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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
Feb. 7, 2000
Vol. 51 No.240
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Krisi Early

37th St. and College Avenue...

City to consider action on corner lot

Snyder's city council will address the "disposition" of a city-owned lot when it meets at 6:30 this evening at city hall for its monthly meeting.

The lot – located at 37th and College Avenue – has been the subject of numerous letters to the editor since the city placed railroad ties and barricades around it to prevent access.

The city's action preceded the opening of the White Buffalo Café in a remodeled service station, just south of the city lot.

The city has owned the lot since it purchased it for $2,500 from Pride Refining prior to the widening of 37th Street. It currently has a monitoring well on it for underground petroleum products that have accumulated under the site over the years.

Federal law requires that the city remain responsible for the monitoring, regardless of whether the council decides to again seek bids on the property, or attempt to lease it.

However, the monitoring well can be relocated on the lot.

The city's attempt to sell the property earlier by sealed bid resulted in no bids being submitted with a floor set at $20,000.

It is estimated the city has spent some $15,000 on the lot, including the initial price and monitoring costs.

Jim Shearer, certified real estate appraiser for Shearer Appraisals, set the value on Jan. 12 at $25,000.

In his appraisal to the city, Shearer said if there was not the environmental issue, the property could be valued up to $50,000 due to its location at the highest traffic count in the city.

Texas Department of Transportation studies show 16,000 vehicles pass by the location daily. This compares with 10,000 at 30th and College, and 8,000 at 25th and College.

Shearer said locations near the city-owned lot have sold for prices ranging from $60,000 to $100,000.

"Some have the opinion that the market is down for real estate in this area, but recorded sales to Sonic, Taco Bell, United, Town and Country and others are recent enough to prove confidence in this area's future to pay well above this report's valuation for inferior traffic demographics than this subjects," Shearer wrote in his report to the city.

In other business this evening, the council will hear the audit report and the comprehensive annual finance report that ended Sept. 30, and consider several items related to TXU Electric and the upcoming deregulation of the electrical industry.

The council will also consider calling the municipal election for May 6 for all four council districts. The terms of Vernest Tippens in District 1, Jerry Webb in District 2, James Jenkins in District 3 and I.E. Martin in District 4 expire.

In a related matter, the council will consider appointment of Francene Noah as election judge and Joyce Cooper as the alternate election judge.

Bids on a pickup for the sanitation department will also be considered.

Two items related to the widening of 37th Street also are on the ballot.

The council will consider a change order in the amount of $52,553.50 in a present contract with Jack's Roadboring for utility work in preparation for the work to begin, and a contract with Allen Doggett for $14,989.80 for utility work on Noble Drive.



MR. AND MISS SHS NOMINEES — Nominees for Mr. SHS 2000 include, from left, Sonny Cumbie, Randy Green, Jared Hester, Justin Phillips and Layne Scott. Nominees for Miss SHS include, from left, Lauren Hackfeld, Amy Brooks, Sally Barham, Jodi Dennis and Janette Allen. All are seniors at Snyder High School. The coronation is Wednesday. (Staff Photo)

Receives $7,038 check...

Safety first pays off for county coffers

Scurry County Commissioners Court met briefly this morning with one item of new business and two items of routine business.

James Cain, safety specialist with the Texas Association of Counties (TAC), presented a $7,038 check for enhancement of safety efforts in 1999.

"This is a compliment to the commissioners court, elected officials, department heads and county employees. The taxpayers should be proud, this shows outstanding work."

County Auditor Eddie McHaney explained the funds are a rebate on the county's Workers' Compensation bill.

"It is a refund of part of the Workers' Compensation insurance money," he said. "I guess you could call it a discount after the fact."

He added that the county strives to keep injuries down to reduce the Workers' Compensation rate.

Kathryn Roberts, home demonstration agent, was the chairman of the safety committee in 1999. Julie Williams, county judge's secretary, holds the position in 2000.

The award comes from the Workers' Compensation self-insurance pool in which Scurry County participates. The self-insurance fund is owned and operated by Texas counties and county-related political subdivisions.

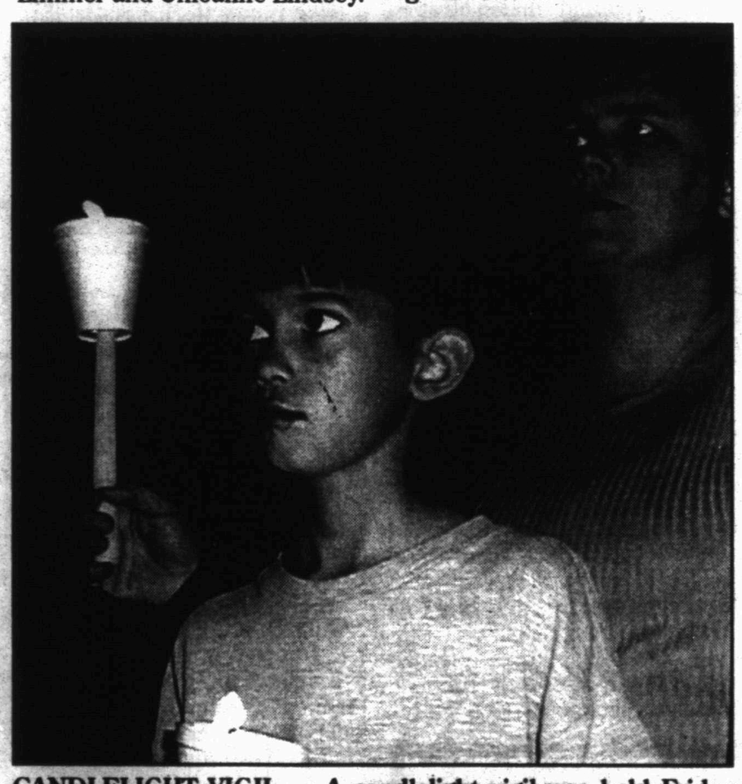
In 1999, Scurry County officials implemented several safety improvement measures recommended by TAC, who administers the self-insurance pool. These measures saved the county the $7,038.

The resolution to participate was adopted earlier in 1999 by the commissioners court and was also endorsed by Sheriff Darren Jackson.

TAC also provided safety specialists at no additional charge to the county to assist in formulating realistic, cost effective measures for accident prevention.

In routine business, the court approved the minutes and the bills for payment.

Judge Ricky Fritz presided and all commissioners were present to include Ralph Trevey, Roy Idom, Howard Limmer and Chloanne Lindsey.



CANDLELIGHT VIGIL — A candlelight vigil was held Friday evening on the grounds of the Scurry County Courthouse by a handful of Texas Department of Criminal Justice employees. Vigils have been held in various cities around the state to encourage Gov. George W. Bush to call a special session of the legislature to address staff shortages, correctional officer pay and safety issues. Correctional officer Kellye Block is shown with her son, Zane. (SDN Staff Photo By Joyce May)

Redistricting meeting planned

State Rep. David Counts will attend a joint meeting of the Texas House and Senate redistricting committees Wednesday in Abilene to discuss the 2000 census and hear public testimony on the upcoming redistricting.

The Texas Legislature will consider redistricting in the 2001 regular session.

The hearing will convene at 2 p.m. in the Abilene Civic Center and continue until testimony is complete, Counts said.

"This is a crucial time for this committee to gather information and data on the population growth of the region because this process will chart electoral districts for the people of Texas for the next 10 years," said Counts.

The focus of the hearing will be to receive information and comment concerning Texas House, Senate, Congressional and State Board of Education districts.

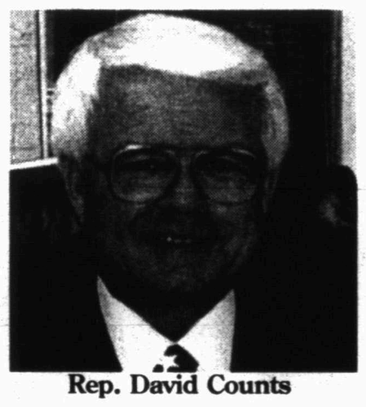
Recent census bureau studies project that Texas will have grown by about 20 percent between 1990 and 2000, from 17 million to 20 million people.

The 2000 census is expected to reveal the continuation of a population shift away from rural areas and metropolitan central cities to suburban communities.

The unequal distribution of Texas' population change will result in the need to substantially redraw district boundaries to comply with the one-person, one-vote requirements of state and federal law.

Committee members are urging city and county officials, educators, business people, agriculture producers, individuals and other interested parties to attend the hearing and participate in the redistricting process.

"This meeting will be of particular importance to our rural and agriculture area," said Counts.



Rep. David Counts

Census testing ready to begin

Employment testing for temporary 2000 census jobs will be held at various locations in the coming weeks.

At 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, testing will be conducted at the Texas Workforce Commission on the campus of Western Texas College. Also on Wednesday, testing will be conducted at WTC in room 15A at 5:30 p.m.

On Thursday, testing will be conducted at 5:30 p.m. at St. Elizabeth's Hall at Ave. A and 30th Street.

Daily testing will begin Monday, Feb. 14, at the Scurry County Library and will continue during regular hours through March 13.

On Feb. 17, testing will be held at St. John's Hall in Hermleigh at 5:30 p.m.

Applications for the jobs, which pay $9.25 hourly, can be picked up daily at the Texas Workforce Commission and at the Scurry County Library.

Additional testing dates will be announced later, said Barbara Poulson of the Census Bureau.

Poulson can be contacted at 573-0443.

Fire cause investigated

Snyder Police Department and Snyder Fire Department are investigating as arson a fire that occurred early Sunday morning at the Beacon Lodge.

Sgt. Brian Haggard with the police department said a possible suspect has been identified, but no arrest has been made.

Officers and firefighters were called to the motel, 1900 East Hwy. 180, at 2:23 a.m. Sunday.

Twenty-two firemen and four fire trucks responded and were on the scene until 4:05 a.m.

The blaze, which occurred in room 29, destroyed a bed and damaged one wall and the carpet. It also melted the window blinds and light fixtures.

ASK US

Q—Has David Tate, the animal control officer, resigned? If so, who is taking his place?
A—Yes, he has resigned and a replacement has not been hired. Arrangements have been made through the city barn for picking up dead animals. Persons with questions or complaints about vicious animals, or animals at large should call 573-2611.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Saturday, 57 degrees; low, 26; high Sunday, 69; low, 35; 7 a.m. Monday, 36; no precipitation; total for 2000, .88 of an inch.

Area Forecast: Tonight, fair, low 30-35; light E wind. Tuesday, partly cloudy, warm, high near 70; SW wind 10-20 mph.



Kari Lord
Warm

Sunset:
6:25 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:32 a.m.
Of 37 days in 2000, the sun has shone 36 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Stay alert. You can observe a lot by watching.
—Yogi Berra

Deadline near for UW lunch

The Scurry County United Way annual awards luncheon will be held at noon next Monday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Those wishing to attend must respond to 573-1731 by Tuesday for reservations.

Employees of Lorber Industries, Snyder Day Care and United Supermarket will be honored, as will United Supermarket Corporation and Paula Williams.

FEB 07 2000

Administration considers tapping oil reserves

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration is trying to decide whether to dip into the nation's Strategic Petroleum Reserve for only the second time to drive down soaring oil prices.

Key to that decision could be whether Energy Secretary Bill Richardson is able to persuade major oil producers to back off a 2-year-old production hold-down.

Ideally, "the market ought to set the price, but we're taking a look at what options we have under the authorities and under the laws of the United States," White House chief of staff John Podesta said on "Fox News Sunday."

Podesta said Richardson's contacts with oil ministers of producing countries — several already, with visits scheduled to Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Mexico planned — are a major part of the administration's effort to force prices down from current levels close to $30 a barrel.

Ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries will meet next month to consider whether to extend the production cutbacks of 5 million barrels per day, which began in 1998 and expires March 31. Some other producers are holding down their production as well.

President Clinton released $45 million last week to help low-income people in the frigid Northeast with their heating bills. Podesta said that besides such stopgap measures, "We're also trying to see what we can do to see if we can take some of the pressure off of oil prices" through raising market supplies, possibly by tapping the strategic reserve.

Richardson has said repeatedly he does not intend to release any of the 580 million barrels of oil in the reserve to do that.

To the suggestion the U.S. reserve was created only to compensate for disruptions in supply, not control prices, Podesta said it "was put in place with its name in mind, to have a strategic reserve to make sure that we had an adequate supply of oil, and that's what it's used for."

The reserve, first suggested during World War II, was established in 1975. Its only use so far was a partial drawdown in 1991 at the beginning of the Persian Gulf War. That move by President Bush and production increases internationally maintained market stability and kept down oil price increases during the six-week war.

On other issues, Podesta said:

—Although Clinton supports the death penalty, he has asked advisers for research into whether it should be suspended for federal crimes, as Gov. George Ryan did in Illinois.

