

# The Snyder Daily News

Vol. 41 No. 208

Snyder, Texas (79549)

10 Pages, 25 Cents

Friday

Dec. 30,  
1988

Ask Us

## Base closings plan likely to be okayed

### Key congressional leaders endorse plan

WASHINGTON (AP) — A plan to close 34 of the nation's major military facilities won the endorsement of key congressional leaders and appears headed for success.

In fact, Sen. Sam Nunn and Rep. Les Aspin, chairmen of the Senate and House armed services committees, say they would like to see even more obsolete bases closed.

Nunn, D-Ga., and Aspin, D-Wis., pledged to work hard to ensure that the plan is not blocked by lawmakers concerned over

jobs lost in their districts.

Defense Secretary Frank C. Carlucci has until Jan. 15, five days before he leaves office, to approve or reject the entire package of recommendations, which were presented to the Pentagon on Thursday by the Commission on Base Realignment and Closure. There appeared little doubt that Carlucci would back the proposal enthusiastically.

Congress then has to buy or reject the whole package, and initial comments suggested it

would accept the commission's proposals despite hometown appeals from areas which would lose bases.

In all, the panel, led by former Republican congressman Jack Edwards of Alabama and Abraham Ribicoff, a former Democratic senator from Connecticut, called for closing 86 facilities, partially closing five, and changing the role and manpower levels at 54 others.

The cuts would save an estimated \$693 million annually and \$5.6 billion over the next two

decades. That's a small fraction of the total Pentagon budget of about \$300 billion a year, but the closings could set a precedent.

"I think this ought to be a continuous source of study by the new (defense) secretary," said Nunn.

If Carlucci endorses the package, it will go to the White House for the president's signature unless both houses of Congress pass resolutions specifically rejecting it. Congress drafted the law creating the complex procedure, which

was designed to reduce political pressure to keep the bases open.

Carlucci was vacationing over the holidays and had no immediate reaction to the recommendations, but spokesmen for the Army, Air Force and Navy endorsed them.

An Army spokesman, Maj. Dick Bridges, said he saw "no unwarranted closures on the list" of bases. "If we don't need them, we should get rid of them."

Nunn and Aspin said their only objection was that the list was too short.

### Called 'short term'...

## TDC preparations to likely increase Cogdell expenses

Cogdell Memorial Hospital board members were cautioned Thursday to expect operating expenses at the facility to gradually increase in the months ahead as preparations begin to offer medical services for the under construction 1,000-bed state prison facility.

While pointing out that the "long term effects" of offering health care at the Daniel Unit will be "beneficial to our survival," Cogdell Administrator Tom Hochwalt noted that "start-up costs associated with providing these services will far exceed the revenues generated for the first 12 to 18 months of TDC business."

Characterizing the TDC-related loss of income as "short term," he noted the primary expense will be a "slow addition" of professional staff in anticipation of the extra TDC business.

"We must now slowly begin to build our staff in hard-to-fill positions in preparation for the TDC prison opening," he told the board.

Hochwalt's comments came during the regular December meeting of the Cogdell board of managers.

Last March 24, Cogdell officials "downsized" the staff by ter-

minating 18 hospital staffers and eliminating an estimated 31 "full time equivalent" positions.

Friday morning, Hochwalt said that if Cogdell is ultimately awarded a TDC bid to offer "on-site" medical care as well as keeping acute care TDC patients at the hospital, staffing numbers might ultimately grow back to these original numbers.

The reduction in staff last March and its corresponding reduction in monthly payroll has kept Cogdell's year-to-date operating losses to a minus \$205,000. At the same time last year, the facility was operating at a net loss of some \$879,000.

Cogdell officials are now preparing a "request for proposal" to be submitted to TDC by Jan. 31.

This proposal is a bid to provide in-patient care and "ancillary services" for the Daniel Unit when it is completed. Hochwalt said they hope to have the local proposal submitted by the third week in January.

Also Thursday, Hochwalt told the board that the staff is again studying the addition of new computer equipment "in-house" after an agreement to share computer space with the city failed to

See HOSPITAL, page 8



THE JUDGE — Sweetwater agriculture teacher Eddie Puckett judged the Hermleigh FFA Stock Show Thursday afternoon in the county coliseum. (SDN Staff Photo)

## Cogdell Memorial has new controller

A new controller for Cogdell Memorial Hospital was announced Thursday, Greg Kampsky, 29, now of Hobbs, N.M.

He will officially report to work Jan. 16.

For the past two years, Kampsky has served as assistant controller for the 250-bed Lea Regional Hospital in Hobbs.

Prior to that, he was staff accountant at Memorial General in Las Cruces, N.M. for five years.

The Roswell native has a bachelor of accountancy degree from New Mexico State University in Las Cruces.

He and his wife, Frances, have a four-year-old daughter and a one-year-old son.

Kampsky replaces Padric White, who will resign to accept a position as controller at Midland Memorial Hospital, where he previously served for six years, leaving as director of the budget.



GREG KAMPSKY  
...new controller...

## Hermleigh FFA completes show

Joe Mireles showed the grand champion hog, a Hampshire, and Andrea Smith exhibited the grand champion lamb, a medium-wool, in Thursday's Hermleigh FFA Stock Show in the county coliseum ag annex.

Mireles' animal was judged the most outstanding among the 40 in the show by Sweetwater agriculture teacher and show judge Eddie Puckett.

Smith also showed the reserve

grand champion hog, a Duroc, while Billy Joe Gannaway's lamb was the reserve grand champion among the 20 lambs entered.

An estimated 50 spectators attended the show, which ran from 1 to 3 p.m.

Results by classes were as follows:

—Hampshire hogs: 1. Joe Mireles; 2. Andrea Smith; 3. Felix Martinez.

See STOCK, page 8

### 1988 review continues...

## Pointeaus aided, doctor loss grows

With September and October, the cooler months of fall began to arrive in Scurry County and the period saw local residents rise to the aid of an industrious French family as well as the first public concern regarding the need for additional medical doctors to serve the county.

On Sept. 14, the SDN began a series of articles related to the plight of the Jack Pointeau family, threatened with deportation from the U.S. because of guidelines associated with their "investor's visa" here.

Before the family received a brief reprieve, Snyder and Scurry County residents would generate some 1,400 names on a

petition in support of the Pointeaus.

On Sept. 29, Scurry County also learned it would lose its second medical doctor for 1988, and Cogdell Memorial Hospital board members would authorize the employment of a physician recruitment firm to curb what was seen as a growing problem.

A reorganization was also revealed for Snyder's branch office of Olney Savings and Loan, as it was part of a merger with 11 insolvent thrifts to create the new Olney Savings and Loan Association on Oct. 16.

The city also gained a new car dealership early in September. See REVIEW, page 8.

## The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "He who laughs last is the one who intended to tell the joke himself."

### Keeping tabs on our neighbors:

Folks get a little apprehensive as a new year approaches. Lots of things cause stress, and we're told the last two columns on the national budget didn't help.

According to Marshall Day, in the Seminole Sentinel, the workplace is the most stressful. Research has also found that danger is just one contributor to job stress.

In fact, a recent survey says that the most stressful occupation is that of an inner-city high school teacher. A police officer ranks second followed by the miner, the air traffic controller, the medical intern, a stockbroker, a journalist, a customer complaint worker, a waitress and a secretary.

