2) the lead in the third quarter, but Florida State's Xavier Beitia missed a 39-yarder with 5:30 to play.

And yes, it was wide right.

It was the fifth time a Florida State kicker has missed a decisive kick in this rivalry.

Capital One Bowl
No. 11 Georgia 34,
No. 12 Purdue 27, OT

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Kregg Lumpkin redeemed himself for a stunning fumble late in regulation, scoring on a 1-yard run in overtime to give Georgia a victory over Purdue.

The Boilermakers (9-4) rallied from a 24-0 deficit in the first half, getting a chance to tie it on a remarkable turn of events with just over a minute left in the fourth quarter.

With Purdue out of timeouts, Georgia coach Mark Richt called a run instead of ordering quarterback David Greene to take a knee. Lumpkin, a freshman, got tied up in the backfield and fumbled. After a wild scramble, Purdue recovered at the Georgia 34.

Ben Jones kicked a 44-yard field goal with 49 seconds remaining for Purdue, forcing overtime tied at 27.

But the Bulldogs (11-3) made up for their mistake in overtime. After Lumpkin scored on fourth down, Tony Taylor intercepted Kyle Orton's pass in the end zone, setting off a wild celebration by the Georgia players.

Gator Bowl
No. 23 Maryland 41,
No. 20 West Virginia 7

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Scott McBrien threw for a career-high 381 yards, helping Maryland rout West Virginia in a rematch of a regular-season game that was almost as lopsided.

Playing against the team he left, McBrien threw for three scores and ran for another. Steve Suter returned a punt for a touchdown and made a highlight-reel catch to help the Terrapins (10-3) reach the 10-win mark for the third straight year under coach Ralph Friedgen.

Friedgen can thank West Virginia (8-5) for part of the turnaround. Counting the 34-7 win in the regular season, the Terps have defeated the Mountaineers four times over the last three years by an average score of 35-13.

The Mountaineers, co-champs of the Big East, came in on a seven-game winning streak but dropped to 1-10 in their last 11 bowl games.

Outback Bowl
No. 13 Iowa 37,
No. 17 Florida 17

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Fred Russell ran for 150 yards and one touchdown, and Iowa dominated Florida for its first January bowl win since the 1959 Rose Bowl.

Nathan Chandler threw for one TD and ran for another, Nate Kaeding kicked three field goals and Iowa (10-3) scored on a blocked punt for the third time this season to finish with double-digit wins in consecutive years for the first time in school history.

Florida's season ended with a loss in the Outback Bowl for the second straight year, and the lopsided result is almost certain to start a renewed round of speculation about Ron Zook's future.

Kansas St. QB Roberson accused of sexual assault

PARADISE VALLEY, Ariz. (AP) — Kansas State quarterback Ell Roberson was accused Thursday of sexually assaulting a woman at the team hotel, leaving his start in the Fiesta Bowl in question.

Roberson told police he had consensual sex with the 22-year-old woman, who is a Kansas State alumna and acquaintance of the quarterback, Paradise Valley police Lt. Ron Warner said.

Neither the woman nor Roberson were staying in the room where they had sex at the Scottsdale Plaza Resort, Warner said.

Athletic director Tim Weiser said it would be up to coach Bill Snyder whether Roberson plays Friday night against Ohio State.

The woman told police she was assaulted between 3-3:30 a.m. The investigation began when the hotel's security office called police at 4:30 a.m. The players had an 11 p.m. curfew on Wednesday.

Medical tests were conducted but results were not expected until next week, Warner said.

A report will be submitted to the Maricopa County attorney's office to determine if there is sufficient evidence to file charges, Warner said.

Roberson was not with Kansas State players at a pep rally Thursday afternoon.

The senior from Baytown, Texas, needs 57 yards rushing to become the third player in NCAA Division I history to rush for 1,000 yards and pass for 2,000 in a season.

Manning, McNair share MVP

By The Associated Press

Star quarterbacks Peyton Manning and Steve McNair reached the individual pinnacle of the NFL today when they shared The Associated Press NFL Most Valuable Player award.

In just the third tie since the award began in 1957, the premier passers each received 16 votes from a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the NFL.

"This is such a tremendous honor," Manning said. "Obviously you look at all the former winners, it really is an honor to be on that same list, and to have such great teammates and a coaching staff that allowed me to go out and make plays.

"And to be sharing it with Steve, a player I have the most respect for and who has had a tremendous year, and to be ahead of guys like Tom Brady, who's a friend of mine, and Jamal Lewis, a former teammate of mine at Tennessee who easily could have been there, as well, it's tremendous."

Added McNair: "It is great, my words can't express how I feel being co-MVP with another great quarterback like Peyton. It's very emotional right now for me that people look at me as being one of the top quarterbacks of the NFL, one of the top players, and a co-MVP."

New England quarterback Brady finished third with eight votes, followed by Baltimore running back Lewis, the AP Offensive Player of the Year, with five. Kansas City running back Priest Holmes got three votes, and Baltimore linebacker Ray Lewis, the AP Defensive Player of the Year, received two.

Unlike the seemingly indestructible Manning, who's never missed a start in his six pro seasons, McNair has played hurt for much of his career. This season, he missed the last month of practice with a strained right calf and sprained left ankle that also has a cracked bone spur. Those injuries also sidelined him for two games.

But the NFL has learned how tough the nine-year veteran is. And how dangerous he is, even though McNair no longer is the running threat he was early in his career. Now, he is a superb pocket passer, accurate and strong-armed. His 100.4 rating in 2003 edged Manning's 99.0 atop the league rankings.

McNair certainly is impressed by Manning's achievements, which include leading the league this season with 4,267 yards passing and topping the AFC with 29 TD passes. He has thrown 25 or more TD passes in each of the past six seasons — the only player to accomplish the feat.

"It's just his knowledge of the game," McNair said. "When Peyton came in, there were very few guys who came in and started, and Peyton did a good job learning from his mistakes his first year. He came back and had a magnificent career, a student of the game, extra film work, learning the game mentally."

Manning and McNair make it three straight years a quarterback has been selected most valuable player. Oakland's Rich Gannon won last year and Kurt Warner was the 2001 MVP.

The other ties came in 1997 (Brett Favre and Barry Sanders) and in 1960 (Norm Van Brocklin and Joe Schmidt).

SHS, Ira cagers play tonight

The Snyder and Ira basketball teams get back into pre-district action today, with Snyder traveling to Lubbock Cooper and Ira making a trip to Westbrook.

The Tigers play at 5 p.m., while the Lady Tigers start at 6:30.

The Lady Bulldogs will tip-off at 6:30 today, and the boys are scheduled to start at 8 p.m.

The Hermleigh Cardinals and Lady Cardinals will get back on the hardwood at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Loraine.

Tech hangs on against Gophers

LUBBOCK (AP) — Bob Knight experienced a bit of deja vu Thursday in Texas Tech's 90-73 win over Minnesota.

In the consolation game of the NIT tournament last season, Tech twice let big leads slip before winning 71-61.

On Thursday, Minnesota whittled an 18-point Tech lead to 12 going into the locker room at the half.

