INSIDE

Relay For Life Scheduled 2
Sports 5
Midday Stocks 7
Church Page 8
What's Up 9

WT-Int. Crude - $25.08
WTIC Posted - $22.25

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY
Jan. 7, 2000
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10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Sally Rios

Air Force plan targets Snyder area

From staff, wire reports

Although the official announcement concerning the site of a low-level bombing training area for the U.S. Air Force is not expected until later this month, a U.S. senator from New Mexico says the military has picked an area which will include Scurry County.

Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., issued a press release to the Albuquerque Journal late Wednesday announcing the Air Force's recommendation.

Bingaman said Air Force officials told him that the "preferred alternative" is the low-level route that includes flights over Scurry, Garza, Dawson, Nolan, Kent, Lynn, Stonewall and Fisher Counties.

Air Force officials have said the new training area is needed to streamline the process which currently requires B-1 and B-52 pilots to fly from home bases at Dyess Air Force Base in Abilene and Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana to areas as far away as Nevada for training.

> *"This involves everyone out there. What CEO would want to bring his company to a town which is under a constant bombing raid?"*
>
> ***Buster Welch***

Rotan-area rancher Buster Welch said the announcement Wednesday made him so "dern mad I couldn't even think clear after I heard it." He said the decision would be challenged in the courts.

Welch heads HEPA (Heritage Environmental Preservation Association) and has opposed the Air Force's plan from the "get-go."

Welch said the low-level flights will disrupt the cattle business in the area, and the leasing of lands for hunting, but warns that it will affect people in town as well.

"This involves everybody out there," said Welch. "What CEO is going to want to bring his company to a town which is under a perpetual bombing raid?"

"This is a guaranteed disaster and it's dangerous. Mark my word...one or two of the towns in these counties will have one of these planes crash in them."

Welch said his group has not officially been notified of the Air Force's plans, but is "99 percent" sure the report is correct.

"I certainly don't wish anything bad on New Mexico, but the federal government owns 66 percent of that state and now they are going to ruin private property in our area," said Welch.

"This is going to be the biggest bomber training area in the world," Welch added.

While the Air Force continues to deny a decision has yet to be made, Scurry County airport manager Rodger Sullenger said the military has inquired about constructing a $1.7 million building at Winston Field.

"This would only happen if they picked this area," said Sullenger.

Sullenger said he told the Air Force that the best scenario would be for them to pick another area, but if the local area is chosen, to make sure civilian air space air space around Winston Field is protected.

Snyder Chamber of Commerce executive director Donna Fowler also said the Air Force has been in contact with her office.

"They said up to 25 families would be moving into Snyder if the local plan is selected," said Fowler. "They were seeking information on the schools and housing." It was not clear if the jobs were for construction or would be stationed permanently.

Reports that the Air Force may acquire up to a section of land could not be confirmed.

The final decision will be up to the Secretary of the Air Force, and will probably come 30 days after the announcement naming the site is made, said Lt. Wes Ticer of the Dyess Air Force Base public affairs office.

Another Air Force spokesman, 1st Lt. Don Kerr at Langley Air Force Base, Va., declined to comment on Bingaman's announcement.

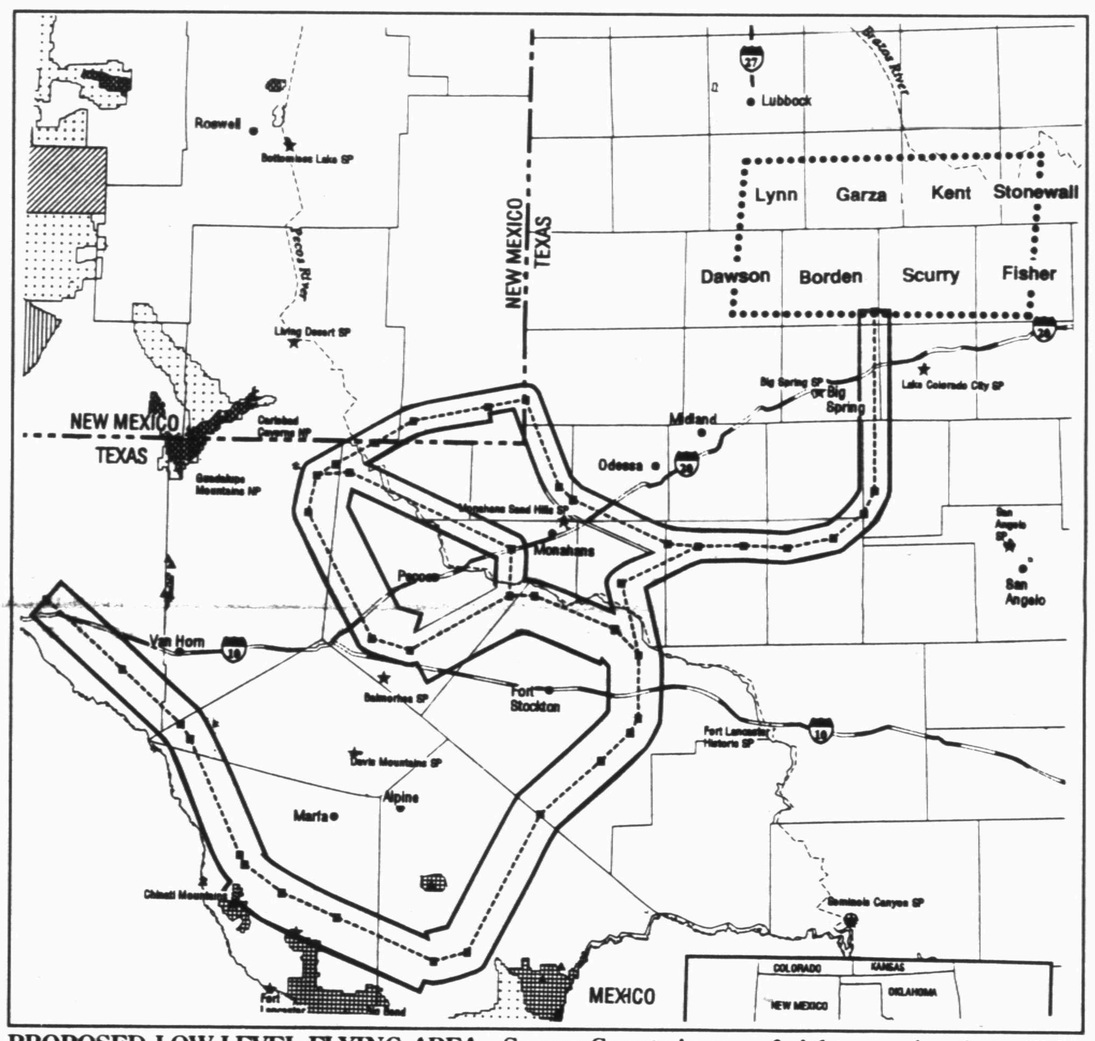
Taos lawyer Lynn Sferrazza, who represents a coalition of local governments and Indian pueblos that had threatened to sue if the Air Force pursued the New Mexico route, said planes could continue to fly the northern New Mexico route once a day — as they have in the past — but will not increase the flights.

The local route begins in the Big Bend area, flies near Pecos and Odessa, crosses into the far southeastern corner of New Mexico and ends at the Lancer Military Operating Area south of Lubbock.

Santa Fe attorney Frank Bond, who represents Texas ranchers in the Lancer route, said the decision was expected.

"This is just a huge invasion," Bond said. "The jets create deafening noise, pain-threshold noise. It's a total disruption of cattle operations, recreation and other kinds of activity on the land."

"This thing is so big," added Welch. "If we can't beat them in the courts, it will be forever."



PROPOSED LOW-LEVEL FLYING AREA - Scurry County is one of eight counties that will be the site of low-level flights by B-1 and B-52 bombers if an Air Force plan is approved. A New Mexico senator has said this area has already been selected for the flights, but the Air Force said the plan will not be released until later this month. (U.S. Air Force Graphic)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "A great president is one who has been out of office for at least 20 years."

Keeping tabs on our neighbors:

A former Scurry County resident made the front page of the Seminole Sentinel.

Marvin Ensor, former Scurry County agricultural agent who moved to Gaines County in the same capacity, recently was honored by the National Association of County Agents.

Ensor was one of seven in Texas to receive the association's Distinguished Service Award. Before working in Scurry, Ensor was county agent in Lamb and Yoakum counties.

In case you don't recall clearly, Marvin and his wife, Karen, have three daughters – Emily, Kale and Whitney.

SDN ad manager Wayne Burney spied this classified ad in the Vernon Daily Record. It was a novel approach to sell some used tires and make them sound attractive. It read:

"4-Good Used 14-inch tires, never been flat. $50 for set of 4. Call..."

Stephen Henry, in the Levelland News-Press, was sent this internal memo from one of his three blonde daughters:

Subject: Changing calendars from Y2K.

None of this Y to K thing has made much sense to me. At any rate, I have finished the conversion of all of the months on all the company calendars. The calendars have arrived from the printer and are ready to be distributed with the following new months:

Januark
Februark
Mak
Julk

I also have changed all the days of the week in order to comply with Y to K.

Sundak
Mondak
Tuesdak
Wednedak
Thursdak
Fridak
Saturdak

I can attest that we are now Y to K compliant.

Three SHS choral students to compete for all-state honors

Three Snyder High School choir students will compete Saturday in Midland for a position in the 2000 T.M.E.A. All-State Choir.

Crissida Tyler, daughter of Steve and Kathy Tyler, is a first soprano and placed first from Region XVI in the November audition.

Michael Compton, a baritone and the son of Donald and Linda Compton, placed second in his voice part at the last audition.

Matt Coronado, the son of Joe and Geneva Coronado, placed second in his voice part of second tenor.

All three SHS students are juniors and are members of the SHS A Cappella choir.

These students along with the other four selected from the Lubbock region in each voice part will compete against the top five students selected from each of three other regions including the Midland-Odessa region, the Amarillo-Panhandle region, and the El Paso-West Texas region.

Each voice part will have 20 students competing for five positions. Those five students selected Saturday will perform with the Texas Music Educators' Association All-State Choir in San Antonio in February at the T.M.E.A. convention.

Man indicted for mail threat

DALLAS (AP) — In what authorities said is the first indictment of its kind, a suburban Dallas man has been charged with sending through the mail a vial labled as containing anthrax, authorities announced today.

The four-count federal indictment charges Steven Matthew Cutler, 27, of Lewisville, with two counts of threatening to use a weapon of mass destruction.

Danny Defenbaugh, Dallas FBI special agent in charge, told reporters today that the indictment, returned Tuesday and announced today, was a wake-up call "that we will not tolerate any type of threats."

In a printed statement, Defenbaugh said:

"We will aggressively investigate and seek criminal prosecution on every threat involving the use of biological or chemical agents. Law enforcement must send a message that this form of terrorism will not be tolerated."

One headed to prison after 4 guilty pleas in district court

Four guilty pleas were entered Thursday afternoon in 132nd District Court, resulting in one prison sentence and three probated terms.

Wesley Allen Peters, 41, of 2209 23rd was sentenced to serve two years in a Texas Department of Criminal Justice state jail facility after pleading guilty to a Sept. 9 charge of forgery by passing.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong also ordered $2,485 in total restitution to West Texas State Bank and to Western Auto.

Two persons pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance.

Donald Craig Baker, 27, of Big Spring, was assessed a two-year sentence in a state jail facility, probated five years, for the June 20 offense. Baker also was fined $750 and ordered to undergo counseling as part of the plea bargain.

Landis Blair McCormick, 41, of Melford, also pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance, an Aug. 22 offense.

He was sentenced to 10 years in the TDCJ, probated for 10 years and fined $750. He will also participate in a court-ordered treatment program.

Anthone Cobb, charged with the Nov. 15 burglary of a building, pleaded guilty.

Cobb, 17, of 812 33rd Street, was sentenced to two years in a state jail facility, probated for five years. He was also fined $500.

Forbes says Bush broke word

DURHAM, N.H. (AP) — A day after George W. Bush promised to cut taxes "so help me God," Republican presidential rival Steve Forbes accused him in a new TV ad of breaking a no-new-tax pledge as governor of Texas.

"His record as far as taxes are concerned is a record of broken promises," Mary C. Williams, head of the Houston-based Taxpayers for Accountability, says in the ad that begins airing today.

Slated for broadcast in New Hampshire and Boston markets, the ad will cost Forbes' campaign about $200,000 this week — part of a series of ads that promise to be critical of the front-runner.

Bush, speaking with reporters in Portsmouth, N.H., today, defended his record.

"I think it's a disservice to the political process because the facts are, the truth is. every plan I've proposed was a tax cut," Bush said.

He suggested that Forbes, who has attracted lukewarm support in the polls, may be getting desperate, that his "political clock is ticking down."

"He must be beginning to feel that sense of gloom that affects a candidate who cannot sell his message in a positive way," he said, noting that Forbes also went after front-runner Bob Dole in 1996 even after it seemed likely that Dole would win the nomination.