Although not all signs of stress are apparent, one might look for intestinal disease, rapid pulse, frequent illness, insomnia, persistent fatigue, irritability, nail biting, lack of concentration, in-

creased use of alcohol and drugs, and a craving for sweets.

However, experts say there are tips to coping with job stress. It's good advice, although much easier to say than to practice.

- maintain a sense of humor.
- meditate.
- get a massage.
- exercise regularly.
- eat more sensibly.
- limit intake of alcohol and caffeine.
- take refuge in family and friends.
- delegate responsibility.
- stand up to the boss.
- quit and find another job.

Talk about stress, banking firm MCorp placed an ad in the Dallas Morning News offering condolences to the Dallas Cowboys for their dismal football season.

—Having spent '88 struggling to survive, MCorp bought a full page ad which read, "We know what it's like to have a tough year," and it urged the Cowboys to look to the future.

Q — Why hasn't there been more publicity on the Mothers Against Drunk Drivers campaign—red ribbons on car antennas?

A — The SDN is not aware of any local chapter of MADD, but the basic plan is to ask all drivers to place red ribbons on their vehicle's antennas as a reminder to others to not drive drunk over the New Year's weekend.

### In Brief

#### Crash claim

LONDON (AP) — A caller claiming to represent the Guardians of the Islamic Revolution, which last week said it blew up Pan Am Flight 103, telephoned American news agencies today and threatened more action.

The anonymous male caller repeated the claim of responsibility and said that unless the United States deports Reza Pahlavi, son of the late Shah of Iran, "there will be another present in the New Year for America."

Speaking in a Middle Eastern accent, he read a brief statement to The Associated Press in broken English and hung up, refusing to answer questions.

"In the name of the God and Islamic revolution and Imam Khomeini, we are very pleased to succeed the Pan Am attack," he said.

#### Japan scandal

TOKYO (AP) — In a major blow to Prime Minister Noboru Takeshita, the man appointed to investigate a widening scandal resigned today after saying he had accepted political donations from the company at the center of the controversy.

Takeshita today named a political outsider, former Supreme Court Judge Masami Takatsuji, 78, to replace Justice Minister Takashi Hasegawa.

Hasegawa announced he was stepping down just three days after Takeshita appointed him to a new Cabinet supposedly untainted by a stock-dealing scandal that had already forced the resignation of 17 politicians and business leaders.

#### Figures down

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government's chief gauge of future economic activity edged down 0.2 percent in November, after having risen in the previous month, the Commerce Department said today.

The performance by the department's Index of Leading Economic Indicators continued a sawtooth pattern which analysts said was signaling that economic growth will slow in the new year, but the country should not topple into a recession.

The index had risen 0.4 percent in October after having suffered a 0.3 percent decline in September.

#### Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Thursday, 48 degrees; low, 28 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Friday, 32 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1988 to date, 21.24 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, clear and cold. Low in the upper teens. Light and variable wind Saturday, mostly sunny. High in the mid 50s. Light southwest wind. New Year's Day and Monday, fair Sunday with increasing cloudiness Monday. Highs in the mid 50s and lows around 30.

# Officials dismayed by closings

**By The Associated Press**  
A proposal that 34 major U.S. military bases be closed brought warnings of economic woe from disheartened local officials and merchants, but there were sighs of relief around installations spared the ax or slated for expansion.

"I think it will be devastating — 50 percent of our employment at least has to do with Chanute," Mayor Katy Podagrosi said in rural Rantoul, Ill., home of Chanute Air Force Base.

The training center, with 2,133 military and 1,035 civilian jobs, was one of the military bases recommended for closure in the

report issued Thursday.

But church bells pealed in Enid, Okla., when officials learned Vance Air Force Base was unaffected by the plan, and officers cheered at Myrtle Beach Air Force Base when they learned it would stay open.

"Without question, we are very pleased," Enid Mayor Bruce Harvey said.

In all, the Commission on Base Realignment and Closure recommended closing 86 facilities, including 52 military housing units, partially closing five others, and revising the roles and staffing levels at 54 others.

If the plan is carried out, the

commission estimated, the government would save \$693 million annually and \$5.6 billion over the next two decades. While 58,500 military and civilian employees would lose their jobs or be transferred, other bases would get 37,850 new jobs or assignments.

San Francisco stands to lose the city's third largest employer if the Presidio Army base is closed as recommended. The base, one of the loveliest spots in the city, employs about 3,000 civilians and 2,700 military.

"For 112 years, the Presidio has been an integral part of San Francisco. It was here before San

Francisco was a city. It's been a very good neighbor... an important part of our economy," said Mayor Art Agnos.

Under the 1972 federal law that established the Golden Gate National Recreation Area, all but 36 of the Presidio's 1,490-acre would become part of the popular park, which includes coastal land both in San Francisco and Marin County north of the Golden Gate.

"(Closure) would be bad. We get a lot of business from the base. We would really feel it," said Linda Jacobsen, manager of a Travelodge motel only a few yards from the Presidio's main gate.

# Fresh water helping cholera outbreak

HOUSTON (AP) — Fresh water pumped into area reservoirs seems to have abated an outbreak of avian cholera that killed about 7,500 geese, but wildlife officials are leery of another outbreak because of the colder weather.

Avian cholera is a bacterial infection that usually is present in

wildfowl populations, but experts say they seldom see large outbreaks of disease unless the birds are stressed.

Fowl this year already were stressed before the migratory season began because of drought in their Northern habitat.

In addition, a recent lack of rain along the Gulf Coast has

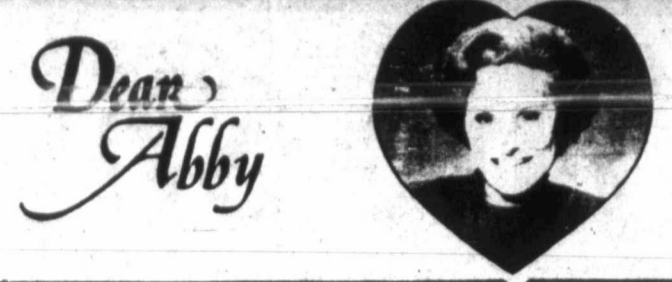
caused available wetlands to shrink — forcing huge bird populations to share relatively small roosting areas and creating conditions prime for the spread of disease.

There is a sure solution to the bacteria outbreak, said David Blankenship, spokesman for the Wetland Habitat Alliance of Tex-

as. "The wonderful answer is 15 inches of rain but that won't happen."

Affected areas of the bacteria to date runs from Eagle Lake to the Katy-Brookshire prairie, all west of Houston, he said.

"We've got the job in hand it appears," Blankenship said Thursday.



## Road to a Happy New Year Begins One Step at a Time

By Abigail Van Buren  
© 1988 by Universal Press Syndicate

DEAR ABBY: Every year you publish some New Year's resolutions. I cut that column out and taped it on my bathroom mirror where I could read it every morning. I want you to know that it has helped me to become a better person. I am not saying that I kept every one of those resolutions every day, but I kept most of them, and they have now become habits that have made a remarkable improvement in my personality and character.