"We kind of slipped a little bit in the final four minutes of the first half," Knight said. "It was almost exactly what happened to us when we played Minnesota in Madison Square Garden last spring."

Knight was pleased about how his players responded when Minnesota managed to diffuse Andre Emmett's scoring somewhat.

"When people really basically attack Emmett, then we've got to have some other people that score and we did," he said.

Five Tech players had double figures. Jarrius Jackson scored 20 points, Emmett scored 17, Darryl Dora had 15, Robert Tomaszek added 11 and Ronald Ross had 10.

Texas Tech (11-2) shot the ball well, especially in the second half when the Red Raiders scored on 12-of-13 possessions. The Red Raiders finished at 58 percent from the field, hitting on 34-of-60.

The Golden Gophers (6-4) cut the margin to seven in the opening minutes of the second half but Tech answered with a 10-2 run to go up 56-41 with 14:58 remaining. Minnesota never threatened again.

"We're not at the level of Texas Tech right now," Gopher coach Dan Monson. "Intensity-wise, we could not answer them on the defensive end of the court. We were never able to get them out of their rhythm. They got things going, and then all of a sudden, everything is going in for them."

Tech built its largest lead at 90-68 on an layup by Curtis Marshall with 50 seconds left in the game.

Kris Humphries scored 21 points and Ben Johnson added 11 for the Gophers.

The Red Raiders used a 15-4 run to go up 29-12 with 8:29 remaining in the half. In a 10-minute span the Gophers turned the ball over nine times and scored only two field goals.

Knight, who in recent weeks has chastised fans for low attendance at home games, took the microphone to thank the crowd after the game.

"We really appreciate the turnout we had on a holiday," said Knight, alluding to the 10,524 who came through the turnstiles Thursday. "Thanks very much."

It was the largest crowd of the season by about 2,100.

Sports Briefs

Baseball/softball booster clubs

The baseball and softball booster clubs will meet at 6 p.m. Monday in the film room.

Football banquet

The Snyder Tigers football awards banquet will be held Jan. 10 at 6 p.m. at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Cost is $8 per person and food will be served at 6, and the awards ceremony will begin at 7.

Vermeil will return next season

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Dick Vermeil will coach the Kansas City Chiefs at least one more season.

Vermeil told his staff of his plans on Wednesday, said Lynn Stiles, the Chiefs' vice president of football operations and one of Vermeil's closest friends.

The Chiefs finished the regular-season 13-3 in Vermeil's third season and are seeded second in the AFC playoffs.

Kitna named Comeback Player of the Year

Jon Kitna's comeback mirrored the one by the Cincinnati Bengals and earned him The Associated Press NFL Comeback Player of the Year award.

For Kitna, it was a reward for his perseverance. The seven-year veteran had his best professional season in his third year in Cincinnati, where the Bengals went 8-24 before he quarterbacked a turnaround to an 8-8 mark this season.

Kitna edged Dallas quarterback Quincy Carter in wide-open balloting that saw 15 players receive votes from a nationwide panel of 50 sports writers and broadcasters who cover the NFL.

Sports Calendar

TODAY

Basketball: Snyder varsity boys at Lubbock Cooper, 5 p.m.

Snyder varsity girls at Lubbock Cooper, 6 p.m.

Ira varsity girls at Westbrook, 6:30 p.m.

Ira varsity boys at Westbrook, 8 p.m.

Ira JV boys at Westbrook, 5 p.m.

NCAA Bowls

Today
Cotton Bowl
At Dallas
$3 million
Mississippi (9-3) vs. Oklahoma State (9-3), 1 p.m. (FOX)

Peach Bowl
At Atlanta
$2.1 million
Clemson (8-4) vs. Tennessee (10-2), 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Fiesta Bowl
At Tempe, Ariz.
$14-17 million
Kansas State (11-3) vs. Ohio State (10-2), 7 p.m. (ABC)

Saturday, Jan. 3
Humanitarian Bowl
At Boise, Idaho
$750,000
Tulsa (8-4) vs. Georgia Tech (6-6), 11 a.m. (ESPN)

Sunday, Jan. 4
Sugar Bowl
At New Orleans
$14-17 million
Oklahoma (12-1) vs. LSU (12-1), 7 p.m. (ABC)

NFL Playoffs

Wild-card Playoffs
Saturday, Jan. 3
Tennessee at Baltimore, 3:30 p.m. (ABC)
Dallas at Carolina, 7 p.m. (ABC)
Sunday, Jan. 4
Seattle at Green Bay, noon (FOX)
Denver at Indianapolis, 3:30 p.m. (CBS)
Saturday, Jan. 10
NFC Divisional Playoff, 3:30 p.m. (FOX)
AFC Divisional Playoff, 7:15 p.m. (CBS)
Sunday, Jan. 11
AFC Divisional Playoff, noon (CBS)
NFC Divisional Playoff, 3:45 p.m. (FOX)

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	17	14	.548	—
Boston	16	17	.485	2
Philadelphia	14	18	.438	3½
New York	14	19	.424	4
Miami	13	19	.406	4½
Washington	8	21	.276	8
Orlando	8	24	.250	9½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	23	10	.697	—
New Orleans	20	12	.625	2½
Detroit	19	13	.594	3½
Toronto	16	14	.533	5½
Milwaukee	15	16	.484	7
Cleveland	10	22	.313	12½
Chicago	9	22	.290	13
Atlanta	9	24	.273	14

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	22	10	.688	—
Minnesota	20	10	.667	1
Dallas	18	12	.600	3
Denver	19	13	.594	3
Houston	17	14	.548	4½
Utah	17	14	.548	4½
Memphis	15	17	.469	7

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
L.A. Lakers	21	7	.750	—
Sacramento	21	8	.724	½
Seattle	15	14	.517	6½
Portland	15	15	.500	7
Golden State	14	16	.467	8
L.A. Clippers	13	15	.464	8
Phoenix	12	20	.375	11

Today's Games

New Orleans at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Golden State at Washington, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Boston, 6:30 p.m.
Orlando at Miami, 6:30 p.m.
Chicago at New York, 6:30 p.m.
Cleveland at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
Utah at Memphis, 7 p.m.
Phoenix at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Minnesota, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Milwaukee, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Portland, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Seattle, 9:30 p.m.

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Cook Needed
The Dolphin Restaurant & Grill
401 37th St.

Experienced mechanic needed at gas plant NE of Big Spring. Fax resume to 432-399-4290 or mail to 11703 E. FM 846, Coahoma, TX 79511.

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

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Truck drivers needed with oil-field experience. Must be able to travel. No need to relocate. 2 years truck driving experience required. Class A CDL, good driving record a must.
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Rolling Plains Rural Health Clinic
in Sweetwater has a position for a full-time LVN. Hours will vary from 7:00a.m. to 7:00p.m. Benefits include paid holidays, PTO, 401k, health insurance. Interested parties may fax resume to (325)235-5925 or apply at TWC. Salary DOE

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POSITION: PART-TIME COMPUTERIZED BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTORS DEPARTMENT: Vocational **SALARY:** College Scale **DUTIES:** Teaching Computerized Business Technology courses offered both day and evening on campus. Courses include but may not be limited to Computerized Accounting, Keyboarding, and Word Processing. **EMPLOYMENT:** Part-time, 1 to 3 classes taught during Spring 2004 semester. **QUALIFICATIONS:** Bachelor's Degree preferred in related field. Associates Degree required. Teaching experience preferred. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Positions open till filled. Review of applications will begin on January 05, 2004. Applications are available in the Admin Bldg on campus or on the WTC website: www.wtc.edu **SEND APPLICATION/RESUME TO:** Human Resources, Western Texas College, 6200 College Avenue, Snyder, TX 79549-9502. **DATE OF EMPLOYMENT:** January 13, 2004

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Garage Sale
217 36th Place
Saturday 9am - 12
Lots of misc, come see!