Bush, Forbes and their four Republican rivals debated Thursday night. They meet again tonight in South Carolina and in Michigan on Monday.

In the debate Thursday, Bush vowed not to raise taxes. "This is not only no new taxes. This is tax cuts, so help me God," he said.

In Forbes' ad, Williams says Bush signed her group's pledge in 1994 to not support sales or business tax increases. She says he broke the pledge in 1997, repeating a charge she made earlier in the presidential campaign.

Bush's campaign has said the Texas governor supported a bill containing tax increases because the Democratic-backed measure needed to clear the House to keep his tax-cut package moving through the Legislature. That bill didn't become law, but Bush eventually did sign a $1 billion tax-cut package.

Asked today whether he broke his pledge and signed a bill raising selected taxes in exchange for getting a larger, overall tax cut through the state Legislature, Bush replied: "I'm saying I cut the taxes. The implication is I tried to raise taxes. I cut taxes."

ASK US

Q—Are there any vacancies at the new Golden Terrace Village Phase IV senior housing unit?

A—Eleven of the apartments have been rented, leaving 19 available.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Thursday, 60 degrees; low, 25; 7 a.m. Friday, 29; no precipitation; total for 2000, .11 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, cloudy, 40% rain chance; low, mid 30s. N wind 5-15 mph. Saturday, cloudy, warmer, 20% rain chance. W wind 5-15 mph.



Tanya Adams
Chance of Rain

Sunset: 5:57 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:44 a.m.
Of 6 days in 2000, the sun has shone 6 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Dare! And dare again—and go on daring.
—George Danton

JAN 07 2000

Clinton seeks to combat cyber threats

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton will ask Congress next month for more money to develop new technologies and increase the capability of federal law enforcement officers to combat cyber-terrorists.

With the New Year's Y2K threat now apparently over, Clinton hoped to turn the nation's attention with a White House announcement today toward the need for devoting more federal money to monitoring and protecting government computer systems from infiltrators.

The White House was outlining what will be a part of a budget request to Congress next month detailing the need and proposed measures for maintaining the security of the nation's increasingly digitalized infrastructure.

"Now that we're past Y2K, we need to continue to insulate and secure our nation's computers," one official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. A specific dollar figure was not immediately available.

Clinton has frequently expressed concern about the emerging threat that other governments, hackers and thieves pose to a nation and a world now dependent on high technology.

A key adviser on Thursday included cyber-terrorism near the top of a list of threats facing America in the new century.

"I think there's a whole new realm of threat we're going to be dealing with, the ability to take weapons of mass destruction across national borders with relative ease; the ability to attack our computers that run our infrastructure through cyber-terrorism," National Security Adviser Sandy Berger said in response to questions after a National Press Club speech.

An administration official speaking on condition of anonymity said, "Now that we're past Y2K, we need to continue to insulate and secure our nation's computers."

The official did not have any specific dollar figures, but USA Today reported in today's issue that the plan includes $2 billion to make the government's computer systems less vulnerable to attack.

The new initiative builds on steps the administration announced last year. It would seek to develop new technologies, increase public and private cooperation against computer sabotage, improve training for government agents and boost protection of computer systems.

"It's creating a number of programs to train, detect and strengthen our ability to deal with cyber-terrorists," the official said.

Last July, the administration announced that it was creating a government-wide security network to protect against hackers. The plan included an elaborate network of electronic obstacles, monitors and analyzers to watch for suspicious activity.

The first 500 intrusion monitors were to be installed on nonmilitary government computers early this year, and the full system was slated to be computed by May 2003.

More information surfaces about killer

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — A man accused of killing two teenagers in Kentucky and Texas may have worked at a college here the day of the Lexington girl's murder.

Documents show Tommy Lynn Sells probably worked at Transylvania University from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. An invoice from the school's accounting office authorized a temporary labor agency that Sells worked for to pay him for eight hours' work on Thursday, May 13 — the day Haley McHone was murdered.

Sells, who police describe as a rail-riding transient from Del Rio, Texas, never picked up the check.

Later that day, the 35-year-old was arrested at 11:52 p.m. when police found him intoxicated and passed out on a street corner, court records show.

At the time, Sells had been living, homeless, in Lexington for about two weeks, police said.

Authorities finally arrested Sells for more serious crimes on New Year's Day.

A 10-year-old girl who survived Sells' New Year's Eve assault on her and her friend gave authorities a description that helped them nab him.

He was arrested at his mobile home and charged with the capital murder of Kaylene Harris, 13, and the attempted capital murder of Krystal Surles.

During questioning in the attack of the two Texas girls, Sells admitted killing people in Alabama, Arkansas, California and North Carolina.

Sells also confessed to killing Haley McHone in Lexington during questioning at the Val Verde County, Texas, jail, said Sgt. John Allen of the Texas Rangers.

Police detectives from Lexington and San Antonio have already traveled to Del Rio to question Sells.

"The way this guy talks, we expect we'll be visited by a bunch more," Allen told The Dallas Morning News.

Haley's family last saw her on the morning of the 13th, as she left the house to play video games at her grandmother's home across the street from Haley's house. When her mother went to get her for a doctor's appointment, Haley was gone.

Her body was found 10 days later in some bushes near railroad tracks near her home.

Lexington police have not said when they think Haley died, or how she came into contact with Sells.

Grandmother expecting 3

SUNNYSIDE, Wash. (AP) — Aracelia Garcia, who already has 15 grandchildren, was a bit surprised to find herself pregnant again — and with triplets.

"I could have imagined one but not more — not three," the 54-year-old woman said in Spanish. "My heart is full of happiness. I feel happy God wants me to have three. ... A child is a gift, a treasure."

The babies, all girls, could come as soon as next week.

Garcia is waiting out the pregnancy at home, where the living room is filled with portraits of her and her husband surrounded by their eight children, whose ages range from 16 to 34, and their grandchildren.

Local Relay for Life scheduled for April

Relay for Life is a unique, challenging and fun way to raise money for the American Cancer Society, foster community spirit and to raise awareness of cancer and the work of the American Cancer Society.

The Relay for Life concept involves a team of walkers or runners competing to raise the most money and travel the most miles around a track. The event is a relay that lasts for an extended period, usually 24 hours.

Plans are now underway for the 2000 Relay for Life event to be held April 28-29 at Tiger Stadium in Snyder.

A planning rally will be held at 5:30 p.m. Jan. 20 in the Snyder High School student center.

Mark Cypert, local American Cancer Society chapter president, urges anyone interested in volunteering for the event and especially any potential team captains, to attend the meeting.

Anyone willing to participate or volunteer may also call Cypert at 573-5454 or at home at 573-5714.

"This event is held to fight for awareness and hope for a cure," Cypert said.

The relay will be held on the Tiger Stadium track where teams of 8 to 12 people from corporations, hospitals, civic groups, families and college groups take turns in the relay.

One team member at a time walks, jogs or runs around the track for 30 minutes.

While the relay is going on, a community party atmosphere is created by team members camping out enjoying entertainment, food, games and camaraderie.

The relay begins in the early evening with the first lap being a survivors' lap. Then the teams begin with a team member alternating every half an hour running or walking around the track.

Participants enter or leave the track from a central point, such as the start/finish line. Only one team member is allowed on the track at a time.

A luminary ceremony is held at 10 p.m. to honor survivors and remember those who lost the battle against cancer.

This is a donation event. Each team member is asked to raise a minimum of $50 from donors before the event. Soliciting donations instead of pledges ensures that all money is collected before the event.

In addition, each team member donates $10 to cover the cost of their t-shirt.

SWCD: Now is the time to order trees

Due to the number of requests for Red Oak last year, the SWCD has located a source for 12"-15" containerized seedlings. The Southern Red Oaks are priced at $2.50 each. One gallon containerized Afghanistan Pines and Live Oak are also available. Both the Afghanistan Pine and Live Oak are priced at $5.50 each.

The last day to order these is March 1. Place orders as soon as possible. Early ordering should allow the SWCD to reserve adequate numbers from suppliers.

The last day to order regular windbreak seedlings is Jan. 31.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Grassroots campaign creates winners on Super Bowl Sunday

DEAR ABBY: Several years ago, you graciously told your readers about the Souper Bowl of Caring. Your column was a catalyst providing a great boost for this simple, but significant, effort of caring and unity.

The Souper Bowl of Caring is a grassroots movement that encourages churches and synagogues to invite parishoners to give $1 each as they leave worship the morning (or weekend) of the big game, Jan. 30. Youth stationed at sanctuary exits collect the dollar donations in large soup kettles, then send the proceeds directly to a local soup kitchen, food bank or other charity chosen by that congregation. That's it!

Abby, we believe this idea is a gift from God. It was born of prayer and first kicked off by the youth of a single South Carolina church in 1990. Last year, more than 11,300 congregations together generated $2.5 million for worthy charities in communities across the country. The effort has raised an aggregate of $7 million for hungry and hurting people since it became national in 1993.

Organizers don't touch the money, nor do we tell participants where to send the funds. We ask only that someone from each participating group report the amount collected via www.souperbowl.org or by calling (800) 358-SOUP (7687) on Super Bowl Sunday, so that the grand total can be determined and announced to the media.

Our dream is to see 20,000 churches, synagogues and the like encourage members to join together in loving God and neighbor by giving $1 each as they leave services (or school) on Super Bowl Sunday, Jan. 30, 2000. — THE REV. BRAD SMITH, COLUMBIA, S.C.

DEAR BRAD SMITH: I love the concept — considering that the amount of each donation is such a small fraction of the amount of money that is going to be changing hands that day. I hope all my readers will encourage their congregations, schools, offices or businesses to participate. By giving $1, everyone will be a winner during Super Bowl 2000.

**

DEAR ABBY: While going through the papers of a recently deceased friend, Jim Heistercamp, a well-known San Francisco personality, I came across a number of barely legible newsletters dating back to 1934, from St. Joseph School in Menomonie, Wis.

On the first page of the January newsletter was printed the enclosed poem, whose message as we approach the new millennium could not be more timely. I hope you'll share it with your readers. — FRANK LEVIN, SAN FRANCISCO

DEAR FRANK: The poem you discovered is a gem, and certainly deserving of space in this column. How generous of you to share it. Read on:

RECIPE FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR

To leave the old with a burst of song
To recall the right and forgive the wrong;
To forget the thing that binds you fast
To the vain regrets of the year that's past;
To have the strength to let go your hold
Of the not worthwhile of the days grown old,
To dare to go forth with a purpose true,
To the unknown task of the year that's new;
To help your brother along the road
To do his work and lift his load;
To add your gift to the world's good cheer,
Is to have and to give a Happy New Year.

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Dow Corning appeals ruling in breast implant settlement

DETROIT (AP) — Dow Corning Corp. and lawyers for women who sued the company over silicone breast implants want a judge to throw out a ruling they say could upset a complicated $3.2 billion settlement plan.

The appeal filed Thursday asks for the dismissal of U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Arthur Spector's Dec. 21 decision, which allows women who voted against the plan to sue Dow Corning's corporate parents.

The settlement had barred further lawsuits against Dow Chemical and Corning Corp. over silicone implants. That clause is a key to the settlement, which itself is part of a $4.5 billion bankruptcy reorganization plan for Dow Corning.

Dow Corning, which no longer makes silicone breast implants, declared bankruptcy in 1995 after thousands of women sued over implants. Women have blamed leaking gel from the implants for lupus, rheumatoid arthritis, body aches, fatigue, memory loss and hardening of the breasts.

Under the proposed settlement, women who blame illnesses on Dow Corning silicone breast implants could get between $12,000 and $300,000 each. Women could also receive up to $25,000 for ruptured or leaking implants, and up to $5,000 for implant removal.

Dow Corning and the Tort Claimants Committee — representing thousands of women with silicone implants the company once made — called Spector's ruling confusing and a potential catalyst for more litigation.

The company and the claimants committee has called the "third-party release" clause "fundamental" to the settlement plan overwhelmingly approved after years of contentious negotiations.

Spector's opinion also said women who voted to approve the settlement would be barred from suing the companies. It's unclear how many women his opinion might affect; 112,774 women voted on the plan last year, with 94 percent approving.

Spector said there was no reason to assume allowing claims from women who voted against the deal would create an undue burden on the companies.

Couple ask to see their son

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — A couple accused of abandoning their severely disabled son in a hospital emergency room want permission to visit him.

Richard and Dawn Kelso, who are barred from contacting their son as a condition of their bail, have filed a 14-page petition in Delaware Family Court. They say they never intended to abandon their 10-year-old son, Steven Kelso, who has cerebral palsy, uses a wheelchair, and breathes and eats through tubes.

"They merely needed a respite from the exhausting round-the-clock care which they had been providing," according to the petition made public Thursday and written by Wilmington lawyer Linda Shopland.

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'Blair Witch' will haunt theatres again with 2 films

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The witch in the woods isn't done yet.

The legend in "The Blair Witch Project" will continue with a sequel and a prequel expanding on the horror tale that became one of the most successful low-budget films ever made.

Producers are already scouting locations for "Blair Witch 2," to be released in October. The prequel telling the witch's early history will follow in summer 2001.