I hope you will run it every year. I'm sure it will benefit many others as it has me.

thing positive to improve my health. If I'm a smoker, I'll make an honest effort to quit. If I'm overweight, I'll eat nothing I know to be fattening. And I will force myself to exercise — even if it's only walking around the block or using the stairs instead of the elevator.

Just for today I'll do something I've been putting off for a long time. I'll finally write that letter, make that phone call, clean that closet or straighten out those dresser drawers.

Just for today, before I speak I will ask myself, "Is it true? Is it kind?" And if the answer to either of those questions is negative, I won't say it.

Just for today I will make a conscious effort to be agreeable. I will look as good as I can, dress becomingly, talk softly, act courteously and not interrupt when someone else is talking. Just for today I'll not improve anybody except myself.

Just for today I will have a program. I may not follow it exactly, but I will have it, thereby saving myself from two pests: hurry and indecision.

Just for today I will have a quiet half-hour to relax alone. During this time I will reflect on my behavior and get a better perspective on my life.

Just for today I will be unafraid. I will gather the courage to do what is right and take the responsibility for my own actions. I will expect nothing from the world, but I will realize that as I give to the world, the world will give to me.

Have a happy, healthy New Year. And pray for peace!

NEVER TOO OLD

DEAR NEVER: My "resolutions" column has become an established annual tradition:

DEAR READERS: These New Year's resolutions are based on the original credo of Alcoholics Anonymous. I have taken the liberty of using that theme with some variations of my own:

Just for today I will live through this day only, and not set far-reaching goals to try to overcome all my problems at once. I know I can do something for 12 hours that would appall me if I felt that I had to keep it up for a lifetime.

Just for today I will be happy. Abraham Lincoln said, "Most folks are about as happy as they make up their minds to be." He was right. I will not dwell on thoughts that depress me. I will chase them out of my mind and replace them with happy thoughts.

Just for today I will adjust myself to what is. I will face reality. I will correct those things that I can correct and accept those things I cannot correct.

Just for today I will improve my mind. I will not be a mental loafer. I will force myself to read something that requires effort, thought and concentration.

Just for today I will do some-

EVERYTHING YOU'LL NEED TO KNOW about planning a wedding can be found in Abby's booklet, "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and address, plus check or money order for \$2.89 (\$3.39 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054 (postage included).

DEAR NEVER: My "resolutions" column has become an established annual tradition:

## Janetta Pylant earns degree

Janetta Pylant of Snyder received the Bachelor of Science in Education from Texas Tech University in commencement exercises held in December, graduating cum laude.

She will begin work on her master's degree in business education at Tech in the 1989 spring semester.

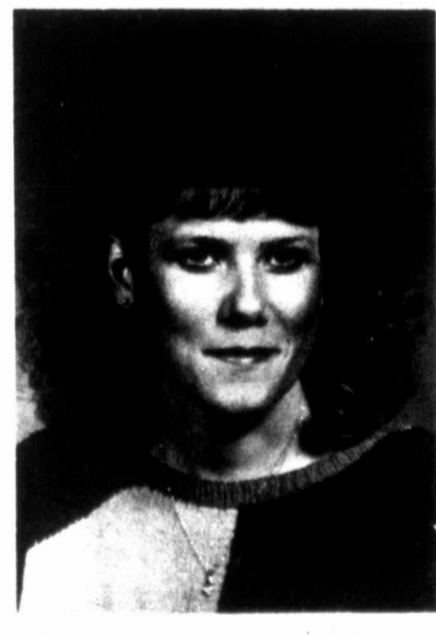
Pylant was president of the Tech chapter of Collegiate Secretaries International, treasurer of Pi Omega Pi, a national business education honor society; treasurer of Kappa Delta Pi, an honor society in education, and a member of Golden Key National Honor

Society and Alpha Lambda Delta Pi, a freshman honor society. She was named to the President's List for two semesters and to the Dean's List for four semesters.

She did her practice teaching at Lubbock High School during the 1988 fall semester. She has been employed by Health Claims consultants in Lubbock since October, 1987.

A 1985 graduate of Snyder High School, Pylant was a member of the National Honor Society. She graduated magna cum laude, ranking fifth in her class of 147.

Pylant is the daughter of Don and Joann Snider and Jackie Pylant, all of Snyder.



JANETTA PYLANT

Licensed bookmakers in Great Britain frequently accept bets on big races in the United States and France.

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**  
AWARD WINNER

1988

**THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS**

Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.

Second Class postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas. Publication Number USPS#11-529.

POSTMASTER send change of address to P. O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas 79549.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, \$5.25 per month.

By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year \$56.75, balance of Texas, and out of state \$71.56.

Roy McQueen, Publisher  
Donny Brown, Managing Editor  
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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# Church Directory

- FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Ave. Q & 27th St.  
Rev. Ken Branam, Pastor
- FAITH BAPTIST CHURCH**  
208 37th St.  
Rev. L.W. Hatfield, Pastor
- AVE. D BAPTIST CHURCH**  
30th & Ave. D  
Rev. Terry Lyles, Pastor
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Elder Carl Watson, Pastor
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Fr. William Costigan, Pastor

- ST. JOHN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
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The Rev. Frank M. Swindle, Jr., Vicar
- UNITED PENTECOSTAL CHURCH**  
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J.D. Smith, Pastor
- TEMPLO DE FE Y PODER**  
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Jose Juan Hernandez, Pastor
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**Come Worship With Us**

**SUNDAY**  
Men's Bible Class ..... 8:30 a.m.  
Bible Study ..... 9:30 a.m.  
Morning Worship ..... 10:30 a.m.  
Evening Worship ..... 6:00 p.m.

**WEDNESDAY**  
Ladies Bible Class ..... 10:00 a.m.  
Evening Bible Study ..... 7:30 p.m.

Call 573-0154 For Transportation

**37th Street Church of Christ**

Churches Of Snyder And Area Support Them Every Week

# Community Calendar

**FRIDAY**  
 Cornelius Dodson House; open by appointment; 573-9742 or 573-2763.  
 Tiger Shark Swim Club; WTC; 6-18 years of age; 4-5:30 p.m. For more information, call Mike Harrison at 573-8511 ext. 283.  
 Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.  
 New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 8 p.m. For more information, call 573-2101 or 573-8626.

**SATURDAY**  
 Diamond M Museum; open from 1-4 p.m.  
 People Without Partners; Inadale Community Center; games of 42 and dominos; 6:30 p.m.

**SUNDAY**  
 Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 10 a.m. For more information, call 573-4870.  
 Scurry County Museum; Western Texas College; open from 1-4 p.m.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR'S DAY**

## Bridge

James Jacoby

**NORTH** 12-30-88  
 ♦ A 2  
 ♠ J 8 3  
 ♥ K J 4 2  
 ♣ J 9 3 2

**WEST** ♦ K Q 9 8 3  
 ♠ 10 6 4  
 ♥ A 9 5  
 ♣ 8 4

**EAST** ♠ 7 5  
 ♥ 9 7 5 2  
 ♦ 10 7 6  
 ♣ A 7 6 5

**SOUTH** ♠ J 10 6 4  
 ♥ A K Q  
 ♦ Q 8 3  
 ♣ K Q 10

Vulnerable: Both  
 Dealer: West

West	North	East	South
Pass	Pass	Pass	1 NT
Pass	3 NT	Pass	Pass
Pass			

Opening lead: ♦ K

## Early to rise is not always wise

By James Jacoby

Against North-South's routinely bid three no-trump, West had a good suit to lead but was not sure which card of that suit to lead. Fourth-best works out well when partner has the ace or the jack. It could also be right to lead the king, which works when partner has the 10 and no higher honor. In theory it is probably right to lead the king from this combination, but it is a close decision.