Garage Sale
311 29th Sat. 9-2
Furniture, clothes, much more!

Getting closer to moving sale
2801 Ave. X
Too many items to mention but many misc as I am downsizing to 1 bedroom and 1 small storage from 3 bedroom, plus large storeroom!
Sat. 1/3/03 11:00-4:00

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1 bedroom apartment for rent. Bills paid, deposit required. 207-2122

Apartments For Rent
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College Park Apartments
4503 College
2 bedroom apartment available in clean, quiet, 16-unit complex. Locally owned.
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W/D Connections, Pool & Playground

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Houses For Rent

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$250/mo, $100/dep.
References required.
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Mobile Homes For Rent

3B-2B, CH/A, covered deck, storage, HUD approved. $450/mo., $300/dep. 2010 Merrill 573-2251

Mobile Homes

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

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2 office/shop buildings, 1 w/fenced yard, North College. 573-0972, 575-2901, 573-2461

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

Real Estate

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

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

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

Owner Finance
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Large Family Home - 2807 Westridge 6 bdrm, 4 bath-4 car gar...Reduced $175T
2609 37th 3-2½-2, 3LA's $107.5T
4517 Galveston 3-2-2, 2 LA's.....$102.5T
3201 Houston 3-2-2....Reduced $92T
2904 34th 2-2½, 2 LA's.....$89.5T
4000 Jacksboro 3-2-2.....$87.5T
3310 Ave. V [redacted] $55T
1601 Hilltop Lane 3-1-2cp.....$49.5T
4109 Eastridge 3-2-2.....$41.5T
3749 Avondale 3-1¾.....$39T
West 180 [redacted] $31.5T
224 33rd 2-1-2 living areas.....$25T
150 Acres + 3-2-2LA's.....Call for details
80 Acres on Pleasant Hill Rd.....$52.5T
Several residential lots, E. 35th St....Call
McBeth Pecan Farm - House, 15+ acres, some equipment included.....Reduced
E. 180 Lots avail. w/mobile hook-ups Call
Car Lot w/comm. bldg 709 Hwy 180.....$40T
1402 College Commercial lot.....$8T
Westerner Golfland.....Call for details
600 37th Large Commercial Bldg....Call
Commercial Bldg - College Ave.....Call
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New! 2 story, 3-2, game room, 5 acres $100's
2803 El Paso Great Location & Extra Nice!! 4-2, office $109.5T
Picture Perfect 3-2-2, metal fence, corner lot $92T
3749 Avondale Updated/Darling 3-1¾, storage $30's
Colonial Hill - 3-1¾-2 .....$74.5T
Wants Offer! 4003 Midland 4-2-2 $90's
2901 Westridge - Must See! 3-2-2LA's-2 $100's
4507 Galveston - Extra Nice - 3-2-2, pool ..Call
109 34th Cute Starter!! 3-1 .....$20's
2215 40th 3-1 .....Low $30's
2311 26th - Unique! 1-1, corner ....$30's
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3401 Houston 3-1¾, lrg living w/FP $62T
2803 El Paso 4-2 + office, lrg. CP Nice...$109.5
4000 Jacksboro 3-1¾-2, Huge kitchen $87.5T
For Sale or Lease 2415 O'Neil 4-2 MH...$50T
New! 2701 47th Nice 4-2½-2 + shop ...$150T
2609 37th 3-2¾-2 .....$107.5T
3201 Houston 3-2-2, very nice.....$92T
4021 Eastridge 3 or 4-2-2, Nice..Red. $47T
2205 42nd 3-1-1 plus.....$34T
Colonial Hills 2 [redacted] ...$110T
Country - For Sale or Rent: 378 CR 251 2-1-1, 2 acres $35T
403 36th 3-2-2, CH/A, fireplace.....$49.5T
3311 Ave. U 3-2-2, brick Very nice $82.5T
1801 22nd .....CALL
1802 College garage/warehouse.....$16T
1701 25th St $90T
Commercial for rent or lease W. 37th $800/mo.
Building & 1½ lots 1310 25th St.....$13T
Commercial: 2005 26th St.....$45T
Shop w/2 offices & waiting room, fenced yard, .87 A's 23rd St. Old Gail Rd.....Call
Established local restaurant.....Good location!!
5 Acres, Mobile home, 2-1, water well, shop, 4 miles west of Hermleigh.....Reduced $16T
Reduced 3-2-2 brick home, 50 acres - 40 acres pasture & 8 acres orchard NE of Snyder on CR 1105.....$98T
160 Acre Farm - East of Dunn, CR 4136 $475/Acre
Get-a-way or Home Site - 7.5 acres, Round Top Acres - tank stocked w/fish, dock 2 water wells, fenced, 2 storage bldgs..Call
Corner Lot 1910 17th St.....$3,200
960 Acres -Ira- 480 A's CRP & 480 A's shinnery, brick 4-3, lrg. shop, excellent quail hunting Call
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Round Top Acres 5 to 21 acre tracts..Owner Finance
109 Acres S. side of city limits, native grass, great country location, close in.....$325/acre
480 Acres - Fisher Co. - Great hunting place - creek w/water, deer, quail, turkey, doublewide 3-2, bunkhouse, D-6 Cat., Ford tractor.....CALL
196 Acre blackland farm, NE Dunn on FM 1606, good cotton yield .....Call
Camp Springs - 147 acres, windmill & concrete water storage, earth tank, 44 acres cropland Call
105 Acres SW Hermleigh, pasture & cultivation, pens, mobile home $55T
620 Acres SW Hermleigh, pasture & 152 acres cultivation, Hunting Quail & dove .....Call

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3-1¾-2cp, 2 storage areas, 220 35th...$35T
Fluvanna 3-2, den on .34 A's water well Bargain
REDUCED! 600 29th 2-1-1, office, den...$18T
Owner Finance Lrg. Mobile Home 2-2, 302 24th Nice $20T
3773 Dalton 3-1¾-1cp, den, dining...$35T
REDUCED! 1.7[redacted] $65T
111 Peach 2 or 3-1 .....$9.5T
80 acres 5 mi. SE of Hermleigh, 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building.....Call
Good Shop Bldg. or Garage 1802 College $16T
Commercial Property for Sale or Lease
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Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Pregnancy no time to overdo dietary supplement

DEAR DR. BLONZ: Is it possible to take an overdose of folic acid? I am in my first month of pregnancy and I take 5 milligrams of folic acid daily. Is this OK or is it too much? — **J.O., Kankakee, Ill.**

DEAR J.O.: The Daily Value for folic acid (folate) for adults is 400 micrograms per day. This changes to 800 micrograms per day during pregnancy. One milligram is the same as 1,000 micrograms, so this means that your daily intake is now 5,000 micrograms, well above the Daily Value levels. Folic acid has no known toxic level, but there are concerns with excessive amounts of any supplement. Overdoing it with food is difficult, but too much (synthetic) folic acid can mask the ability to detect a potentially dangerous vitamin B-12 deficiency. Unless you are following specific medical advice, it is unclear why there would be a need to take this level of folic acid. As a rule, pregnancy is not the time to be taking excessive amounts of anything, unless it is taking good care of yourself.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I have a friend who claims that frying an egg "destroys more protein" than poaching the egg. Can this be true? What happens when you heat egg white? — **D.G., San Diego, Calif.**

DEAR D.G.: As long as you do not overcook the eggs, there is no evidence that your friend's claim is true.