Artisan Entertainment, which bought "Blair Witch" and the sequel rights for $1 million at last year's Sundance film festival, hopes to rekindle the magic that made the first film a $140 million smash.

"I think it was the best million dollars anybody ever spent, even when you see all the numbers in the 'dot com' world," Amir Malin, Artisan president, said Thursday. "I don't think you've ever seen real returns, as opposed to paper returns, like 'Blair Witch.'"

The original "Blair Witch" was one of the most profitable movies ever. Directors Daniel Myrick and Eduardo Sanchez and their company, Haxan Films, shot the film for about $60,000, with Artisan kicking in $260,000 more in post-production costs, Malin said.

The sequel and prequel each will have budgets of about $7 million to $10 million, still small by Hollywood standards.

"Blair Witch 2" is scheduled to begin shooting in early February and will be directed by documentary filmmaker Joe Berlinger.

Malin said the movie will not necessarily follow the pattern of the original, which was told through footage supposedly shot by three fictional filmmakers who disappeared in the woods while making a documentary about a legendary witch.

Artisan is keeping the plots and other details about the followup films under wraps, including whether the three characters from the original will return.

Myrick, Sanchez and their partners with Haxan will be executive producers on "Blair Witch 2" but are not directing the movie because they are working on another film, Malin said.

Malin said the Haxan team will return to write and direct "Blair Witch 3," which will span episodes in the witch's history from the 18th century through the 1990s, leading up to the faux disappearance of the three filmmakers.

FBI not any busier over New Year's

WASHINGTON (AP) — For all the fear of New Year's terrorism, the FBI opened no more investigations of computer crime and physical threats or violence than during a normal seven-day period.

The FBI opened six investigations of computer crimes and 12 investigations into physical threats or violence nationwide from Dec. 29 through Jan. 5, Mike Vatis, head of the FBI's National Infrastructure Protection Center, said Thursday.

"The level was not beyond the norm you would usually see in that number of days," Vatis said. "On neither side — cybercrime or physical threats — did we think the weekend activity was particularly unusual."

Vatis said some new computer viruses were found but there were no significant millennium-related attacks during the seven days his office operated a command post inside the FBI's Strategic Information and Operations Center in Washington. He also said there was no increase in attacks from overseas.

All the investigations remain open, but any threats posed have been neutralized, Vatis said.

Three of the six computer crime investigations were opened in response to reports from private companies that had downloaded special detection software Vatis' office posted Dec. 30 on its Internet Web page. Using the FBI's software, three private companies found hacker tools hidden on their computer systems.

The software has been downloaded by more than 2,600 companies and individuals.

Vatis said the computer investigations involved hacker attacks using what are known as "distributed denial of service" tools. In such cases, hackers hide tools, known as daemons, inside large computer systems, like those at universities. The hackers later issue commands from their own computer to order each of hundreds of daemons to attack a target computer system through various portals. These multiple attacks can cause the target system to crash or become so overloaded it cannot function.

FBI field offices, each of which also maintained a command post over the New Year's weekend, opened a dozen investigations of physical destruction or threats of it.

Vatis would not discuss details of any of the investigations but his office is responsible for protecting computer systems, like the banking system, and physical infrastructure, like power and telephone lines, transportation routes and water systems, from either electronic or physical attacks.

In Bend, Ore., an 80-foot powerline tower carrying high-voltage electricity from the Pacific Northwest to the Southwest was toppled Dec 30. But David Szady, head of the FBI's Portland office, said no explosive was used. "The cause has been determined and has been reported as an act of malicious mischief," Szady said.

Szady would not elaborate, but the owner of a nearby store said Oregon officials told him some people who appeared to be drunk unbolted support cables holding the tower in place.

A conservative group criticized the FBI for warning state and local police officials to look out for violent white supremacists, apocalyptic cults, radical lone wolf members of private citizen militias and others who promote violent millennial agendas.

This effort, named Project Megiddo, "did nothing to prevent terrorism," said Lisa Dean of the Free Congress Foundation. "The FBI used the Y2K situation to confuse the Religious Right ... with those religious cults whom they consider dangerous."

Asked whether the Megiddo report exaggerated the potential for violence, Attorney General Janet Reno said Thursday, "The nice answer would be that there was no threat."

But she said authorities must "take reasonable precautions" and advise Americans of risks whenever possible. "I think we described the heightened risk that revolved around the time of the end of the millennium," she said.

Country music album sales decrease, industry data says

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — It's a true country heartbreaker: Sales of country music declined 4.5 percent last year even as sales for the record industry overall jumped 6.1 percent.

Country music sold 69.3 million albums last year, according to SoundScan, a Hartsdale, N.Y., company that tracks music sales and released 1999 figures on Wednesday.

The most successful was Shania Twain, whose "Come on Over" album sold 5.6 million.

Industry officials said country is no longer the fad of the moment, as it was in the 1980s when Garth Brooks became a superstar.

Also, they said consolidation of the radio industry has led to tighter playlists as conglomerates put pressure on stations to be more profitable. That makes it harder to develop new stars and cultivate record buyers.

Another reason given for the drop is that many traditional country music fans have become alienated by the influence of pop on country.

"What we're doing is we're giving away the music to other formats and we're frustrating the fans of our own format," said Evelyn Shriver, president of the country division of Asylum Records.

The record industry overall sold 754.8 million albums in 1999. But among country performers, only Ms. Twain and the Dixie Chicks (with 3.5 million sales of "Wide Open Spaces") made the year's list of top 10 sellers.

The country industry is reliant on a select group of superstars. Brooks, the Dixie Chicks and Faith Hill each have two of the 10 best-selling country albums of the year. And four of the top 10 were released in 1998.

"Trying to add some artists to that mix and create diversity is a priority for us this year," said Ed Benson of the Country Music Association, a trade organization that promotes country music.

Brooks, 37, the biggest-selling artist in country music history, has indicated he may retire at the end of 2000 to spend more time with his three young daughters. That could be a big blow to Nashville.

Nashville has survived such trends before. The industry rebounded from a decline in the mid-1980s to reach unprecedented heights. Even now, far more country albums are being sold than a decade ago.

Austrian bank reaches settlement with victims

NEW YORK (AP) — The head of an Austrian bank accused of confiscating the assets of Holocaust victims and their heirs said he hopes a $40 million settlement will provide solace for "the terrible events they suffered."

U.S. District Judge Shirley Wohl Kram said that Thursday's settlement involving two Austrian banks is fair and adequate.

"This is an historic event" said Gerhard Randa, chairman and chief executive of Bank Austria. He said it marks "the first time that any of the Holocaust-related claims cases has reached a concluded settlement."

The victims of the Nazi regime have to wait to see whether the judge's approval is challenged on appeal, and they also have to evaluate each of the victims' claims.

The amount each of the victims will get depends on how much was lost and how well they can prove their case.

The corporate predecessors of the two banks, Bank Austria and Creditanstalt, were accused of confiscating Holocaust victims' assets and refusing to turn them over to those who survived the war.

The judge noted that the claims are based on acts that occurred more than 50 years ago in wartime Europe.

"Many of the records were either lost or destroyed during or after the war," the judge wrote. "Litigating this case without these documents and records would undoubtedly add to the complexity of this already difficult case."

Others eligible to share in the settlement include those whose assets were looted elsewhere by the Nazis and transferred to those banks and those whose money transfers to concentration camp inmates through the banks were diverted.

At the same time, the judge said: "Those persecuted by the Nazis were the victims of unspeakable acts of inhumanity. It is unlikely that any sum of money, no matter how large, could ever be thought of as righting the wrongs committed during the Holocaust."

Cable tycoon will fund scholarships

DENVER (AP) — A cable TV magnate has pledged most of his $1.1 billion estate to send thousands of underprivileged students across the West to college.

Bill Daniels, 78, will donate most of his fortune to the Bill Daniels Fund, which will administer the scholarships, the foundation said Thursday. When he dies, the foundation will become Colorado's largest charity.

Daniels plans to donate several million dollars a year through the foundation to help the needy, the homeless, the disabled and others in Colorado, Utah, Wyoming and New Mexico, where he grew up.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



How to give nicotine gum a boost

DEAR DR. GOTT: What can I do to make my nicotine gum more effective? I want to stop smoking but I find that the gum isn't doing the job.

DEAR READER: Nicotine replacement is a successful antidote to smoking in up to 30 percent of smoking-clinic patients; it's only about 10 percent effective in patients who are not given simultaneous counseling or who are not part of a support group. Experts recommend the following: chew the gum more slowly, avoid drinking beverages while chewing, chew a minimum of eight pieces a day and obtain counseling — either from a health professional or from a support group. If these suggestions fail to help you, consider switching to the nicotine patches, which are more potent than the gum. Remember that smoking involves both a physical addiction to nicotine and a habit. You won't successfully quit until you address both factors.

As a further suggestion, try massage. According to a recent issue of Preventive Medicine, nicotine craving can be reduced if people regularly massage their hands and ears. The technique is simple and involves circular motions and pressure applied to the ear lobes, each finger and the pulse point between the second and fifth fingers.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My close friend has no family, lives alone and is dying of lung cancer. The visiting nurse says that he is receiving comfort measures. In fact, I guess he feels pretty good.

However, he won't listen to the doctors. He talks about getting better and returning to work. I see him almost every day and wonder if there is anything I can do to help him.

DEAR READER: I believe that you are doing all you can, by visiting your friend regularly and just being available to him. If what you say is true, he is in the last stages of a serious malignancy. Within the next few weeks, he will probably become weaker, lose his appetite and experience increasing difficulty breathing. Perhaps he will even develop pneumonia, a disease that a respected surgeon in my community once labeled "a friend of the aged," because such a lung infection is a relatively painless way to die. If so, I hope that your friend's physician has the good sense not to treat the pneumonia.

On the other hand, your friend may simply progress inexorably downhill, all the while suffering from increasing shortness-of-breath. In this situation, I trust that the doctor will be generous in his use of narcotics to ease suffering.

At this point, your friend cannot accept his imminent death. He is in denial. This psychological defense mechanism is normal and, over time, will undoubtedly change to an attitude of acceptance. It is not your job to interfere with the natural sequence of events. Continue to be supportive and available. Don't make any false promises about the future. Your friendship and your regular presence are far more valuable to him than any drugs. There is time enough for the medicine to take center stage.

I admire your commitment. Watching a friend slowly die is hard enough without the sense of frustration and helplessness that I am certain you feel. Make sure that you work closely and in conjunction with his health-care providers. Be a good friend, secure that you are fulfilling an exceedingly valuable role. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Living with Chronic Lung Disease." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 01-07-00
♠ K 5 4 3 2
♥ K 4
♦ 10 3 2
♣ K 9 4

West
♠ A 10 8
♥ 10 6
♦ A J 8 7 4
♣ 7 6 3

East
♠ Q 6
♥ Q J 9 8 7 2
♦ K Q 5
♣ 8 5

South
♠ J 9 7
♥ A 5 3
♦ 9 6
♣ A Q J 10 2

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: East

South	West	North	East
			2 ♦
Pass	2 ♥	Pass	Pass
3 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ 10

Health problems and bridge success

Lynn Deas and Beth Palmer make up one of the most successful women's pairs during the last 16 years. Lynn has had many health problems, but hasn't allowed them to stop her from competing in tournaments all over the world. She is often accompanied by her three dogs, Finesse, Imp and Wishtrick, and she enjoys the social side too. At the 1990 world championships in Geneva, play ended before dinner. And in the hotel where many Americans were staying, there was a pianist and dance floor. Lynn was doing more than her fair share of bopping, even occasionally tolerating as partner a bridge journalist with two right feet!

Lynn and Beth adopt a very aggressive style. Their best session was probably the last one of the 1987 Venice Cup in Jamaica, when the United States beat France. (They have won this title twice. Lynn also won in '91.) Lynn defended this deal smoothly to give declarer a guess.

At the other table, Juanita Chambers (North) made two spades exactly.

Palmer's two-diamond opening showed a weak two-bid in either major. Deas' two-heart response was to play opposite hearts. As two hearts is laydown, South did well to balance with three clubs.

Deas led the heart 10. South won with dummy's king, played a heart to her ace, ruffed her last heart in the dummy, and drew trumps. Then declarer advanced the spade nine. When Lynn covered with the 10, declarer ducked in the dummy. Immediately, Lynn continued with the spade eight. As you will have surmised, declarer misguessed by playing low from the dummy. So, the defenders collected three spades and two diamonds for one down.

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Date Book

Friday, Jan. 7, 2000

Today is the seventh day of 2000 and the 17th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1744, Sotheby's held its first auction, in London.

On this day in 1785, Jean-Pierre Blanchard and Dr. John Jeffries flew across the English Channel in a balloon. It was the first Channel crossing by air.