Declarer promptly put dummy's ace on West's king of spades and knocked out East's ace of clubs. East now returned the spade seven. South played the jack, losing to West's queen, and won the 10 when West continued spades. Eventually West got in with the ace of diamonds and cashed two more spades.

This was another case of playing too quickly at trick one. Declarer could see that the only thing that could defeat him was if West had five spades, could set them up and could then get in to cash them. Had declarer ducked the opening lead, he would have retained his second spade stopper. West could lead a second spade, but now if East got in and had another spade to lead, it meant spades were divided 4-3 and were therefore harmless. And if spades were 5-2, East would not have another spade to lead. So South's spades would be safe.

*James Jacoby's books "Jacoby on Bridge" and "Jacoby on Card Games" (written with his father, the late Oswald Jacoby) are now available at bookstores. Both are published by Pharos Books. © 1988, NEWSPAPER ENTERPRISE ASSN.*

Iowa became the first state of impose a cigarette tax, doing so in 1921.

# Bomb threat note discovered

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — More than 100 passengers on an American Airlines flight from Dallas-Fort Worth to Richmond waited for more than four hours at Richmond International Airport while authorities conducted a fruitless search for a bomb reportedly on the aircraft, authorities said.

No bomb was found and no arrests were made, FBI spokesman Jack Davis said Thursday night.

The plane, scheduled to land at Richmond airport Thursday at 4:34 p.m., landed safely in Richmond without incident at 4:35 p.m., authorities said. The plane,

which was continuing to Norfolk with 42 passengers, landed there at 10:23 p.m., about 4½ hours late, authorities said.

One sailor, Dan McCormick assumed a prayerful position as he watched the plane carrying his fiancée, Ann Webb of Dallas, descend into Norfolk.

"I thought you were dead," he told her moments later.

One of the 125 passengers on Flight 874 found the bomb threat in a note left in the plane's restroom, said Kenneth A. Murphy, spokesman for the Capital Region Airport Commission, which operates the Richmond airport.

The note said a bomb would go off when the plane reached a certain altitude, said Mary O'Neill, an American Airlines spokeswoman in Dallas. The passenger gave the note to a flight attendant and the flight attendant gave the note to the captain, Ms. O'Neill said.

Murphy said the Richmond Air Traffic Control Tower was

notified of the bomb threat at 4:17 p.m., when the plane was about 12 miles from the Richmond airport.

The captain informed passengers of the threat about the same time and asked them to remain calm, several said late Thursday.

The descent "was quiet, deadly quiet," said Martha Torkington of Richmond, who was returning with her daughters from a vacation visit to Phoenix.

Ms. Torkington said passengers remained outwardly calm as the plane landed and taxied to a remote part of the airport where they were unloaded. At that point, some burst into tears, she said, and "then you became suspicious of everyone there, because you knew one of them had planted the note."

All the passengers from the plane were evacuated from the plane, a McDonnell Douglas MD-80 twinjet, within five minutes in the field's bomb threat area, Ms. O'Neill said. None of passengers

or the seven crew members were injured, she said.

"It wasn't that bad," said Missy Steiert, 15, of Virginia Beach, who was returning from a ski vacation in Colorado. "The passengers were pretty calm. Nobody got hysterical. I was a little nervous. My hands were shaking. But once we got on the ground, I wasn't scared."

The Richmond tower treated the situation as an emergency, said a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration who asked not to be identified.

"As soon as the plane landed, tons of fire engines went to it," said Christy Roberts, 19, of Richmond, whose boyfriend was aboard Flight 874.

The FBI, Virginia State Police, the FAA, airport security, the Henrico County police and a state police bomb-search dog searched the aircraft and luggage for a bomb, but did not find one, Davis said. "The search itself didn't take that long," Davis said.

## Christmas trees are back as attitudes soften toward religion

HAVANA (AP) — Christmas trees have reappeared in homes and social clubs after a long absence, the latest sign of a softening in the attitude of the officially atheist government toward the Roman Catholic church.

"I considered it a tradition that couldn't be erased," said Enrique Lopez Oliva, who teaches religion at the University of Havana and also edits a newsletter on church issues.

At a social club, a pine tree adorned with Christmas lights sits a few feet from the statue of one of the martyrs of the Cuban Revolution. But the great majority of the Christmas trees are found in private homes and occupy an out-of-the-way place invisible to passers-by.

This Pennsylvania-sized nation of 10 million people, the least religious of any in Latin America, branded Yuletide celebrations as a "bourgeois prejudice" after the 1959 Communist takeover, Lopez said.

One reason: The government felt the manpower needed for the winter sugar harvest should not be diverted by holiday celebrations. That problem has become less acute with mechanization.

Last year, several Cubans displayed a Christmas tree, and the old tradition picked up considerable momentum this year.

Putting up a Christmas tree can be a chore since none is sold commercially and often they must be dug up from wooded areas, no small task in a country with few private cars.

In addition, ornaments generally are available only if they were stashed away — and not discarded — when the government began discouraging Christmas observances.

Several Cubans said Christmas

always had been considered more of an occasion for family gatherings and gift-giving than a religious festival.

Still, even the limited Yuletide observance is a far cry from a few years ago, when the only acknowledgement of the holiday were the signs in stores reserved for foreigners: "December is gift-buying month."

This was a subtle attempt by the government to earn dollars by getting foreign visitors to buy Christmas presents in Cuba. Lopez said Cuban authorities have become much more accommodating in their attitude toward the church as part of an effort to improve the country's image abroad.

As an example, he said the government has allowed 30 new priests to immigrate to Cuba this year, the largest number since the revolution.

President Fidel Castro also said there will be no limit on the number of foreign nuns allowed to immigrate.

But the more flexible government attitude toward the church has not always been met by reciprocal gestures from church leaders.

Six weeks ago, Carlos Manuel De Cespedes, the general vicar of the Havana Diocese, expressed concern about the "falsity, deceit, apathy, and dishonesty" that permeate social life in Cuba.

There is no disputing, however, the more relaxed government stance toward the church.