—The United States has "made strong protests to the Russian government" over the fate of Andrei Babitsky, a Russian reporter for the U.S. government's Radio Liberty, who was covering the fighting in Chechnya.

Webb water project stays on course

LAREDO (AP) — West Texas officials have set aside more than a quarter of a million dollars for a Webb County water system.

In a special meeting Friday, the county commissioner's court authorized the purchase of water rights to see the Rio Bravo water project through to completion.

The item was on the agenda to purchase 1,500 acre feet of Class "B" water rights, said county Judge Mercurio Martinez, Jr. to be prerequisite to the county's getting the $20 million grant from the Texas Water Board for the Rio Bravo project.

The Rio Bravo project includes a water storage tank, water distribution lines and waste collection lines. Expected completion is about a year from now.

The water rights are being obtained from Othal Brand, former mayor of McAllen, at a cost of about $780,000, county engineer Tomas Rodriguez told the Laredo Morning Times.

Rodriguez said the price was about $50 higher per acre foot than was paid on the last purchase, but the county now has drought conditions, so the price of water does go up.

Officials have said rainfall last year was below normal statewide, causing 73 percent of the state's ranges and pastures to be in poor to very poor condition, while 97 percent of the state's winter wheat crop is fair to very poor, she said.

Of the state's 254 counties, 95 already have received drought disaster declarations from the U.S. agriculture secretary and 13 others await such declarations.

Berry's World



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"Elian, in a recent poll, Americans by 62 percent to 24 percent think you should return to Cuba. Want to hang around for ANOTHER poll?"

Municipal Court

Cases considered in Snyder's Municipal Court last week include a 14-year-old pleading guilty to no seat belt and no drivers license. He was ordered to do 13 hours of community service.

A 15-year-old pleaded guilty to class C assault and was ordered to complete 20 hours of community service through STAR.

A 41-year-old female's expired motor vehicle registration offense was dismissed.

A 24-year-old female pleaded guilty to no valid drivers license, failure to appear and failure to identify. She was fined court costs totaling $306, and given time to pay.

An 18-year-old male pleaded guilty to speeding and violating promise to appear and was fined $145.25 with 2 days jail credit. He requested community service.

A 51-year-old male pleaded guilty to two counts of no drivers license, two counts of no insurance and two counts of failure to appear. He was given time to pay fines totaling $990.

A 21-year-old male pleaded guilty to expired MVI, expired MVR and two offenses of failure to appear. Fines and court costs totaled $554. Community service was requested.

An 18-year-old female pleaded guilty to no valid drivers license. She requested community service in lieu of a $79 fine.

A 20-year-old male plead guilty and was given time to pay $1,258 in fines and court costs for minor in possession of alcohol, three counts of no drivers license and two counts of no insurance and three offenses of failure to appear.

A 23-year-old male pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and was given time to pay fines totaling $149.

A 20-year-old male pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and was given time payments on $149.

A 24-year-old male pleaded no contest to public intoxication and was given one day jail credit and fined $49.

A 37-year-old male pleaded no contest to public intoxication. and was given credit for time served in jail.

A 50-yer-old female plead guilty to class C theft and was given time to pay $149 in fines.

A 19-year-old female pleaded guilty to speeding and violation of promise to appear. She requested to lay out jail fines and court costs totaling $346.25.

A 33-year-old male pleaded no contest to class F assault and family violence. Credit was given for time served in jail.

A 50-year-old male pleaded guilty to class C theft and was given time to pay $149.

A 19-year-old female pleaded guilty to speeding and violation of promise to appear. She requested to lay out jail fines totaling $346.25.

A 33-year-old male pleaded no contest to class C assault family, violence. Credit for time served in jail was given.

A 24-year-old male pleaded guilty to public intoxication and was given time to pay $49 in fines. He also was credited one day spent in jail.

An 18-year-old male pleaded guilty to public intoxication and was given one day credit for time served and fined $149. He was also ordered to attend an alcohol awareness course.

A 20-year-old male pleaded guilty to minor in possession and given credit for time served in jail. He was ordered to attend an alcohol awareness course.

A 14-year-old male pleaded guilty to criminal mischief. He was given 12 hours community service with STAR.

A 14-year-old pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and was ordered to pay fines and court costs of $149.

A 14-year-old male pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and was ordered to attend STAR boot camp.

A 68-year-old male pleaded not guilty to yield of right way. The case was placed on the pretrial docket.

A 43-year-old female pleaded guilty to expired MVR and no insurance and was given time to pay $306 in fines.

A 38-year-old male pleaded guilty to no drivers license and failure to appear. He requested community service in lieu of paying fines totaling of $220.

A 36-year-old female pleaded not guilty to disorderly conduct. Case was set on pretrial docket.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Wife's list of things to love reclaims her happy marriage

DEAR ABBY: I have enjoyed reading and re-reading the enclosed item from your column many times. And what a great original gift idea it provides for Valentine's Day: Write a "list" of all the qualities you love about your loved one. If it were framed, it would become a treasured keepsake, and it applies to mothers, fathers, spouses, children, friends, etc. — **HAPPY AFTER 30 YEARS OF MARRIAGE IN GEORGIA**

DEAR HAPPY: I agree. And when someone asks me for a gift idea for the person who "has everything," the first thing I suggest is a letter telling that person how much he or she means to you and why. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: My marriage was in need of repair. My husband and I had been fighting a lot. He told me that if I didn't like it, I could pack my things and go. I cried myself to sleep for nights on end.

One night I couldn't sleep because I was so upset with him. All I could think about were all the things that bugged me about him. I knew that if I didn't banish these negative thoughts from my mind, it would be a long time before I fell asleep. I decided to think instead of all the things that I loved about him. I wrote them down on a piece of paper, put it in an envelope and placed it in his briefcase.

The next morning, he called me from work to tell me how much he loved me. When he came home that evening, he put my "list" in a frame and hung it on the wall. We hardly ever fight anymore. I get love notes weekly and kisses daily.

I thought some of your readers might like to try this recipe for renewed love. It was so simple — and well worth the effort. — **HAPPY AGAIN IN SAN DIEGO**

DEAR HAPPY AGAIN: What a terrific idea for warming up a chilly marriage. Your list of the qualities you loved about your husband obviously meant a great deal to him. When we focus only on what is wrong, we tend to undervalue what he or she is doing right.

**

DEAR ABBY: Please tell me how to handle this. I have terrible winter asthma. During the holidays I go to visit my in-laws and my mother — all chain smokers.

They know about my smoke allergy and they do "try," but being long-term smokers, they usually forget and wind up smoking in the next room or in front of me. I am tired of being the party pooper who says, "Please put that out." So, they don't invite us over to family gatherings unless it's Christmas. I go, and then seven to 10 days later, after I have compromised my immune system, I have terrible bronchitis. It lasted nearly three months last year.

This has gone on so long, I feel like they love their cigarettes more than me.

So here it is January, and I'm starting the new year sick and on inhalers and antibiotics. How can I get it across to my loving family to refrain from smoking in front of me or during my visits without so deeply offending them? — **SLEEPLESS IN OREGON**

DEAR SLEEPLESS: You can't! Face it, your family (all smokers) are addicted to tobacco, and their addiction is greater than their consideration for you or your health problems.

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Oil Patch News

Garza County

Knox Industries Inc. will drill the No. 1 Gabriel in the Lyn-Kay field, 23 miles northwest of Post. Planned for a depth of 6,300 feet, location is in Section 41, Block 2, H&GN survey.

Howard County

Miltex Oil Co. will drill the No. 2-132 Powell in the Hutto field, five miles south of Coahoma. Planned for a depth of 7,900 feet, location is in Section13, Block 31, T1S, T&P survey.

Fisher County

Tex Atic Resources Inc. will drill the No. 1 Hartley-Touchstone in the Raven Creek field, six miles southeast of Sylvester. Planned for a depth of 5,800 feet, location is in Section1, lock 19, T&P survey.

Bettis Boyle and Stovall will drill the No. 1-E Willingham in the Que field, 15 miles west of Roby. Planned for a depth of 4,700 feet, drill site is in Section 48, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Bettis Boyle and Stovall will drill the No. 1 Cochran field unit, 15 miles west of Roby. Planned for a depth of 4,700 feet, location is in Section 47, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Nolan County

R.L. Adkins Corp will drill the No. 1 Morrow in the Mulberry field, four miles northeast of Nolan. Planned for a depth of 4,200 feet, location is in Section 68, Block 5, T&P survey.

Chisholm Exploration has completed the No. 4 Texaco Fee in the Mulberry Canyon field, six miles northwest of Nolan. The well was finaled to produce 105 barrels of oil and no water. Perforations were from 3,894-900 feet, and location is in Section 69, Block 5, T&P survey.

Chisholm Exploration has completed the No. 3 Texaco Fee in the Mulberry Canyon field, six miles northwest of Nolan. The venture was finaled to produce 102 barrels of oil and 50 barrels of water. Perforations were from 3,873-880 feet, and location is in Section 69, Block 5, T&P survey.

Enrich Oil Corp. has completed the No. 1 Arnold Brown in the Divide field, one mile south of Nolan. The well was completed to produce 65 barrels of oil and 50 barrels of water. Perforations were from 4,071-139 feet. Location is in Section 286, Block 64, H&TC survey.

R.L. Adkins Corp. has completed the No. 1 Morrow Mulberry Canyon field unit, four miles northeast of Nolan. The well was finaled to produce 127 barrels of oil and 42 barrels of water. Perforations wee from 4,061-063 feet, and location is in Section 68, Block 5, T&P survey.

The 'Hillary' campaign trying to start fresh

PURCHASE, N.Y. (AP) — Hillary Rodham Clinton's official entry into the U.S. Senate race took the form of a reintroduction to the voters — this time with a focus on her as a person, not a politician.

Before a huge red, white and blue banner that shouted "Hillary for U.S. Senate," the first lady urged New Yorkers on Sunday to look past her lack of local roots, get to know her better and see if her positions and attitudes don't square with theirs.

"I'll be on your side," she said repeatedly as she launched the first candidacy for public office by a first lady. "I'll fight my heart out for you."

Today, Clinton was expected to fly to Buffalo to begin a cross-state tour capitalizing on the new official status. A group of Republican officials planned to try to blunt her momentum with their own news conferences in five cities.

Clinton has been campaigning for seven months. If she wins the anticipated race against New York City Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, she would be the first woman independently elected to statewide office in New York.

Giuliani, meanwhile, found time Sunday to appear on all five morning talk shows, discussing the race in depth but not officially declaring his own candidacy.

Clinton took the stage in the Purchase College gymnasium with President Clinton, their daughter, Chelsea, and Mrs. Clinton's mother, Dorothy Rodham. Mrs. Clinton's spokesman, Howard Wolfson, said the president "has given advice and counsel as any husband would."

But he didn't speak to the crowd Sunday, choosing instead to yield the spotlight wholly to his wife.

Before the first lady spoke, she was effusively praised by Democratic politicians who have just the New York experience she lacks: Reps. Nita Lowey and Charles Rangel and Sens. Charles Schumer and Daniel Patrick Moynihan, who is retiring.

Rangel, the longtime representative from Harlem, said that when a candidate like Clinton comes along, "You don't ask where they come from. You ask are they available to serve."

They praised her dedication and accomplishments in such areas as gun control, children's health care and the environment, all issues Clinton the candidate promised would continue to be high on her agenda.

A video tribute was screened, too, starting with Clinton's baby pictures and including tributes from old friends emphasizing her dedication to women and children's issues and her love for her daughter and mother.

"This is the start of an effort to tell all New Yorkers what Hillary is really like," Wolfson said.

When Clinton took the podium, hundreds of foot-stomping, placard-waving college students chanted, "Hil-la-ry! Hil-la-ry!" There were more than 2,000 people in the gym and about 20,000 more watched at house parties around the state.

"I am honored today to announce my candidacy for the U.S. Senate from New York," she said.

Clinton said the carpetbagging issue — she has lived in New York only a month — was "a fair question."

"I may be new to your neighborhood, but I'm not new to your concerns," she countered.

She did not mention Giuliani by name but was clearly referring to the combative mayor when she criticized "the divisive politics of revenge and retribution."

Earlier Sunday, Giuliani played up his New York roots while making the rounds of the political talk shows.

"My record of success comes out of my knowledge, experience, background and life experience as a lifetime resident of the state," he said on CBS' "Face the Nation." "How is it that the Democratic Party can't come up with a candidate for the Senate from the state of New York?"

The race in New York is expected to be the most expensive Senate race in the nation's history and has already polarized many voters.

A new poll released Sunday found Clinton and Giuliani in a statistical dead heat, but with a majority expecting Giuliani to eventually win.

The survey by the Quinnipiac College Polling Institute shows Giuliani with a 45 to 42 percent lead over Clinton, but the difference disappears once the 3-point margin of error is figured in. Ten percent of the 1,072 registered voters surveyed by phone from Feb. 2 to 5 were undecided.

Fully half of those polled — including some Clinton supporters — expect the mayor to win. Only 31 percent expect Clinton to win.