On this day in 1962, "The Twist," a song by Chubby Checker, reached No. 1 on the pop charts.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Millard Fillmore (1800-1874), U.S. president; Charles Peguy (1873-1914), writer; Charles Addams (1912-1988), cartoonist; Jean-Pierre Rampal (1922-), flutist, is 78; Jann Wenner (1947-), publisher, is 54; Kenny Loggins (1948-), musician, is 52; Nicolas Cage (1964-), actor, is 36.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1964, Sylvia Wene defeated Dick Weber in the highest-scoring bowling match ever (146-144). The game took place aboard Boeing 707 Starstream Astrojet.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Public opinion in this country is everything." — Abraham Lincoln

TODAY'S MOON: Day after new moon (Jan. 6).

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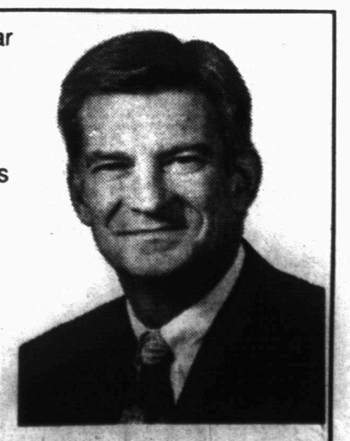
Dr. Ken Jones
In A Gospel Meeting
January 9 - 11
37th Street Church Of Christ
2500 37th Street, Snyder, Texas
THEME: LOVE

SCHEDULE:

Sunday
9:30 a.m. "Love-Its Importance"
10:30 a.m. "Love-Its Behavior"
6:00 p.m. "Love-Its Necessity"

Monday
7:00 p.m. "Love-Its Reward"

Tuesday
7:00 p.m. "Love-Its Who We Are"



* Dr. Ken Jones grew up in Cordell, Oklahoma. He married Susan Cox of Cordell in 1971. They have two children, Jennifer and Mitch. He holds B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. Degrees in Engineering from Oklahoma State University, where he taught in the Agricultural Engineering Department from 1978-1982. He preached for the North Garland Church of Christ, Enid, Oklahoma, 1982-1988, where they moved into a new facility while he was there. He preached for the Sunset Church of Christ, Lubbock from 1988 to 1993. Sunset is among the 10 largest churches of Christ in America. He has served as President of Lubbock Christian University since 1993. He conducts leadership seminars and retreats for businesses and churches across the United States. He published his first book in 1999 on the subject of leadership, *Leadership: After God's Own Heart*.

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BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB
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Jean Krisle
Word is Life Deliverance Church
312 Coliseum Drive
Saturday, January 8, 7:00 p.m. and
Sunday, January 9, 10:30 a.m.
Jean will bless your heart as she ministers with a prophetic voice. She travels world wide sharing the Good News of Jesus!

Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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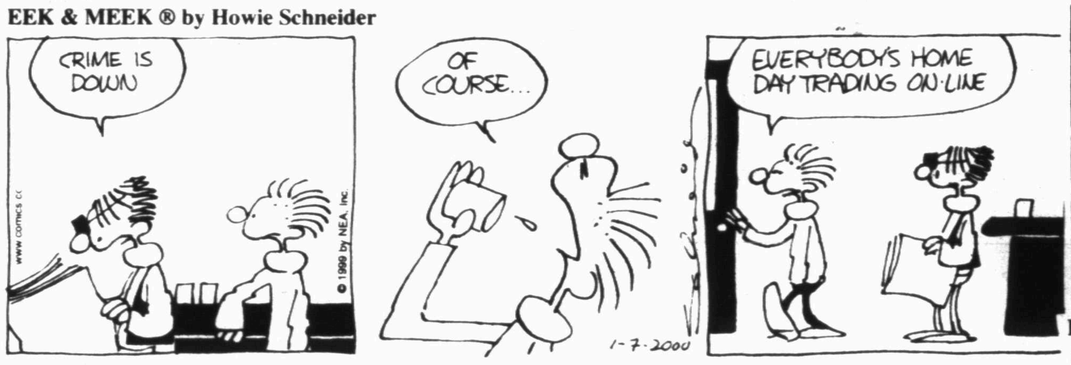
EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © By Fred Laswell



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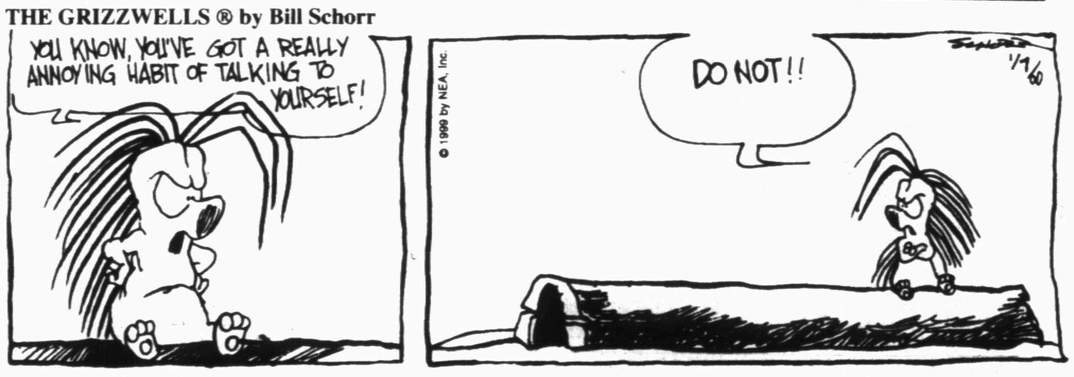
THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Where bracelets are worn
7 Lacking refinement
12 Canadian capital
13 Like cars on vacations
14 Boll — (beetle)
15 Heavenly creatures
16 Guido's high note
17 Alps, e.g. (abbr.)
18 Hawaiian timber tree
21 Tardier
23 Actor Silver
26 Bullets (sl.)
28 — Lisa
29 Compass pt.
30 Knots in cotton fiber
31 Home of the Braves
33 Parts of jackets
36 Move slightly
37 — Lingus (airline)
38 Talents
40 Blood pigment
41 Sault — Marie
42 Vault
44 Primary color
45 Oxalis plant
46 Deli bread
48 Rowboat part
51 Pressing
55 — Express
56 Oreo, for one
57 Ergo
58 Ancient Jewish ascetic

DOWN

1 "Gee!"
2 Map abbr.
3 "Graph" ending
4 Keep
5 Trousers fabric
6 Deep bow
7 Mid
8 From — to riches
9 Purpose
10 Neighbor of Md.
11 Bradley and Marinaro
13 Complain
18 Where Topeka is
19 Egg dish
20 Current unit
22 Warm and cozy
23 Tenant
24 Punctual (2 wds.)
25 Approached
27 "Verb" end
32 Type of tray
34 Anti-smallpox substance
35 Roving, like knights
39 Evergreen tree
43 Amateurs
45 Oil assn.
47 Conceits
48 Companion of ash
49 Exist
50 — Tin Tin
52 — out (stretch)
53 Author Anais —
54 Pipe-fitting unit

Answer to Previous Puzzle

I	D	E	A	T	E			S	Q	U	A	T	S
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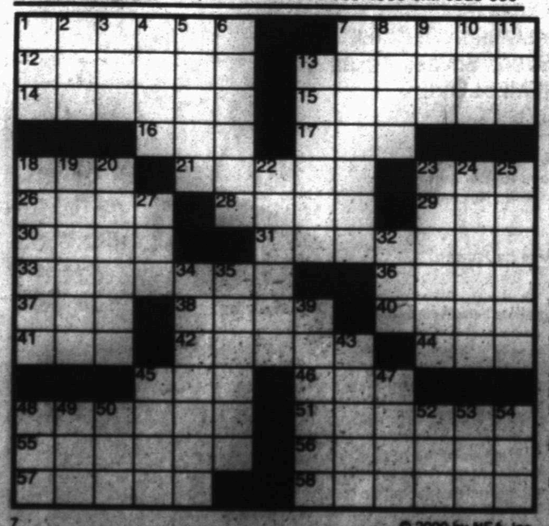

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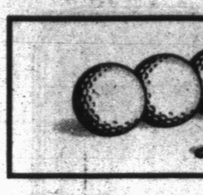
"I wouldn't know a 'home run' if I saw one."



"MAYBE WILSON WOULD LIKE TO ADD A LITTLE BUGLE TO HIS COLLECTION OF TINY DRUMS!"



SHS girl

Lad

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SPORTS

SHS girls battle Andrews tonight...

Lady Tigers host 5-4A opener

After securing their first playoff berth in over 10 years last season, the Snyder Lady Tigers begin their quest for back-to-back post-season appearances tonight when they host Andrews at 6 o'clock in the District 5-4A opener at the SHS gym.

But this is a different Lady Tiger squad, with a new coach, a new game plan, and a new attitude.

Sam Tipton, in his first year at the helm of the Lady Tigers, used the non-district schedule to implement his offensive and defensive schemes, and to instill a hard-nosed work ethic in his squad.

"I think we're as ready to open district as we can be," Tipton said. "We approached the non-district schedule as a learning process, and now we want to play for something.

"I feel like we're farther ahead than we thought we would be, when workouts began. Now, how much farther along would we be if we hadn't suffered some injuries and played such a tough non-district schedule? That's hard to say, but I believe under the conditions we've faced this year, our kids have progressed extremely well."

Injuries plagued the 5-12 Lady Tigers throughout non-conference play. Junior guard Rina Geiger is still out of action with a broken ankle, but junior post Ashley Delce will return to the floor tonight after missing the last nine games due to knee surgery.

Delce, who averaged 10.5 points per outing through the first eight games of the season, will be limited to a few minutes per quarter, but should add a boost in the paint for Snyder.

"Ashley won't be back in the starting line-up, yet," said Tipton. "She will probably play a couple minutes here and there. We don't want to run her in the ground, because she isn't in playing shape. But she practiced last night, and we had one of the best workouts we've had this year. She adds a lift to the team when she steps on the floor."

To get 5-4A competition started on the right track, the Lady Tigers must knock off Andrews (7-10), which is coached by a Snyder High School graduate.

Randy Courtney, son of former SHS principal Ray and Betty Courtney, is in his first season on the Lady Mustang sideline, after heading up the Abilene Wylie girls' program the past few years.

"Randy does a great job, wherever he is," Tipton remarked. "He has his team playing the best that they can. They're going to pressure us with man-to-man defense, and run the flex offense until they can't run it anymore. They play well as a team, and they'll come in here thinking they can beat us."

Prior to varsity action tonight, freshman and junior varsity action will tip off at 4:30. The JV will play at the high school, with the ninth grade at the junior high.

In other area games tonight, the Snyder Tigers will be looking for their fifth consecutive win when they host Class 3A's No 12 ranked Merkel Badgers at 7:30.

Ira High School also opens district play this evening, when it hosts Grady. The Lady Bulldogs tip-off at 6:30, with the boys getting underway at 8.

Hermleigh will visit non-district foe Southland. Staring times are 6:30 and 8 o'clock.

JV boys drop two games at tourney

The Snyder Tigers dropped a pair of contests Thursday on the opening day of the Snyder JV tournament.

Snyder suffered a 53-39 setback to Big Spring in the first meeting, before falling, 45-40, to Abilene Wylie.

Wade Pinson's 13 points paced the Tigers against Big Spring, with Chris McLeod pouring in 10 more. Nick Landes tallied nine points, and Tovares Brandon added four.

Against Wylie, it was McLeod leading the way with eight points. Brandon and Pinson drained seven points apiece, while Landes posted six. Tate Thompson and Shay Franks notched four each, with Jay Scott and Riki Dorsett chipping in two each.

Tournament action resumes Saturday.

Freshman boys down Merkel

SWEETWATER — Snyder's freshman boys knocked off Merkel in the opening round of the Sweetwater tournament on Thursday, earning the Tigers a date with the Big Spring Steers in the second round.

Snyder turned in solid performances on both ends of the floor to register a 43-37 decision over the Badgers.

Josh Mendoza anchored the Tigers with 15 points, while Logan Hill poured in 11.

T.J. Jones drained six points, with Josh McGaha adding four. Tyler Pollard, Colby Driggers and Clay Williams notched two points apiece, and Brady Reed chipped in one.

Saturday's battle with the Steers tips off at noon.

7th grade girls rout Mustangs

Snyder's seventh grade girls returned to action Thursday night in resounding fashion.

Snyder Gold ripped Sweetwater, 38-8, while Snyder Black pounded the Lady Mustangs, 56-12.

Heather Zajicek and Briana Burk poured in 10 points apiece to pace Snyder Gold. Courtney Cox drained eight points, with Kayla Guerrero netting seven. Stacey Williamson tallied two points, and Heather Holmes chipped in one.

For Snyder Black, it was Erin Hackfeld leading the way with 14 points. Jodi Stewart rattled home 12 points, with Rebecca Aguirre posting eight. Kalli Wesson and Joshlyn Tovar finished with six points apiece, while Ashley Villegas notched four. Casey Crain, Heather Polk and Sarah Carpenter chipped in two points each.

8th grade girls sweep Sweetwater

Snyder led wire-to-wire to post a pair of victories over Sweetwater in eighth grade girls' action on Thursday.

Snyder Gold knocked off the Lady Mustangs, 30-22, while Snyder Black pummeled the Ponies, 37-12.

Neither Snyder squad trailed after the first few minutes of the contests, as the Lady Tigers used early momentum to cruise to victory.