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 PHOTOGRAPHY  
 573-3622

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 915/573-0127

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 Your wife Vera & son Larry

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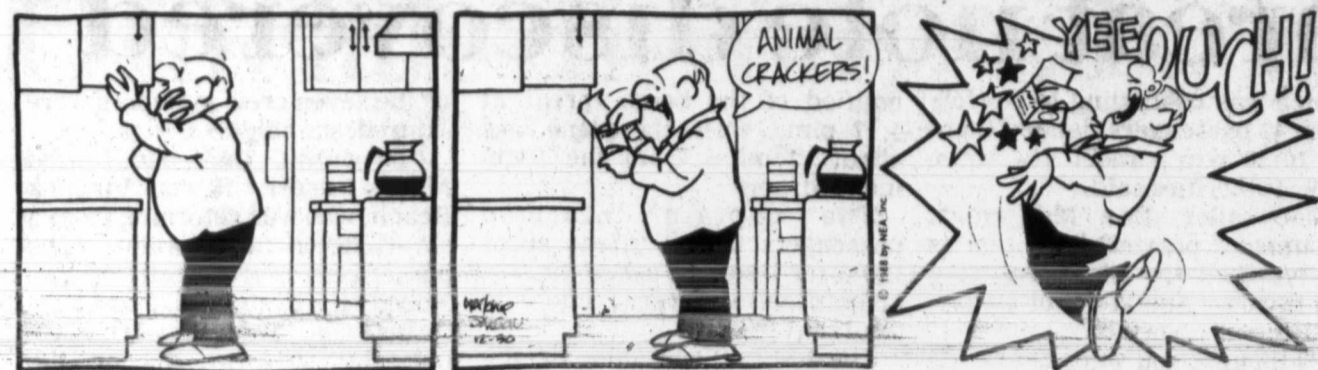
- Socks
- Sweaters
- Hosiery

Please, No Layaways, Charges, Returns

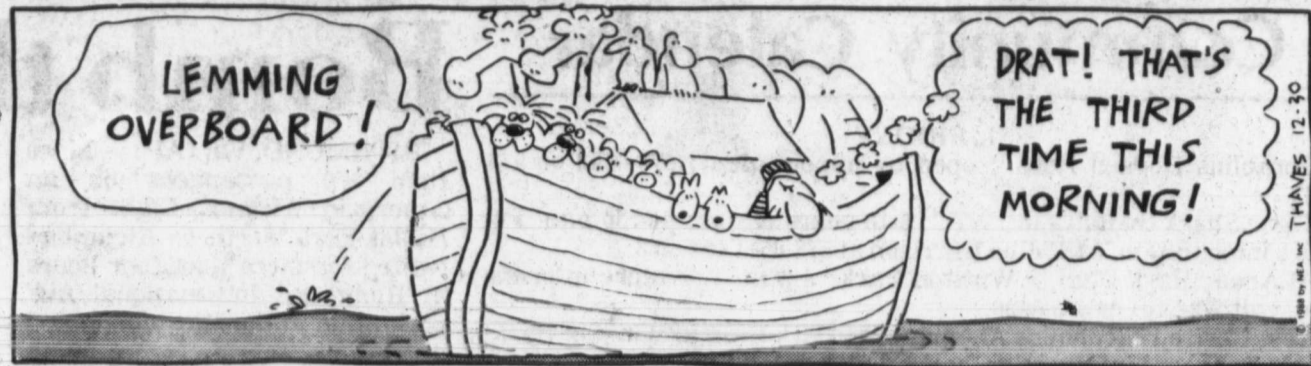
# Lil' Rascals

1806 26th Street, Snyder, Texas 573-1639

**BORN LOSER** by Art Sansom



**FRANK & ERNEST** by Bob Thaves



**EK & MEK** 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.



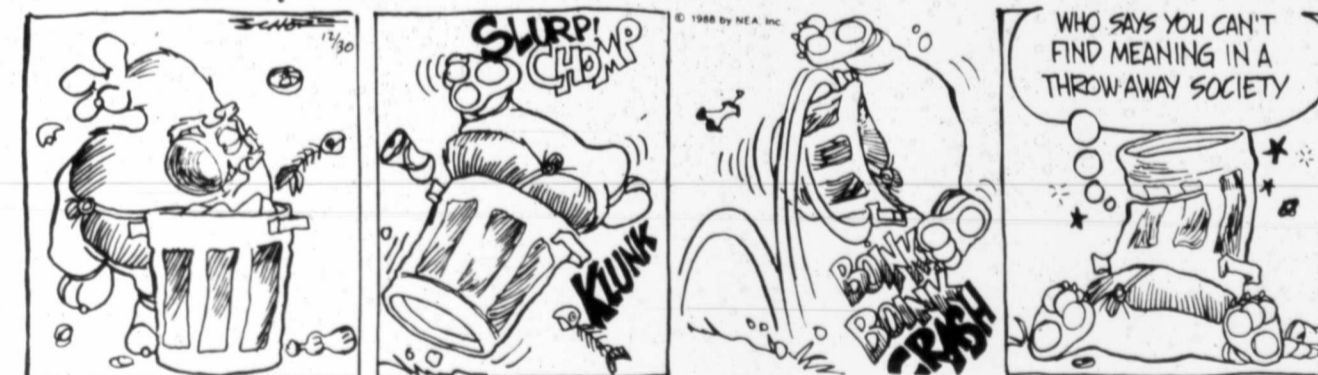
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**GRIZZWELLS** by Bill Schorr



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**SNAFU** by Bruce Beattie



**KIT N' CARLYLE** by Larry Wright



**DENNIS THE MENACE**



**PUZZLE**

**ACROSS**

- 1 Othello villain
- 5 Pelvic bones
- 9 Psychic
- Geller
- 12 Skiers' lifter
- 13 Loch monster
- 14 Seed covering
- 15 Poetic foot
- 16 Split into thin layers
- 18 Actor Rod
- 20 Existence
- 21 Make an edging
- 22 Sine non
- 24 Of the nose
- 27 Small fish
- 31 False god
- 32 the night before Christmas
- 33 Soap ingredient
- 34 Map abbreviation
- 35 Having pedal digits
- 36 Holly
- 37 Feeling
- 39 Covered with velvety growth
- 40 ton soup
- 41 Is able to
- 42 Tennis player
- Nastase
- 45 Inhabitants
- 49 Cut at an angle
- 52 Actress Pitts
- 53 Actress Gardner
- 54 Actor
- Novello
- 55 Grafted, in heraldry
- 56 Tin Tin (movie dog)
- 57 Eat formally
- 58 Contract of ownership

**DOWN**

- 1 How sweet
- 2 Blind as
- 3 Diversion
- 4 Of a planet's path
- 5 Creek
- 6 Producer
- Norman
- 7 Doctrine
- 8 As far know
- 9 Arrow poison
- 10 Crumbles
- 11 fixe (obsession)
- 17 Tide type
- 19 Unit of acceleration
- 22 Campus area
- 23 and downs
- 24 Cairo's river
- 25 Seth's father
- 26 Hernando De
- 27 Dancer Verdon
- 28 Infirmities
- 29 Looks at
- 30 Enticing
- 32 Furniture wood
- 35 Uncle (Sp.)
- 36 Electrified
- 38 Bird call
- 39 Small rug
- 41 Army group
- 42 Construction beam (2 wds.)
- 43 Jacob's son
- 44 Tennis player
- Lendl
- 45 Gas for signs
- 46 Wind indicator
- 47 Ancient Italian family
- 48 Gone to court
- 50 Movable cover
- 51 56. Roman

Answer to Previous Puzzle

LUG	UVULA	RHO
YMA	GENES	EAR
ILL	LEONE	PSI
NAOMI	REESE	
GURU	LEE	MALL
TEEMING	UTE	
NOSTRIL		
SAPIENS		
LATER	SKINE	
NICE	DES	OARS
ULTRA	ENURE	
CIO	NOUNS	SAC
HER	NUDES	ENT
ASS	ERODE	ADS

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13				14		
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49				50	51			52		
53				54				55		
56				57				58		

**LAFF-A-DAY**



"You and your arriving fashionably late, Grace...everybody's left!"