Let's go through what happens when you cook egg white. Individual protein molecules are long chains of amino acids; when viewed three dimensionally, those in an egg are each folded among themselves like crumbled strips of paper. Raw egg white is almost 90 percent water by weight and the proteins are suspended in the clear, viscous liquid. When heated, protein globules tend to uncoil a bit. (This step helps the eventual digestion after we eat the egg, as it makes it easier for our enzymes to get at the protein and break it into individual amino acids for absorption.) The heated egg proteins begin to interconnect, and as this happens the egg white become solid and opaque. Water remains at first, but as more and more heat is applied, the water eventually gets squeezed out and the egg white takes on a harder and eventually rubbery texture.

The idea, of course, is to cook the egg without overdoing it. Poaching takes place at or below 212 degrees Fahrenheit, the boiling point of water. Frying takes place at a higher temperature, at or slightly above 250 F. Excessive heat from overcooking can destroy any protein. It makes sense that there would be a greater risk of overdoing it with frying than with poaching, but the temperatures at which eggs are normally prepared would not be high enough to destroy the protein.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am a type-2 diabetic living in England. What I cannot understand, and not even my general practitioner here knows, is the American measurement for cholesterol of 120 etc. Is there a formula that can help me convert the American measurements to the English ones? Kind regards. — **P.S., London, England**

DEAR P.S.: In the United States, laboratories usually report blood cholesterol concentration in milligrams per deciliter (abbreviated as mg/dl). The units often used in other countries are the International System of Units, also referred to as SI units. In that system, blood cholesterol is expressed in millimoles per liter (abbreviated as mmol/L). For those interested, a "mole" is the molecular weight of a substance expressed in grams. You can convert cholesterol from mg/dl to mmol/L by dividing by 38.7. Your cholesterol of 120 mg/dl is the equivalent of 3.1 mmol/L (120 divided by 38.7). Please note: The conversion factor depends on the molecular weight of the substance, so it changes from compound to compound. For example, to convert triglycerides from mg/dl to mmol/L you would have to divide by 88.6.

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

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

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Gary, Ind. may lead homicide rate

GARY, Ind. (AP) — This northern Indiana city appeared to finish 2003 with the nation's highest per capita homicide rate for the ninth straight year, according to police statistics.

Police in Gary, population 103,000, investigated 69 suspicious deaths, 68 of which have been classified as homicides. That total was about 10 percent higher than the 62 in 2002, but down substantially from the 132 people killed in 1995, the Post-Tribune of Merrillville reported today.

Based on information from police in major U.S. cities, Gary was poised again to post the highest per capita homicide rate for cities with population of more than 100,000, the newspaper reported.

Chicago, Gary's larger neighbor, finished 2003 with 599 homicides, the highest unofficial total among major U.S. cities.

Police said many of the violence in Gary is done by Chicago residents who move their homes or drug operations to the nearby Indiana city.

"As Chicago tears down its high-rise public housing buildings, many of those people are moving here," said Police Chief Garnett Watson.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	13.42	13.00	13.33	+.38
AT&T Corp	21.01	20.40	20.97	+.67
Albertsons	22.91	22.54	22.87	+.22
Alltel	46.89	46.65	46.84	+.26
AmEl Pw	30.77	30.42	30.66	+.15
AndarkPtr	51.40	50.91	51.01	
ATMOS Egy	24.78	24.55	24.71	+.41
Aviall	15.75	15.68	15.71	+.20
BP PLC	49.60	49.20	49.23	—.12
BakerHughes	32.42	31.82	31.89	—.27
Bank of Amer	80.43	79.75	80.29	—.14
BellSoutH	28.47	28.00	28.38	+.08
BurlNoSFe	32.35	32.05	32.23	—.12
Caterpillar	83.69	82.97	83.42	+.40
CenterPoint	9.75	9.66	9.74	+.05
ChevronTex	86.95	86.45	86.59	+.20
Citigroup	49.93	48.54	49.22	+.68
CocaCola	50.99	50.75	50.85	+.10
ColgatePal	50.10	49.86	50.04	—.01
CmclMetals	30.88	30.55	30.59	+.19
ConocoPhill	65.79	65.35	65.64	+.07
Cooper Inds	58.20	57.70	58.01	+.08
DaimlrChry	46.82	46.66	46.79	+.57
DeltaAirLines	12.20	11.94	12.13	+.32
Dillards Inc	16.63	16.46	16.47	+.01
DowChem	41.75	41.47	41.72	+.15
DuPont	46.17	45.80	45.95	+.06
EastmanChem	39.74	39.20	39.47	—.06
EstKodak	26.20	25.76	25.87	+.20
EDS Corp	25.15	24.00	24.63	+.09
Entergy	57.56	56.95	57.35	+.22
ExxonMobil	41.22	40.99	41.04	+.04
FootLocker	23.85	23.36	23.51	+.06
GenDynam	90.18	89.40	89.80	—.59
GenElec	31.29	30.99	31.27	+.29
GenMills	45.80	45.50	45.67	+.37
GenMotors	54.18	53.70	54.16	+.76
GaPacific	30.96	30.55	30.95	+.28
Goodrich	29.70	29.37	29.48	—.21
Goodyear	8.02	7.87	8.00	+.14
GtAtlPac	8.56	8.35	8.52	+.12
Halliburtn	26.29	25.98	26.04	+.04
Hanson PLC	36.58	36.20	36.34	—.16
HarteHanks	21.81	21.59	21.78	+.03
HomeDepot	35.94	35.45	35.93	+.44
HoneywellIntl	33.80	32.85	33.74	+.31
IBM	93.05	92.70	92.84	+.16
IntlPaper	44.04	43.01	43.21	+.10
JohnsonJn	52.00	51.63	51.94	+.28
KinderMorg	59.21	58.99	59.02	—.08
Kroger Co	18.65	18.48	18.62	+.11
LockheedM	51.40	51.06	51.15	—.25
Lowes Cos	56.25	55.73	55.86	+.47
Lubys	3.69	3.60	3.60	—.09
LucentTech	2.95	2.85	2.93	+.09
MarathonOil	33.50	33.12	33.27	+.18
MayDeptStr	29.19	28.76	28.88	—.19
Medtronic	49.00	48.58	48.97	+.36
Motorola	14.39	14.10	14.39	+.39
NCR Corp	39.15	38.86	39.14	+.34
Navistar	48.58	47.79	48.20	+.31
PNM Rescs	28.56	28.16	28.53	+.43
Penney JC	26.24	25.86	26.14	—.14
PepBoys	23.43	23.01	23.08	+.21
PepsiCo	47.20	46.90	47.02	+.40
PhelpDodge	78.16	75.80	77.95	+1.86
PilgrimsPride	16.74	16.34	16.60	+.27
Praxair s	38.30	37.72	37.95	—.25
ProctGamb	100.00	99.61	99.97	+.09
RadioShack	31.10	30.67	31.10	+.42
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SouthernCo	30.34	30.15	30.28	+.03
SwstAirl	16.40	16.18	16.31	+.17
SprintFON	16.71	16.41	16.42	
SprintPCS	5.69	5.58	5.64	+.02
Sunoco Inc	51.50	51.01	51.03	—.12
TXU Corp	23.85	23.65	23.76	+.04
TempleInland	63.36	62.47	62.96	+.29
TexInd	37.00	36.70	36.75	—.25
TexasInst	29.80	29.50	29.75	+.37
Textron	57.58	56.65	56.80	—.26
TimeWarner	18.43	18.00	18.32	+.33
TrinityInds	31.47	30.90	31.45	+.61
TylerTech	9.90	9.73	9.88	+.25
UnionPacif	69.50	69.20	69.42	—.06
USSteel	36.21	34.98	36.15	+1.13
UnitedTech	95.87	94.64	95.87	+1.10
Unocal	37.19	36.92	36.96	+.13
VerizonComm	35.47	35.09	35.39	+.31
WalMart	53.40	53.12	53.25	+.20
WellsFargo	58.89	58.49	58.75	—.14
WstnGasRs	47.28	46.80	46.83	—.42
WinnDixie	10.00	9.79	9.80	—.15
Xerox Cp	13.88	13.60	13.80	
YumBrands	34.39	33.77	33.94	—.46