The numbers didn't daunt her, though.

"I know it's not always going to be an easy campaign," Clinton told cheering supporters as she closed her announcement speech with a touch of affected city accent in her voice.

"But hey! This is New York!"

Remains will take months to identify

PORT HUENEME, Calif. (AP) — Some families of victims who died in the Alaska Airlines crash may have to wait at least six months for officials to identify their loved ones.

The National Transportation Safety Board said Sunday that it could be midsummer when DNA tests confirm the identifies of the human remains that Navy crews were continuing to collect as they map and videotape the ocean floor near the crash site.

"It's definitely one of their main concerns at this time," NTSB family liaison Lauren Peduzzi said of the process to identify victims of Alaska Airlines Flight 261.

Ventura County Sheriff's spokesman Eric Nishimoto said that out of several hundred remains recovered, a few dozen are possibly identifiable through dental records, distinguishing marks and personal property such as wallets. Only four bodies have so far been identified.

"It is an exceptionally difficult process to identify the remains, even by conventional means, given the severe trauma to the plane, passengers and the passengers' personal effects," Nishimoto said.

After a week of grieving, family and friends of those lost aboard Flight 261 began packing Sunday to wait out the investigation from their homes. The probe itself is now being coordinated from Washington, D.C., where the flight data and cockpit voice recorders are being analyzed.

Also Sunday, more memorials were held. Among them was a service by Cardinal Roger Mahony, archbishop of Los Angeles, who led a service near Los Angeles International Airport.

The Alaska Airlines MD-83 crashed last Monday, killing all 88 people on board, during a flight from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, bound for San Francisco and Seattle.

Before pieces of the plane are brought to the surface here, the NTSB wants a detailed picture of the aircraft debris. Spokesman Keith Holloway said the agency will decide exactly what will be hauled up after a review of the reams of video footage.

Nutrition

By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Is there a cure for SAD?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: What vitamins, supplements, minerals, etc. can be taken to counter the effects of SAD? This happens to me every winter. Thank you. — L.L., Des Plaines, Ill.

DEAR L.L.: Seasonal Affective Disorder, or SAD, is a form of depression that affects susceptible individuals each year during the months when there are fewer daylight hours. For those living in the Northern Hemisphere, this would be during November, December, January and February. For those in the Southern Hemisphere, the critical period would be April, May, June and July. The farther the distance from the equator, the greater the risk. SAD is most prevalent in people between 20 and 50 years of age, and women are affected by a ratio of four to one. You could think of SAD almost as a deficiency disease in which sunlight is the missing nutrient. Without sufficient sunshine, the body's internal clock seems to go out of alignment, and a form of depression is the net result. Since it was recognized as a disorder, daily exposures to bright light have been found helpful in reducing or eliminating symptoms.

As far as traditional nutrient supplements are concerned, one study in the Journal of Psychopharmacology found that supplements of vitamin D (400 or 800 IU per day) were helpful. This finding is interesting, as the body produces vitamin D when exposed to sunlight. Unfortunately, though, most of the follow-up studies were equivocal, at best. Few other studies have shown any promise. That means that, aside from exposure to bright light, there isn't any particular supplement that appears to have the right stuff to counter the effects of SAD.

If SAD makes an annual visit to your life, you should speak with your doctor to decide if daily doses of high intensity full-spectrum light would be appropriate. I say consult your doctor because this type of therapy is not recommended if, for example, you have an eye problem or you are taking medications that might increase your sensitivity to light.

A bit of caution here: Many articles on SAD suggest the use of the herb St. John's wort as a possible antidepressant. The logic here is that St. John's wort has been effective in cases of mild to moderate depression. The active ingredient in St. John's wort is believed to be a compound named hypericin, and one of the side effects of this herb is that it makes the skin sensitive to sunlight (photosensitivity). The caution with St. John's wort and SAD stems from a recent research report suggesting that the light-reactive hypericin also finds its way to the eyes, where it can react with light and form free radical compounds that can cause damage in some cases.

Information to this effect was presented at the annual meeting of the American Society for Photobiology and appeared in a recent issue of the journal New Scientist. The report stated that the combination of St. John's wort and bright light could increase the risk of cataracts. The implication here is that those taking St. John's wort should protect their skin from exposure and wear eye protection. Conversely, those who opt for light treatments for SAD should refrain from taking St. John's wort.

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

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

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	02-07-00
	♠ 7 4	
	♥ 6 4 3	
	♦ K 10 9 8 5 3	
	♣ K 2	
West		East
♠ [illegible]		♠ J 10 8
♥ K Q 10 9 5 [illegible]		♥ 8 7
♦ 4		♦ J 7 6 2
♣ 10 8 3		♣ Q J 9 6
	South	
	♠ A Q 5 3	
	♥ A J 2	
	♦ A Q	
	♣ A 7 5 4	

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ K

The no-trump game rules OK

By Phillip Alder

Look at that North hand. Your partner opens two no-trump. First, how many points has he got? Second, what would you respond? Third, what would you bid if that diamond suit were spades instead?

Now become South. Against three no-trump, West leads the heart king. What is your plan of campaign?

In the modern tournament game, a two-no-trump opening shows 20-21 points. (All two-no-trump bids should contain only a two-point inclusive range.) Theoretically, I think 21-22 is superior. And if you still open one no-trump with 16-18 points, you should use 21-22 (not 22-24). But 20-21 fits in slightly better with a 15-17 no-trump.

Second, you should respond three no-trump. Even if you don't use transfer bids, ignore those diamonds. As regular readers know, when three no-trump is an option, you bid it. Diamonds are kept available solely for rings and necklaces.

If you had six spades, you should jump to four spades, bidding game in the known eight-card-or-better fit. (Or you can get there via a transfer bid — recommended.)

Now to the play. There are seven top tricks: one spade, one heart, three diamonds and two clubs. The extra tricks can come from the diamond suit, but there is only one dummy entry. And if either defender has jack-fourth of diamonds, declarer must be careful. First, he should duck trick one: the Bath Coup. Whatever West does next, South wins the trick, cashes the diamond ace, and overtakes the diamond queen with dummy's king. Then he leads the diamond 10 to drive out the jack. South wins at least nine tricks.

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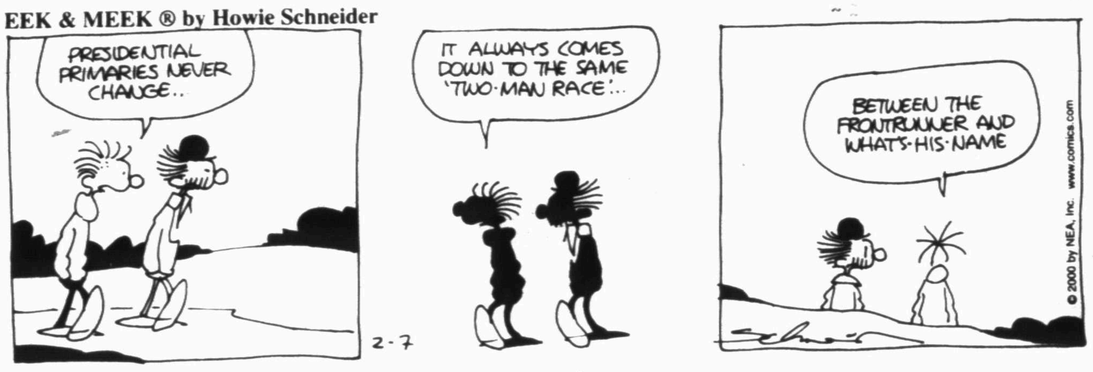
WAREHOUSE FURNITURE

Comic Page — THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



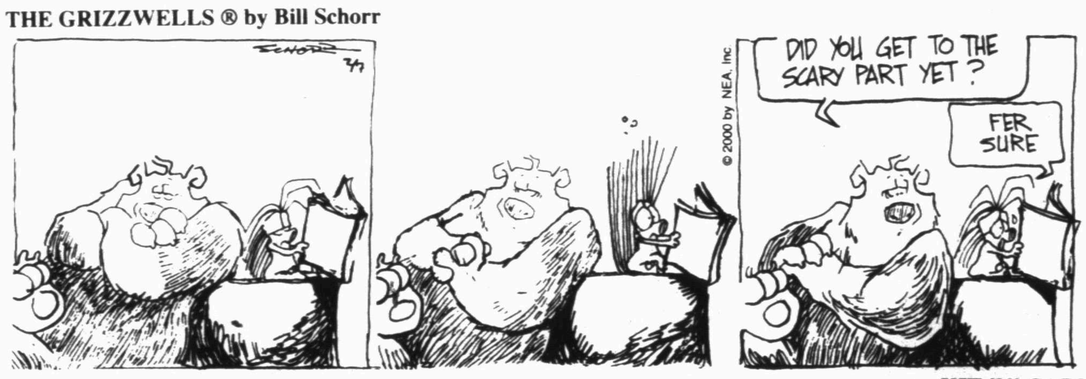
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"Look at these crazy names on this menu! What,for instance,is an 'elk-burger'?"



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Sedative
7 Regis Philbin and Alex Trebek
12 Rowboat part
13 Eskimo boat
14 Adjusted beforehand
15 Lively
16 Important time period
17 French sea
18 Comparative ending
21 Farm buildings
23 Disencumber
26 Jai —
28 Dryer-trap stuff
29 Mountain on Crete
30 Witty remarks
31 Long journey
33 Heron
36 — moss
37 Land of the free (abbr.)
38 Burpee product
40 Vehicle
41 D.C. hotshot
42 Flower
44 — and ink
45 Tibetan gazelle
46 Pekoe, e.g.
48 Abominable
51 Some fillings
55 Wax
56 Sounds
57 Teacake
58 Kind of rock

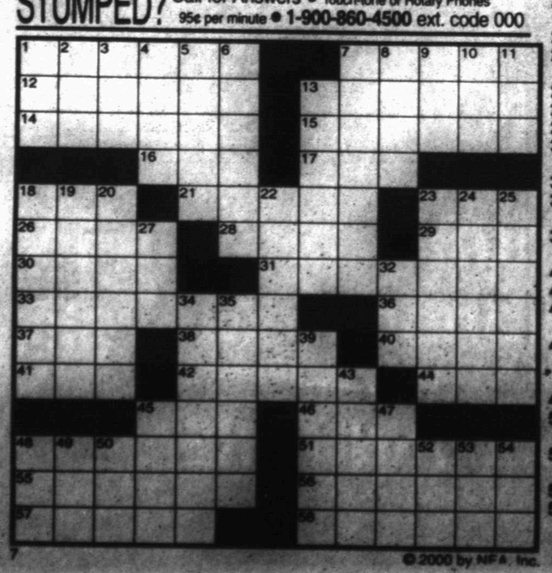
DOWN

1 "Alley —"
2 Equality
3 Wrath
4 Church part
5 Rows
6 Involve
7 It's the best policy!
8 Actor Sharif
9 Use a straw
10 Spigot
11 Firmament
13 Donny and Marie —
18 Poetic foot
19 Plaza Hotel girl
20 Wickerwork material
22 A Barrymore
23 Revolt (2 wds.)
24 Conceive
25 City in Ohio
27 "Real" end
32 Mineral spring
34 Adopt
35 Discuss again
39 — on: spoiling
43 Rare gas
45 Enter (2 wds.)
47 "I cannot tell — —"
48 Photo- —: picture-taking sessions
49 Happy's pal
50 Workers' assn.
52 As far — — know
53 "Sure!"
54 Draft agcy.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for Answers • Touch-tone or Rotary Phones 95¢ per minute • 1-900-860-4500 ext. code 000



Lady at Sa

SAN ANGE toughest con Angelo came f Fort Stockton. trict 5-4A foes with the Lady T

Snyder set a for the third ye two-day total of end to win the tional by 28 str

The Lady Ti advantage over Stockton after before carding to add to their

The Lady Mu with a 698, w came in at 707.

"Our girls well," said Sn Glenn. "The g fast the first da usual. But our k the fairway around the gre

Players comp greens of Be Club in the fi playing Saturda side Gold Club the 4A girls' reg

Lacey Kidd, in the individua tourney total of Tigers' effort a 77.

Randi Reed c up spot in the turning in an Sally Barham

Snyder place a

MIDLAND – away an eighth Midland Green ing meet.

Tremaine J Tigers with a r in the super-h sion with a te pounds. Corey pounds to take class.

In the 165-p tion, Edwin Jar third place with pounds. Matt B to finish sixt Haines' effort

Sn

Men's Comm

Team
State Farm
Daylight Donuts
Headquarters
C&M Roofing
Stephens' Office
McLeod Jeweler
Rose Barber Sh
The Shack
G&W Trucking
Wal-Mart

High series: Ro 582; Stacey Brow
High game: Ba 219; Harold Korn
Splits and sp Bobby Hataway, 5

Roll N H

Team
Martin Herefor
KSNY
Lawrence IGA
Baze Gun Repai
Spirit Energy
Snyder Lanes
Gutter Dusters
High series: Ros

Pitching cli

Fastpitch soft Class size is limi at 573-0390.

