

# The Snyder Daily News

Vol. 41 No. 205

Snyder, Texas (79549)

10 Pages, 25 Cents

Tuesday

Dec. 27,  
1988

Ask Us

## Christmas traffic deaths reach 36

Thirty-six Texans died in traffic accidents during the holiday weekend, the Department of Public Safety said Tuesday.

The fatality count, which ran from 6 p.m. Friday to midnight this morning, was four more than DPS officials predicted for the Christmas weekend.

"We've had two accidents that each produced two fatalities, two double fatalities. We've also had two triple-fatality accidents during the period, so that's definitely a factor," Wells said.

Richard Cato Schleier, 7, of Irving, was the last victim recorded by the DPS about 8 p.m. Tuesday. He apparently darted out onto a city street from behind an 8-foot-high privacy fence, said DPS spokesman David Wells.

## Pan Am crash...

# Death toll now at 259

LOCKERBIE, Scotland (AP) — The first of the dead have been identified from Pan Am Flight 103, and investigators today began tests on a suitcase for clues as to whether a bomb or structural failure caused Britain's worst air disaster.

Police said they hoped to release five or six bodies to next of kin today once the last formality of registering the death in Lockerbie was completed. Names and nationalities were not

issued.

One more victim was found Monday, bringing the total in two temporary morgues in the city hall and an ice rink to 240.

Pan Am said today it had determined that another infant was on board Flight 103, bringing the total of passengers and crew on the plane to 259. Eleven townspeople are still listed as missing and feared dead.

After three days of constant

rain, more than 600 rescue workers resumed their search under clear skies today for the remaining victims and for missing wreckage, including sections of the airplane's wings.

Police divers joined the rescue effort, searching the icy, rain-swollen waters of the lakes, reservoirs and bogs in the 100 square miles of rugged terrain and dense woods surrounding the crash zone.

## Colder weather forecast

From Local, Wire Reports

Clear skies but colder temperatures are expected for the Snyder area Tuesday and Wednesday as a strong cold front pushes southward through Texas, bringing an end to warm weather that graced the state over the Christmas weekend and prompting area wind advisories.

The area forecast Tuesday calls for clear skies and cold temperatures with an overnight reading around 20 expected.

Wednesday will see skies continue to be clear but temperatures are not expected to rise above the lower 40s.

Cloudy skies and a warming trend are expected into the weekend, however. For the Snyder area, the long range outlook Thursday through Saturday is for overnight lows to be in the upper teens to lower 20s.

Clouds and the possibility of rain will return to the West Texas forecast Friday. Any showers are expected to be in the southern half of the area.

The high temperatures are expected to be near 40 on Thursday and near 60 by Saturday.

On Tuesday, the front stretched across Central Texas into the southwest part of the state, triggering showers and thunderstorms to North Texas and producing colder air in the Panhandle and western sections.

The National Weather Service said skies were cloudy across the state as warm moist air continued to flow in from the Gulf of Mexico. Showers and rain had developed over Northwest and North Central Texas, along and ahead of the front. Drizzle was also reported over parts of North Central and Northeast Texas.

Winds were gusty over South and North Texas. In the Panhandle and West Texas, winds were from the northwest at 10 to 15 mph. In northern and southern sections, southerly winds were common at speeds of 15 to 20 mph with some gusts in excess of 25 mph.

Low temperatures were dropping across the west into the 20s and 30s with the front's passage. Readings in the rest of the state were 50s and 60s with some 70s along the coast and in the deep south.

The weather service said skies will clear from west to the east as the front continues to move through the state.

## Bonds ok'd for officials with county

Scurry County commissioners Tuesday approved performance bonds for four county officials.

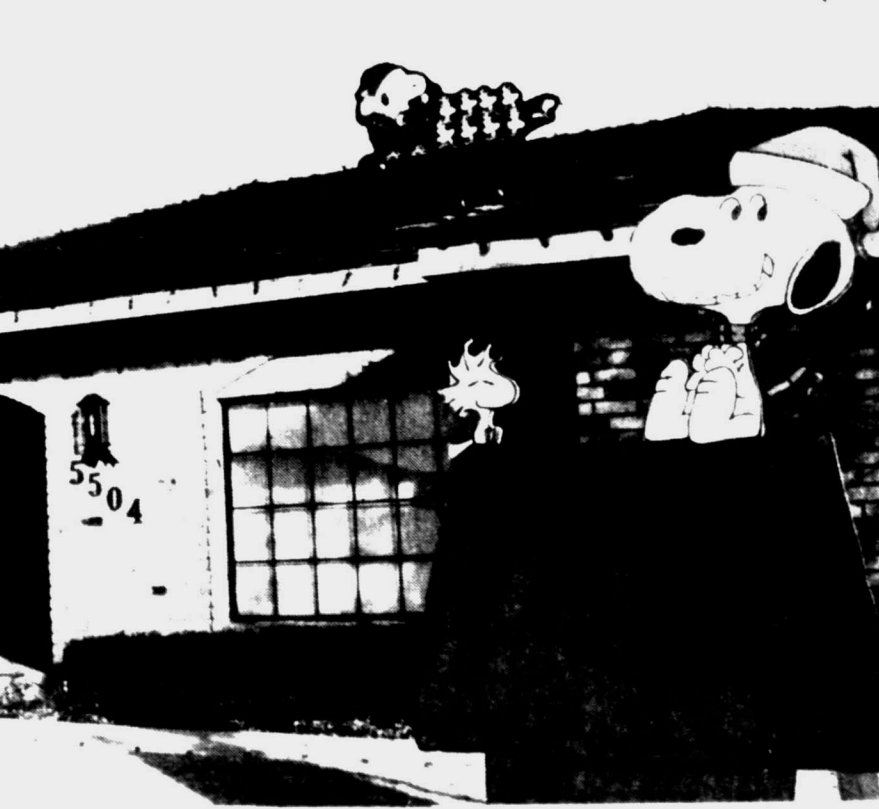
In the only item of business on the 10 a.m. agenda, bonds totaling \$4,000 were approved for Pct. 1 County Commissioner Duane Davis, \$1,000 for Justice of the Peace Pct. 1 Constable William D. "Bill" Love, \$2,500 for Deputy Sheriff Kerry Fritz and \$5,000 for District Attorney Ernie Armstrong.

County Judge Bobby Goodwin noted that the bonds are required by state law.

They cost the county 1 percent of their face value.



CHRISTMAS '88 — Among the 27 entries in the Snyder Jaycees' annual Christmas decorations contest were, top left, Emmett and Helen Askins' Santa Claus and reindeer at 3009 35th St.; top right,



Dale and Elaine Byrd's scene at 3307 Ave. U; and, bottom, Gary Landes' "Peanuts" oriented scene at 5504 Cedar Creek. (SDN Staff Photos)

## During March, April...

# TDC project gains 'good news' in '88

Proponents of the Texas Department of Corrections prison unit here received a double dose of good news during March and April of 1988 as the lawsuits which had clouded the project's future were dropped and ground breaking ceremonies were celebrated.

On March 31, plaintiffs who had sought to stop the construction filed documents seeking a ruling for "non-suit" on the issue, asking that their legal actions be

dismissed "without prejudice."

In addition, April 18 saw Scurry County citizens attend two events to honor the 1,000-man unit's implementation. These included a ceremonial ground breaking at the coliseum—moved from the actual site due to weekend rains—and a noon luncheon banquet at the National Guard Armory attended by 600-plus individuals.

On March 8, Scurry County voters also went to the polls as Texas participated for the first

time in Super Tuesday primary balloting. In the local vote, Democrat Pete Greene won a two-man race for his party's nomination for district judge and Pct. 3 Commissioner C.D. Gray Jr. bested a challenger for his second four-year term.

The early spring months also saw a major operating change at Cogdell Memorial Hospital as a staff "downsizing" was announced March 24. This resulted in the termination of 18 Cogdell staffers

in an attempt to turnaround the facility's revenue losses.