Sharday McKinney's nine points paced Snyder Gold. Laura Calmes dropped in six points, with Erin Burleson and Laura Arellano adding four each. Kelby Drum netted three points, while Andra Dunham and Gretchen Hollis chipped in two apiece.

For Snyder Black, it was Katie Chandler leading the way with 11 points. Sarah Crawford and Whitney Criswell tallied eight points apiece, with Diane Morin draining six. Kelsi Johnson and Megan Fletcher finished with two points each.

Bills, Titans offer impressive match-up

By DAVE GOLDBERG
AP Football Writer

For a wild-card game, this one's not bad, the Buffalo Bills (11-5) at the Tennessee Titans (13-3), the most combined wins in any wild-card game ever.

Except that Buffalo coach Wade Phillips did a strange thing on the way to this (excuse the expression) clash of the Titans — off one strong performance in a meaningless game, he elevated Rob Johnson to the starting quarterback role over Doug Flutie.

OK, Flutie didn't have the year he had last season. But he still managed to find a way to win. In the last game he played, he started slowly, then completed his last 12 passes to rally his team to a 13-10 overtime win in New England.

"My feeling is, with either one of them we can win," coach Wade Phillips said. "It was a tough decision. It wasn't a haphazard thing."

It may turn out to be a tougher decision.

Johnson has talent. The Bills surrendered a No. 1 pick for him, then signed him to a $25 million five-year deal.

But Flutie has magic and magic is what's needed in the playoffs, particularly against a Tennessee team playing as well as any team in either conference entering the playoffs.

TITANS, 24-14

Detroit (plus 51/2)
at Washington

On Dec. 5, the Lions beat the Redskins 33-17 to end an 18-game losing streak to Washington. They haven't won since and they haven't beaten the Redskins on the road since 1935, when the Skins played in Boston.

QB Gus Frerotte, who got his revenge against the Redskins in Pontiac, is back for the injured Charlie Batch. Washington has too much firepower, so exit one bedraggled 8-8 team.

REDSKINS, 31-13

Dallas (plus 7)
at Minnesota

The Cowboys and their backers point to the game at the Metrodome on Nov. 8, when the Cowboys took a 17-0 lead as Emmitt Smith ripped through the porous Minnesota defense. Then Smith and Troy Aikman were hurt and the Vikings ended up winning 27-17.

But Minnesota has moved John Randle inside now.

And the Cowboys are still a 1-7 team on the road.

They'll compete, but ...

VIKINGS, 27-21

Miami (plus 31/2)
at Seattle

There's drama here, but not much of it involves the game. Both teams stumbled into the playoffs, each losing five of six, the Seahawks only getting in when Kansas City's kicking game let it down and it lost to Oakland in overtime.

The drama is if this might be Dan Marino's last game.

The drama is if this might be Jimmy Johnson's last game.

It might, but ..

DOLPHINS, 16-13

Sports Briefs

NFL ratings reported

NEW YORK (AP) — Television ratings for the NFL regular season increased on both CBS and Fox, but declined for ABC's Monday Night Football.

CBS posted a 10.6 rating and 24 share for its coverage of AFC games, a 2 percent increase.

Fox posted an 11.0 rating and 25 share for NFC games, up 2 percent. ABC's 13.7 rating and 23 share were down 1 percent.

UT receiver will enter draft

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas receiver Kwame Cavil will skip his senior year to enter the NFL draft.

Cavil, who set school and Big 12 single-season records for receptions (100) and receiving yards (1,188), missed the Longhorns' Cotton Bowl loss to Arkansas after he and three teammates were suspended for rules violations.

Vols' LB headed for NFL

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — All-America linebacker Raynoch Thompson, Tennessee's leading tackler, told coaches he will forego his final season of eligibility to enter the NFL draft.

Thompson, a Butkus Award finalist, is a senior. But because he was a partial academic qualifier his freshman season, he could qualify for an extra year of eligibility by graduating within four years of enrollment.

Colorado CB forgoes senior year

BOULDER, Colo. (AP) — Colorado cornerback and return specialist Ben Kelly is forgoing his senior season to enter the NFL draft.

Kelly was first-team All-Big 12 at both defensive back and kick returner, averaging 28.1 yards, second-highest mark in NCAA history among players with 50 or more returns.

'Canes TE going pro

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) — Miami tight end Bubba Franks will forgo his senior season and enter the NFL draft.

Franks, a 6-foot-6, 260-pounder, caught 45 passes for 565 yards and five touchdowns. He added three receptions for 72 yards in Miami's 28-13 Gator Bowl win.

AL president resigns

NEW YORK (AP) — With his job about to become extinct, Gene Budig resigned as AL president and was appointed senior adviser to commissioner Bud Selig.

Owners intend to disband the American and National leagues as legal entities and consolidate their functions in the commissioner's office. Budig and former NL president Len Coleman have contracts running through December 2002 and will be paid their $650,000 annual salaries.

Gooden signs minor-league deal

HOUSTON (AP) — Dwight Gooden, once the Mets' ace, agreed to a minor-league contract with the Astros.

Gooden, 35, was 3-4 with a 6.41 ERA last year in 22 starts with the Indians. Hampered by a shoulder strain, he was dropped from Cleveland's postseason roster.

Gooden was Rookie of the Year in 1984 and NL Cy Young in 1985, the youngest-ever winner.

But a drug problem led to two suspensions in 1994, and Gooden was suspended for the entire 1995 season.

He returned with the Yankees in 1996 and stayed there until joining the Indians in 1998. Gooden, 188-107 with a 3.46 ERA, is fourth among active pitchers in wins.

Indy driver in critical condition

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. (AP) — Indy Racing League driver Sam Schmidt was in critical condition after crashing during practice at Walt Disney World Speedway.

Schmidt, 35, was coming out of a turn when he lost control, and the left rear of his car hit the wall. Schmidt, who got his first career victory last year, was practicing for the season-opening Indy 200.

Men's College Basketball Scores

EAST
Holy Cross 63, Sacred Heart 48
Siena 87, Manhattan 84
St. Bonaventure 70, Massachusetts 60
SOUTH
E. Kentucky 85, Middle Tennessee 83
East Carolina 66, Belmont 54
Louisiana-Lafayette 76, Denver 60
Louisville 75, Utah 55
Morehead St. 88, Tennessee Tech 76
N.C. State 68, Maryland 66
N.C.-Asheville 76, Montreat 55
New Orleans 73, Arkansas St. 66
North Carolina 65, Clemson 45
Sam Houston St. 70, McNeese St. 65
Texas-Arlington 94, Northwestern St. 64
MIDWEST
Cleveland St. 70, Loyola, Ill. 68
E. Illinois 75, Austin Peay 73
Ill.-Chicago 70, Detroit 58
Illinois 80, Ohio St. 77
Indiana St. 56, Creighton 46
Oral Roberts 72, W. Illinois 62
SE Missouri 79, Tennessee St. 46
UMKC 65, Chicago St. 60
Xavier 86, Virginia Tech 67
Youngstown St. 43, Ind.-Pur.-Indpls. 41
SOUTHWEST
Lamar 58, Stephen F.Austin 56
New Mexico St. 74, UTEP 73
SE Louisiana 90, Texas-San Antonio 86
SW Texas 62, Nicholls St. 52
Texas 71, Baylor 43
Tulsa 94, TCU 73
FAR WEST
Arizona 65, California 61
CS Northridge 69, N. Arizona 66
Colorado St. 89, Texas-Pan American 70
E. Washington 70, Idaho St. 69
Portland 83, Texas A&M-Corpus Christi 75
S. Utah 86, Valparaiso 79
Santa Clara 82, Brown 48
Southern Cal 83, Washington St. 61
Stanford 86, Arizona St. 67
Washington 63, UCLA 62

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Miami	21	10	.677	—
New York	19	12	.613	2
Philadelphia	19	15	.559	3½
Orlando	16	16	.500	5½
Boston	13	17	.433	7½
New Jersey	12	19	.387	9
Washington	11	21	.344	10½
Central Division				
Indiana	22	9	.710	—
Charlotte	18	13	.581	4
Toronto	18	13	.581	4
Detroit	18	14	.563	4½
Milwaukee	18	15	.545	5
Cleveland	13	19	.406	10
Atlanta	11	20	.355	11
Chicago	3	26	.103	18
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Utah	21	10	.677	—
San Antonio	21	12	.636	1
Minnesota	15	14	.517	5
Denver	16	15	.516	5
Houston	10	22	.313	11½
Dallas	9	23	.281	12½
Vancouver	7	24	.226	14
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	27	5	.844	—
Portland	24	8	.750	3
Phoenix	19	11	.633	7
Seattle	20	12	.625	7
Sacramento	18	11	.621	7½
L.A. Clippers	9	22	.290	17½
Golden State	6	26	.188	21

Thursday's Games
Toronto 101, Sacramento 89
Miami 111, Houston 95
Detroit 101, Milwaukee 95
Cleveland 90, Golden State 75
Minnesota 98, Portland 96
Utah 105, Dallas 92
Indiana 102, Denver 97

Friday's Games
Chicago at Washington, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Boston, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Orlando, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Phoenix, 10:30 p.m.
Charlotte at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Saturday's Games
New Jersey vs. Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Orlando at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Washington at Milwaukee, 9 p.m.
Charlotte at Denver, 9 p.m.
Phoenix at Portland, 10 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Vancouver at Toronto, 3 p.m.
Minnesota at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Sacramento, 9 p.m.
Seattle at Golden State, 9 p.m.

Saturday Night Live
TEXAS UNDERGROUND
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9:00-1:00
AMERICAN LEGION
1801 Ave. T
Members & Guests

National Football League Playoffs

All Times EST
Wild Card Games
Saturday, Jan. 8
Buffalo at Tennessee, 12:30 p.m. (ABC)
Detroit at Washington, 4:05 p.m. (ABC)
Sunday, Jan. 9
Dallas at Minnesota, 12:35 p.m. (FOX)
Miami at Seattle, 4:05 p.m. (CBS)

Divisional Games
Saturday, Jan. 15
Buffalo, Miami or Tennessee at Jacksonville, 12:35 p.m. (CBS)
Dallas, Minnesota or Washington at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m. (FOX)
Sunday, Jan. 16
Dallas, Detroit or Minnesota at St. Louis, 12:35 p.m. (FOX)
Buffalo, Seattle or Tennessee at Indianapolis, 4:05 p.m. (CBS)

Conference Championships
Sunday, Jan. 23
AFC championship, TBA (CBS)
NFC championship, TBA (FOX)

Super Bowl
Sunday, Jan. 30
at Atlanta, 6:18 p.m. (ABC)

Women's College Basketball Scores

EAST
Army 78, Coast Guard 42
George Washington 70, Duquesne 51
La Salle 57, Massachusetts 61
Monmouth, N.J. 79, UMBC 62
Mount St. Mary's, Md. 63, Fairleigh Dickinson 50
Robert Morris 72, St. Francis, NY 40
St. Bonaventure 72, Fordham 66
St. Francis, Pa. 72, Long Island U. 68
Wagner 88, Cent. Connecticut St. 58
SOUTH
Alabama 84, Belmont 58
Denver 63, Louisiana-Lafayette 54
E. Kentucky 90, Middle Tennessee 70
Florida 85, Mississippi St. 72
Florida Atlantic 96, Troy St. 82
Georgia Tech 73, Wake Forest 62
Jacksonville St. 70, Jacksonville 65
Kentucky 71, Auburn 69
Lee 96, Temple 73
Maryland 74, Clemson 58
Mercer 50, Cent. Florida 36
N.C. State 62, Florida St. 58
Northwestern St. 60, Texas-Arlington 46
Sam Houston St. 70, McNeese St. 47
Samford 83, Stetson 63
Tennessee 86, LSU 50
Tennessee Tech 82, Morehead St. 53
Virginia 87, North Carolina 68
Virginia Tech 81, Rhode Island 38
W. Carolina 68, Coastal Carolina 50
MIDWEST
Austin Peay 77, E. Illinois 59
Bowling Green 80, Cent. Michigan 69
Butler 70, Cleveland St. 65
Drake 71, Wichita St. 56
Indiana 77, Michigan 72
Northwestern 58, Michigan St. 55
Ohio St. 59, Minnesota 50
Penn St. 55, Purdue 50
S. Illinois 58, Bradley 50
SE Missouri 59, Tennessee St. 46
UMKC 56, Chicago St. 25
W. Illinois 74, Oral Roberts 61
Youngstown St. 72, Ind.-Pur.-Indpls. 63
SOUTHWEST
Arkansas St. 67, W. Kentucky 62
Cent. Arkansas 72, Northeastern 66
SW Texas 69, Nicholls St. 57
Stephen F.Austin 75, Lamar 42
Texas-San Antonio 85, SE Louisiana 60
FAR WEST
Arizona 71, California 58
Arizona St. 74, Stanford 68
CS Northridge 57, N. Arizona 49
Long Beach St. 64, San Francisco 63
Loyola Marymount 66, UC Irvine 63
New Mexico 71, New Mexico St. 47

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2601 Ave. W Assumable Loan 3-2-1.....$45T
3750 Highland 3-1 CH/A.....$29.5T
2210 32nd Street 3-1 .....$39.9T
2266 Sunset 3-2-2cp $39.5T
2310 42nd Street 3-1.....$25T
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2803 38th 3-1-CH/A $31.5T
4004 Irving 3-2-2 Patio . . $58.5T
3503 Jacksboro 3-2-2 . . . $49.5T
3009 39th 3-13/4--CH/A . $18.5T
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VA REPOS – Two VA Repos available, 4113 Eastridge and 2626 CR 317, sold by sealed bid. All bids due by Thursday January 20, 4:00p.m. at Bennett & Associates Realtor, 909 E. 3rd St. Sweetwater, TX. List price: 4113 Eastridge $27,000–SR-2 and LBP apply. 2626 CR 317 $59,900 –SR-2, SR-3, SR-7, and LBP apply. Call (915)236-6321 and ask for David Bennett for details.