# Longhorns battle Sooners; T-Tech rips Colorado State

by The Associated Press Having disposed of Oklahoma in the opening round of the All-College Classic, Texas sets its sights on high-shooting Oklahoma in tonight's championship game, and Texas A&M's coach says the Sooners have improved recently.

## 'Boomer' named NFL Most Valuable Player

CINCINNATI (AP) - Boomer Esiason's value to the Cincinnati Bengals can't be measured by quarterback rankings. That's why receiver Cris Collinsworth thinks it's appropriate for Esiason to be named the NFL's Most Valuable Player.

Esiason had 31 votes to 21 for quarterback Randall Cunningham of Philadelphia and 17 for running back Roger Craig of San

Francisco, who was named the league's top offensive player. Mike Singletary of Chicago, the defensive player of the year, had six votes and quarterback Warren Moon of Houston, defensive tackle Keith Millard of Minnesota and running back Herschel Walker of Dallas got one vote each.

## Detmer rallies BYU to victory

by The Associated Press Redshirt freshman Ty Detmer took over for junior Sean Covey in the second half Thursday night and rallied Brigham Young University over Colorado 20-17 in the Freedom Bowl at Anaheim, Calif.

Emmitt Smith, meanwhile, is assured a position in Florida's backfield. He ran for a 55-yard touchdown on the first play from scrimmage and scored on a 2-yard run with 4:28 remaining as the Gators rallied past Illinois 14-10 in the All American Bowl in Birmingham, Ala.

Tonight, Heisman Trophy winner Barry Sanders leads No. 12 Oklahoma State against No. 15 Wyoming in the Holiday Bowl at San Diego.

BYU wound up 9-4 and Colorado ended 8-4. Florida finished 7-5 and the Illini dropped to 6-5-1.

## College bowls

- By The Associated Press All Times EST Thursday, Dec. 29 All American Bowl At Birmingham, Ala. Florida 14, Illinois 10. Freedom Bowl At Anaheim, Calif. Brigham Young 20, Colorado 17. Friday, Dec. 30 Holiday Bowl At San Diego Wyoming (11-1-0) vs. Oklahoma State (9-2-0), 8 p.m. (ESPN). Saturday, Dec. 31 Peach Bowl At Atlanta Iowa (6-3-3) vs. North Carolina State (7-3-1), 1 p.m. (Mizlou)

play well but we're happy for the win."

Holly Fuller and Dessie Ware led the Tigers with 12 points each. Anne Osborn scored nine and Melody Pickering added eight.

Hamlin was led by Tiffany Pritchard's 24 points.

# Lampasas tops Tigers, 58-55

BROWNWOOD -- Snyder's Tigers were to take on Midland Greenwood at 1:30 p.m. here today after falling to Lampasas in second-round action of the Brownwood Classic.

Lampasas clipped the Tigers 58-53 on Thursday morning. Tracy Braziel scored 20 points and Jeff Franklin 15 for the

Tigers, who lost regular Dewayne Clinkinbeard to a sprained ankle in the first quarter. Clinkinbeard was doubtful for today's game with Greenwood.

Snyder was outscored 16-7 in the first quarter and never recovered, although the Tigers controlled the tempo. Lampasas is averaging over 80 points a

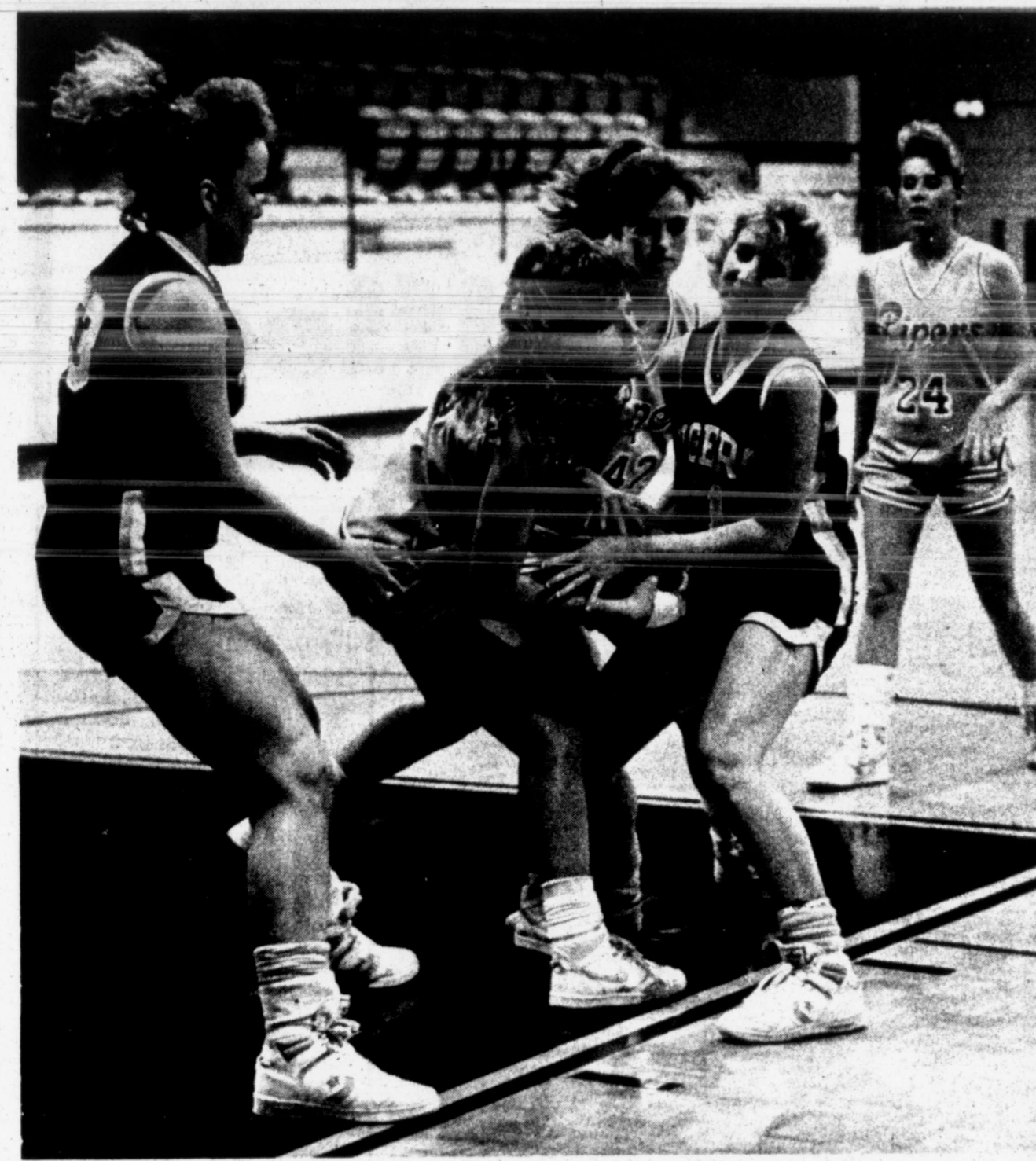
game this season. "We knew we had to control the tempo and we did but they got a little spurt on us at the end of the first quarter," said Coach Scott, who was tending to his injured player when Lampasas made its run. "We just never were able to get over that hump."