New faces were also revealed for key Scurry County positions to include Charles Thornton of Rotan named Snyder's new postmaster on March 17; Lawton Taylor named the new Snyder ISD maintenance director on March 31; and Wilma Dillard announced as the first patient relations coordinator at Cogdell Memorial Hospital on April 24.

The following includes a chronological listing of the important news events affecting Scurry County residents during March and April for this year:

**March 2**  
SACROC plans to increase its operating budget some 14 percent during 1988—a percentage which equates to a \$14 million increase in spending at the unitized field, it was reported Wednesday.

**March 4**  
Snyder Junior High seventh grader Kim Mitchell was named the winner Friday morning of the 13th annual Scurry County Spelling Bee.

**March 7**  
Some 500 persons attending the annual Chamber of Commerce Banquet offered a standing ovation following the presentation of the special "exemplary service" award to prison project coordinator Roy Baze, it was reported Monday.

**March 8**  
Two incumbent county commissioners, C.D. Gray and

## The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The ship isn't likely to come in until you decide to row out and meet it."

Patti Musselman, English teacher and junior high volleyball coach, doesn't claim to be a gourmet cook, but she often perters a brown bag from home.

As she does on many occasions, Patti fixed a lunch at home and brought it to place in the girls gym refrigerator. She thought it had an unusual odor, but blamed it on being a different refrigerator that had been brought in to replace one that had konked out.

Musselman likes cats, but she can't stand a rat or mouse of any size or description. The previous evening custodian Billy Wayne Harris had inquired of the building principal if there was an unused refrigerator in the building.

He was directed to one located in the science lab that had not been used for a number of years. Before moving it to the gym, Harris unloaded boxes of science material from the frig

but they appeared good enough to set back on a shelf.

The next morning, science teacher Robert Wood inquired of assistant principal Margaret Presswood about his missing refrigerator—the one used to keep dried rats, snails, frogs and other variables used in science experiments.

A fellow coach, Armanda Geiger, suspected something, so she used her conference period to give the refrigerator a thorough cleaning only to find out that the science department was to get it back after the gym's original and rat less one had been repaired.

Word of the sandwiches stored with the laboratory rats spread among the junior high faculty—and many made a special effort to ask Coach Musselman what she was having for lunch.

She was last seen dining with students in the cafeteria.

The office at junior high got this telephone call: "This is my mother speaking. I can't come to school today for unspecified reasons."

Q — Can I make a partial payment on my property taxes?

A — You cannot make a partial payment on the amount charged by an individual entity, but you can pay your tax bill one entity at a time. The billing will list the amount due for each taxing entity and the "total tax" due, the combined bill of each. All local personal property taxes must be paid by Jan. 31.

## In Brief

### Bush hunts

BEEVILLE, Texas (AP) — Saying his bird shooting game is in between his golf and tennis games, President-elect George Bush prepared to hunt the real quail today amid 10,000 acres of rough brushland.

For 20 years, Bush has been coming to Will Farish's Lazy F Ranch about 15 miles north of here and during the next two days will be joined by his brother, Jonathan, and Secretary of State-designate James Baker as they aim to bag the birds amid the mesquite and brush country.

### Body found

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Searchers today found the body of a policewoman in the murky waters of a creek after a search by dozens of other officers, firefighters and Civil Defense volunteers.

Patrolwoman Patricia Calderon, 26, a five-year veteran, disappeared at 2:15 a.m. while chasing a man through heavy brush behind an apartment complex, police said. Authorities searching at Salado Creek found her at about 6 a.m., aided by a police helicopter pilot.

Police were holding a man captured near Interstate 10, and the man's brother, recently released from the Texas Department of Corrections, was also being sought, officers said.

### Police death

EL PASO, Texas (AP) — A fistfight with two police officers left another man dead, but authorities said his death was not a direct result of the altercation.

The cause of Rafael Alaniz Garcia's death Monday was undetermined, said Dr. Randall McGivney, deputy El Paso County medical examiner. But Garcia, 48, of El Paso was not beaten to death, McGivney said after performing an autopsy.

The officers who fought with Garcia were injured during the early-morning fight at Garcia's house in central El Paso, said police Lt. J.R. Grijalva.

He said officer Dale Fernandez suffered a compound fracture and tendon damage in his left wrist. He was in stable condition after surgery at Sierra Medical Center.

### Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Saturday, 58 degrees; low, 34 degrees; high Sunday, 65 degrees; low, 35 degrees; high Monday, 71 degrees; low, 47 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Monday, 47 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1988 to date, 21.24 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Lake wind advisories are in effect tonight, clear and cold. Low around 20. North wind 5 to 15 mph Wednesday, mostly sunny and cool. High in the lower 40s. Northeast wind 5 to 15 mph.

See REVIEW, page 8

# Rapist's escape jeopardizes prison

JESSUP, Md. (AP) — A rapist charged with attacking a woman while on furlough from Patuxent Institution may help doom the maximum-security prison devoted to treating violent offenders rather than punishing them.

Coming on the heels of reports that a Patuxent review board had granted unsupervised furloughs to a triple murderer, legislative

leaders are threatening to abolish the therapeutic institution, believed to be the only one of its kind in the country.

"I just don't think that it works," said R. Clayton Mitchell Jr., speaker of the Maryland House of Delegates, who has called for the firing of the prison director, Norma Gluckstern. "It has proved it hasn't worked. Furloughs and that sort of thing

for those types ought to be abolished."

Criminal justice experts say the furor over Patuxent's early releases and furloughs epitomizes a national fear of crime that George Bush exploited to defeat Michael Dukakis in the presidential campaign.

The Republican candidate blamed Dukakis after convicted murderer Willie Horton came to

Maryland while on furlough from a Massachusetts prison and raped a woman.

"The majority of the prison systems across the county have been re-examining their furlough

programs in view of the recent national political campaign," said Hardy Rauch, director of standards and accreditation of prisons for the American Correctional Association in College Park.

# Congress sprucing up for its 101st two-year session

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress is sprucing up for its 101st two-year session and the celebration of 200 years of constitutional

government.

One more bicentennial as the century nears a close.

The Senate chamber in particular will have a fresher look when it convenes Jan. 3.

A new carpet has been installed — royal blue with medallions — and the staff benches in the rear have been reupholstered in bright crimson. It should give the chamber a flashier look on television.

A few months ago, the staff area in the back corners of the Senate chamber were enclosed with massive mahogany railings. That also was done with television in mind.

Some senators with desks in the rear of the chamber had complained that when they rose to speak, the television image of the speech showed them with rows of dangling feet and crossed legs at

the level of their own heads. The new railing provides a more senatorial visual backdrop.

The taking up of the old carpet, which had been in place for more than a decade and was badly worn in places, was an event in itself.

Workmen in jeans and casual clothes took the places of senators in crisp three-piece, pinstriped suits.

Some lounged in senator's arm chairs, told jokes in loud voices, flicked cigarette ashes on the chamber floor and ground out the butts with their heels.

Then they carried the 100 historic desks out of the chamber door and propelled them down the corridor to temporary storage.

Then they tore up the carpet. "Looks just like the revolution," one bystander said.

The tearing up of the carpet attracted spectators — and souvenir hunters. A few of the latter were United States senators.

Senators, and Senate pages and clerks, rolled up swatches of the old carpet and carried it away on their shoulders.

The chamber now has been restored to order, ready for noon on Jan. 3 when 10 newly elected senators, one newly appointed senator and 23 newly re-elected senators will raise their right hands and swear to "support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic."

All seats in the Senate galleries have been allocated to relatives, friends and supporters of the new and returning senators.

For the first time, a spillover room has been set up for guests of the new and re-elected senators who cannot be seated in the Senate chamber itself. They will be issued tickets for seats in the Senate Caucus Room in the Russell Senate Office Building.



Dr. Gott

Peter Gott, M.D.

## Both his problems should be treated

Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband had a drinking binge of eight days two years ago. I took him to the doctor and his blood sugar was 600. Since then he's been taking Lasix, Micro-K, Theodor and Diabeta. We've been monitoring his glucose at home. A year ago, he stopped the Diabeta on his own. His weight went from 158 to 260 (he's 5 foot 3 inches), his glucose reading from 144 to 277. He still binges occasionally. Are we dealing with a diabetes problem or alcoholism?