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Psalm 143:11

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- Proverbs 3:24

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Proverbs 8:14

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

U.S. military helicopter crashes; one dead

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A U.S. military helicopter crashed today after coming under fire west of Baghdad, killing one soldier and wounding another. Elsewhere, Arab gunmen shot and killed a Kurd amid rising ethnic tensions in the northern, oil-rich city of Kirkuk.

Also, a minor Baath party official was assassinated in an apparent revenge killing, and an oil tanker in a U.S. convoy was set ablaze in an attack by anti-American insurgents.

In Baghdad, U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Mark Kimmitt, after speaking to the 82nd Airborne Division, said enemy fire likely brought down the copter. The OH-58 Kiowa Warrior crashed near Fallujah, a flashpoint in the insurgency.

"They are fairly convinced that it was enemy fire," Kimmitt said.

Rebels in Fallujah have previously shot at and brought down U.S. helicopters elsewhere in the Sunni Triangle, the heart of Saddam Hussein's support and center of resistance to the U.S.-led occupation.

Afterward, U.S. soldiers swept through Fallujah, blocking off streets and searching shops and homes as helicopters circled above.

U.S. helicopters have crashed or made emergency landings several times in recent months. In the deadliest single attack on U.S. forces since the Iraq invasion began in March, 17 soldiers were killed when two Black Hawk helicopters collided above Mosul in what the military called a likely grenade attack.

On Thursday, a U.S. Black Hawk helicopter made an emergency landing near Qarayah, in northern Iraq, but the military said the cause was a tail rotor problem.

In the northern city of Mosul, a minor Baath Party official and Saddam-appointed dean of political science of Mosul University was kidnapped and killed. Adel Jabar Abid Mustafa was taken from his home Wednesday night and his body was found Thursday with two gunshots to his head, according to the dean's brother, Salim Abid Mustafa.

Gunmen in Mosul have killed at least three judges appointed by Saddam's regime, as well as officers in a new Iraqi police force formed by the U.S.-led occupation.

Also today, a truck traveling toward Baghdad International Airport flipped on its side, killing one soldier and injuring six others, the military said. The cause was under investigation.

An oil tanker in a U.S. convoy erupted in flames near a U.S. military base on the road to the western town of Ramadi on today. Witnesses told Associated Press Television News that a rebel rocket or roadside bomb hit the convoy.

U.S. military commanders say rebel attacks on troops have decreased since Saddam's capture Dec. 13, but that insurgents may be shifting to softer, civilian targets. On New Year's Eve, a car bomb destroyed an upscale Baghdad restaurant, killing eight people.

U.S. experts to visit N. Korea nuke site

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — North Korea has agreed to allow a U.S. delegation to visit its main nuclear complex next week, the first such inspection since the isolated communist country expelled United Nations monitors more than a year ago.

The visit appeared to be an effort by North Korea to prove that it has built a nuclear bomb — or capable of doing so — and strengthen its negotiating position ahead of planned talks with the United States and four other nations on ending the nuclear standoff.

Pyonyang could also be signaling its willingness to allow more extensive inspections in the future — if Washington meets its demands for humanitarian aid and a promise not to attack the North.

USA Today reported today that Washington approved the trip to North Korea's main nuclear facilities at Yongbyon, north of Pyongyang and it was scheduled for Jan. 6-10.

Jason Rebholz, a spokesman of the U.S. Embassy in Seoul, said he had no information on the trip and could not comment on the news report.

It was unclear how much access to key facilities the North would give to the U.S. experts. U.N. monitors never had full access to the Yongbyon facilities, believed to be the center of the North's weapons program, before they were thrown out in late 2002.

The North says it has completed reprocessing 8,000 spent nuclear fuel rods at Yongbyon in a process that can yield enough plutonium for half a dozen atomic bombs. North Korea is believed to already have one or two nuclear bombs.

The developments in the North Korea nuclear standoff came after breakthroughs in other nations whose nuclear programs have been a concern to the United States. Libya announced last month that it was renouncing its nuclear efforts and would open up its facilities to the United Nations, while Iran consented to U.N. inspections — though it will continue with a nuclear program it insists is peaceful.

North Korea's invitation of U.S. experts could mean that the communist regime wants to prove that it is using plutonium to build bombs, and to increase its leverage at upcoming six-nation talks, said Ko Yoo-hwan, a North Korea expert at Seoul's Dongkuk University.

For weeks, North Korea has said it was boosting its nuclear weapons program and was willing to demonstrate its nuclear capabilities in a "physical" manner. It invited a U.S. congressional delegation led by Curt Weldon, vice chairman of the Armed Services Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, to visit Yongbyon in October, but the White House blocked the visit.

Subjects arrested after family violence

Arrests

A report of family violence resulted in the arrest of one subject at 8 a.m. Thursday. Officers arrested a 37-year-old female, charging her with Class A assault/family violence.

A 39-year-old man was placed under arrest at Cogdell Memorial Hospital at 8:09 a.m. Thursday for Class A assault/family violence and on a warrant from Lubbock County for driving while license suspended.

A disturbance was reported at 3:57 p.m. Thursday in the 600 block of 25th. A 34-year-old man was apprehended and charged with evading arrest and public intoxication.