Midland Greenwood plays Snyder by virtue of a 65-60 loss to tournament host Brownwood.

## NBA glance

Table with columns: W, L, Pct., GB. Eastern Conference: Atlantic Division (New York, Philadelphia, Boston, New Jersey, Washington, Charlotte), Central Division (Cleveland, Detroit, Atlanta, Milwaukee, Chicago, Indiana), Western Conference: Midwest Division (Dallas, Houston, Denver, Utah).

Table with columns: Team, W, L, Pct., GB. Pacific Division (San Antonio, Miami, L.A. Lakers, Portland, Phoenix, Seattle, Golden State, L.A. Clippers, Sacramento), Thursday's Games (Washington 126, Houston 109; Chicago 108, New York 106; Dallas 131, Boston 115; Seattle 129, Miami 99), Friday's Games (Phoenix at New Jersey, New York at Charlotte, Washington at Cleveland, Chicago at Indiana, Houston at Detroit, Atlanta at Milwaukee, Boston at San Antonio, Miami at Denver, Philadelphia at Utah, L.A. Clippers at L.A. Lakers).



WRAPPED UP - An alert Holly Fuller forced a turnover when she tied up a Hamlin player during Thursday's first-round action at the Jayton Tournament.

Also playing here are Snyder's junior varsity boys, who lost 40-34 to Hamlin despite Edward Rios' 12 points. Snyder JV boys are to play Jayton in consolation action at 5:30 p.m. Jayton lost to Spur 61-60 in overtime. Snyder girls were in control of Thursday's game with Hamlin from the outset, and led 25-17 at

Challenge Jayton tonight...

# SHS ladies hammer Hamlin

JAYTON -- Snyder's Lady Tigers ran past Hamlin 10-2 early in the third quarter here Thursday, then went on to post a first-round victory in the Jayton Tournament.

With 10 Lady Tigers entering the scoring column, Snyder handed the Lady Pipers a 55-34 loss.

Snyder, now 6-7 for the season, will take on tournament host Jayton at 7 p.m. today as the three-day event continues. Jayton defeated Spur 53-42.

In other games Thursday, Crosbyton nailed Motley County JV 58-29 and Paducah outlasted Tahoka 54-41. Crosbyton and Paducah were to play in today's other championship semifinal at 1 p.m.

Also playing here are Snyder's junior varsity boys, who lost 40-34 to Hamlin despite Edward Rios' 12 points. Snyder JV boys are to play Jayton in consolation action at 5:30 p.m. Jayton lost to Spur 61-60 in overtime.

Snyder girls were in control of Thursday's game with Hamlin from the outset, and led 25-17 at

intermission. The Lady Tigers came out for the third quarter and jumped on the Pipers 10-2 for a 35-19 advantage.

Coach Ken Housden was glad the Tigers' opponent wasn't a strong one.

"It looked like we'd been off six months instead of a week," Housden laughed. "We didn't

Snyder 55, Hamlin 34. HAMLIN-- Gonzales 1-3-4; Cliff 1-2-4; Hayley 0-2-2; Payne 3-0-6; Ford 0-0-1; Barnett 2-0-4; Paige 0-1-1; Pritchard 4-4-12; Brown 0-2-0; TOTALS 111-29-34. SNYDER-- Melody Pickering 4-0-8; Holly Fuller 6-9-12; Shannon Warren 1-0-2; Evette Housden 1-0-2; Anne Osborn 3-3-4; Dana Fenton 1-0-2; Beth Alvis 1-2-3; Jodie Dunk 2-0-4; Mande Henry 1-0-2; Dessie Ware 5-0-12; TOTALS 25-10-55. Total Fouls: Hamlin 13, Snyder 24; Fouled Out: Brown, Housden.

Saturday Night DANCE TO Prairie Fire 9-1 VFW Members & Guests Welcome

New Year's Eve DANCE TO Southern Knights 8:30-12:30 AMERICAN LEGION

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**END OF THE YEAR SPECIAL:** Mesquite Firewood, \$75/cord, delivered, good until January 6th, 573-3789. Oak, \$120/cord, 573-5735.

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**PRICE REDUCED:** Windmill and Tank, 10 ft. wheels. Call Dewey Moore, 573-7132.

**SPECIAL Horses & Tack Auction.** Big Spring Livestock Auction, Saturday, December 31st, 1 p.m. Lubbock Horse, Tack & Trailer Auction, Every Tuesday, 6:30 p.m. **JACK AUFILL AUCTIONEER** 7339. We Buy & Sell Daily. 806-745-1435.

### 070 LOST & FOUND

**LOST:** Black & White w/grey, Fluffy Kitten. Has short tail. 4009 Eastridge. 573-0653.

**LOST:** Grey Checkbook Style Wallet. If found, please call 573-6518.

**LOST:** Siamese Kitten in Cedar Creek Area. Call 573-9867.

### 080 PERSONAL

**LIFT A FINGER.** Report child abuse. 1-800-252-5400 toll free statewide child abuse hotline.

### 090 VEHICLES

**BILL'S AUTO SALVAGE** is now open. Late model used parts. Chevy, Ford, Chrysler, Toyota, Datsun. East Hwy. 180 at The Traffic Circle. 573-9569. Open weekdays, 8-6; Sat. 9-5; Sun. 1-5.

1985 **BURGUNDY MERCURY Cougar.** Loaded with all options. Priced to sell. \$5450. 573-6733 or 573-6882.

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1985 **CHEVROLET CAPRICE CLASSIC.** 4-door. Clean. Call 573-9404.

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**FOR SALE:** 1986 Chevrolet Silverado SWB, 23,500 1-owner miles. **LOADED,** immaculate condition. 573-0712.

**FOR SALE:** 1982 Grand Prix LJ, loaded. 1984 Cavalier. For more information, call 573-8645.

**FOR SALE:** 73 Olds Cutlass. 1 owner, good motor, new tires. Call 573-3893.

**GOVERNMENT SEIZED** Vehicles from \$100. Fords, Mercedes, Corvettes, Chevys. Surplus. Buyers Guide. (1) 805-687-6000 Ext. S-10238.