DEAR READER: Both. Your husband certainly has diabetes, an excess of blood sugar. The basic treatment for this disease is diet. Your husband's 100-pound weight gain indicates that his intake of calories exceeds his needs. He should trim down by avoiding sugar, sweets — and, of course, alcohol, which provides "empty," unnecessary calories and is dangerous for diabetics. He may or may not need Diabeta, an oral medicine for diabetes. This decision is best left up to his physician.

Also, I note that he is taking Lasix (a diuretic used for fluid retention), Micro-K (a mineral supplement to counteract potassium loss caused by Lasix) and Theodor (a drug for asthma). Evidently, your husband has several medical problems. Alcoholism may be one of them.

Experts now recognize that an alcoholic is not simply a down-in-the-mouth Skid Row daily drinker. Many alcoholics avoid alcohol for months or years, only to have their sobriety end in the cyclic bouts of binge drinking. Alcoholism is a tricky disease with many variations. The "classic" alcoholic may be in the minority. Many of today's alcoholics are healthy, gainfully employed — and younger than previously supposed.

In any case, your husband's drinking pattern is unhealthy, particularly in view of his diabetes. He should stop drinking and seek help from the doctor, a counselor or Alcoholics Anonymous.

In addition, he should return to his doctor for an examination, a possible alteration of his medication and a full program to address his diabetes. This may take the form of a diet, an exercise program and medication to help control his blood sugar.

I think that your husband needs to know that he cannot run away from his diabetes by pretending it's not there, or deny his drinking problem by rationalizing that he only "overdoes it" once in a while.

For more information, I am sending you copies of my Health Reports "Diabetes Mellitus" and "Help II — Mental/Substance Abuse." Other readers who would like copies should send \$1 for each with their name and address to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3369. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've noticed that my nose turns blackish-purple when I go out in the cold weather. Is this something to worry about?

DEAR READER: When we are exposed to cold weather, the body attempts to conserve heat by directing blood flow inward, away from the skin. Usually this produces blanching of fingers, toes and other appendages, as arteries constrict to shunt blood internally. Occasionally, these arterial contractions are associated with venous pooling, essentially, blood in the veins is prevented from returning to the heart.

This venous blood gives a bluish tinge to parts of the skin. Your blue nose is probably due to these vascular changes. However, check with your doctor to make sure that you don't have a more serious circulatory abnormality.

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## Ring returned

FORT WORTH, Texas (AP) — Marla Ponitz received a gift unequalled by any under the tree when a man came to her home Christmas night and returned a diamond ring he stole from her kitchen two months ago.

Mrs. Ponitz had just finished serving Christmas dinner to 21 relatives Sunday when the doorbell rang.

"My husband answered the door and the man said, 'I worked here two months ago. Is your wife at home?' " Mrs. Ponitz explained. "I went and he said, 'I was sweeping the floor and I took the ring.' And he had tears in his eyes and I started to cry."

The man was one of eight Mrs. Ponitz and her husband, Kenneth, employed to remodel their kitchen.

"He said, 'I don't need the money. I don't know why I took it.' And then he pulled it out of his pocket."

Mrs. Ponitz took the ring and told the man she didn't want to know his name.

"I just got hysterical because I never thought I'd see it again," Mrs. Ponitz said.

Her husband gave her the ring three years ago to celebrate the birth of their second child. The ring, a 1 1/2-karat diamond surrounded by 18 little diamonds, was worth \$3,400 when it was purchased in 1984. It was not insured.



## THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Donny Brown, Managing Editor  
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for republication all news dispatches in this newspaper and also local news published for republication of special dispatches.

**WE APOLOGIZE**

There is an error in the Eckerd Circular dated 12/25/88. Eckerd Drug is not offering for sale the alcoholic beverages printed in the circular dated 12/25/88. These products are being offered for sale by E.T.B. Inc., and are not available in all stores.

**James Clark, Attorney at Law**  
announces the relocation of his office to  
1823 25th  
(North Side of Square)  
formerly Michael S. Line Law Offices  
Snyder, Texas 79549  
915/573-0127

**Spanish Inn**  
2212 College Ave.  
Will Be Closed  
from  
Saturday, December 24 at 2:00 p.m.  
Until  
Tuesday, January 3 at 6:00 a.m.

**TRAVIS FLOWERS**  
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**Scurry County**

Hrubetz Operating Co. will drill the No. 18 T. R. Martin in the Corazon field, five miles northeast of Fluvanna. Planned for a depth of 2,600 feet, location is in Section 574, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Hrubetz Operating Co. will drill the No. 19 T. R. Martin in the Corazon field, five miles northeast of Fluvanna. Also planned for 2,600 feet, location is in Section 574, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Hrubetz Operating Co. will drill the No. 8 Revilo-Browning in the Corazon field, five miles northeast of Fluvanna. The project is planned for 2,400 feet, and drill site is in Section 541, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Hrubetz Operating Co. will drill the No. 7 Revilo-Browning in the Corazon field, five miles northeast of Fluvanna. Also planned for 2,400 feet, location is in Section 541, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 86 State-Strain unit in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles southeast of Ira. Planned for a depth of 1,680 feet, location is in Lot 18 Survey 2, C. A. O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 84 State-Strain unit in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles southeast of Ira. Planned depth is 1,680 feet, and location is in Lot 18, Survey 2, C. A. O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 82 State-Strain unit in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles southeast of Ira. Also planned for 1,680 feet, location is in Lot 18, Survey 2, C. A. O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 81 State-Strain unit in the same field, three miles southeast of Ira. Planned depth is 1,680 feet, and location is in Lot 18, Survey 2, O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 80 State-Strain unit in the same field, three miles southeast of Ira. Also planned for 1,680 feet, location is in Lot 18, Survey 2, O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 79 State-Strain unit in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles southeast of Ira. Planned for 1,680 feet, location is in Lot 18, Survey 2, O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 77 State-Strain unit in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles southeast of Ira. Planned for 1,680 feet, location is in Lot 18, Survey 2, O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 76 State-Strain unit in the same field, three miles southeast of Ira. The venture is planned for 1,680 feet, and location is in Lot 18, Survey 2, O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 75 State-Strain unit in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles southeast of Ira. The project is set for 1,680 feet, and drill site is in Lot 18, Survey 2, O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 49 State-Strain unit in the same field, three miles southeast of Ira. Planned for 1,680 feet, location is in Lot 5, Survey 32, O'Keefe subdivision.

Mobil Producing will drill the No. 48 State-Strain unit in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles southeast of Ira. Also planned for a depth of 1,680 feet, location is in

**Garza County**

Hunt Oil Co. has plugged and abandoned the No. 1-44 Davis, an 8,451-foot wildcat 11.5 miles southwest of Justiceburg. Drill site was in Section 44, Block 2, T&NO survey.

Hunt Oil Co. will drill the No. 1-B Macy-Lott in the Happy south field, 12.5 miles southwest of Justiceburg. Planned for a depth of 8,650 feet, location is in Section 10, Block 30, P.H. Hale survey.

**Mitchell County**

Paul De Cleva Inc. will drill the No. 1 Ellwood, a 7,700-foot wildcat 20 miles south of Colorado City. Location is in Section 40, Block 16, SPRR survey.

**Kent County**

Marathon Oil Co. has completed the No. 5 Roy Chisum in the Boomerang south field, six miles northeast of Clairmont. The well produced 260 barrels of 39 gravity oil and 315 barrels of water.

Gas-oil ratio was 392:1 with perforations from 6,583-592 feet. Location is in Section 49, Block L, H&TC survey.

Reserves Oil Co. Inc. will drill the No. 1-90 Lisa, a 4,350-foot wildcat two miles west of Girard. Drill site is in Section 90, Block 1, H&GN survey.

## Community Calendar

### TUESDAY

ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m. TOPS TX56; weigh-in and meeting 7-8 p.m.; 2501 35th St.; for more information, call Jean Yearwood at 573-9444.  
 Scurry County Genealogical Society; TU Electric Reddy Room; 7:30 p.m. New members and visitors are welcome.  
 Scurry Lodge 706; AF and AM degree classes; 7:30 p.m.  
 New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.  
 Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.