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A 4-on-4 volle and up. Entry fe Proceeds benefi

The Smart M will be taking e player, and inclu eight teams.

For more info at 573-3344.

SPORTS

Lady Tigers lap field at San Angelo event

SAN ANGELO — Snyder's toughest competition in San Angelo came from Andrews and Fort Stockton. But even the District 5-4A foes couldn't keep pace with the Lady Tigers.

Snyder set a tournament record for the third year in a row, firing a two-day total of 670 over the weekend to win the San Angelo Invitational by 28 strokes.

The Lady Tigers held a 16-shot advantage over Andrews and Fort Stockton after the first round, before carding a 321 on Saturday to add to their cushion.

The Lady Mustangs finished up with a 698, while the Prowlers came in at 707.

"Our girls played extremely well," said Snyder coach Matt Glenn. "The greens were really fast the first day, even faster than usual. But our kids kept the ball in the fairway and played well around the greens."

Players competed on the slick greens of Bentwood Country Club in the first round, before playing Saturday's round at Riverside Gold Club, which will host the 4A girls' regional tournament.

Lacey Kidd, who finished first in the individual standings with a tourney total of 161, led the Lady Tigers' effort at Riverside with a 77.

Randi Reed claimed the runner-up spot in the medalists' race, turning in an 82-81—163, while Sally Barham was sixth with an 89-81—170.

Andra Lancaster came in at 176 after rounds of 89 and 87, with Kara Harrison tallying a 95-89—184.

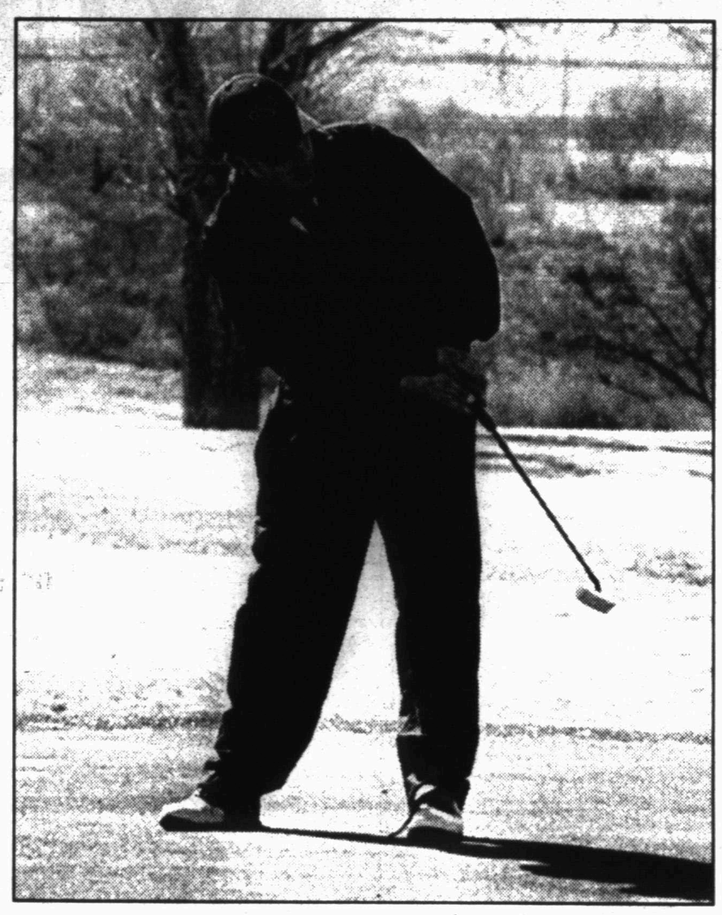
The Lady Tigers, runnersup at the state tournament the last two seasons, will be on the links again Friday and Saturday at the Big Spring tournament.

SAN ANGELO INVITATIONAL
Team Standings

1. Snyder 349-321-670: Randi Reed 82-81-163, Lacey Kidd 84-77-161, Sally Barham 89-81-170, Andra Lancaster 89-87-176, Kara Harrison 95-89-184; 2. Andrews 365-333-698; 3. Fort Stockton 365-342-707; 4. Pampa 382-353-735; 5. Pecos 393-350-743; 6. Monahans 406-382-788; 7. Lake View I 446-372-818; 8. Plainview 434-386-820; 9. Borger 429-395-824; 10. Canyon Randall 431-400-831; 11. Hereford 445-393-838; 12. Canyon High 447-394-841; 13. Justin Northwest 438-404-842; 14. Alpine 450-420-870; 15. Brownwood 454-421-875; 16. Lake View II 533-495-1,028; Big Spring 475-NS—NS.

Individual Standings

Lacey Kidd, Snyder, 84-77—161; Randi Reed, Snyder, 82-82—163; Ashlie Simmons, Big Spring, 90-79—169; Melissa Reeves, Northwest, 87-82—169; Jessica Thames, Andrews, 92-77—169; Sally Barham, Snyder, 89-81—170; Whitney Couther, Fort Stockton, 90-84—174; Valerie Nolen, Fort Stockton, 87-87—174; Jessica Thurston, Andrews, 91-84—175; Rachel Robb, Andrews, 90-85—175.



WATCHING IT ROLL — Snyder's Stafford Gray watched his putt track toward the hole during the Snyder Invitational over the weekend. The Tigers finished fourth in their first outing of the spring. (SDN Staff Photo)

SHS claims fourth spot at links tourney

With seven tournaments left on the schedule, the Tigers will use the Snyder Invitational as a springboard for the rest of the season.

Snyder grabbed fourth place at its own tournament over the weekend, finishing only 11 shots off the pace of first-place Sweetwater.

"This was a good tournament for us," said Snyder coach Matt Glenn. "This gives us a good idea of what we can shoot, and what we need to work on. Our kids learned a lot this weekend, and they'll be able to handle the pressure better the next time they're in this situation."

The Tigers, who were second after the first round, seemed poised to make a charge on Saturday, before stumbling on the back nine at the Western Texas College course. After making the turn with a 151, Snyder carded a 180 coming in to finish the day with a 331.

The Tigers finished fourth, despite not counting the score of its top player Landon Day. Day, still recovering from hand surgery, fired rounds of 77 and 76 to finish first in the individual standings.

"Landon had a great tournament," Glenn said. "We weren't sure how he would play, with the limited practice time, so he competed as an individual. But it looks like he didn't drop a step after surgery."

Levi Mandrell was fourth in the medalists' race with a 76-80—156.

Stafford Gray carded an 80-84—164, while Zach Starnes turned in an 80-85—165. Clinton Calmes finished at 80-85—165, and Brady Reed shot an 89-85—174.

Midland High claimed the runner-up spot with a 645. Frenship was third at 653, followed by Snyder.

In Division II competition, Snyder II finished sixth with a tourney total of 681. Odessa Permian took the title with a 635, followed by Seminole, Midland Lee and Monahans.

Tanner Beard paced the Tigers with an 83-80—163. Jason Williams fired a 78-91—169, with Vaughn Wiggins shooting an 86-83—169. Matt McCormick finished at 90-90—180, while Nathan Hines turned in a 100-103—203.

Competing as individuals, John Logan came in with a 89-99—107, and James Mills tallied a 103-109—212.

Snyder will have the weekend off, before returning to tournament action Feb. 18 at the Abilene Invitational.

SNYDER INVITATIONAL
Division I
Team Standings

1. Sweetwater 337-306—643; 2. Midland 323-322—645; 3. Frenship 338-315—653; 4. Snyder 323-331—654: Levi Mandrell 76-80—156, Zach Starnes 80-85—165, Clinton Calmes 87-82—169, Stafford Gray 80-84—164, Brady Reed 89-85—174; 5. Wylie 321-334—655; 6. Plainview 336-332—668; 7. Andrews 340-335—675; 8. Fort Stockton 345-339—684; 9. Lamesa 351-338—689; 10. Tahoka 374-373—747.

Individual Standings

Landon Day, Snyder, 77-76—153; Jason Lindgren, Midland 76-78—154; Daniel Campbell, Midland, 78-76—154; Levi Mandrell, Snyder, 76-80—156; Shaun Melville, 81-75—156; Bailey Beal, Wylie, 74-82—156; Sean Howard, Sweetwater, 81-77—158; Zack Walker, Frenship, 81-77—158; Cody Loverin, Wylie, 79-80—159; Bryan Howard, Sweetwater, 84-75—159.

Division II
Team Standings

Odessa Permian 321-314—645, Seminole 312-338—650, Midland Lee 322-329—651, Monahans 329-339—668, Big Spring 331-339—670, Snyder II 337-344—681: Vaughn Wiggins 86-83—169; Jason Williams 78-91—169; Matt McCormick 90-90—180; Tanner Beard 83-80—163; Nathan Hines 100-103—203; John Logan 98-99—197; James Mills 103-109—212, Abilene Cooper 340-352—692, Odessa High 355-374—729, Abilene High 374-371—745, Lubbock High 373-387—760.

Sanders wants out of Dallas

FORT WORTH (AP) — All-Pro cornerback Deion Sanders says his career with the Dallas Cowboys is likely over.

Sanders told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in today's editions that he wants to play next season with a team that has a chance to win the Super Bowl. But the flamboyant, 11-year veteran says he has no regrets about his five-year stay in Dallas that included a Super Bowl title in 1995.

"I had a wonderful time," Sanders told the newspaper. "I wanted some more wins. I wanted more Super Bowls. But it was good. I understood I was a hired gun. I've still got some bullets. It's not my fault the gun doesn't shoot like it used to."

The team was expected to cut Sanders, 32, on June 2 because of his $12.7 million price tag for 2000.

Cowboys officials, the newspaper said, are also disappointed by Sanders' decision to play baseball again. Sanders will report to the Cincinnati Reds next week for spring training.

Sanders, whose Dallas career also featured four Pro Bowl selections, was limping around his Plano home Sunday rather than playing in the latest bowl with his all-star peers.

While Sanders says he's happy for new Cowboys coach Dave Campo and new defensive coach Mike Zimmer, he believes his days are numbered.

"It doesn't look good," Sanders said.

The Cowboys did not return a telephone call today from The Associated Press.

Last month, Cowboys owner Jerry Jones backed off a previous statement that he'd like to see the animated defender-punt returner in a Dallas uniform for the rest of his career. Jones said then that a solution might come this spring.

Snyder lifters pick up eighth place at Midland competition

MIDLAND — Snyder carried away an eighth place finish at the Midland Greenwood power lifting meet.

Tremaine Johnson led the Tigers with a runner-up showing in the super-heavyweight division with a total lift of 1,260 pounds. Corey Knipe lifted 1,190 pounds to take third in the same class.

In the 165-pound classification, Edwin James also grabbed third place with an effort of 1,101 pounds. Matt Blocker tallied 925 to finish sixth, while Jesse Haines' effort of 815 gave him 12th place. Caleb Durham was 18th with 790 pounds.

In the 148-pound division, John Ortegon secured seventh place with a lift of 920 pounds, while Ralph Ramon was 14th at 790.

Trey Roland was 12th in the 198-class with an effort of 810, and Josh Knox was fifth in the 242-class after lifting 845 pounds.

In the 220-pound division, Steve Ortegon was seventh at 965. Richard Martinez was ninth at 950, and Enrique Pena was 16th with 485 pounds.

Snyder will be in competition again Feb. 26 at Andrews.

Snyder Bowling Leagues

Men's Commercial League

Team	W	L
State Farm	41.5	14.5
Daylight Donuts	40	16
Headquarters	34	22
C&M Roofing	30.5	25.5
Stephens' Office	26.5	29.5
McLeod Jewelers	26	30
Rose Barber Shop	25.5	29.5
The Shack	23.5	32.5
G&W Trucking	19	37
Wal-Mart	13.5	42.5

High series: Rod Bennett, scratch, 582; Stacey Browning, handicap, 676. **High game:** Barney Tate, scratch, 219; Harold Kornegay, handicap, 233. **Splits and special mentions:** Bobby Hataway, 5-7.

Roll N Hope League

Team	W	L
Martin Herefords	56	24
KSNY	54.5	25.5
Lawrence IGA	50.5	20.5
Baze Gun Repair	50	30
Spirit Energy	47	33
Snyder Lanes	28.5	51.5
Gutter Dusters	20.5	59.5

High series: Rosemary Hernandez, scratch, 519; Terri Blocker, handicap, 671. **High game:** Rosemary Hernandez, scratch, 206; Terri Blocker, handicap, 252. **Splits and special mentions:** Doris Martin and Cindy Reyes, 3-10; Betty Boatman and Cindy Aikin, 5-10; Rosemary Hernandez, 206, 519; Terri Blocker, 200, 515; Paula Beuerlein, 511.