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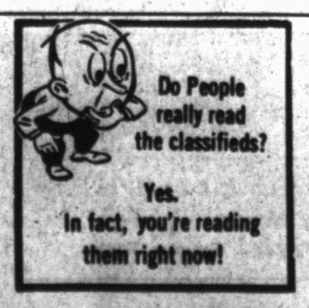

Abortions in U.S. decrease in 1997

ATLANTA (AP) — The number of American women who received abortions in 1997 was the lowest in more than 20 years, with experts citing everything from reduced access to clinics, more willingness to use contraception and changing attitudes about the procedure as causes.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported Thursday that 20 of every 1,000 women of reproductive age (15 to 44) had abortions in 1997, the same rate as the previous two years.

But the number of abortions for every 1,000 live births dropped from 314 in 1996 to 305 in 1997 — the lowest since 1975, the CDC said.

The preliminary estimate of 1,184,758 legal abortions in 1997 was 3 percent less than the 1,221,585 abortions in 1996 and the lowest number performed since 1978.

The CDC cited several factors for the decline, including access issues, an increased willingness to use contraceptives and possibly different attitudes about the moral implications of abortion.

For the first time, the annual CDC report included a breakdown from some states showing the number of abortions performed through surgery and the number via drugs. Previously, states had reported only the total number of abortions.

In 1997, 16 states reported 2,988 abortions induced by drugs. The Alan Guttmacher Institute, an abortion rights research organization, estimated there were 4,300 drug-induced abortions in all of the United States during the first half of 1997 alone.

The drug most commonly used in the United States to induce abortion is methotrexate. Methotrexate is used to treat certain types of gastrointestinal disorders and cancers, but doctors have been allowed to prescribe it to induce abortion since the mid-1990s.

Another drug, mifepristone, is designed specifically to end pregnancy and is expected to win approval from the Food and Drug Administration this year. It is available only through clinical trials. A similar drug used in Europe, RU-486, remains ensnared in political battles in this country.

The medications are touted as a way to make the procedure more private and convenient, without the need for surgery. Women take the medications under a doctor's supervision during the first 49 days of pregnancy.

Those on both sides of the debate said the medications are unlikely to affect the overall numbers of abortions but might shift the method away from surgery.

"I don't think it will have any effect whatsoever on rates of abortion or rates of unintended pregnancy," said Gloria Feldt, president of Planned Parenthood Federation of America.

April Thompson, a spokeswoman for the National Right to Life Committee, said: "It's just another method of taking the life of an unborn child. It will not change the debate and it will not change the number of abortions."

Cox-Fox agreement restores football

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than 400,000 Cox Communications cable customers will once again be able to see Fox programming, including the National Football League playoffs, because of a new transmission agreement reached Thursday, the companies said.

Fox had refused to let several Cox Communications systems in northern Virginia, Cleveland, Dallas and Houston retransmit its programming after Cox declined to add two other Fox networks as it upgrades to digital systems that carry more channels.

At midnight on New Year's Eve, Cox subscribers could no longer receive Fox over their cable connections, and those wanting the channel had to go back to getting it over the air by antenna.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	63 1-16	62⅛	62 15-16	+ 13-16
AT&T Corp s	49⅞	48 3-16	48 9-16	+ 5-16
Albertsons	34¼	33⅜	34 3-16	+ 1 3-16
Alltel	76¼	74¾	75 7-16	— 9-16
AmerOnline s	73⅜	69 13-16	72 3-16	+ 2 7-16
AndarkPtr	34 15-16	34 1-16	34⅝	+ 13-16
AtlRichfld	80¼	78⅝	78⅞	— 1¾
ATMOS Egy	20	19¾	20	+ ⅛
Aviall	9⅝	9 5-16	9½	+ 1-16
BP Amoco s	59½	58½	58⅞	— 1¾
BakerHughes	23 7-16	22 5-16	23⅜	+ 1 1-16
Bank of Amer	49⅝	48	48 7-16	— 15-16
BellAtl	59 1-16	58 7-16	58 9-16	— 11-16
BellSouth	46¼	45¼	45⅝	— ½
Beth Steel	9¼	9 1-16	9 3-16	
BurlNoSFe	24 9-16	23⅞	24 3-16	— 3-16
CBS Corp	54 13-16	53¼	54½	+ 9-16
Caterpillar	55⅛	52¾	54⅜	+ 2¾
CenSoWst	20⅜	20	20⅜	+ 5-16
Chevron	90⅞	89 11-16	90½	+ 1¾
Citigroup s	54	53	53 7-16	— 13-16
Coastal	34⅞	34	34¾	+ 13-16
CocaCola	60⅛	57⅞	60	+ 3
ColgatePal s	59¾	58	59⅝	+ 1 3-16
ComclMetals	33⅜	33 3-16	33⅜	
CooperIn	40 15-16	40¼	40 15-16	+ 13-16
DaimlrChry	75 11-16	74 11-16	75⅛	+ 11-16
DallSemicn	59⅛	57⅛	59	+ 1¾
DeltaAirl	50	49 3-16	49⅜	+ ⅜
Dillards Inc	19 15-16	19½	19 15-16	+ 1-16
DowChem	140 15-16	138⅝	140 13-16	+ 3⅞
DuPont	74	72	73 5-16	+ 1 13-16
EastmanChem	50⅝	50¼	50 7-16	— ⅛
EstKodak	64 1-16	61½	62 13-16	— 13-16
EDS Corp	60⅞	59	59 7-16	— 7-16
Entergy	26⅛	25⅞	26	+ ⅛
ExxonMobil	86¼	85⅝	86	+ 13-16
Flowers	14¾	14¼	14 7-16	— 5-16
FordMotor	54⅜	52⅛	54 5-16	+ 3 7-16
GTE Cp	69 1-16	68 3-16	68 7-16	— ⅝
GenDynam	57 9-16	55 3-16	56 13-16	+ 2
GenElec	148¼	147	148 1-16	+ 2 25-64
GenMills s	34 9-16	33¾	34⅛	+ 9-16
GenMotors	73⅜	71⅝	73¼	+ 1 11-16
GaPacGP s	51 13-16	49⅜	51 7-16	+ 1
GlobalMar	16¾	16¼	16 9-16	+ ½
Goodrich	28⅛	27 3-16	27⅝	+ ⅛
Goodyear s	28⅛	26 15-16	28⅛	+ 1 7-16
GtAtlPac	27 15-16	27 9-16	27 11-16	
Halliburtn	39 9-16	38 9-16	38 15-16	+ ⅝
Hanson ADS	41 9-16	41¼	41⅜	+ 5-16
HarteHanks	20 1-16	20	20	-- 1-16
HomeDepot s	62¼	60¾	61 15-16	+ 1 15-16
HoneywellIntl	58⅜	56 7-16	57⅞	+ 1⅞
IBM s	117 15-16	113⅞	114½	— ⅛
IntlPaper	59 15-16	57 13-16	59 11-16	+ 2 9-16
JohnsonJn	96⅞	93⅝	96⅞	+ 4 5-16
K mart	10¼	9⅝	9 11-16	+ 1-16
Kroger Co s	19¼	19	19 1-16	— 1-16
Lilton	51½	50	51½	+ 1½
LockheedM	22 1-16	21 9-16	22	+ ⅝
Lowes Cos	53 15-16	52¾	53⅛	+ 9-16
Lubys	11	10 13-16	10 13-16	— 1-16
LucentTech s	74¼	51	53 15-16	— 15 1-16
MayDeptStr s	32¼	31¾	31⅞	+ ⅛
MediaOne	75½	74⅛	74¾	— 9-16
Medtronic s	39 15-16	39 5-16	39 11-16	+ 1 11-16
Monsanto	37½	36⅛	37	— 3-16
MorganJP	124	120¼	121⅜	— 1¼
Motorola	127 7-16	121 15-16	127	+ 7
NCR Corp	37 7-16	36½	37¼	+ ⅜
Navistar	47 15-16	45½	47 15-16	+ 2 7-16
Penney JC	21⅛	20 7-16	20½	+ ⅛
PepBoys	8¾	8 9-16	8⅝	
PepsiCo	37 7-16	36 11-16	37⅜	+ ¾
PhelpDodge	71 3-16	70	70 11-16	+ ¼
PhilipPet	45 13-16	45⅛	45⅜	+ ¼
PilgrmPrd B	8¼	8	8¼	+ ¼
Polaroid	18⅝	17¾	18⅛	— ½
Praxair	53 15-16	52 7-16	53 5-16	— 3-16
ProctGamb	114⅝	109 3-16	114½	+ 6⅝
PubS NwMx	16½	16¼	16½	+ ¼
ReliantEngy	23⅞	23¾	23¾	+ 3-16
RoyalDut	63 7-16	62 11-16	63⅛	+ 2⅛
SBC Comm	44¾	43 7-16	44 1-16	+ 5-16
SaraLee	21 3-16	20 13-16	20 15-16	
Scripps EW	45⅜	44¾	45 5-16	+ ⅜
SearsRoeb	33 5-16	31 15-16	33 5-16	+ 1 13-16
SherwinW	20 1-16	19 9-16	19¾	
SmithklBchm	63¼	61 5-16	62 15-16	+ 7-16
SouthernCo	24¾	24½	24 9-16	+ 5-16
SwstAirl s	15 9-16	15 5-16	15½	+ 3-16
SprintFON s	64⅜	63 11-16	63 15-16	+ ½
SprintPCS	94⅝	92 5-16	93¼	— 1 3-16
Sunoco Inc	23½	22 15-16	23⅛	— 3-16
TNP Ent	41⅛	41 1-16	41⅛	
Tandy s	50	48	48⅜	— 3
TempleInland	66 9-16	65 5-16	66 9-16	+ ⅝
Texaco	58 7-16	57½	57 11-16	+ 2⅛
TexInd	41¼	40⅝	41¼	+ ½
TexasInst s	94¼	91⅜	93 13-16	+ 2 5-16
Tex Util	36 9-16	36 1-16	36½	+ 9-16
Textron	71½	70 5-16	71 5-16	+ 5-16
TriconGlbR	36½	35⅜	35⅝	— 13-16
TrinityInds	27 9-16	27 5-16	27½	— 1-16
TritonEngy	21¼	20½	21⅛	+ ⅝
TylerTech	6¼	5 13-16	6⅛	
US West Inc	65⅛	64⅜	64⅞	— ⅝
USX-Marathn	27 1-16	25	26 11-16	+ 3-16
USX-USS	32 15-16	31 9-16	31 13-16	+ 11-16
UnCarbde	68 7-16	66 5-16	68⅛	+ 1 13-16
UnionPacif	45⅝	44⅝	44¾	— ⅞
UnitedTech s	63	60⅞	62⅞	+ 1 5-16
Unocal	35 5-16	34¾	34¾	+ 5-16
Venator Grp	7	6 13-16	6 15-16	
WalMart s	65 13-16	64½	65 1-16	+ 1 15-16
WellsFargo	39 11-16	38 13-16	38 15-16	+ ⅜
WstnGasRs	13	12 11-16	12 11-16	— 5-16
WinnDixie	24	23⅜	23⅜	— 1-16
Xerox Cp s	23 13-16	23 1-16	23 5-16	— 7-16

Local Interest STOCKS

Patterson	13 3/4	+1/16
Dell	46 1/4	-1 3/4
Wal Mart	65 3/8	+1 11/16
Compac	28 5/8	+1/2
Dol. Gen.	21 7/8	+3/8
GTE	67 13/16	-1 1/4
SBC Comm.	44 3/16	+7/16
Tx Instr.	92 11/16	-13/16
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Cisco Sys.	103 1/8	+3 1/8

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Taxes, gays in military focus of GOP debate

DURHAM, N.H. (AP) — In the first of back-to-back debates, the Republican presidential candidates split on the question of whether gays should be allowed to serve openly in the military.

Texas Gov. George W. Bush and Sen. John McCain said they supported the Clinton administration policy now in effect — which members of their party long have reviled.

"I'm a 'don't ask, don't tell' man," declared the front-running Bush, who opened the debate with an all-but-unequivocal tax pledge similar to one that later caused trouble for his father, former President Bush.