### WEDNESDAY

Free blood pressure clinic; Hermleigh Community Center; 1-2 p.m.



**HOLIDAY BELLS** — The Colonial Hill Baptist Church presented the Ladies' Handbell Choir in Christmas concert at various places in the community during the holiday season. Pictured at Snyder Nursing Center, ringers are directed by Jerald Garner. Members of the

group include Kathy Post, Belinda Gentry, Barbara Ashby, Jeanie Rice, Tammy Doles, Glenda Boyd, Mary Pryor, Ellen Rumpff, Andrea Garner, Shelley Gibson, Betsy Armstrong, and Tonya Canada. (SDN Staff Photo)

## Bridge

James Jacoby

### A risky salvage job

By James Jacoby

The aggressively bid slam was sold against any lead but a diamond. West attacked in diamonds since he felt that a passive lead would let declarer set up clubs for discards. This was good thinking. When your opponents have shown they have a suit they can use for discards, it is often right to lead away from a king or queen, hoping to set up a trick in time to use it. This is true even against a slam.

The bidding itself was a simple value sequence. North showed a good club suit plus spade support. South felt he had enough extra values to shoot out the slam and did so directly.

With West's well-judged diamond lead, South no longer had time to set up the clubs. Fortunately South had one last chance. After winning the diamond lead and drawing two rounds of trumps, South led the queen of hearts from dummy. East was obliged to cover, and South won the ace. Next came the 10 of hearts. This time it was West's turn to cover in the hope that East had the nine of hearts. But not so. South ruffed and returned to his hand with a trump. The heart nine was good for a diamond discard, so South was then able to concede a club loser and make six spades. Even though South's play risked going down an extra trick, it was a very reasonable risk. Given that West had found the killing lead, it behooved South to try to salvage his contract. "I would never have bid the slam without the nine of hearts," South jested.

## Exercise benefits greater for males

NEW YORK (AP) — Men benefit even more than women by exercising regularly, according to the Nutri-System Health & Fitness Information Bureau.

That's because physical activity not only helps to control weight, but also extends life spans by counteracting the effects of testosterone, the male hormone that raises LDL (the "bad" cholesterol) levels.

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**Ted Bigham**  
 PHOTOGRAPHY  
 573-3622

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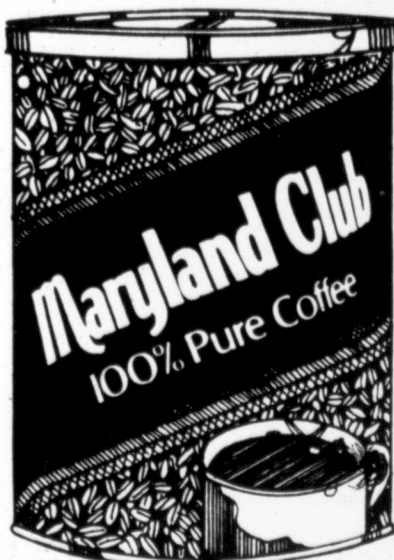
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MasterCard VISA DISCOVER

**BORN LOSER** by Art Sansom



**FRANK & ERNEST** by Bob Thaves



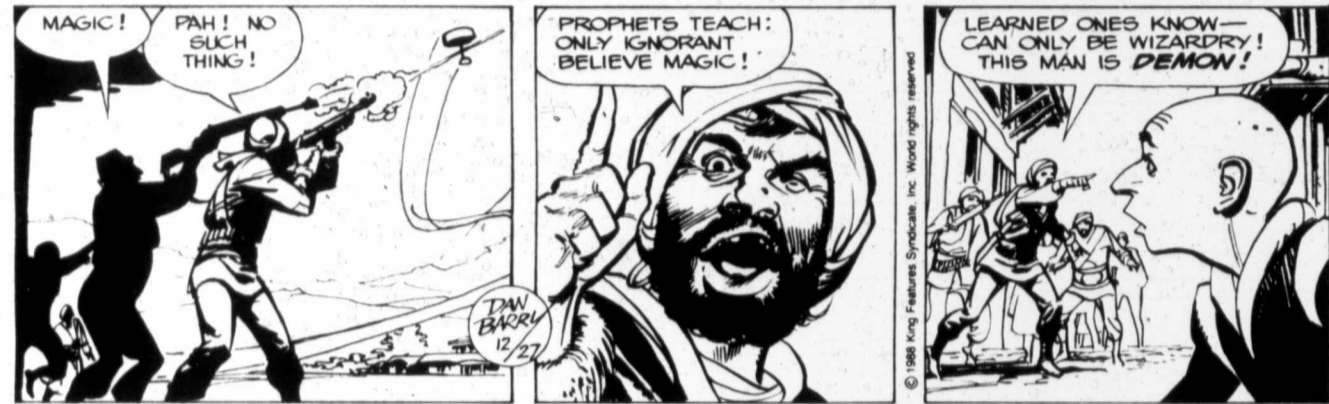
**EK & MEEK** by Howie Schneider



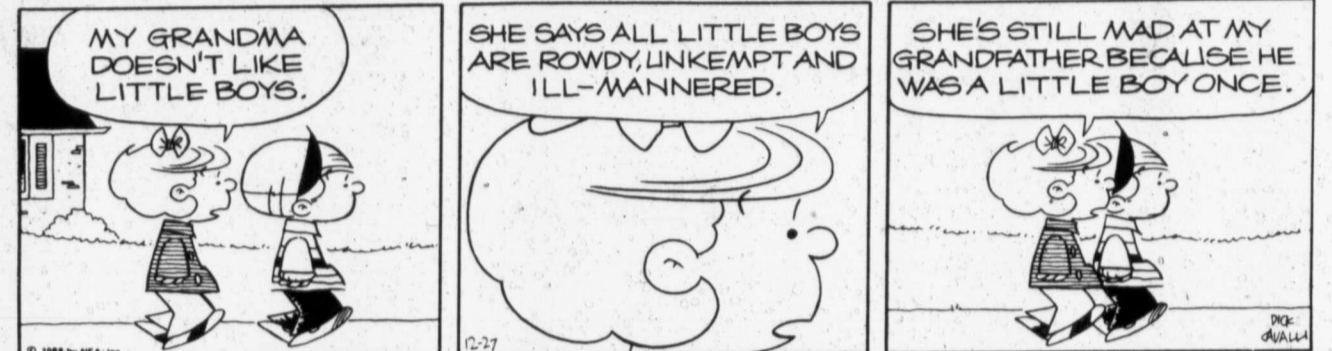
**ARLO & JANIS** by Jimmy Johnson



**FLASH GORDON** by Dan Barry



**WINTHROP** by Dick Cavalli



**Barney Google and Snuffy Smith** by Fred Lasswell



**BUGS BUNNY** by Warner Bros.



**BLONDIE** by Dean Young and Stan Drake



**ALLEY OOP** by Dave Graue



**GRIZZWELLS** by Bill Schorr



**L'L ABNER** by Al Capp



**SNAFU** by Bruce Beattie



**PUZZLE**

- ACROSS**
- Golden
  - Lollibrigida
  - Presidential initials
  - Concept
  - Adam's grandson
  - Eskimo knife
  - Lightening
  - Pull
  - Eternally (abbr.)
  - Openings
  - Stares at
  - Agnus
  - Hawaiian volcano. Mauna \_\_\_\_\_
  - Fish organ
  - Cheerful
  - Violinist's need
  - Between Can. and Mex.
  - Mae West role
  - Actress Hagen
  - Last mo.
  - Fiction type
  - Food
  - Somewhere to sit
  - Coarse wool
  - Illuminated
  - Hawaiian porch
  - Pot cover
  - Many oz.
  - Flying saucer (abbr.)
  - Training
  - Married woman's title
  - Dry
  - \_\_\_\_\_ fixe (obsession)
  - Edgar Allan
  - Set up (golf ball)
  - Irritated
- DOWN**
- Scoff
  - Unused
  - Ogle
  - Chinese pagoda