An arrest was made a 4:03 a.m. today at 37th and Austin. A 41-year-old man was taken into custody on a warrant for motion to revoke probation from Midland.

Burglary

An officer was requested at Snyder Bowling Lanes, 1910 35th, at 11:09 a.m. Thursday in reference to a break-in. Entry into the building was made through a back window and several bottles of liquor, valued in excess of $500, were stolen.

Criminal mischief

A caller reported Thursday morning that a bullet hole had been found in the mobile home in the 3800 block of Hwy. 84.

A report of an overturned Dumpster on Ave. L was called in at 8:47 a.m. on Thursday.

Deadly conduct

A woman reported at 2:22 p.m. Thursday that another subject had attempted to run the caller off the road while driving in the 6100 block of College Ave. An offense report for deadly conduct was submitted.

Obituaries

Farris Pollard

1928-2003

Farris Pollard, 75, died Wednesday, Dec. 31, at his home in Snyder after a sudden illness.

Memorial service for Mr. Pollard is set 10 a.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Mike Henson, pastor of First Baptist Church, will officiate. Mr. Pollard will be cremated.

He was born Oct. 2, 1928 in Sudan and moved to Snyder in 1949. Mr. Pollard served in the U.S. Army Air Corp and worked in the oilfield as a pulling unit operator.

Survivors include two sons, David Pollard and Richard Pollard; three brothers, Bob Pollard and Ken Pollard, both of Snyder, and Ray Pollard of Abilene.

Beatrice Newsom

1926-2004

Beatrice Newsom, mother of LaNell Bearden of Snyder, died Thursday, Jan. 1, in Snyder Healthcare Center.

Graveside service for Mrs. Newsom, 77, will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the Colorado City Cemetery under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Born on May 1, 1926 in Paris, Mrs. Newsom was a Baptist and a longtime resident of Colorado City.

She was preceded in death by her parents; three sons, Eddie Towery, Michael Towery and Larry Hayhurst; two brothers; and four sisters.

Survivors include another daughter, Janey Shelton of Wichita, Kan.; one sister, Ruby Lee Coddington of Abilene; one brother, George Bryant of Paris, Texas; nine grandchildren; and 14 great-grandchildren.

Jim Conner

1944-2003

EUNICE, N.M. — James "Jim" Monroe Conner, father of Lora Lord of Snyder, died Tuesday, Dec. 30, in Lubbock.

Service for Mr. Conner, 59, is set for 4 p.m. Saturday in the Calvary Funeral Home Chapel in Eunice. Lloyd Simpson will officiate.

Born on Oct. 10, 1944 in Long Beach, Calif., he married Lourdes "Lou" Santa Cruz on July 29, 1980 in Lovington, N.M. He served in the U.S. Air Force from 1966-1969, honorably discharged as a sergeant in 1969. Mr. Conner moved to Eunice 29 years ago from Big Spring. He retired in 2002 after 29 years service as a Texaco pumper. He was a member of Northside Church of Christ and the American Legion Post 45 of Eunice.

He was preceded in death by his parents, James and Charlotte Conner; and a brother, Jack Conner.

Survivors also include his wife, Lou Conner of Eunice; four sons, Jim Conner and Joe Conner of Midland, Gabriel Conner of Grand Junction, Colo., and Carlos Conner of Eunice; a sister, Pat Matke of Sacramento, Calif.; 13 grandchildren; two uncles; two aunts; and numerous nephews and nieces.

Luella Schweers

1913-2004

TEMPLE — Luella Mae (Wiemers) Schweers, 90, mother of Monette O'Day of Snyder, died Thursday, Jan. 1, in Scott & White Hospital in Temple after a lengthy illness.

Service will be held at 2 p.m. on Saturday in the New Fountain United Methodist Church in Hondo.

Born on Oct. 21, 1913 in Hondo, Mrs. Schweers was a schoolteacher in Medina County Schools. She had resided most of her life in Hondo and had been a resident of Wildflower House in Temple the last four years.

Her parents, John and Ida Wiemers; her husband, Marvin F Schweers; a brother and sister-in-law, Reuben and Ellen Wiemers; preceded her in death.

Survivors include two other daughters, Connie Leazenby of Temple and Roxene Brewer of Mansfield; two sons-in-law, Bob O'Day of Snyder and Jim Leazenby of Temple; three brothers and their spouses, Elgin and Velma Wiemers, Alvin and Alice Wiemers and Olen and Fay Dell Wiemers, all of Hondo; nine grandchildren, Mike O'Day of Fair Oaks Ranch; Tammy O'Day Neves of San Antonio, Tracey O'Day Marshall of Irving, Kim Leazenby Russell of Huntsville, Ala., Rodney Leazenby of Austin, Tod Leazenby of Morgan's Point, Karl Brewer of Mansfield, Kristi Brewer Hasten of Arlington, and Karin Brewer of Arlington; and 10 great-grandchildren.

John Harding

1981-2004

BORDEN COUNTY — John Harding of Borden County, Texas Tech University student, died from injuries in a one-car accident on FM 1785 near the Fairview School about 15 miles west of Lake Thomas in Borden County.

Mr. Harding died sometime after 1:30 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 1.

Services are pending for Mr. Harding, 22, of Borden County at Nalley-Pickle-Welch in Big Spring.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sat 1/3	Sun 1/4	Mon 1/5
71/46	57/23	53/27
Sun and a few passing clouds. Warm. High 71F. Winds SW at 15 to 25 mph.	Sunny. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the low 20s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 50s and lows in the upper 20s.
Sunrise 7:46 AM / Sunset 5:50 PM	Sunrise 7:46 AM / Sunset 5:51 PM	Sunrise 7:47 AM / Sunset 5:52 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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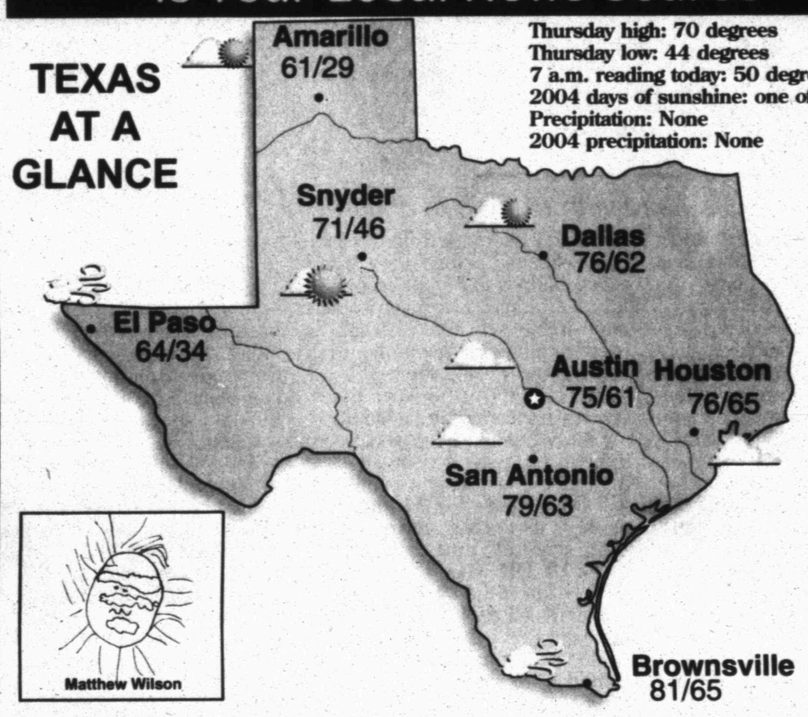
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Thursday high: 70 degrees
Thursday low: 44 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 50 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: one of one
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: None