Jack N Jill League

Team	W	L
Renegades	55.5	16.5
Countryplace	41.5	30.5
BCEC	35.5	36.5
Clayton & Mills	35	37
Alley Kats	28.5	43.5
Ratliff Insurance	20	52

High series: Scratch: Jeff Smith, 593; Daphne Thompson, 492. Handicap: Jeff Smith, 665; Angie Reynolds, 637. **High game:** Scratch: Jeff Smith, 215; Donna Thompson, 185. Handicap: Bob Ratliff, 263; Donna Jackson, 231. **Splits and special mentions:** Stacey Browning, 7-10; Roger Pavlik, 1-2.

Sports Briefs

Pitching clinics held weekly

Fastpitch softball pitching clinics will be held every Wednesday. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Teen activities scheduled

A 4-on-4 volleyball tournament will be held Feb. 25-26 for ages 14 and up. Entry fee is $35 per team, and deadline to register is Feb. 20. Proceeds benefit the Keystone Club.

The Smart Moves Spring Teen Basketball League, for ages 14-19 will be taking entries through March 10. Registration fee is $10 per player, and includes a new mesh jersey. The league will be limited to eight teams.

For more information on either event, call the Boys and Girls Club at 573-3344.

Murray signs to play soccer at Texas A&M

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Ashley Murray, the granddaughter of Snyder's Bill and Bobbie Murray, and Don and Shirley Head, signed a letter of intent to play soccer at Texas A&M.

Ashley, the daughter of Billy and Pam Murray of Charlotte, holds Charlotte Christian High School records for career goals, career assists and single-season assists. She is a three-time all-region midfielder, leading her squad to the state quarterfinals a year ago.

Murray, who has a four-year GPA of 4.35, is also a member of the North Carolina Olympic Development State Team, and an all-state performer in cross country.

She'll be joining an Aggie team that finished the season ranked eighth in the country, after advancing to the round of 16 in the NCAA tournament.



Ashley Murray

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	29	17	.630	—
New York	28	17	.622	½
Philadelphia	26	21	.553	3½
Orlando	22	26	.458	8
Boston	21	26	.447	8½
New Jersey	18	29	.383	11½
Washington	15	33	.313	15

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	30	16	.652	—
Charlotte	25	20	.556	4½
Toronto	25	20	.556	4½
Milwaukee	26	22	.542	5
Detroit	24	23	.511	6½
Cleveland	19	28	.404	11½
Atlanta	18	27	.400	11½
Chicago	10	35	.222	19½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	30	17	.638	—
Utah	28	18	.609	1½
Minnesota	27	18	.600	2
Denver	21	24	.467	8
Dallas	20	27	.426	10
Houston	19	29	.396	11½
Vancouver	13	33	.283	16½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	36	11	.766	—
L.A. Lakers	35	11	.761	½
Seattle	30	19	.612	7
Sacramento	28	18	.609	7½
Phoenix	27	19	.587	8½
Golden State	12	33	.267	23
L.A. Clippers	11	36	.234	25

Saturday's Games

Charlotte 110, Washington 102
Atlanta 102, Cleveland 94
Orlando 107, Indiana 102
Toronto 98, Milwaukee 95
Minnesota 105, Denver 97, OT
Dallas 119, L.A. Clippers 106

Sunday's Games

New York 94, Miami 80
New Jersey 110, Golden State 90
Philadelphia 119, Sacramento 108
Utah 93, San Antonio 90
Detroit 109, Houston 105
Portland 100, Boston 94
Phoenix 105, Seattle 93
Chicago 100, L.A. Clippers 90
Dallas 103, Vancouver 99, OT

Monday's Games

Golden State at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
New York at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Portland at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Denver at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games

Atlanta at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Boston at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at San Antonio, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Chicago at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

NFC whips AFC, 51-31

HONOLULU (AP) — The AFC didn't have an answer for Randy Moss.

The Minnesota Vikings second-year receiver was the star of the Pro Bowl, catching nine passes for a record 212 yards, scoring a touchdown and setting up four other scores as the NFC routed the AFC 51-31 Sunday.

"If I'm not into the game, if I'm bored, that's the only way I think I can be stopped," said the 6-foot-4 Moss, who used his height advantage to outleap the AFC defensive backs, particularly 5-11 Sam Madison of Miami and 6-foot James Hasty of Kansas City.

Moss' catches set up two of Tampa Bay fullback Mike Alstott's three touchdowns. He also had key catches on drives that led to two of three field goals by Jason Hanson of the Detroit Lions.

Arizona Cardinals cornerback Aeneas Williams and Tampa Bay linebacker Derrick Brooks returned interceptions for touchdowns for the NFC, while Jimmy Smith of Jacksonville had three touchdown passes for the AFC.

The game's 82 points broke the mark of 64 points set in 1980. The NFC's 51 points also set a record.

Moss' last catch was a 25-yard TD reception from Carolina's Steve Beuerlein with 1:05 to play.

Local Schedule

TODAY
Western Texas at Odessa, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY
Lake View at Snyder JV and varsity boys, 6 and 7:30
Lake View at Snyder varsity and JV girls, 6 and 7:30
Ira boys vs. Lipan, at McMurry University, 7:30

THURSDAY
Clarendon at Western Texas, 7:30

FRIDAY
Andrews at Snyder JV and varsity boys, 6 and 7:30
Golf: Snyder varsity girls at Big Spring tourney
Ira boys vs. Reagan County, at Howard College, 7:30

SATURDAY
Golf: Snyder varsity girls at Big Spring tourney

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Seattle is coping with another tragedy

SEATTLE (AP) — For a while at least, it seemed as if bad things didn't happen here.

Not in this smug and sparkling city, as liberal as it is livable, a place where high-tech millionaires are as plentiful as postcard views.

But bad things have been happening here, over and over again in the last few months. And last week's crash of Alaska Airlines Flight 261, which claimed the lives of 42 Seattle-area residents, was perhaps the most deeply felt blow.

The city was already shaken from a double-fatal workplace shooting, World Trade Organization protests that did millions in property damage and an alleged international terrorist bombing plot.

"People anywhere ... like to think they're insulated from the risks and hardships of the world," said John Findlay, a University of Washington history professor. "We've had that illusion punctured."

The string of incidents comes after what Findlay called "somewhat of a charmed decade" for the city that saw the flourishing of Microsoft in nearby Redmond, a market surge by home-grown Starbucks coffee and widening influence of Seattle's grunge-rock scene.

While recent traumas can't compare to the street battles and economic hard times of the late 1960s and early 1970s, when the Vietnam War raged and Boeing Co. laid off two-thirds of its Seattle work force, "the coincidence of these things is unusual," Findlay said. "Certainly, it's been a hard several months."

The turmoil began on Nov. 3, with the fatal shooting of two shipyard employees and serious wounding of two others. SWAT teams swarmed a residential neighborhood, but the killer escaped. A former employee was arrested and charged with the slayings in January.

Then in early December, Seattle residents were stunned as more than 50,000 World Trade Organization protesters poured into downtown streets. Gangs of anarchists and opportunists smashed storefront windows, trashed police cars and did some $2.5 million in property damage.

Mayor Paul Schell was harshly criticized at first for not doing enough, then later for overreacting when police took on the crowds with tear gas and rubber bullets. Police Chief Norm Stamper announced his retirement soon afterward.

Next came the Dec. 14 arrest of an Algerian national who was allegedly smuggling military-grade explosives and timing devices into Washington state with intent to blow up U.S. targets. Ahmed Ressam had reserved a room for that night near Seattle's Space Needle, and the mayor's office went on to cancel the city's New Year's celebration around the landmark.

When the Alaska Airlines flight crashed into the Pacific Ocean near Los Angeles on Jan. 31 as it headed to San Francisco and Seattle from Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, a number of the 88 aboard were off-duty employees.

'Scream 3' takes big bite out of box office

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Scream 3" wracked up an impressive body count this weekend — bodies of movie-goers, that is.

Viewers packed theaters for the final chapter of the horror franchise, which took in a whopping $35.2 million in its debut weekend, according to industry estimates Sunday.

Opening amid a movie market crowded with holdovers, "Scream 3" grossed more than the rest of the top 10 films combined. It was the biggest February premiere ever, the best debut for a horror film and the top opening for distributor Miramax, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc, which tracks the box office.

The prison drama "The Hurricane" was second with $4.9 million, followed by "Stuart Little" with $4.8 million and "Next Friday" with $4.3 million.

Last weekend's top film, the thriller "Eye of the Beholder," fell to No. 5 with $4.04 million.

Billed as the last in a trilogy, "Scream 3" reunites the survivors of the first two movies — Neve Campbell, David Arquette and Courtney Cox — on a Hollywood movie lot where they are again terrorized by a slasher.

In releasing "Scream 3" in February, Miramax took advantage of the franchise's notoriety and the quiet movie season, said Paul Dergarabedian, president of Exhibitor Relations.

"I think people were questioning whether this was the right time to release a horror film. Obviously, in hindsight, it was the perfect time," Dergarabedian said. "Looking at how slow the market place has been the last few weeks, all it takes is a big movie like this to come along and it really busts things wide open."

Opening in more theaters than its two predecessors, "Scream 3" averaged an impressive $10,153 on 3,467 screens. "The Hurricane" averaged $2,281 in 2,148 cinemas.

"Scream" opened in 1,413 theaters and took in $6.4 million the weekend before Christmas in 1997, while "Scream 2" debuted a year later on 3,112 screens and grossed $32.9 million its first weekend. The movies went on to gross just over $100 million each.

"Scream 3" helped jump-start a market where the top 12 films grossed a meager $43.9 million last weekend. The total for Friday through Sunday was $72.4 million, compared with $62 million for the same weekend a year ago.

Two new movies opened in a few hundred theaters. "Gun Shy," starring Liam Neeson and Sandra Bullock in a dark comedy about a shaky drug agent, earned $700,000 from 296 theaters. The horse-racing caper "Simpatico," starring Nick Nolte, Jeff Bridges and Sharon Stone, grossed $500,000 in 283 theaters.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at North American theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. Final figures were to be released today.

1. "Scream 3," $35.2 million.
2. "The Hurricane," $4.9 million.
3. "Stuart Little," $4.8 million.
4. "Next Friday," $4.3 million.
5. "Eye of the Beholder," $4.04 million.
6. "The Green Mile," $4 million.
7. "Galaxy Quest," $3.3 million.
8. "Down to You," $2.9 million.
9. "Girl, Interrupted," $2.6 million.
10. "The Talented Mr. Ripley," $2.5 million.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Meds can cause constipation

DEAR DR. GOTT: After coronary bypass surgery last year, I was sent home on 10 different medications. Despite this, I felt sick all the time. The worst experience was severe constipation. I now go up to two weeks without relief and I am losing weight because my appetite is nonexistent. Why would a heart problem make me constipated?

DEAR READER: I'll bet you the bottle cap from your milk of magnesia that your bowel problem is the direct result of the medicine you are taking.

When my patients return to my care after having had bypass surgery, I am usually amazed by the amount of medicine they are taking. In medicalese, this is known as "polypharmacy." It may take several weeks for me to sort things out. However, when my patients and I cooperate, I am almost always successful in relieving their symptoms.

Unquestionably, some drugs are beneficial and necessary, but too many medications cause a variety of side effects, of which constipation is one of the most common.

First of all, you should be under the care of a physician who will act as your advocate and will resist intimidation by medical-center specialists. Each drug you are taking needs to be scrupulously analyzed from the standpoint of necessity and side effects.

Then, your doctor, with the help of the specialists, can begin the process of cutting back. I guarantee that you will feel better taking fewer pills.

Because each patient's situation is unique, I cannot give specific advice about your case without knowing more about you. Nonetheless, I'm certain that with the help of your primary care physician, you can substantially reduce your polypharmacy and experience an improvement in your health as a consequence.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My dermatologist checks me regularly for what she calls "dysplastic moles." She removes any that look suspicious. Is this correct?

DEAR READER: Absolutely. Some moles undergo precancerous changes over time and must be monitored for such alterations, such as rapid growth, bleeding and darkening. Any suspicious lesions should be removed and examined. Your dermatologist is on the mark. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "What You Should Know About Skin Cancer." 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.

DEAR DR. GOTT: When I brush my teeth, I also brush my lips. Is this harmful?

DEAR READER: Aside from causing uncomfortable chafing and rawness, brushing your lips is harmless, although for the life of me I cannot understand why anyone would want to engage in this practice.

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Daisy Aguilar, Beverly Ainsworth, Erica Magers and Margaret Torres.

DISMISSALS: Hunter Glenn, Stephanie Ruiz and baby girl, Bernadine Walker and Robert Cantrell.

CENSUS: 50 (Med./Surg.-16, Long-term Care-24, ICU-1, OB-5 and Nursery-4)

Births

Erica Magers of Snyder announces the birth of her son born Feb. 6 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed eight pounds, seven ounces.