Answer to Previous Puzzle

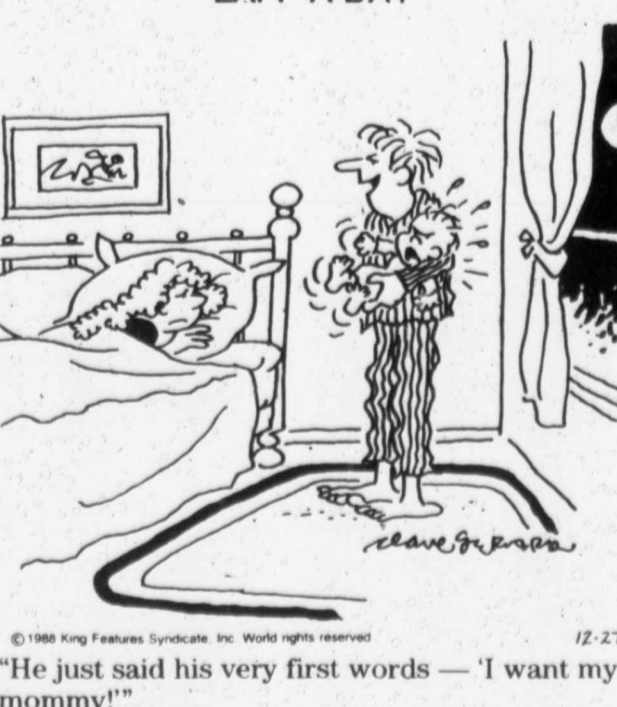
I	C	H	O	U	P	A	R	C	A		
C	U	E	J	U	N	A	U	T	O	E	
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S	P	L	I	T	E	L	L	T	E	E	
C	A	V	I	L	E	R	E	A	T	E	N
I	C	A	K	E	E	N	T	O	T	O	
O	R	L	E	T	E	E	L	C	U	R	
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I	D	A	R	O	B	I	T	C	H	Y	
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O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

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**KIT N' CARLYLE** by Larry Wright



**LAFF-A-DAY**



**DENNIS THE MENACE**



# Browner leads Minnesota to triumph over Rams in wild-card game, 28-17

**MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** - Seven percent of the NFL's coaches have cast their ballots for the league's best player.  
"I think Joey Browner is the best player in the league and I

## NFL playoffs

**By The Associated Press**  
Saturday, Dec. 24  
**AFC Wild Card**  
Houston 24, Cleveland 23  
Monday, Dec. 25  
**NFC Wild Card**  
Minnesota 28, Los Angeles Rams 17  
  
**Conference Semifinals**  
Saturday, Dec. 31  
Philadelphia at Chicago  
Seattle at Cincinnati  
  
Sunday, Jan. 1  
Houston at Buffalo  
Minnesota at San Francisco  
  
Sunday, Jan. 8  
AFC championship, TBA  
NFC championship, TBA  
  
Sunday, Jan. 22  
At Joe Robbie Stadium, Miami  
23rd Super Bowl

think he showed it today," Los Angeles Rams coach John Robinson said Monday after Browner and the Minnesota defense led the Vikings to a 28-17 victory in the NFC wild-card game.  
"Joey is as good as any player in the league. No one can play better," Vikings coach Jerry Burns said. "You can say anything about him that you want as long as it's good."  
The praise for Browner - whose two interceptions in the game's first 8:28 set the tone and sparked the Vikings to a 14-0 lead - wasn't limited to two of the NFL's 28 head coaches.  
Rams quarterback Jim Everett added, simply: "Joey Browner is the best."  
The victory was the second straight in the NFC wild-card game for the Vikings, who made it to the conference title game as

a wild card last year. They were 11-5 this season, finishing second to the Chicago Bears in the NFC Central for the fourth straight season.  
Minnesota will visit NFC West champion San Francisco next Sunday as the race for the Super Bowl title reaches the quarter-final stage. The Vikings shocked the 49ers in last year's playoffs.  
Philadelphia will play at Chicago next Saturday in the other NFC game. In the AFC, Seattle visits Cincinnati Saturday and Buffalo hosts Houston Sunday.  
Los Angeles, 10-6 during the season, couldn't get its offense in gear despite the West Coast-like conditions in the Metrodome. It was 69 degrees inside, compared to 21 and snowy outside.

quarter.  
But the Vikings went 84 yards on their opening drive of the second half - capped by Anderson's 1-yard burst - and the Rams weren't able to rally from the 21-7 deficit.  
After Mike Lansford's 43-yard field goal made it 21-10, Wade Wilson's 5-yard pass to Carl Hilton put the Vikings up by 18 with 12:38 to play. Everett's 11-yard touchdown pass to Pete Holohan with 1:17 left was only a formality.  
Wilson, a Pro Bowl quarterback who was benched in last week's victory over Chicago, was 17-of-28 for 253 yards.

# Pats' Stephens named NFL Offensive Rookie

**FOXBORO, Mass. (AP)** - His name is plain, his school small and his personality humble. John Stephens' talent, though, is eye-catching.  
The soft-spoken star from Northwestern (La.) State became the focus of the New England Patriots' offense as a rookie. He ran inside with power and outside with speed. He surprised himself but not his coaches.  
"Without a doubt, he's our most valuable offensive player," Patriots running backs coach Bobby Griener said. "We thought he had that kind of ability from the first day we saw him on tape."  
Now many others know of that ability. Stephens today was named the NFL's Offensive Rookie of the Year by The Associated Press.  
He received 30 votes from sports writers and broadcasters in each NFL city. Philadelphia tight end Keith Jackson got 29 votes, Cincinnati running back Ickey Woods 19 and Los Angeles Raiders wide receiver Tim Brown 4.  
Stephens, who expected to be a

backup as a rookie, rushed for 1,168 yards, fourth most in Patriot history and fifth in the NFL this season. His peers picked him to start with Eric Dickerson in the AFC's Pro Bowl backfield.  
"It makes me feel good," to gain the rookie honor, he said, "but I mainly don't concern myself with awards because you don't control what happens with them. If you set your sights on awards and you don't get them, you're disappointed."  
"He's very mature for his age," said Sam Goodwin, his college head coach. "He's just a good role model for young kids."  
Until his senior year at Springhill (La.) High School, he was an offensive lineman and linebacker.

Browner's first interception ruined the Rams' first possession, as he stole the football from Willie Anderson near the goal line.  
After Browner's 26-yard return, the Vikings went 73 yards in nine plays, the last Alfred Anderson's 7-yard run.  
On the next play, Browner picked off Everett at the Rams' 31 and returned the interception 14 yards. Allen Rice's 17-yard run on the first play from scrimmage made it 14-0. The Rams never caught up.  
There was no disguising the fact that it was not Everett's day. After 24 straight games in which he completed at least 50 percent of his passes, he was 19 of 45.  
Scott Studwell added a fourth-quarter interception for the Vikings, who during the regular season led the NFL in interceptions with 36 and giveaway-takeaway ratio with plus-23.  
Even though Browner and company controlled the game's tempo, the Rams trailed only 14-7 at halftime, as Everett hit Damone Johnson with a 3-yard scoring pass in the second

## NBA glance

By The Associated Press

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
New York	18	7	720	—
Philadelphia	15	11	577	3 1/2
Boston	12	12	500	5 1/2
New Jersey	11	16	407	8
Washington	7	17	292	10 1/2
Charlotte	7	18	280	11

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	18	5	783	—
Detroit	18	7	720	1
Atlanta	17	9	654	2 1/2
Milwaukee	14	10	583	4 1/2
Chicago	13	11	542	5 1/2
Indiana	5	19	208	13 1/2

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	17	9	654	—
Dallas	15	9	625	1
Denver	15	11	577	2
Utah	15	12	556	2 1/2
San Antonio	7	18	280	9 1/2
Miami	3	21	125	13

Pacific Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
L.A. Lakers	17	10	630	—
Portland	16	10	615	1/2
Phoenix	15	10	600	1
Seattle	13	11	542	2 1/2
Golden State	10	14	417	5 1/2
L.A. Clippers	9	17	346	7 1/2
Sacramento	5	18	217	10