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	75	53	mst sunny	El Paso	64	34	windy	Midland	71	44	sunny
Amarillo	61	29	pt sunny	Fort Stockton	74	47	sunny	Raymondville	82	63	windy
Austin	75	61	cloudy	Gainesville	72	56	pt sunny	Rosenberg	76	64	cloudy
Beaumont	76	64	cloudy	Greenville	73	59	cloudy	San Antonio	79	63	cloudy
Brownsville	81	65	windy	Houston	76	65	cloudy	San Marcos	76	62	cloudy
Brownwood	77	57	pt sunny	Kingsville	82	64	cloudy	Sulphur Springs	74	61	cloudy
Corpus Christi	79	65	cloudy	Livingston	75	62	cloudy	Sweetwater	74	50	mst sunny
Corsicana	75	62	pt sunny	Longview	74	63	cloudy	Tyler	73	62	cloudy
Dallas	76	62	pt sunny	Lubbock	69	36	windy	Weatherford	74	56	pt sunny
Del Rio	76	58	pt sunny	Lufkin	76	63	cloudy	Wichita Falls	74	47	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	68	54	cloudy	Houston	76	65	cloudy	Phoenix	60	38	pt sunny
Boston	49	47	rain	Los Angeles	59	42	mst sunny	San Francisco	50	39	pt sunny
Chicago	44	29	cloudy	Miami	78	66	pt sunny	Seattle	38	19	sn shower
Dallas	76	62	pt sunny	Minneapolis	22	10	pt sunny	St. Louis	55	41	rain
Denver	32	14	sn shower	New York	56	51	rain	Washington, DC	66	56	cloudy

Moon Phases

First	New	First	Full
Dec 30	Jan 21	Jan 29	Feb 6

UV Index

Sat 1/3	Sun 1/4	Mon 1/5
3	3	3
Low	Low	Low

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

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JAN 02 2004

Best Available Copy

Asian consumers bought parts of cattle Americans don't eat

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Oregon cattleman Mike Partlow built a business selling beef products that Americans don't eat, from hooves to femur bones to stomach lining, all prized by Asian chefs.

Korean cooks slice steamed hooves into wafers for a meaty, gelatinous soup. Bits of large intestine go on the grill in Japan.

But after the discovery of mad cow disease in an American cow last week, this $600 million market — and Partlow's business selling so-called variety meats — has vanished, and won't return until export markets reopen.

America had been the world's largest exporter of these products before 36 countries banned U.S. beef imports last week. Many of the shipments went through West Coast ports, with the Port of Portland handling about 61,000 tons of variety meat in 2002.

The value of specialty products for Asia had added about $75 to the value of each slaughtered American cow, economists said.

Variety meats are loosely classified as non-muscle parts, such as brain, oxtail, tendon, heart, liver and tripe.

The collapse of this market is among the starkest examples of the economic blow mad cow disease has delivered to the American beef industry.

The business had grown quickly over the past decade after market liberalization in Asia, and had come to round out the mix of products carved from each slaughtered steer, Partlow said.

Now that the market has "vanished," Partlow said some parts will likely be rendered for raw protein for animal feed and other products until the export market reopens.

Twenty-five percent of Partlow's mostly export beef business had been in variety meats. The former rancher said his business has been devastated, with containers stalled in warehouses in the Midwest and in Asian ports. He said he lost more than $1 million, although the blow was cushioned by hedging on the futures market.

Some specialty cuts, such as thinly sliced tenderloin for Japanese hot pot, can be ground into hamburger and resold, Partlow said.

Other items, such as beef intestine, are a harder sell on American supermarket shelves.

American producers had come to rely on selling these bits overseas, said Dalton Hobbs, marketing director with the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

"It was an extremely important part of the beef and cattle industry in the United States, and it's hard to find alternatives," Hobbs said.

"There are only so many ethnic stores in this country," to sell such items, he said.

The largest export market for variety meats was Mexico, followed by Japan and Korea, said Lynn Heinze, vice president of the Denver-based U.S. Meat Export Federation.

The United States exported 405 tons of variety meat in 2002, mostly from West Coast ports, at a total value of $618.4 million.

The Asian market, critical for West Coast beef traders, hardly existed 15 years ago, Partlow said.

West Coast cattlemen began exporting to Japan soon after World War II, but the trade was lackluster and controlled by a Japanese government monopoly, the Livestock Import Production Corporation, Partlow said.

Prodded by the World Trade Organization, Japan abolished the monopoly in 1991. That opened the market for American ranchers, who quickly shipped beef parts unwanted at home, along with cuts popular in both countries, such as steaks. Variety meats account for about 20 percent of the beef market in Asia.

Some beef parts jumped dramatically in price.

Intestine, for example, sells for 20 cents a pound in the United States, but moves briskly in Asian markets at prices ranging from $2.50 to $2.75, according to the U.S. Meat Export Federation.

Burial services today for Texas soldier

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A Brownsville family is preparing for the burial of a private killed in Iraq.

Pvt. Rey David Cuervo, 24, died Sunday when his vehicle was hit with an explosive device in Baghdad. Cuervo, who was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment, based out of Fort Polk, La., had been in the Army nearly five years.

The family still hasn't been told the full story of how he died.

"I understand there is an investigation going on, but the specifics from the day to when the accident happened, I don't know," said Cuervo's brother-in-law Timoteo Barrientez, in The Brownsville Herald.

Although Cuervo's family was concerned some family members in Mexico wouldn't be able to make it through the permitting process in time for burial services, by Thursday everyone who was supposed to obtain a visa had gotten one, Barrientez, 22, said.

Public visitation was to be from 2 p.m to 4 p.m. today.

Schwarzenegger expected to swing big ax in next budget

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Saddled with a shortfall of at least $14 billion and a promise not to raise taxes, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is likely to release a budget next week with few surprises — it will contain cuts, cuts and more cuts.

While the administration has released no details of the 2004-2005 spending plan, lawmakers and lobbyists engaged in budget negotiations with the governor say they expect to see a painful list of spending reductions that reach every corner of the state bureaucracy.

Topping the list will likely be public health and welfare programs — especially Medi-Cal, the state's health insurance for the poor and disabled that costs more than $10 billion a year.

Education is also expected to share the burden, despite Schwarzenegger's campaign promise to protect school funding.

He is likely to renew his pledge to get a bigger share of Indian gambling profits, and his call for new concessions from labor unions. And there are hints of reforms and reorganizations aimed at making the state more efficient and cost conscious — including changes in parole and inmate supervision.

The new governor's finance director, Donna Arduin, is known for cutting billions in social services in Florida as budget director for Gov. Jeb Bush.

Tempering all the bad news, however, the governor is expected to paint a rosy economic outlook where billions of dollars in unanticipated tax revenue over the next year will let him sidestep some of the most difficult funding choices.