Their rivals, however, said gays should not be permitted to serve openly.

Meanwhile, McCain again defended his action as chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee to prod the Federal Communications Commission to act on a license request from one of his campaign contributors.

The Arizona senator has made campaign finance reform a cornerstone of his presidential campaign, saying that money is "corrupting" the political process.

"Most objective observers believe the FCC hasn't done their job," he told a questioner. "That's my obligation as a senator and as the chairman of a powerful committee."

Bush, McCain and their rivals — Steve Forbes, Alan Keyes, Gary Bauer and Sen. Orrin Hatch of Utah — meet again tonight in South Carolina, and on Monday in Michigan.

Thursday's debate was the most boisterous yet, a fact apparent to voters.

"There were good things I heard tonight, but I was surprised by the amount of negativity," observed Mary Westfall of Durham, a self-labeled Democrat who said she came to the debate undecided. "I think they missed an opportunity to go deeper."

On gays in the military, McCain said the existing policy could be fine-tuned. But in apparent agreement with Bush, added, "I cannot change a policy that's working."

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which the president and others have said has not worked well, requires gays in the military to keep their sexual orientation a secret.

The other Republicans on stage trashed the policy.

Bauer said the pledges Wednesday night by the two Democratic candidates to ensure that homosexuals can serve openly in the military were "idiotic."

"The Joint Chiefs of Staff have one purpose, to keep the United States out of war, and if they fail that, to win any war we're getting into," he said. "Our party ought to find our voice and say that we will not put that kind of requirement on our military."

An animated Keyes said, "I will return to the ban on homosexuals in the military."

Forbes said open gays should not be allowed, saying the military is "not an agency for social experimentation."

After struggling to be heard, Hatch offered an indirect response, saying "I will not expect anybody in the military to live any way other than the way I live."

On taxes, an aggressive Bush opened with a pledge to cut them.

"If there's a recession it's important to cut taxes to make sure the economy grows. ... It's also important to cut the taxes where there's times of plenty. ... It's important to cut the taxes to make sure Washington, D.C., does not spend the surplus," he said.

He was asked whether he was saying "no new taxes, so help me God" — a reference to the no-new-taxes pledge his father broke after winning the White House.

"This is not only no new taxes. This is tax cuts, so help me God," replied the junior Bush.

The political subtext explained the course of the hourlong debate. Bush's tax-cut pledge was designed to strike a chord in a state where residents are fiercely proud that there is no income tax.

Similarly, McCain's chances for victory in New Hampshire rest with independents, and his defense of his actions before the FCC seemed an effort to reassure those attracted to his image as a reformer who will end politics as usual.

The debate was feisty, as none of the men hesitated to interrupt each other.

"I'm going to stay here and take some time myself," Hatch said at one point, as he jockeyed for airtime.

"I paid for this microphone, mister," joked the moderator, NBC's Tim Russert.

Hatch shot back: "Well, let me tell you something ... I'm taking this microphone, I will tell you that right now."

On other issues:

— Bauer underscored his commitment to the unborn, saying he would not appoint any justice to the Supreme Court "who would sacrifice even one child," a pledge he has uttered often in his effort to show unbreakable opposition to abortion.

— Forbes, a wealthy publisher, criticized the Clinton administration's decision to send a Cuban boy whose mother died escaping Havana back to his homeland and his father. The child is "Bill Clinton's human sacrifice to Fidel Castro," he said.

Debate: Confusion over surplus, taxes

WASHINGTON (AP) — Viewers just tuning in to the presidential campaign could have come away from the latest Republican debate with the notion that Texas Gov. George W. Bush wants to devote the entire federal surplus in future years to tax cuts.

"No one is suggesting we pass the entire surplus back to the taxpayers," Bush insisted in the face of attacks from Arizona Sen. John McCain.

"But your plan does," McCain said.

"No, it doesn't," Bush said.

"Yes, it does," McCain insisted.

No, it doesn't.

In the debate, as in the Democratic debates, candidates were not careful to distinguish between the overall budget surplus projected in the years ahead and that part of the surplus coming from Social Security.

No candidate in either party is proposing to plunder the Social Security portion — the issue is what to do with the non-Social Security surplus, also known as the "available surplus." That's what McCain and Bush were arguing about.

But viewers had no way of knowing that.

"They forget that the person who is watching this debate and is otherwise involved in a life outside politics doesn't have the same set of assumptions," said Kathleen Hall Jamieson, dean of the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania.

There was still more room for confusion Thursday night.

Candidates Gary Bauer and Steve Forbes both voiced support for a "no tax" plank in the GOP platform. They actually meant a "no new taxes" pledge, or a promise not to raise taxes. But no one is talking about getting rid of them altogether — not even close.

Also in the debate:

— Alan Keyes asserted that the Constitution does not address the separation of church and state. Although the phrase does not appear in the Constitution, the First Amendment opens, "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion" — words used to build up a body of law that speaks to just such a separation.

— Bush swore to cut taxes "so help me God," and brushed away the prospect that national emergencies, such as war, might get in the way. Such developments would be "extreme hypotheticals," he said.

— Forbes, facing persistent questions on why his campaign seems not to have caught fire in New Hampshire, cited the example of Pat Buchanan, who pulled a surprise Republican primary victory in the state in 1996. "At this point he was in single digits" in opinion polls, Forbes said.

That was a touch melodramatic; Buchanan was at 15 percent in a major poll at the comparable stage of the 1996 campaign — about three weeks from the New Hampshire primary.

But Jamieson said confusion over the two parts of the surplus has been the most enduring disservice committed in the debates with candidates from both parties so far — that, and the fact that the budget performances everyone is counting on are merely forecasts and may not happen.

McCain argues that Bush's $483 billion, five-year tax cut plan eats up the non-Social Security surplus and more. Although that sets up a legitimate argument over whether the cuts go too far and might force money to be taken from Social Security, that's not how the issue was framed.

GOP candidates try to avoid flag issue

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — A huge, three-day Confederate rally and re-enactment begins here today — the same day Republican presidential candidates will be in South Carolina to debate.

Mere coincidence, the rally's organizers say.

But it's one very touchy issue for visiting candidates.

In this state, where some call the early Republican primary the "Gateway to the South," a bitter argument over the Confederate flag flying above the statehouse is no minor local issue.

Heritage Coalition Chairman Chris Sullivan, one of the rally's organizers, says it certainly will sway how he votes in the Feb. 19 primary.

"If a candidate for president were to decide he was against what the flag represents, that would certainly have an impact on my decision," he said. "I think a lot of people would share that view."

The Republican candidates debate tonight in West Columbia, a day after they faced off in Durham, N.H.

The Confederate rally, meanwhile, starts with a reading of the names of 26,000 soldiers "who died defending South Carolina from invasion," accompanied by the ringing of a bell. The next day, re-enactors from North Carolina, Tennessee and Louisiana are expected to participate in a two-mile procession.

Supporters say the banner stands for defiant defense of freedom and Southern heritage. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sees a symbol of slavery and has called for a tourism boycott of the state.

The Republican candidates, have done their best to avoid the issue — though not always successfully.

Publisher Steve Forbes said it was a local matter. So did Texas Gov. George W. Bush — but in a way that stirred things up.

Arizona Sen. John McCain said, "To me personally, I understand how it could be offensive to some people, but I had ancestors who fought in the Confederate Army and I thought they fought honorably."

McCain also said he had resented it when the NAACP announced a boycott of his state to pressure officials to approve a holiday honoring the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.

Bush, pressed this summer about the South Carolina tourism boycott, said, "My advice is for people who don't live in South Carolina to butt out of the issue."

The NAACP suggested Bush follow his own advice.

"Your comments may even be seen as a thinly veiled attempt to gain votes in South Carolina by attacking the NAACP and this issue," James Gallman, South Carolina NAACP president, wrote to Bush. "In reality, you are the outsider."

Back home, the Texas NAACP wants Bush to push for legislation banning the flag from public institutions there following a controversy at high school that uses the flag and a Rebel mascot.

It's a no-win situation for Bush, who is trying to broaden his appeal to minorities with his "compassionate conservative" message but can't alienate conservatives backing the flag, said Earl Black, a Rice University political scientist who specializes in Southern politics and who used to live in South Carolina.

"Politicians are really reluctant to intervene in local disputes," Black said. "It has an effect of dividing supporters without normally winning new supporters."

And what about the Democrats?

Vice President Al Gore, who is pursuing the Democratic presidential nomination, "supports the right of the people of South Carolina to remove the Confederate flag," said spokeswoman Laura Quinn.

"I wouldn't fly it," said his opponent, Bill Bradley. "I think that it sometimes offends a large part of the population."

Patrick Buchanan, a member of the Sons of Confederate Veterans, said the Southerners "ought to be respected and so should the flag under which they fought and died."

South Carolina raised the Confederate flag over its statehouse in 1962 to commemorate the Civil War's centennial and is the only state that has kept it flying.

Georgia and Mississippi incorporate the Confederate symbol in their state flags. The state Supreme Court has resurrected a 6-year-old challenge by the NAACP to change Mississippi. Attempts to change Georgia's flag have failed in the Legislature.

In 1995, South Carolina legislators gave themselves sole power to remove the flag after then-Gov. David Beasley and the state Chamber of Commerce tried to bring it down. Beasley later said the flag issue contributed to his defeat last year.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Saturday, Jan, 8, 2000

Rewards that have appeared impossible to attain could now become realities for you in the year ahead if you elevate your sights a little and work hard to achieve your objectives.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Wishy-washy measures won't get the job done today if you hope to achieve an important objective. Being both assertive and determined is the only way your goal can become a reality. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) A closed mind on your part could cause you to ignore the excellent suggestions of a friend who is trying to be helpful. Chances are your pal's reasoning will be superior to yours.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If you allow instant gratification to rule today, you may do something very imprudent. Let your present state of finances determine the kind of expenditures you make.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The very people who are usually the most supportive could be the ones who stymie your efforts today. Not that they don't care, but present conditions may force them onto other interests.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) In order for you to realize any progress today, you must first face up to reality and begin to work from that point. It won't do any good to dwell on how things could have been.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Someone who may have done things to displease you in the past may cross your path again today. Be careful, because there's a possibility your personalities could clash again.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Be mindful of when you speak today or else you could unintentionally offend someone who is very sensitive and egocentric. This person may not readily forgive and forget.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You must first believe in yourself if you hope to have others believe in you and support your ideas today. Apprehension on your part will be easily perceived and cause them to back away.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) It could be quite easy for you to get yourself in a situation today that would cost you more than you anticipate if you fail to properly evaluate everything first before you act.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Look in the mirror for the fault if others are not giving you their complete cooperation today. It might well be that you are failing to give them any credit for their participation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Mounting pressure is something you might not be able to handle too well today, so try to keep pace with your responsibilities and duties, and don't let things pile up on you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Trying to arbitrate if something testy develops between two friends of yours today could prove to be a very unwise move. Both could feel betrayed by you, so just stay out of it.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Clinton returns to peace talks

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — President Clinton today moved again into peacemaking between Israel and Syria. "This is difficult stuff, this is very hard" he said of the nearly week-long drive for a land-for-peace accord.

Clinton returned to the site and began a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa after consulting with National Security Adviser Sandy Berger, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and members of the negotiating team.

Officials said they had no idea how long talks between the three leaders would last.

There is no schedule for Clinton to return to the talks over the weekend, although White House spokesman Joe Lockhart did not rule out another visit, possibly late Saturday after the close of the Jewish Sabbath or Sunday.

Before leaving Washington for Shepherdstown for the fourth time this week, Clinton said the two sides "are working very hard in trying to find ways to resolve their differences."

His own role, he said, is to bring Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa together and to urge them "to keep in mind the big picture in the end."

Clinton said he was satisfied everyone was making a good-faith effort.

Even with his intervening, Israel and Syria remained apart after four days of lagging peace talks, their face-to-face negotiations at a standstill.

Clinton, who has made Mideast peace a top priority for the final year of his term, was returning to Shepherdstown in hopes of quickening the pace of the talks.

The president met separately Thursday with Barak and al-Sharaa, but did not try to bring the two leaders together for a second three-way meeting, according to White House spokesman Joe Lockhart.

Russian troops stop rebels in Grozny

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Russian artillery bombarded the southern Chechen town of Vedeno today, in an assault aiming to break the rebels' grip on their main stronghold in the mountains.

The assault in the south came as Russia's efforts to take Chechnya's capital, Grozny, appeared to be stalled by bad weather and tough rebel resistance.

Lt.-Col. Konstantin Kukharenko, a military spokesman, said the army's eastern group had brought nearly all its artillery to bear on Vedeno.

The military halted shelling of nearby Serzhen-Yurt because civilians remained in the village along with the militants. "We'll enter Serzhen-Yurt when we consider it necessary," Kukharenko said.

In Grozny, the military said heavy fog over the last few days had limited airstrikes. Rebels said the fog was helping them carry out hit-and-run attacks on Russian troops trying to gain control of the shattered city.