Monday's Games  
Washington 120, New Jersey 106  
Houston 97, Charlotte 95  
Miami 111, San Antonio 109  
Phoenix 111, L.A. Lakers 96

# SMU's Gregg finding success on schoolboy recruiting trail

**DALLAS (AP)** - Forrest Gregg has learned that bringing a college football team back from the dead isn't easy.  
The Southern Methodist football coach is just telling high school recruits that if they choose the Mustangs, they'll be entering a unique situation and won't be thinking about winning championships for a while.  
Southern Methodist returns to competition next fall after a two-year absence brought on by the NCAA's death penalty for recruiting violations. The Mustangs will play with just 40 scholarship players who will be mostly freshmen and sophomores rather than the usual 85.  
The NCAA also burdened the school's recruiting effort by restricting SMU to five assistant coaches rather than the usual nine until June 1.  
But Gregg's efforts seem to be paying off, according to some who have talked with him on his appointed recruiting rounds.  
Curtis Eldridge, a 6-5, 260-pound offensive lineman from Marcus High School in Lewisville, says Gregg's casual approach was effective in his case. Eldridge has cast his lot with the Mustangs and says he will be ready to sign on Feb. 8, the first day high school players

affix their signatures to letters of intent.  
"He didn't try to impress me with everything," Eldridge said. "He just talked about how he felt about things. He's not showy at all. We just talked."  
The highly regarded prospect's mother agreed that Gregg's recruiting manner was low-key and appealing.  
"Coach Gregg seemed very excited about building a new team," said Phyllis Eldridge. "He didn't put on a lot of fluff. He was not bragging. He gave us a lot of faith and trust in sending our son to SMU."  
Charles Brabham, whose son Cary Brabham is a 6-1 running back from Hughes Springs High School, also noted that Gregg was painting a very realistic picture for recruits.

"He uses a very laid-back approach," Brabham said. "He doesn't try to paint a rosy picture. Everybody is aware he's got a tough go ahead rebuilding. But he's very realistic about it."  
Gregg says he has an advantage in the fact that many parents readily recall his days as a pro player or as an NFL coach with the Cleveland Browns, Cincinnati Bengals and Green Bay Packers.  
"That's part of the conversation," Gregg told the Dallas Times Herald. "Not all the conversation is about recruiting and football. You just talk and try to get to know each other."  
Gregg says selling himself and a football program is something he has done before.  
"It's not really the first time I've recruited," Gregg said.

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Weekday: 2 p.m. - 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.  
OLIVER Company

**Bowl roundup**  
By The Associated Press  
Friday, Dec. 23  
Independence Bowl  
At Shreveport, La.  
Southern Mississippi 38, Texas-El Paso 18  
Saturday, Dec. 24  
Sun Bowl  
At El Paso, Texas  
Alabama 29, Army 28  
Sunday, Dec. 25  
Blue-Gray All-Star Classic  
At Montgomery, Ala.  
Blue 22, Gray 21  
Aloha Bowl  
At Honolulu  
Washington 24, Houston 22  
Wednesday, Dec. 28  
Liberty Bowl  
At Memphis, Tenn.  
Indiana (7-3) vs. South Carolina (8-3-0)  
Thursday, Dec. 29  
All American Bowl  
At Birmingham, Ala.  
Florida (6-5-0) vs. Illinois (6-4-1)  
Freedom Bowl  
At Anaheim, Calif.  
Brigham Young (8-4-0) vs. Colorado (8-3-0)  
Friday, Dec. 30  
Holiday Bowl  
At San Diego  
Wyoming (11-1-0) vs. Oklahoma State (9-2-0)  
Saturday, Dec. 31  
Peach Bowl  
At Atlanta  
Iowa (6-3-3) vs. North Carolina State (7-3-1)

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### Tigers vie in Brownwood

**BROWNWOOD** - Coach Larry Scott's Tigers return to hoops action here Wednesday, taking on Brady at 4:30 p.m. in the Brownwood Tournament.  
Snyder will follow the three-day tournament with District 4-4A play in Big Spring on Jan. 3. The Tigers are 6-5 overall and 0-1 in district play.  
The Brownwood Tournament features four teams from 4-4A - San Angelo Lake View, Sweetwater and Monahans are entered in addition to Brady and Brownwood.

### SHS girls play in Jayton

**JAYTON** - Snyder's Lady Tigers enter the Jayton Tournament here Thursday.  
The Lady Tigers meet Hamlin at 4 p.m. Thursday in first-day action of the three-day event. In other girls' games Thursday, Tahoka plays Paducah at 10 a.m., Crosbyton meets Motley County at 1 p.m. and Jayton hosts Spur at 7 p.m.  
The Ladies, 5-7, will resume District 4-4A play on Jan. 2 by hosting league-favorite Big Spring.

# Slocum begins assembling coaching staff at Aggieland

**COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP)** - New Texas A&M football coach R. C. Slocum has begun assembling his coaching staff and has excluded two assistant coaches accused of involvement in NCAA violations that led to the school's probation.  
Slocum announced Monday that six assistants who served under former coach Jackie Sherrill were invited to remain on the staff, but Joe Avezzano and George Pugh were not among them.  
"Right now I've announced six guys I've hired on my staff," Slocum told the Bryan-Coffee Station Eagle. "There's another 200 that have contacted me that I haven't hired, and we won't say anything about them. There were two guys here on the previous staff that I have not hired."  
Slocum replaced Sherrill Dec. 12 when the former coach stepped down amid allegations that

he paid "hush money" to a former player.  
Slocum said Bob Davie, Kirk Doll, Bob Boyd, Jim Helms, Paul Register and Ron Turner will stay on as assistant coaches.  
Strength and conditioning coach Keith Kephart also has been let go. Athletic director John David Crow announced on Monday that assistant strength coach Allen Kinley has been named interim strength and conditioning coach for the Aggies.  
Avezzano told KBTX television station in Bryan he believed the decision not to rehire him was made by Slocum, but was based on recommendation of the university's administration.  
The duties of the assistant coaches will be determined when the full staff is hired, a process Slocum said he hopes to complete next month.

### Arrest won't prevent Sanders from Sugar

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP)** - It wouldn't be fair to keep Florida State All-American Deion Sanders out of the Sugar Bowl against Auburn because of the cornerback's arrest in a shopping mall scuffle, coach Bobby Bowden says.  
"I met with Deion to get his account of just what happened," Bowden said in a statement released Monday night. "Only after I had satisfied myself as to what happened did I determine that his eligibility should not be affected."  
"Based on the facts presented to me, I do not feel that it would be fair to prohibit Deion Sanders from playing in next Monday's Sugar Bowl."  
Bowden's decision ended two tense days of speculation among Seminole fans about whether their flashy star known as "Prime Time" would be left behind.  
Sanders, 21, was arrested Christmas Eve after an incident in a Fort Myers gift shop and was charged with battery on a police officer and disorderly conduct. He was released Saturday night after posting \$2,600 bond, police said.  
According to witness and police accounts, a shouting match ensued over the purchase of earrings and Sanders allegedly struck an auxiliary officer called

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# New congressional budget chairmen await conflicts

WASHINGTON (AP) — A congressman who has been a perennial budget workhorse and a senator who has spent his career focused on other issues will be marquee players in what should be one of 1989's most clamorous political clashes: how to cut the federal deficit.

Rep. Leon Panetta, D-Calif., and Sen. James Sasser, D-Tenn., each are becoming chairmen of their chamber's budget committees in time to wrestle with \$35 billion in needed deficit cuts. And incoming president George Bush has pledged to achieve the cuts without new taxes.

Both lawmakers are in general agreement that mopping up the red ink with spending cuts alone is a dubious approach. In interviews, Sasser said making up the shortfall without new taxes makes it "less likely that you'll have success," while Panetta said what is needed are spending cuts and "You have to raise revenues."

The two men are also lawyers, but similarities between them don't go much further.