And there are no expectations of any new taxes.

"I think the governor has been fairly clear about that," said H.D. Palmer, spokesman for the governor's Finance Department, although there have been no similar promises when it comes to raising fees. "The plan is to control spending."

Still riding a wave of popularity since winning office in October's historic recall election, Schwarzenegger takes over at a critical time.

While former Gov. Gray Davis and the Legislature took some steps last year to solve the state's financial problems, spending remains badly out of balance with income.

Last summer's budget agreement used a long list of one-time savings, accounting gimmicks and borrowing to make ends meet. The one-time savings and many of the gimmicks expire at the end of this fiscal year, and analysts say a new deficit will begin growing almost immediately that will exceed $10 billion by June 2005.

One of Schwarzenegger's first moves as governor, repealing a tripling of the car tax, has also added $4 billion to the deficit.

Looming on the horizon is another multibillion-dollar problem.

Bush says American beef is safe

FALFURRIAS (AP) — The first U.S. case of mad cow disease hasn't prompted President Bush to stop eating beef, but a New Year's resolution to start jogging again means he might be cutting back on sweets.

"I miss running," he told reporters on New Year's Day in southern Texas where he went quail hunting with his father. "That's one of my resolutions, which may require eating less desserts — kind of getting a little trimmer — to take the pressure off the knee."

The president said Americans should feel safe eating beef while Agriculture Department officials try to prevent any mad cow outbreak following the discovery of an infected cow in Washington state. "As a matter of fact, I ate beef today, and will continue to eat beef," he said.

Bush, who has been staying at his ranch near Crawford, since the day after Christmas, has been slowed by knee pain. Doctors in Washington last month advised him to be careful jogging, attributing the pain to wear and tear and old injuries in the right knee, arthritis in the left.

Bush spoke at Brooks County Airport after a day of hunting at a dusty, scrubby ranch owned by Nancy Brown Negley. She is a Bush family friend who is related to the founders of Brown & Root, a Texas engineering and construction company that many years ago became part of Halliburton, the company formerly run by Vice President Dick Cheney.

Standing on the tarmac of the tiny airport, Bush also answered questions from reporters about postwar Iraq's struggle with debt, recent assassination attempts against the president of Pakistan, the investigation into whether someone in the Bush administration leaked the name of a CIA operative and how many quail he bagged.

"I think I shot five," he said. "I'm not that good a shot, but it was a lot of fun. It's a good way to start the new year — outdoors (and) in my case, with my dad."

The president offered no opinion on Attorney General John Ashcroft's decision this week to remove himself from the CIA leak investigation. "I'm not involved with the investigation in any way, shape or form," the president said.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Saturday, Jan. 3, 2004

There is a good possibility that your innovative tendencies will be extremely strong in the year ahead and you could come up with a number of new ideas. Let them prove themselves, however, before you launch anything.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Should you have to run around on a number of errands today, be certain to schedule your time sensibly. If you fly off without enough fuel, somewhere along the way you'll crash.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — This is one of those days when a devil-may-care attitude could get you into a whole lot of trouble. It is OK to want some excitement in your life, but being reckless is going too far.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Running off to play today, knowing full well that you're neglecting your duties (particularly family obligations), will get you in more hot water than you may be prepared to handle.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Whereas yesterday your senses where sharper than ever, today they are likely to be rather dull. If you don't have to do any critical work at this time, table things until you're back in shape.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Novelties, unusual merchandise or gadgets of all kinds could have a special appeal to you today, so take care that you don't trade your money for any white elephants that you'll never use.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — If you initially experience a setback right out of the starting gate today, don't let it discourage you from moving forward on an important objective. Find a way around the roadblock.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Optimism is an admirable quality, but today you could be inclined to confuse it with wishful thinking. Being unrealistic can falsely encourage you to tackle things you're incapable of doing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — An acquaintance who had promised never to forget what you did for him or her could conveniently have a lapse of memory today, knowing that with enough wiggling, you'll let him or her off the hook.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Don't get trapped today into relying once again on someone who has let you down in the past. This person hasn't changed, and when the chips are down, chances are that history will repeat itself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Try to truly make this a day of rest and temporarily shelve difficult or tedious tasks, because you're not apt to be at your best. If you can't, be sure to work in a very methodical fashion.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Disappointment is in store for you today if you treat something that has not yet materialized as though it is already a foregone conclusion. Anything can happen, and chances are it will.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Springing unexpected changes on your spouse or the family without first talking things over with them is a surefire way to upset the household today. Be considerate of their desires.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Stimulants shoudl be used with caution in children

DEAR DR. GOTT: As a teacher, I am seeing more and more children being placed on Ritalin. Parents have indicated that the children are being prescribed the drug because they daydream or don't stay on task. Is there a testing procedure for attention deficit disorder or is the medicine being prescribed too readily?

DEAR READER: No one knows the consequences of the long-term use of stimulants, such as Ritalin, in children with ADD. As a physician who works with young people, I am concerned — as are many teachers and health professionals — about the increasingly prevalent use of Ritalin and similar drugs in schoolchildren who have trouble learning and concentrating.

Unquestionably, there are youngsters (and adults) with ADD who are helped immensely by medication. However, the diagnosis of ADD is tricky. There is no foolproof test for the disorder, so I am certain that a significant number of young people are being prescribed Ritalin in hopes of improving their school performances — when they don't really have ADD at all, or suffer from mild cases.

People with bona fide ADD usually exhibit impulsivity, poor learning patterns, fidgetiness, diminished self-esteem and a variety of other symptoms — all of which can be helped by Ritalin. The cause of ADD is unknown.

Do all children with learning disabilities and short attention spans require drugs? I think not. Yet, more and more practitioners are prescribing drugs for these problems. Twenty years down the road, will we be forced to deal with an entire generation of stimulant-dependent adults? I hope not.

Therefore, I urge patients in my practice to take ADD seriously but to make sure that extensive performance tests have been administered and interpreted by qualified professionals before they allow their children to be put on powerful medications that may produce undesirable side effects, such as over-stimulation, insomnia, high blood pressure and others.

At present, the pendulum appears to be swinging toward giving more medicine for what seem to be inconclusive reasons. I hope that, in the future, the pendulum will swing back — as the diagnosis of ADD **becomes more accurate, scientific and defined.**

DEAR DR. GOTT: Please discuss fusion of the knee or ankle.

DEAR READER: Due to serious injury or arthritis, the knee or ankle joints sometimes become so painful — despite the use of medication and physical therapy — that patients are completely unable to bear weight. The situation may be worsened by ongoing inflammation. In order to return such patients to something resembling a normal life, orthopedic specialists may recommend fusing a joint by immobilizing it surgically. Although a fused joint no longer flexes, patients can at least remain pain-free and relatively independent, albeit with a limp.

Modern orthopedists usually prefer to replace a joint with a prosthetic device. However, in certain instances, fusion may be preferable, especially if a prosthesis has failed. Furthermore, unlike knee joints that are easily replaced, there are no satisfactory ankle prostheses. Consequently, I advise patients to follow the advice of their orthopedic surgeon — or ask for a second opinion.

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

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