An Associated Press reporter saw two groups of rebels try to break out of a northeast Grozny neighborhood overnight, but they were repelled by special police units. Police likewise turned down a request by rebel commanders to evacuate 28 seriously wounded fighters.

"They kill us, and we should be giving them medical treatment!" scoffed Maj. Andrei Vlasov, head of a reconnaissance unit on the northeast edge of Grozny. "I'll kill each of them with a control shot to the head."

Russia launched the ground offensive against Chechnya-based Islamic militants in September, following weeks of airstrikes. The campaign began after militants invaded the neighboring republic of Dagestan. Russia also blamed the militants for a series of apartment bombings last year that killed about 300 people.

After crossing Chechnya's lowlands in a brisk offensive, the Russian army has in recent weeks been trying to take control of Grozny, the capital, and to penetrate the southern mountains, where thousands of rebel fighters are based.

Chechen officials say many civilians are trapped in southern mountain villages, unable to leave because of the constant Russian shelling of the area. The civilians include Grozny residents who had fled the capital in hopes of escaping to Georgia, which borders Chechnya to the south.

Rebels were holed up in several apartment houses in districts of Grozny that the Russian forces had claimed to control.

Clinton supports INS decision to return Elian to dad in Cuba

MIAMI (AP) — Responding to pleas that he overrule immigration authorities, President Clinton today said they followed the law in deciding to send a 6-year-old boy back to his father in Cuba.

Florida Gov. Jeb Bush on Thursday asked Clinton to reverse the Immigration and Naturalization Service's order that Elian Gonzalez return to Cuba, a decision that set off a storm of protests by Miami's Cuban community.

"I believe they followed the law," Clinton said at the White House when asked about Bush's request. "This is a volatile and difficult case. ... We need to keep this out of the political process as much as possible."

Elian was found Thanksgiving Day clinging to an inner tube at sea after his mother, stepfather and eight other people drowned while trying to reach Florida by boat.

His father, backed by the Cuban government, wants him back, and the INS said Wednesday that the boy must be returned to his father by next Friday.

Many Cuban-Americans have made the case a cause celebre, and took their anger over the INS ruling into the streets Thursday, marching, clashing with police and blocking and slowing traffic. The disruptions lasted into the evening, and early this morning police in riot gear used tear gas to disperse a crowd. At least 135 people were arrested, including two Cuban exile leaders.

One exile group called for more protests throughout the Miami area today, but this morning's rush hour traffic appeared normal.

Elian, who has been living in Miami with his paternal great-uncle and great-aunt since the rescue, did not go to school and stayed out of the public eye Thursday.

He was in his relatives' yard today to play with a new puppy, a gift from Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, R-Fla. The black Labrador puppy — named Dolphin — chased Elian around the yard and playfully nipped at his shorts.

Marisleysis Gonzalez, Elian's cousin, said the boy doesn't want to go back to Cuba.

His father called from Cuba on Thursday, but it wasn't known what they discussed. Lawyers for the relatives are planning legal action to keep him here.

Gasoline drive-off reported Thursday

Officers filed an offense report for Class C theft Thursday in reference to a gas drive-off.

An employee with Town & Country on North College notified officers of the gas drive-off at 8:09 a.m.

Officers advised at 6:30 p.m. that an offense report for Class B theft would be submitted in reference to a bicycle reported missing Jan. 2. Jason Kenner reported the incident.

Officers worked a two-vehicle accident at 12:20 p.m. in the 4100 block of Denison. Involved were a 1993 Ford Mustang driven by Lexie Shae Beard, 17, of 2700 46th Street and a 1989 Jeep Cherokee driven by Adam Keith Beck, 18, of 2810 El Paso.

Department of Public Safety troopers responded to a one-vehicle rollover at 5:43 p.m., two miles south of Garza County line. There were no injuries reported. No further information was available this morning.

Obituaries

Burl J. Belew

1916-2000

Funeral service for Burl J. Belew, a lifelong Fluvanna resident, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday in the Fluvanna Church of Christ. Don Campbell, minister, will officiate.

Burial will follow in the Fluvanna Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Belew, 83, died Thursday, Jan. 6, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Born on Sept. 12, 1916 in Fluvanna, he married Virginia Browning on Jan. 31, 1946 in Lubbock.

A farmer, Mr. Belew was a member of the Fluvanna Church of Christ. He served on the board of directors of the Scurry County Livestock Show and had also served on the Fluvanna school board of trustees and as a board member of the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia Belew of the home; two sons and daughters-in-law, Denny and Mary Belew of Tahoka and Joe and Nanette Belew of Fluvanna; and four grandchildren, Jason Belew, Kris Munson, and Kandace and Marcus Belew.

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Donald Hensley

1925-2000

FORT STOCKTON - Donald Hensley, a former Snyder resident, died Wednesday, Jan. 5, in the Fort Stockton Nursing Center.

Funeral service for Mr. Hensley, 74, was held Thursday in the Fort Stockton Funeral Home Chapel with Harold Durham officiating. Burial is set for 9 a.m. Saturday in Forest Park Cemetery in Houston with Coy Day officiating.

Born Aug. 15, 1925, he married Ann J. Moore on April 23, 1948 in Nacogdoches. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He lived in Houston before moving to Fort Stockton 15 months ago.

While living in Snyder, Mr. Hensley was a sales engineer for Teledyne.

He was a member of the Instrument Society of America, fire chief of Lone Star Volunteer Fire Department, was city councilman in Lone Star in the 1960s and was a member of the Church of Christ.

He was preceded in death by three brothers and one sister.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Clinton returns to peace talks

SHEPHERDSTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — President Clinton today moved again into peacemaking between Israel and Syria. "This is difficult stuff, this is very hard" he said of the nearly week-long drive for a land-for-peace accord.

Clinton returned to the site and began a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa after consulting with National Security Adviser Sandy Berger, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and members of the negotiating team.

Officials said they had no idea how long talks between the three leaders would last.

There is no schedule for Clinton to return to the talks over the weekend, although White House spokesman Joe Lockhart did not rule out another visit, possibly late Saturday after the close of the Jewish Sabbath or Sunday.

Before leaving Washington for Shepherdstown for the fourth time this week, Clinton said the two sides "are working very hard in trying to find ways to resolve their differences."

His own role, he said, is to bring Barak and Syrian Foreign Minister Farouk al-Sharaa together and to urge them "to keep in mind the big picture in the end."

Clinton said he was satisfied everyone was making a good-faith effort.

Even with his intervening, Israel and Syria remained apart after four days of lagging peace talks, their face-to-face negotiations at a standstill.

Clinton, who has made Mideast peace a top priority for the final year of his term, was returning to Shepherdstown in hopes of quickening the pace of the talks.

The president met separately Thursday with Barak and al-Sharaa, but did not try to bring the two leaders together for a second three-way meeting, according to White House spokesman Joe Lockhart.

Russian troops stop rebels in Grozny

GROZNY, Russia (AP) — Russian artillery bombarded the southern Chechen town of Vedeno today, in an assault aiming to break the rebels' grip on their main stronghold in the mountains.

The assault in the south came as Russia's efforts to take Chechnya's capital, Grozny, appeared to be stalled by bad weather and tough rebel resistance.

Lt.-Col. Konstantin Kukharenko, a military spokesman, said the army's eastern group had brought nearly all its artillery to bear on Vedeno.

The military halted shelling of nearby Serzhen-Yurt because civilians remained in the village along with the militants. "We'll enter Serzhen-Yurt when we consider it necessary," Kukharenko said.

In Grozny, the military said heavy fog over the last few days had limited airstrikes. Rebels said the fog was helping them carry out hit-and-run attacks on Russian troops trying to gain control of the shattered city.

An Associated Press reporter saw two groups of rebels try to break out of a northeast Grozny neighborhood overnight, but they were repelled by special police units. Police likewise turned down a request by rebel commanders to evacuate 28 seriously wounded fighters.

"They kill us, and we should be giving them medical treatment!" scoffed Maj. Andrei Vlasov, head of a reconnaissance unit on the northeast edge of Grozny. "I'll kill each of them with a control shot to the head."

Russia launched the ground offensive against Chechnya-based Islamic militants in September, following weeks of airstrikes. The campaign began after militants invaded the neighboring republic of Dagestan. Russia also blamed the militants for a series of apartment bombings last year that killed about 300 people.

After crossing Chechnya's lowlands in a brisk offensive, the Russian army has in recent weeks been trying to take control of Grozny, the capital, and to penetrate the southern mountains, where thousands of rebel fighters are based.

Chechen officials say many civilians are trapped in southern mountain villages, unable to leave because of the constant Russian shelling of the area. The civilians include Grozny residents who had fled the capital in hopes of escaping to Georgia, which borders Chechnya to the south.

Rebels were holed up in several apartment houses in districts of Grozny that the Russian forces had claimed to control.

Clinton supports INS decision to return Elian to dad in Cuba

MIAMI (AP) — Responding to pleas that he overrule immigration authorities, President Clinton today said they followed the law in deciding to send a 6-year-old boy back to his father in Cuba.

Florida Gov. Jeb Bush on Thursday asked Clinton to reverse the Immigration and Naturalization Service's order that Elian Gonzalez return to Cuba, a decision that set off a storm of protests by Miami's Cuban community.

"I believe they followed the law," Clinton said at the White House when asked about Bush's request. "This is a volatile and difficult case. ... We need to keep this out of the political process as much as possible."

Elian was found Thanksgiving Day clinging to an inner tube at sea after his mother, stepfather and eight other people drowned while trying to reach Florida by boat.

His father, backed by the Cuban government, wants him back, and the INS said Wednesday that the boy must be returned to his father by next Friday.

Many Cuban-Americans have made the case a cause celebre, and took their anger over the INS ruling into the streets Thursday, marching, clashing with police and blocking and slowing traffic. The disruptions lasted into the evening, and early this morning police in riot gear used tear gas to disperse a crowd. At least 135 people were arrested, including two Cuban exile leaders.

One exile group called for more protests throughout the Miami area today, but this morning's rush hour traffic appeared normal.

Elian, who has been living in Miami with his paternal great-uncle and great-aunt since the rescue, did not go to school and stayed out of the public eye Thursday.

He was in his relatives' yard today to play with a new puppy, a gift from Rep. Lincoln Diaz-Balart, R-Fla. The black Labrador puppy — named Dolphin — chased Elian around the yard and playfully nipped at his shorts.

Marisleysis Gonzalez, Elian's cousin, said the boy doesn't want to go back to Cuba.

His father called from Cuba on Thursday, but it wasn't known what they discussed. Lawyers for the relatives are planning legal action to keep him here.

Gasoline drive-off reported Thursday

Officers filed an offense report for Class C theft Thursday in reference to a gas drive-off.

An employee with Town & Country on North College notified officers of the gas drive-off at 8:09 a.m.

Officers advised at 6:30 p.m. that an offense report for Class B theft would be submitted in reference to a bicycle reported missing Jan. 2. Jason Kenner reported the incident.

Officers worked a two-vehicle accident at 12:20 p.m. in the 4100 block of Denison. Involved were a 1993 Ford Mustang driven by Lexie Shae Beard, 17, of 2700 46th Street and a 1989 Jeep Cherokee driven by Adam Keith Beck, 18, of 2810 El Paso.

Department of Public Safety troopers responded to a one-vehicle rollover at 5:43 p.m., two miles south of Garza County line. There were no injuries reported. No further information was available this morning.

Obituaries

Burl J. Belew

1916-2000

Funeral service for Burl J. Belew, a lifelong Fluvanna resident, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday in the Fluvanna Church of Christ. Don Campbell, minister, will officiate.

Burial will follow in the Fluvanna Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Belew, 83, died Thursday, Jan. 6, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Born on Sept. 12, 1916 in Fluvanna, he married Virginia Browning on Jan. 31, 1946 in Lubbock.

A farmer, Mr. Belew was a member of the Fluvanna Church of Christ. He served on the board of directors of the Scurry County Livestock Show and had also served on the Fluvanna school board of trustees and as a board member of the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District.

Survivors include his wife, Virginia Belew of the home; two sons and daughters-in-law, Denny and Mary Belew of Tahoka and Joe and Nanette Belew of Fluvanna; and four grandchildren, Jason Belew, Kris Munson, and Kandace and Marcus Belew.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Donald Hensley

1925-2000

FORT STOCKTON - Donald Hensley, a former Snyder resident, died Wednesday, Jan. 5, in the Fort Stockton Nursing Center.

Funeral service for Mr. Hensley, 74, was held Thursday in the Fort Stockton Funeral Home Chapel with Harold Durham officiating. Burial is set for 9 a.m. Saturday in Forest Park Cemetery in Houston with Coy Day officiating.

Born Aug. 15, 1925, he married Ann J. Moore on April 23, 1948 in Nacogdoches. He served in the U.S. Army during World War II. He lived in Houston before moving to Fort Stockton 15 months ago.

While living in Snyder, Mr. Hensley was a sales engineer for Teledyne.

He was a member of the Instrument Society of America, fire chief of Lone Star Volunteer Fire Department, was city councilman in Lone Star in the 1960s and was a member of the Church of Christ.

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