Panetta, 50, is from Monterey, Calif., and began his political life as a liberal Republican. He left the GOP after losing his job as director of the Civil Rights Office in President Nixon's Department of Health, Education and Welfare in 1970 after complaining about the agency's lack of aggressiveness.

He gravitated to the Democratic Party, but still keeps an autographed picture in his office of the late Earl Warren, the GOP California governor who

became the liberal chief justice of the U.S. Supreme Court.

Sasser, 50, was chairman of the Tennessee Democratic Party from 1973 to 1976, a tenure that ended with his defeat of incumbent GOP Sen. William E. Brock. The Memphis native, who has been re-elected easily twice since then, is a moderate liberal who has prospered in a conservative state by tending to its needs on the Appropriations Committee and by taking populist positions against government waste and high interest rates.

Panetta has worked on budget matters since coming to Congress in 1977. In 1981, he was chosen by House Democratic leaders to help find \$37 billion in spending cuts that newly elected President Reagan had rammed through Congress. The job pitted the green lawmaker against House committee chairmen schooled in protecting their turf, and Panetta to this day calls that period his toughest budget battle ever.

He also helped shape the Gramm-Rudman deficit-reduction law, and was a negotiator at last year's budget summit between Reagan administration officials and congressional leaders. Colleagues from both parties say they respect his knowledge of the budget's intricacies and consider him fair.

"He really knows what makes the budget tick and what makes it explode," said Sen. Pete Domenici of New Mexico, ranking Republican on the Senate Budget Committee. "He'll be a

team player for the Democrats, but that doesn't mean he'll turn fiscal and budget policy into a partisan confrontation."

Panetta says his years in the GOP give him "a pretty good sense of how Republicans think," and many members of that party give him high marks for fairness.

Sasser has been on the budget committee for all of his dozen years in the Senate, but he has not been considered a leading player in the field and admits that the subject has not been the focus of his attention.

But he says, "I don't feel like a neophyte ... and I don't underestimate the difficulty of the task."

The Tennessean is best known for speaking out against administration policies in Central America and picking through government spending looking for waste and fraud. He was chosen to deliver his party's response to a Reagan speech on Nicaragua in early 1986, but for the most part has received little national publicity.

Sasser says he believes the Reagan budgets of the last eight years have not devoted enough resources to domestic programs such as education, health care and transportation and sewage systems. Yet he says he will not try to force his views on his committee.

"I want to come up with an approach that would try to hold a consensus within the committee for certain budget priorities," he says.



REINDEER ROMP RESULTS — Reindeer Romp participants Sara Thornhill, left, and her brother Jared presented toys garnered from last week's Reindeer Romp walking tour

decorated houses in Snyder to Snyder Jaycette Cissi Deere at the El Paso Ave. fire station, where the Toys for Tots drive was centered. (SDN Staff Photo)

## Astro-Graph

Bernice Bede Osol



Dec. 28, 1988

In the year ahead you are likely to be shooting for several major objectives. Although each might not be attained, your most important goals will have good chances of being achieved.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Today you might secretly resent having to do something for someone because you'll feel you're being imposed upon unfairly, yet you'll still comply without making a big deal about it. Capricorn, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing \$1 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** Be wary about getting involved in any form of romantic intrigue at this time, because what you'll hope to keep secret will not go undetected.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** Be fair, but also be realistic if you have to negotiate a delicate agreement today. Don't be wishy-washy and say "yes" to terms you don't like just to be nice.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** Avoid tackling minor chores today if your heart is not in them. You'll be much more effective doing the same tasks later when your mood changes.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** Don't let possessiveness gain the upper hand today if someone you're very fond of appears to be paying more attention to someone other than you.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Continue to be kind to others today, especially family members, even if they do not show proper appreciation for your gestures. Their minds could be on other things.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** Be extremely careful today that you do not treat others in a condescending fashion. If you are insincere or try to use flattery to gain your ends, it won't work.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** If you have a Christmas gift to return today, don't exchange it for something impractical just because the packaging dazzled you. Look for substance, not flash.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Try not to butt into situations today that do not directly concern you. Although your intentions will be good, they could be misunderstood and rejected.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Someone you like who has hurt your feelings recently could be completely unaware of your reaction. Bring it out into the open today, because it can be easily resolved.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** Be selective regarding the types of outside activities you get involved with at this time. There's a possibility you might jump into something which is over your purse.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** If you are not willing to share the limelight today with a person who made a recent accomplishment possible, you might not get help the next time it is needed.

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## Hostage recounts rescue attempt

TEPIC, Mexico (AP) — Members of a special police commando squad angry over the death of their commander were firing indiscriminately as they quelled a prison uprising, according to a hostage who was rescued by the team.

Freed hostage Patricia Castillo said that one of the inmates who had held her prisoner surrendered to police Friday night, "but they killed him anyway."

Jose Martinez Palafox, of the four inmates who was in the room where Castillo spent 32 hours as a hostage, was captured alive, the former hostage said. But his name also is on the list of 25 people who died in the two-day uprising at the Venustiano Carranza state penitentiary, 500 miles northwest of Mexico City.

Castillo, a clerk in the prison law office, was among about 19 hostages seized Thursday by a small group of inmates to protest the denial of Christmas pardons for good behavior.

Officials at first said the inmates died during two assaults on the prison. But according to a witness and two hostages and a videotape made by NBC News, only one assault occurred and many prisoners were still alive when it was over.

Five of 13 inmates on the NBC videotape identified themselves to officers with names that appeared on the official list of prisoners who died in the assault. Those five did not include Martinez Palafox.

Castillo said Monday that commandos entered the prison "shooting indiscriminately. The squad was very angry because they (the inmates) had killed their commander. I was very scared. ... There was quite a bit of shooting. They killed all the inmates there, except one."

Martinez Palafox surrendered, she said. "He was not wounded. But they killed him anyway."

Brenda Margarita Rubio, a prison records clerk held hostage, told a similar story. "They surrendered," she said. Only one prisoner was in the room with her and about a dozen other hostages, and that prisoner walked out with his hands raised, she said.

Castillo said she was treated well when first she was taken hostage, "but later they started pushing and shoving and mistreating us."

She criticized the governor for

calling in the special police squads.

"They came in and shoved everyone aside, including the local police. The judicial police or even the local army could have handled it," she said.

Gov. Celso Humberto Delgado Ramirez was quoted in a Tepic newspaper Monday as saying that legal sanctions would be taken against those responsible for any unwarranted killings.

Efforts to reach Delgado Ramirez, who reportedly met with federal officials in Mexico City Monday, were unsuccessful.

Rodolfo Leon, the state attorney general, also promised to investigate the case carefully, including reports that inmates who were captured during the commando team assault were killed while in custody.

Earlier Monday, state authorities had denied any knowledge of how five inmates died after they were videotaped while in police custody.

"We are prepared to clear it all up," Leon told The Associated Press in a telephone interview Monday. "Right now it is very complicated. Nothing has been confirmed yet."

Some prisoners' bodies had up to 10 bullet wounds, the government news agency Notimex said.

Among those who died before the assault were the prison warden, Samuel Alvarado, and Jorge Armando Duarte Badillo, the Fox squad commander, who officials said was killed while trying to negotiate with the inmates.

Many of the prisoners on the list of dead had been serving time for robbery; others were in on homicide, drug violation, rape or assault charges, state officials said.

One witness, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the prisoners captured after the assault were questioned in a park outside the prison, then taken back inside. Members of the Fox team also entered the prison, and more than 30 gunshots were heard after that.

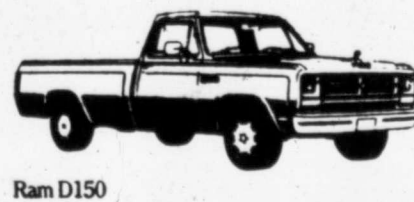
The Fox and Scorpion commando teams who led the assault that obtained the release of all hostages, are based in Mexico City. But Fernando Arias, a spokesman for the federal attorney general's office, said on Monday the prison uprising was a state matter.

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# Recycling plant set to open

LEOMINSTER, Mass. (AP) — The nation's first plant to turn plastic items like foam coffee cups and hamburger trays into things like flowerpots, coat hangers and even fence posts opens next month.