— — —

Margaret Torres of Snyder announces the birth of her six-pound son on Feb. 6 at Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	57⅝	56 13-16	57⅛	— 1-16
AT&T Corp s	51¼	50⅜	50 13-16	+ ⅛
Albertsons	29⅜	28¾	28 13-16	— ¾
Alltel	69¾	66 3-16	66 3-16	—2 13-16
AmerOnline s	57¾	56	56⅝	— 1
AndarkPtr	32 5-16	31⅝	32¼	+ 7-16
AtlRichfld	68 9-16	67½	67 9-16	—13-16
ATMOS Egy	17¾	17½	17⅝	— 1-16
Aviall	8¼	8⅛	8¼	+ ⅛
BP Amoco s	48⅞	48 1-16	48 7-16	—13-16
BakerHughes	23 3-16	21¾	23 3-16	+ 11-16
Bank of Amer	45⅜	44⅞	45 1-16	— 5-16
BellAtl	59	57 15-16	58 9-16	
BellSouth	45 5-16	44 7-16	44½	— 1
Beth Steel	6 5-16	6 1-16	6⅛	— 3-16
BurlNoSFe	23 1-16	22 11-16	22 11-16	— ⅛
CBS Corp	64 3-16	62 15-16	62 15-16	—1 15-16
Caterpillar	41 13-16	41 1-16	41 1-16	— 1¼
CenSoWst	19 9-16	19⅜	19½	— 3-16
Chevron	80	78 7-16	78 15-16	+ ⅜
Citigroup s	56 3-16	55⅛	55⅜	+ ⅝
Coastal	39⅜	39	39 5-16	— 1-16
CocaCola	56⅝	55 9-16	56 1-16	— 3-16
ColgatePal s	56¼	53 9-16	54 5-16	—1 15-16
ComclMetals	32⅝	32⅜	32⅜	— ¼
Cooperln	37 5-16	36⅜	36 9-16	— ⅝
DaimlrChry	65 11-16	65⅛	65 7-16	— ⅝
DallSemicn	73	71 5-16	72¼	+ 1¼
DeltaAirl	48 11-16	47⅝	48 7-16	+ 11-16
Dillards Inc	19 9-16	19¼	19 9-16	
DowChem	113¼	111¾	111¾	— 7-16
DuPont	59¾	58¼	59⅛	+ 5-16
EastmanChem	40 1-16	39 13-16	39⅞	— 3-16
EstKodak	63⅛	62½	62½	— ¾
EDS Corp	74¼	73¼	73 15-16	—1 1-16
Entergy	25⅛	24⅞	25	+ 1-16
ExxonMobil	80 7-16	79½	79¾	— 1⅛
FstBksAm	18	17⅞	17⅞	
Flowers	12¾	12⅛	12¼	— ⅛
FordMotor	48½	47 9-16	47 11-16	— ⅜
GTE Cp	69½	68¼	69¼	+ ¼
GenDynam	46⅛	42 7-16	42⅞	—2 11-16
GenElec	141¾	138¾	138¾	— 3
GenMills s	31⅛	30 1-16	30¼	— ⅛
GenMotors	81⅞	80⅞	81	— 1⅜
GaPacGP s	39	37⅝	37⅝	— 1½
GlobalMar	18⅞	18 1-16	18¾	+ 9-16
Goodrich	24 15-16	24 7-16	24 11-16	+ ¼
Goodyear s	23	22 5-16	22⅞	+ ⅛
GtAtlPac	26⅝	24⅞	25 3-16	—1 7-16
Halliburtn	37⅜	36 9-16	37 5-16	+ ½
Hanson ADS	33 13-16	33½	33⅝	— 1¾
HarteHanks	24 13-16	24¼	24⅜	— 5-16
HomeDepot s	61	59⅝	59 11-16	—1 7-16
Honeywellntl	47	45 9-16	45⅞	— 1½
IBM s	116⅞	115½	115 11-16	+ ⅛
IntlPaper	46¼	44 11-16	44 11-16	—15-16
JohnsonJn	81⅞	81 1-16	81⅛	— 1
K mart	8 13-16	8⅝	8 11-16	
Kroger Co s	17⅛	16⅞	17	
Litton	40⅜	37 9-16	37 13-16	—4 7-16
LockheedM	19½	18 9-16	18 13-16	— 5-16
Lowes Cos	47⅝	47⅛	47 7-16	—15-16
Lubys	10 15-16	10¾	10¾	— 1-16
LucentTech s	57 15-16	56	56⅞	—11-16
MayDeptStr s	29⅜	29⅛	29⅛	— ⅜
MediaOne	78 13-16	78 5-16	78 7-16	— ⅛
Medtronic s	48¼	47½	48¼	+ 3-16
Monsanto	42¼	41⅞	41⅞	— ⅜
MorganJP	119 9-16	116 15-16	117¼	— 1⅞
Motorola	155 15-16	153 3-16	153⅞	— 2⅛
NCR Corp	39⅝	39	39 9-16	+ ½
Navistar	38⅛	37¾	38⅛	— ⅜
Penney JC	17⅞	17 11-16	17 11-16	— 3-16
PepBoys	7½	7 5-16	7½	+ 3-16
PepsiCo	33 3-16	32⅜	32 9-16	— 3-16
PhelpDodge	58½	55⅞	55 15-16	—1 13-16
PhilipPet	40⅛	39 11-16	39⅞	+ ⅞
PilgrmPrd B	8⅛	8 1-16	8 1-16	+ 1-16
Polaroid	25 11-16	25 3-16	25¼	
Praxair	42⅛	41¼	41⅝	+ ¼
ProctGamb	94⅛	92 9-16	92 13-16	—1 15-16
PubS NwMx	15⅞	15 11-16	15⅞	+ ⅛
ReliantEngy	23¼	22 13-16	23 1-16	— ¼
RoyalDut	54⅝	53⅜	53½	+ 1
SBC Comm	42	41	41 13-16	+ 1-16
SaraLee	18	17 13-16	17 15-16	— 3-16
Scripps EW	47 11-16	47 5-16	47 11-16	+ ⅜
SearsRoeb	31 11-16	31	31	— ⅞
SherwinW	20 3-16	20 1-16	20 1-16	— 1-16
SmithKlBchm	54¾	53 9-16	54⅛	—1 9-16
SouthernCo	24 7-16	24 3-16	24 5-16	
SwstAirl s	16 5-16	16 1-16	16 3-16	+ 1-16
SprintFON s	62 1-16	61¼	61 11-16	+ 1 3-16
SprintPCS s	52½	49 7-16	49⅝	—2 1-16
Sunoco Inc	23 15-16	23 9-16	23 11-16	+ ⅛
TNP Ent	41 13-16	41¾	41¾	
Tandy s	43¾	42 9-16	43½	+ 1-16
TempleInland	55¾	53¾	54	— 1
Texaco	51 11-16	50 11-16	51 3-16	+ 11-16
TexInd	36¾	36 11-16	36 11-16	
TexasInst s	135 7-16	131⅛	133⅜	+ 1 5-16
Tex Util	36¼	35¾	35 15-16	— 9-16
Textron	62	60⅜	60 11-16	—1 1-16
TriconGlbR	29½	29	29 7-16	— 3-16
TrinityInds	33⅝	22⅝	22¾	+ 1-16
TritonEngy	25½	24 15-16	25	— ⅛
TylerTech	4⅜	4 13-16	4⅜	— 1-16
US West Inc	71 7-16	70⅝	70 13-16	— ⅛
USX-Marathn	24 11-16	23 15-16	24⅝	+ ⅛
USX-USS	24 3-16	23 5-16	23 7-16	— ⅞
UnCarbde	54½	54	54 1-16	+ 1-16
UnionPacif	40½	39 15-16	40	— 5-16
UnitedTech s	52	50 5-16	51 7-16	+ 1-16
Unocal	28 13-16	28 3-16	28 7-16	+ 5-16
Venator Grp	6¼	6 1-16	6 3-16	
WalMart s	56⅝	55	55⅛	—1 3-16
WellsFargo	38⅝	38	38 3-16	— ⅜
WstnGasRs	13 5-16	13¼	13¼	+ ⅛
WinnDixie	18⅜	17½	18 3-16	— 1-16
Xerox Cp	22	21⅝	21 11-16	— 5-16

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Compac	27 11/16	+5/16
Dol. Gen.	22 3/16	+1/8
GTE	69 3/8	+3/8
SBC Comm.	41 11/16	-5/16
Tx Instr.	133 7/8	+1 7/8
LU	56 1/8	-7/8
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U.S.: Great nation without a national debt?

WASHINGTON (AP) — A sure-fire applause line early in President Clinton's recent State of the Union address might well have drawn a ghostly chuckle from one of the president's most celebrated and crusty predecessors.

Clinton forecast huge budget surpluses for years to come. "If we stay on this path, we can pay down the debt entirely in just 13 years ... and make America debt-free for the first time since Andrew Jackson was president in 1835."

Even in Jackson's time, a debt-free government was a mind-dazzling prospect.

"For the first, last and only time in American history, the nation did not owe a cent to anyone," Jackson biographer Robert V. Remini wrote.

Never mind that Clinton's vision deals only with the $3.7 trillion of government debt in public hands, not the additional $2 trillion held by government trust funds such as Social Security. The total national debt stands at $5.7 trillion.

Jackson — nicknamed "Old Hickory" for the tree so hard it resists nails — might reel at those numbers, unable to comprehend why the chief executives who followed him were so willing to put up with an endless ocean of red ink.

For Jackson, national debt was "a national curse," even though the unwelcome and unexpected aftermath of paying it off in 1835 included an overheated economy, a financial collapse — and more red ink than ever.

"My vow shall be to pay the national debt, to prevent a monied aristocracy from growing up around our administration that must bend to its views, and ultimately destroy the liberty of our country," Jackson said during his unsuccessful first presidential campaign in 1824.

As Jackson saw it, the chief malefactor was the nation's central bank, the Second Bank of the United States. He denounced it as a corrupt and corrupting financial octopus.

The destruction of the central bank and the dispersal of federal deposits into smaller state banks became the central objective of Jackson's presidency.

"Eliminating the national debt was no small part of that objective," John Steele Gordon wrote in his 1997 book, "Hamilton's Blessing, The Extraordinary Life and Times of the National Debt."

By the end of 1834, in the middle of his second term, Jackson jubilantly announced the debt would be paid in full. He said the Treasury's books would show a surplus of $440,000 in 1835, rising to a projected $19 million by the end of 1835 and $29 million more in 1836.

Official Washington celebrated at an extravagant banquet, held with deliberate symbolism on Jan. 8, 1835, the 20th anniversary of Jackson's great victory over the British at the Battle of New Orleans.

The toasts flew as furiously as bullets.

"This month of January 1835, in the fifty-eighth year of the Republic, ANDREW JACKSON being president, the NATIONAL DEBT IS PAID!" roared Sen. Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri. "And the apparition, so long unseen on earth, a great nation without a national debt! stands revealed to the astonished vision of a wondering world."

The president did not attend, but he sent a toast to be read in his absence.

"The Payment of the Public Debt," it read. "Let us commemorate it as an event which gives us increased power as a nation, and reflects luster on our federal union, of whose justice, fidelity and wisdom it is a glorious illustration."

Modern scholars have their own perspective on the events of 1835.

"Jackson's view of the national debt was terribly naive — but it was the naivete of the ordinary citizen," biographer Remini wrote in "Andrew Jackson, The Course of American Democracy."

For them, paying the national debt was the equivalent of "paying off the mortgage on the old homestead," Remini said. "It was a mark of achievement, a badge of freedom."

But the national mortgage did not stay paid for long.

According to Gordon's account, once the state banks had the federal government's money on deposit they rapidly increased the money supply. That, despite Jackson's best efforts to avert it, led to a surge in speculation. And that led to rampant inflation and an economic contraction lasting 72 months.

"Soon, the entire economy was deep in depression," Gordon wrote. "But Jackson, with the luck and timing characteristic of great politicians, had retired from office on March 4th 1837, just before the full brunt of the depression had struck."

Library promotes Reagan license plates

SIMI VALLEY, Calif. (AP) — A vintage car show served as a roadmap to key moments in Ronald Reagan's life as admirers gathered to celebrate the former president's 89th birthday.

The show was held at Reagan's presidential library, where about 700 people gathered on a sun-drenched Sunday afternoon to also enjoy a barbecue lunch and country music. Lunches cost $15 apiece, and Reagan's fans enjoyed free birthday cake.

"I think he was a terrific leader, a man for the times," said Dede Glaser, who came to the celebration with her 14-year-old daughter Courtney and husband Greg.

Reagan, who last visited the library in May, was too ill to join the party.

Nancy Reagan said Friday on CNN's "Larry King Live" that her husband — diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in 1994 — was "doing as well as can be expected" considering the disease is progressive.

None of Reagan's relatives attended the event, but Nancy Reagan's bright red 1970 Ford Custom Ranch Wagon was on display.