And its creators expect the \$4 million plant to change the reputation of the maligned material.

"I predict that the plastic bashing that's going on today will stop and polystyrene will become an environmental hero," said Robert J. Barrett, safety environmental officer at Mobil Chemical Co. of Rochester, N.Y., one of two backers of the factory.

The plant, called Plastics Again, is a converted warehouse

with machines that can turn 3 million pounds of dirty cups, trays and cutlery — the amount that 1,000 schools throw away yearly — into hard, pea-size pellets.

Mobil and Genpak Corp. of Glens Falls, N.Y., hope to use the pellets themselves and sell them to other companies for making wall insulation, fence posts, flowerpots and packing material, or anything not dealing with food because of the danger of contamination. They expect a profit by 1992.

Barrett sees a lucrative market because the nation uses 5 billion pounds of polystyrene yearly. He said Mobil has five people searching for cheap

sources of used or low-grade plastic film for recycling.

One key to the plant's survival, however, is teaching diners to stack their used cups and trays in a special garbage can so the waste can be collected easily and carted to the 21,000-square-foot plant in this industrial town 40 miles west of Boston.

To that end, the company has spent three months carrying out lunchroom experiments at schools in Lexington and Glastonbury, Conn. The company has agreed to take their polystyrene waste for free if the schools use the special garbage cans.

"Kids will be kids. Some are throwing plates in the wrong

place as an act of rebellion," said Brad Devlin, Glastonbury schools' director of food services. "But I'm willing to bet a week's pay that it's been 90 percent effective."

The project has worked so well at one school in Lexington that a principal at another complained about being left out of the experiment, said James MacInnes, assistant superintendent.

The reason for its success, the two said, is that children are worried about diminishing landfill space for garbage including polystyrene, which accounts for half the waste in school cafeterias.

## Berry's World



"...and if we were congressmen, we could RAISE OUR SALARIES."

## Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



DEAR ABBY: For years I have been writing this letter "in my head" — now it's time to put it on paper.

I scream inside when I read letters in your column from grown adopted children who wonder about their "real" parents — what they look like, possible siblings, and agonizing over whether to try to find them.

My "real" parents raised me, and I wished they hadn't. Throughout my childhood, I used to dream that some loving family would adopt me and tell me that I was "chosen" by them. Abby, this is an open letter to an adopted child:

Dear Adopted Child: So you wonder about your birth parents and their families today? Your curiosity is normal, but I beg you, leave well enough alone. Your mother had a very good reason for entrusting your care to someone else. She did not "give you away" — she gave you opportunities she could not offer you. Allowing some-

one else to adopt and raise you was the most loving, unselfish act a mother can make.

If you had an average upbringing with your adoptive parents, praise God that your birth mother had the courage to surrender you. If your adoptive parents did not treat you well, I am sorry, but bear in mind, you might not have fared better with your biological parents. Blood ties do not automatically create loving relationships. I know. Here is my story:

I was one of several children born to a middle-class, blue-collar working man, and a gentle, obedient, hard-working rural mother. Outwardly we appeared to be an average middle-class family. My father always worked steady, and my mother cooked and cared for her home and children. We all attended church regularly. We children were polite, and turned out better than just average. A "typical American family" — from outward appearances.

Now for the truth: My father was a devil to live with. I, along with my brothers and sister, were subjected to every kind of abuse a child could experience, and I mean every kind — verbal, physical and sexual. I grew up with fear and shame. My mother's goal was to protect us kids long enough to get us out of the house alive. In that she succeeded, but we all sustained enormous psychological damage.

As a child, I used to dream that someone would adopt me. The closest I came was having a childless aunt and uncle who agreed to adopt us if we should ever become orphaned. Unfortunately, my uncle — not my father — died prematurely. For a while we had a wonderful neighbor, "Leona," who befriended this battered, lonely child. We'd roll pie crust and play games. Then she moved, and that was the end of my adoption fantasies.

Years of psychotherapy, divine guidance and commitment to sur-

vival have enabled me to overcome my battered childhood. I'm middle-aged now, but when I was born, I know there must have been a childless couple who were praying they could have a healthy baby daughter like me to love and raise.

Perhaps such a couple received you, Adopted Child. If they loved and cared for you, look at them closely, for they are as "real" as any parents can be.

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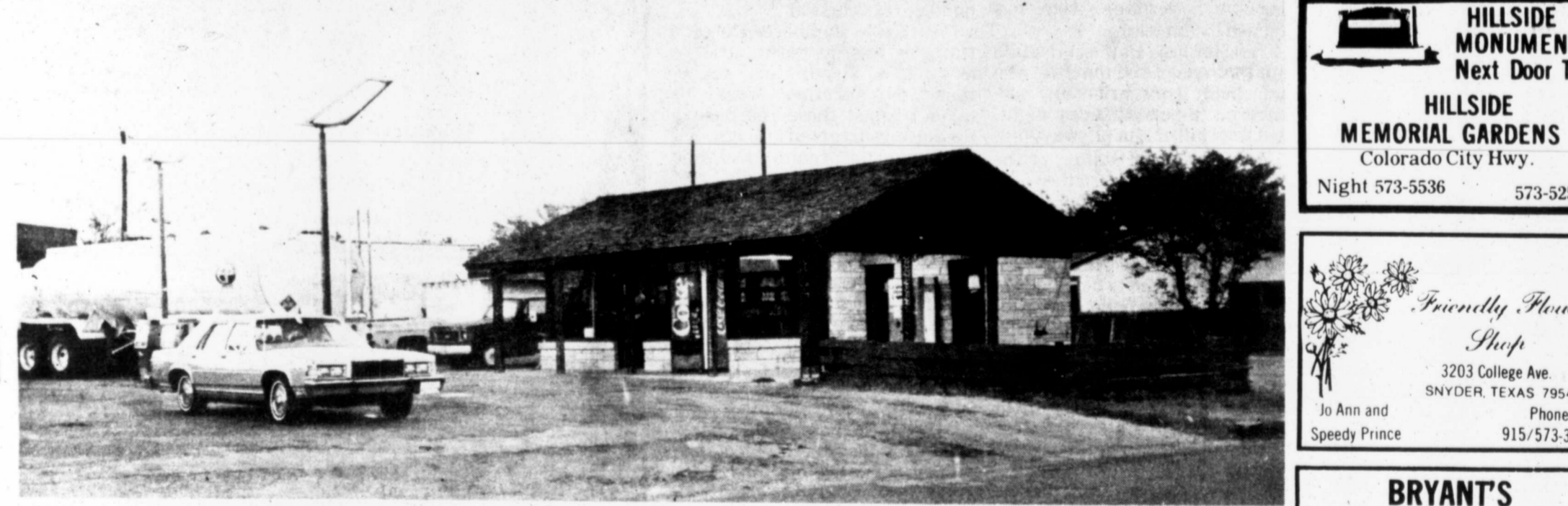
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## Christmas season of taking for criminals

DALLAS (AP) — Criminals have a holiday tradition of turning the season of giving into one of taking.

Dallas police handled several incidents where criminals ruined Christmas for others. In Fort Worth, police saved the holiday

for one family who were the victims of a burglary on Christmas Eve for the second consecutive year.

When the story of the burglary at the Paul Hernandez home spread among the midnight crew at the Fort Worth Police Depart-

ment, officers donated more than \$330, convinced the manager of a Sears store to open the store at 4 a.m. and purchased gifts for the Hernandez children.

"That's too much," Hernandez said when the police brought the presents. "It looks like we got more presents than they took."

Officer Curtis Fortinberry said that was the idea. "These people are never going to forget this Christmas," he said.

Two men stopped to help Alton Stenson fix a flat tire in Dallas, pulled out a gun and said, "Merry Christmas! We're going to take your Christmas gifts!"

The 33-year-old man lost a remote-control car, an electronic football game and an Atari video

game on Saturday.

Cindy Burns, 27, of Plano, reported that her car was intentionally rammed Saturday afternoon by an irate woman driver when a dispute over a coveted parking space turned nasty at Valley View Center mall.

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