Other cars were presented in the context of Reagan's life, including a Ford Roadster Deluxe with a rumble seat from 1932, the year he graduated from college; a Chevrolet pickup truck from 1937, the year he worked on his first movie "Love is on the Air"; and a Rolls Royce silver Wraith Coupe from 1952, the year he and Nancy married.

The celebration also helped promote a commemorative license plate featuring the former president. It features a photo of a smiling Reagan wearing a cowboy hat.

The state Department of Motor Vehicles must receive 5,000 applications for the Reagan plate by Dec. 31 before it will be issued. About 2,000 orders have been placed, said library spokeswoman Teri Saucier.

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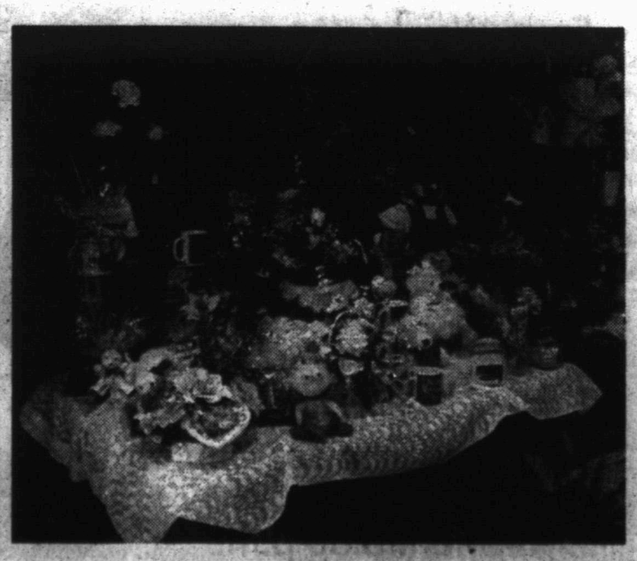
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Spotlight

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Valentine's week is here and it's time to decide what to get that special someone in your life.

Friendly Flower Shop, located at 3203 College Avenue, (next to Video 1) is your one stop Valentine headquarters. You can choose from a variety of fresh flower bouquets by FTD, Teleflora and AFS, such as the "Lasting Romance" and "With All My Heart" by FTD and the "Treasured Heart", "Cosmic Cupid" and "Crystal Passion" by Teleflora.

Balloon bouquets are always fun and Friendly Flowers also carries a large selection of candy and stuffed annimals along with Winnie-the-Pooh specials.

Another favorite for Valentines is the Aromatique potpourri and candles and of course, the all time favorite — ROSES —. At Friendly Flower Shop, you will find a large selection of beautiful roses in all sizes, varieties and colors and the staff specializes in arrangements your sweetheart will love.

Friendly Flower Shop will be open all day Saturday and Sunday, February 12th and 13th and they will also deliver on thoes days. Order early for best selections and delivery times. They are open 8:00am til late this week for your shopping convenience or you can give them a call at 573-5260 or 573-3851.

Fearing competition, firms raising salaries

BOSTON (AP) — Here's one more reason for the rest of the world to tell lawyer jokes: Attorneys at one Boston firm got 40 percent raises last week.

Timothy McGuire, partner at Testa, Hurwitz & Thibeault, said the technology law firm doled out the huge pay hikes so that their attorneys won't leave for high-tech companies promising bigger paychecks and lucrative stock options.

Jim Boone, president of The Americas of Korn/Ferry International, the world's largest executive search firm, said companies today face tremendous pressure to keep the best employees.

"Everyone's scrambling for good people," he said.

Lawyers and high-tech workers aren't the only ones enjoying the booming economy. Last month, the nation's unemployment rate hit a 30-year low of 4 percent. Approximately 387,000 new jobs were created in January, the largest leap since September 1997.

The boom means hospitals in Illinois need qualified nurses so badly that they're willing to offer higher salaries, paid tuition, flex time and referral bonuses.

Massachusetts has been trying to lure new teachers with $20,000 signing bonuses, while the U.S. Border Patrol in Texas started handing out $2,000 to new recruits who make it through the academy. Even McDonald's offered $3,500 signing bonuses to new assistant managers.

In the legal field, the competition to retain and attract talent is forcing the kind of pay hikes that make partners wince.

The nation's largest law firm, Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, last week gave associates 40 percent raises; New York-based Davis Polk and Wardwell hiked salaries by 25 percent.

At Testa, first-year associates will make $140,000 — up from $100,000 — while sixth-year associates will see their annual salaries rise to $205,000.

McGuire said his firm, which counts Lycos, Inc., among its clients, didn't want to risk losing its associates to up-and-coming Internet companies. Judging by the grateful e-mails that flooded management last week, the strategy created some pretty content employees.

"Just wanted to let you know this has created a lot of goodwill in the hallways," read one message. "If anyone still complains, I will personally pop them!"

Still, the firm believes it must do more to hold onto its lawyers. It is investing in companies and passing along stock profits to associates who stay loyal to the firm, McGuire said.

"What do the dot-coms have that we don't? Stock options," McGuire said.

Stock options are being offered to a variety of professionals to sweeten the employment deal.

Though many dot-com companies don't have mega-million initial public offerings, executive-level workers in marketing, sales, computer programming, law, human resources and accounting can become millionaires if a stock booms.

Even mid-level workers making annual salaries of $30,000 to $50,000 are finding themselves beneficiaries of stock options and profit sharing incentives.

"The saying in the industry is, 'Now I know what it's like to be in Sacramento in 1848 for the Gold Rush,'" Boone said. "The excitement runs across many sections of business stratum. It's not just the CEOs and the CFOs."

Some employers look beyond the paycheck. Retailing giant Wal-Mart says it retains employees by offering opportunities for advancement, bonuses based on store performance and a supportive, caring culture.

"Work life issues are what drive us, and they're what our associates tell us they have a need for," said Cole Peterson, vice president of the company's People division.

Of the company's management team, 65 percent were promoted from within. "If you are successful in keeping people you have, you need less people," Peterson said.

But there seems to be no end in sight for compensation packages in other industries.

Lovett, Keen play at benefit for bonfire victims, families

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — In an effort to help the Texas A&M University community heal following last year's bonfire collapse, student organizers held a benefit concert on Sunday for victims and the families of the tragedy.

About 10,000 people attended the emotional concert, which featured music stars Lyle Lovett and Robert Earl Keen. Both performers are now-famous friends who attended A&M in the late 1970s.

Before the music started, though, a smiling John Comstock — the only victim still hospitalized — appeared on a giant video screen over the stage to wish the concertgoers well.

"I'm doing pretty good, and I'm ready to get out of ICU soon," Comstock said from his hospital bed at College Station Medical Center, where he remained in serious condition late Sunday.

"I wish I could be with everybody tonight," 19-year-old Richardson man told the crowd, who also watched news footage gathered from the Nov. 18 accident that killed 12 and left Comstock and 26 others injured.

Organizers hoped to raise more than $100,000 for the Bonfire Relief Fund established by The Association of Former Students to help offset medical and other costs associated with the accident.

The concert at Reed Arena was sponsored by the association and Town Hall, a student committee in A&M's Memorial Student Center.

The university television station KAMU-TV broadcast the concert via the Internet into Comstock's room, exclusively, according to the Bryan-College Station Eagle.

Porter Garner, the executive director of Former Students, said both Keen and Lovett called A&M immediately after the Bonfire collapse to offer their assistance, which led to an announcement last month that the pair would perform.

"It took me back 20 years thinking about them playing again in Aggieland," Garner said.

An independent commission has accepted a March 31 deadline and a $1 million budget to determine what caused the 59-foot stack of logs to collapse during preparation.

The bonfire is a 90-year tradition that precedes the annual football game between A&M and the University of Texas.

49th Armored Division departs for peacekeeping role in Bosnia

By The Associated Press

About 700 volunteers with the 49th Armored Division of the Texas Army National Guard are preparing for nine months of peacekeeping duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the scene of bitter ethnic fighting in the 1990s.

The 49th leaves today to replace the Army's 10th Mountain Division and assume command of Task Force Eagle, said Lt. Col. John Stanford, a Texas Guard public affairs officer.

Brig. Gen. Robert Lee Halverson, commander of the 49th, said the Texas troops will work with British and French military commands in other parts of Bosnia to keep the peace during the country's first free elections.

Bosnians are scheduled go to the polls in a sort of primary election within 30 days after the 49th assumes command of the task force, created five years ago by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

"We're not responsible for overseeing the elections, but for ensuring a safe and secure environment," said Halverson.

The 49th also will command troops of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment from Fort Carson, Colo., and a contingent of United Nations airborne and infantry brigades.

Texas Lt. Gov. Rick Perry scheduled a public sendoff ceremony for the Texas soldiers — more than half of whom are from the Austin-San Antonio and Dallas-Fort Worth areas — this afternoon at the City Coliseum in Austin.

They then will assemble at Camp Mabry before being bused to Fort Hood on Wednesday. The troops will be flown to Bosnia in small groups through Feb. 22.

Halverson said bi-weekly phone calls and video teleconferencing between Bosnia and Texas would be provided at family support centers in Austin, San Antonio, Houston, Irving and Abilene.

"Families are very important to us, and we want to be sure the soldiers are not isolated," he said.

Tony Plant, a 29-year-old reservist from Springtown near Fort Worth, said his absence would be stressful on his wife and three children.

"My children are young and impressionable, and the fact is, I can't get that time back," he said. "My wife is different. She's not used to me being gone for that length of time. And my oldest girl, she knows I'm going to be gone for a while. She just wants to know when I'm done playing Army."

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Brain needs stimulation, study shows

DALLAS (AP) — You better keep those brain cells from getting bored, otherwise they might kill themselves, according to a new study.

The findings point out how important it is for nerve cells in an embryonic brain to keep transmitting signals to neighboring cells in the brain. If they don't, then the non-active cells actually engage in a mass suicide, according to Thomas Sudhof of the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas.

Nerve cells transmit signals mainly by feeding neighboring nerve cells a batch of messenger chemicals called neurotransmitters. There are many types of messenger chemicals, including serotonin, which directly effect those the parts of the brain which trigger depression.

In the new study, Dr. Sudhof and a crew of other researchers studied mice brains that were no longer being fed the messenger chemicals as they were being developed in the womb of another mouse.

The mice's brains develop normally up to a point, then nerve cells in the brain engaged in a mass suicide so severe that the developing brain shrinks.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2000

Your material prospects look exceptionally encouraging for the year ahead. However, it will be up to you to put forth the necessary effort needed to make the most of them.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you are alert, you may be able to capitalize on something today that others may fail to recognize. You'll know its true worth when you see it. 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.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Today will offer you an abundance of energy, so throttle down a bit on your more important involvements and make your moves while all your juices are flowing.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If something had occurred recently which you find disturbing, bring it out into the open where it can be cleared up. Not doing so would allow it to quietly smolder and do more harm to you.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A project or venture in which you may have lost interest may be reawakened today by a fire ignited by a friend. Your renewed enthusiasm will get things rolling.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) The possibilities for fulfilling a particular objective about which you feel strongly motivated are extremely favorable today. You'll have all the zest needed to manifest your goal.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Don't be afraid today to access and utilize in life what you've learned from a book. This special knowledge you couldn't have gotten otherwise can be put to beneficial use.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Positive changes can be made today regarding a business situations with which you've been displeased. Don't let any more time lapse without doing something about it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) In order to realize an ambitious project, team effort will be required today to achieve success. Be sure you're as equally industrious as your counterparts.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) There are several opportunities around you today that can be developed from your present endeavors. Focus on finding some new ways to increase your productivity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Even though we're still in the early part of the week, if the past few days have been especially hectic, it would do you good today to find some time for a pleasurable diversion.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Strike while you're in the mood to take care of a critical matter you've been planning to get around to doing, but haven't as yet finalized. Remove this thorn from your side today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Try to plan your day today so that you'll have some freedom to move around at will. You'll feel better about life if you don't allow yourself to get bogged down.

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SNYDER DAILY NEWS
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Clinton sends budget to Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton sent Congress today a $1.84 trillion farewell budget that carves up the burgeoning surpluses by showering billions of dollars on new government programs. It includes a major expansion of health care while still promising to eliminate the publicly held debt by 2013.

Clinton's eighth and last budget is the opening salvo in what is certain to be an intense battle with Republicans as both parties find the struggle to order the nation's priorities in an era of vast surpluses is no easier than during the past three decades of deficits. The GOP dismissed it as "dead on arrival."

Clinton proposed a host of targeted tax cuts to provide relief to low- and moderate-income taxpayers. Republicans contend the $351 billion in tax reduction is far too small.

"The president is proposing the era of big government come back with a vengeance," said the Senate Budget Committee chairman, Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M. "This is a document designed to help Al Gore win election."

Rep. John Kasich, R-Ohio, who chairs the House Budget Committee, called it "the president's fantasy budget. ... This president has failed to make basic choices, promising more spending on every government program."

The budget proposal, heavy with election-year symbolism, was contained in mammoth books with black-and-white covers to underscore the fact that the budget is now in the black, promising a string of surpluses.

IRA implored to turn over explosives

BELFAST, Northern Ireland (AP) — Catholic leader John Hume appealed today for the Irish Republican Army to hand over a cache of explosives, a day after a bomb attack on a rural hotel.

Hume, a Nobel Peace Prize winner and leader in the peace process, said such a handover would prevent the disintegration of Northern Ireland's Protestant-Catholic government.

Hume made his appeal in an article published today in the Irish News, the province's major newspaper read by Roman Catholics, and reiterated the point as he visited the bombing scene.

The Continuity IRA, a splinter group opposed to the province's 1998 peace accord, claimed responsibility for the bomb, which exploded late Sunday beneath an oil tank at the rear of Mahon's Hotel in Irvinestown, 90 miles west of Belfast.

Phoned warnings combined with a swift police evacuation of the building ensured that no one was injured.

The blast — the first blamed on IRA dissidents since 1998, when a car bomb killed 29 people in the nearby town of Omagh — sent out shock waves amid a crisis over the IRA's refusal to disarm.

The Ulster Unionists, the major British Protestant party, said the bombing vindicated their demand for an immediate start to IRA disarmament.

Two months ago, the Ulster Unionists agreed to form a four-party Cabinet alongside the IRA-linked Sinn Fein party.

"These guns and explosives and detonators can't be kept safely stored away indefinitely. Bombings like this prove the point," said Ken Maginnis, who represents the district where the blast occurred in British Parliament.

Obituaries

Wayne Moore

1927-2000

Wayne Moore, longtime Snyder businessman, died Sunday, Feb. 6, in Lubbock's Covenant Medical Center.

Funeral service for Mr. Moore, 72, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel.

The Rev. Mike Matheny, pastor of the First Assembly of God, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born Dec. 16, 1927 in Clay County, he married Willie Curtis on July 15, 1950 in Sweetwater.

Mr. Moore, a resident of Snyder since 1963, owned and operated Moore's Exxon service station at 37th and College Ave. He was also the distributor for the Abilene Reporter-News for many years. Mr. Moore was a member of the First Assembly of God in Snyder.

Survivors include his wife, Willie Moore of Snyder; a daughter, Sharon Mealer of San Antonio; a son, Jerry Moore of Andrews; two brothers, Andrew Moore of Sweetwater and Horace Moore of Houston; a sister, Minnie Ola Robb of New Windsor, Ill.; six grandchildren; and three step grandchildren.

Tommy Washington

1955-2000

ARLINGTON — Tommy Washington of Arlington, a former Snyder resident, died Friday, Feb. 4, after a lengthy illness. Cremation is planned.



Washington

A memorial service will be held later in Snyder.

Mr. Washington, born July 29, 1955 in Levelland, was a standout baseball and basketball player while attending Snyder High School.

Survivors include his mother, Ocie Wright of Levelland; a son, Tracy Braziel of San Angelo; two daughters, Teena Cobb and Daisy Braziel, both of Snyder; a sister, Loreen Kellum of Snyder; and five grandchildren, Tracy Jr., Colton, Deirdre, Vianese and Terran.

Edith Krasner

1913-2000

LUBBOCK – Edith E. Krasner, a former resident of Snyder, died Friday, Feb. 4, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Funeral service for Mrs. Krasner, 86, was set for 10 a.m. today in the Aldersgate United Methodist Church. The Revs. Mike Schafer and Larry Bass were to officiate.

Graveside service was set for 3 p.m. today in the Elmwood Memorial Park in Abilene.

Born Aug. 4, 1913 in Chicago, she graduated from Beaumont High School and married Burney Krasner on Sept. 4, 1938 in Corpus Christi. He died in 1980.

Mrs. Krasner owned Snyder Pipe and Supply in Snyder from 1950-68. She owned Cheyenne Pipe and Supply in Cheyenne, Okla., from 1968-74. She moved to Abilene in 1974 and then to Lubbock in 1991 where she was a partner in K&M Enterprise.

Mrs. Krasner was a member of the Eastern Star in Snyder, the Pythian Sisters, and a worthy matron of the Rainbow Girls.

Survivors include a daughter, Dorothy Richburg of Lubbock; three grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

Rev. Crumley

1927-2000

The Rev. Gerald F. Crumley, a retired Baptist minister, died Friday, Feb. 4, in a Texarkana hospital.

Funeral service for Rev. Crumley, 72, was set for 1 p.m. today in the Fuqua-Everett Memorial Chapel with the Revs. James Bunger and Loyd Roper officiating. Burial was to follow in the Pinecrest Memorial Park in Alexander, Ark.

Born Feb. 24, 1927 in Snyder, Rev. Crumley retired as a 31-year member of the Baptist Sunday school committee of the American Baptist Association. He served five years as vice president of the association and pastored churches in Texas, Arkansas, Kentucky and Mississippi.

At the time of his death, he was a member of the County Avenue Baptist Church and the Border Masonic Lodge.

He was preceded in death by a son, Gary Crumley, in 1974.

Survivors include his wife, Jean Crumley of Texarkana; a son, Ben Crumley of Atlanta, Ga.; a daughter, Susan Crumley of El Paso; a brother, Fred Crumley of San Antonio; two sisters, Vera Alexander and Irene Simmons, both of San Angelo; three grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

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Russian tanker turned over to state of Oman

MUSCAT, Oman (AP) — The U.S. Navy today handed the Gulf state of Oman control of a Russian tanker seized for allegedly smuggling Iraqi oil in violation of U.N. sanctions.

The ship was seized Wednesday in the Gulf of Oman, off the United Arab Emirates, on suspicion it was carrying Iraqi oil in violation of a U.N. economic embargo. Crew from the cruiser USS Monterey boarded the tanker after it failed to respond to routine queries.

Russia's deputy foreign minister, Vasily Sredin, told the ITAR-Tass news agency that U.S. Navy personnel aboard the Volga-Neft-147 had left the vessel.

Russia has protested the seizure and demanded that the ship be released as soon as possible.

In New York, Russia's U.N. ambassador said the countries involved have agreed to release the tanker and its crew. Sergey Lavrov also called for independent tests to determine the oil's origin.

A statement today from the Navy's 5th Fleet, based in Bahrain, said Oman had agreed to let crew members return home. But it raised doubts as to whether the ship would be released, noting that under rules of the embargo, the ship and its cargo may be sold by the host nation.

The Navy said the oil's origin was confirmed by their chemical analysis and by data found aboard, including documents found in the room of the first officer, who is an Iraqi national. Navigation charting also established a clear transit from Iraq through Iranian waters to the United Arab Emirates, the statement said.

Eight subjects jailed, offense reports filed over weekend

Law enforcement activity over the weekend included eight people being taken into custody and several offense reports being filed.

At 5:50 p.m. Saturday, officers arrested a 17-year-old male in the 100 block of Peach for misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

A 32-year-old male was taken into custody at 7:35 p.m. in the 700 block of Milburn for driving while intoxicated, no liability insurance and a Lubbock County warrant for probation violation.

Officers took a 22-year-old female into custody at 10:19 p.m. Saturday in the 3700 block of College on warrants for speeding and failure to appear.

A male juvenile was booked into custody at 5 a.m. Sunday for probation violation and later transported to the juvenile facility in Sweetwater.

A report of a possible intoxicated driver led to the arrest of a 27-year-old male at 5:28 a.m. Sunday at the Plaza Truck Stop. He was arrested for public intoxication.

A 20-year-old male was jailed on outstanding municipal court warrants for public intoxication, failure to appear, no driver's license and no liability insurance. Deputies arrested him at 1:46 p.m. Sunday on West Hwy. 180.

Outstanding warrants also sent a 28-year-old male to jail Sunday evening. Officers took the subject into custody at 7:59 p.m. in the 2900 block of Denison on five warrants for issuance of a bad check.

Department of Public Safety troopers arrested a 19-year-old male at 1:58 a.m. today on U.S. Hwy. 84 for driving while license suspended and misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

An offense report for Class B theft was submitted at 12:21 p.m. Saturday in reference to someone stealing a puppy from Gloria Utley of 1200 28th Street.

Ricky Bates notified deputies at 1:40 p.m. Saturday that someone had stolen a computer and satellite receiver box from a vacant house at 74 West CR 4138. An offense report was filed for burglary of a habitation.

At 5:45 p.m. Saturday, Henry Valdez with Henry's Auto Sales at 2301 25th Street reported the theft of stereo equipment from a vehicle parked on his lot. Officers submitted an offense report for burglary of a motor vehicle.

An offense report was taken at 2:08 a.m. Sunday for family violence.

Hilario Seguria Jr. of 2312 42nd Street notified officers at 7:06 p.m. Saturday that his ring was missing. An offense report for Class B theft was filed.

A clerk with McD's 66 reported a gas drive-off in the amount of $20 at 8:07 p.m. Sunday. Officers turned in an offense report for Class C theft.

Snyder Fire Department responded to a small grass fire at 4:14 p.m. Sunday in the 200 block of Old Lubbock Hwy.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Relay for Life

Team captain meetings for the American Cancer Society's relay for life will be held at 5:30 p.m. today in the Cogdell Hospital board room. Team packets and other information may be picked up. All team captains need to attend.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. this evening are "Three Gifts We Enjoy in Christ," followed by "How to Function Biblically in Today's Family."

Band boosters

The SHS band boosters will meet at 6:30 p.m. tonight in the high school band hall. The band banquet will be discussed.

Senior Citizens swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 2-3 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool. For more information, call 573-4035.

Weigh down workshop

The weigh down workshop is a 12-week Bible-based weight loss program. Orientation will be held tonight and the first class will be Feb. 21. All meetings will be at Trinity Methodist Church at 7 p.m. For more information, call the church office at 573-3988, or Dorothy Petersen at 573-7044.

Museum lecture series

Scurry County Museum's lecture series will continue at 7 p.m. Tuesday with a panel discussion on the homefront during World War II. Panelists will include Doris Byars, Virginia Clark, Dorothy Rosson, Maggie Barnes and Wernette Smith. Dr. Harry Krenek, WTC president, will moderate.

Amateur radio operators

Snyder area radio operators will conduct its weekly check in/ragchew net at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. This net will operate on frequency 146.920 with PL tone 67. All licensed amateurs are welcome to check in. For more information call Mike @ KM5TC (573-2222), or David @ KC5GFM (573-8182).

Open house

An open house of the new district office of State Rep. David Counts will be held at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday at 1800 26th Street.

1980 class reunion

A meeting to plan the 1980 SHS class reunion will be held at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at Sandy Pollard's home. For information call 573-4750 or 573-1686.

MAWC fish fry

Martha Ann Woman's Club will have a fish fry Friday at the clubhouse from 5:30 until 6:30 p.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $4 for children six and under. Price includes drink, dessert and no gratuity. Tickets will be delivered by calling 573-3427, 573-6443, or 573-6717. Proceeds go toward maintaining the clubhouse.

Enchilada plates

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will be selling enchilada plates on Saturday at the Guadalupe Center at 1311 Ave. K from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. Plates are $5 for adults and $2.50 for children and include three beef enchiladas, rice, beans, salad, dessert and tea.

United Way awards luncheon

The Scurry County United Way awards luncheon will be held at noon next Monday at Martha Ann Woman's Club. Cost is $7.50 per plate. RSVP at 573-1731 by Tuesday, Feb. 8.

Retired teachers

The Scurry County Retired Teachers will meet at noon next Monday at The Shack. Tim Riggan will present the program, "Making Investments in Retirement Years."

WTC basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College are taught Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m., and from 6-9 p.m. Classes include G.E.D. and E.S.L. refresher courses. For additional information, call 573-8511, ext. 322.

WTC planetarium shows

The planetarium at WTC is available for spring offering of star shows. Presentations will be held on Fridays by special arrangements. Shows are by reservation only and there is no charge. Shows are available to fit any age group. For reservations call 573-8511, Ext. 312.

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abilene or Lubbock one day a week for cancer treatment. Following approval American Cancer Society, drivers will be provided liability insurance and can be reimbursed for fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more information, contact ASC Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 to leave a message.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

7-9-3

(seven, nine, three)

Lotto Texas

(AUSTIN) — No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 50 were: 9-12-27-35-36-40.

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $18 million.

Woman: Remark might suggest cover-up

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A prosecution witness in the murder trial of four police officers testified today that she overheard a remark after the shooting of Amadou Diallo that might suggest a cover-up.

Diallo's next-door neighbor, Ida Vincent, said that moments after hearing gunshots, she heard a man having a conversation outside her first-floor window saying, "OK. OK. We're just going to say this." She could not identify who said it.

Earlier today, State Supreme Court Justice Joseph Teresi had ruled that the prosecution could not ask about the remark, agreeing with the defense that it was prejudicial.

Later, when Vincent began to testify about the remark, the judge overruled defense objections. The judge said the defense itself had "opened the door."