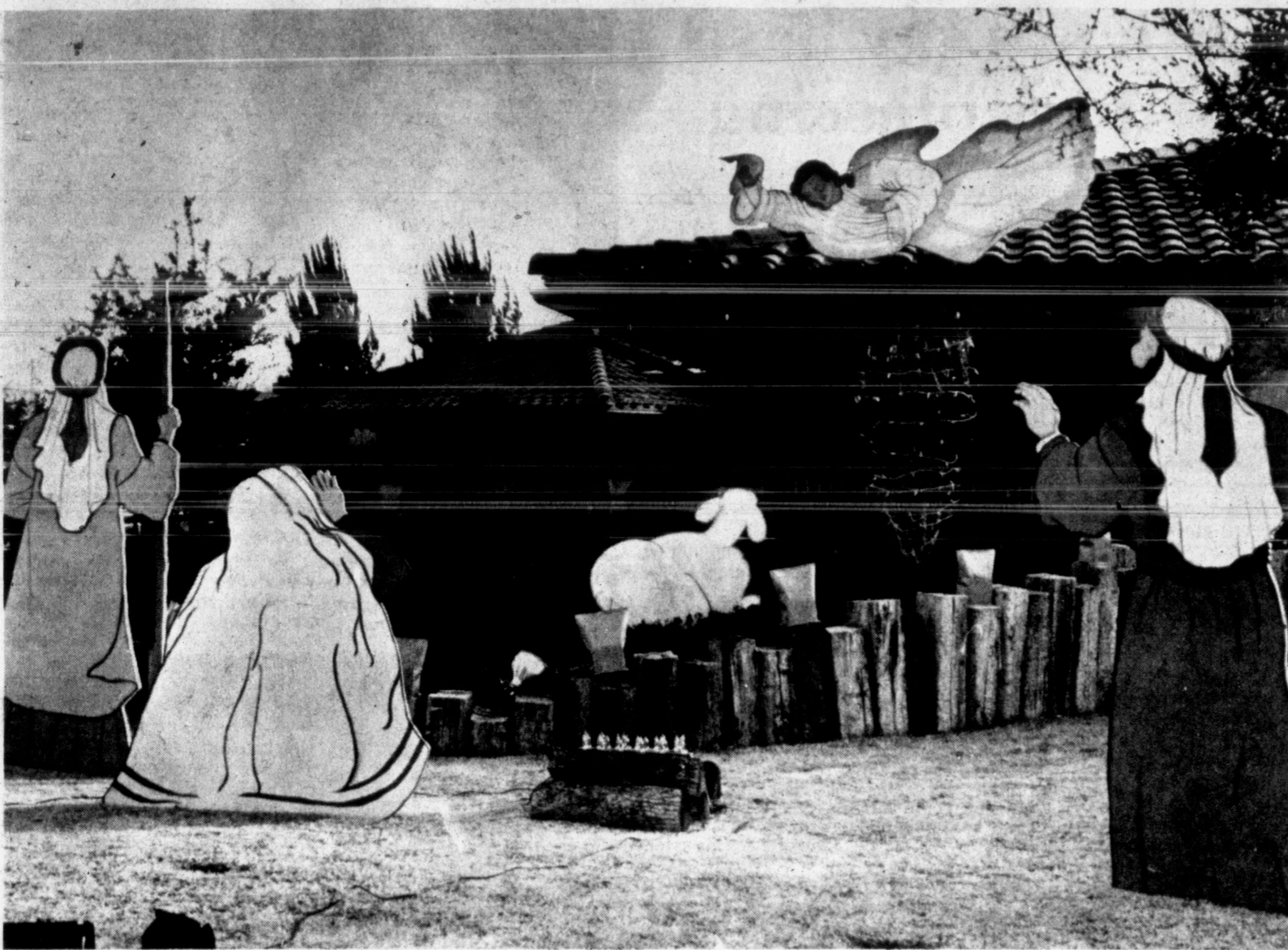
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**THIS WAY TO BETHLEHEM** — An angel points the Three Wise Men toward Bethlehem in the Christmas scene that Wedge Turner had up outside his 2608 28th St. home during the Christmas season. (SDN Staff Photo)

## All parties settle nightclub lawsuit

AUSTIN (AP) — An out-of-court settlement, called the first of its kind in Texas, has been reached in a lawsuit by the family of a man who drank in a bar before he died in a car wreck.

The settlement Thursday with the family of Wesley Everett, 19, totaled more than \$3 million in the suit claiming an Austin bar served Everett, even though he was underage and intoxicated. He was killed in a 1987 auto accident.

Jeff Rusk, an Austin lawyer who represented Everett's family said the settlement was the first of its kind in Texas.

"There have been a lot of cases where a bar had to pay because they let someone leave, who then ran over someone else, but this is the first time they had to pay when the person who was intoxicated was the person who was killed," Rusk said.

Everett had been drinking at the Bobby Sox Night Club at the Holiday Inn on U.S. 183 shortly before the late-night accident, Rusk said. A Marine reservist, Everett died of head injuries Nov. 11, 1987, when his car struck a stop sign and a utility pole before plunging down a 7-foot embankment.

Everett had a blood alcohol level of .21, Rusk said an autopsy showed. Under Texas law, a driver is presumed intoxicated when his blood alcohol level is .10 or more.

A suit filed by Everett's family in state district court against the bar, Holiday Inn and other defendants claimed the victim should not have been served alcohol and should not have continued to receive service after he became

intoxicated, said Rusk. Settlement terms provide that Kristina Everett, 20, Everett's widow, and her son, Philip Michael Everett, 2, receive a lump-sum payment of \$415,000 from the Insurance Company of North America, which will pay on behalf of all defendants.

Court documents show Kristina and Philip-Everett will continue to receive monthly payments from the insurance company.

### Happy New Year's Dance



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Jan. 1, 1989

9:30 till 12:30

Where: A-Room:

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\$1.50 person

\$3.00 couple

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Pictures by Harley Bynum '15.00

### S&L bailouts...

## Regulators are nearing year's goal

WASHINGTON (AP) — With two business days left in the year, federal regulators are within a whisker of their 1988 goal of settling the cases of 200 insolvent savings and loan institutions.

The last-minute rush, however, is raising new questions about the government's handling of the S&L crisis.

Officials of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board insist they are cleaning up some of the industry's biggest problems, attracting badly needed new capital and saving the government money.

But various members of Congress charge that the bank board, in its rush to complete S&L bailouts, has failed to drive a hard enough bargain with prospective purchasers.

The bank board for the first time has drawn foreign investors into its effort to bail out sick S&Ls in the Southwest. It announced a subsidiary of a Taiwanese company had agreed to buy eight insolvent Texas savings institutions.

Bank board chairman M. Danny Wall defended the sale of the Texas thrifts to Taiwanese investors, saying, "We welcome our first non-U.S. owned investor ... Their interest in investing in the future of Texas is a further indication of the attractiveness of the state's thrift industry as well as its business climate."

Working against a midnight Saturday deadline, the bank board announced the sale of 13 more insolvent S&Ls in Texas and Illinois late Thursday.

All of the institutions will be open for business as usual today, sporting new names and with their depositors' funds fully protected.

The latest closings bring to 197 the number of insolvent S&Ls which have been dealt with this year, a post-Depression record, far surpassing the 48 S&Ls closed in 1987.

Officials predicted that with two more days in which to reach further settlements, the final number of resolved cases will surpass the 200-institution target set by Wall.

Almost half of the failed institutions have been in Texas, a state where depressed economic conditions in the oil industry and real estate led to default on many of the loans held by S&Ls.

Even with the year-end rush of closings, there are still more than 400 insolvent S&Ls operating and estimates of cleaning up the total mess range as high as \$112 billion.

The amount of money needed presents an immediate problem for the incoming Bush administration.

President-elect Bush is faced with the task of coming up with a solution to the S&L crisis that will not make it impossible for him to meet his campaign pledge of narrowing the federal budget deficit without resorting to higher taxes.

Many congressional critics believe that the bank board's efforts are going in the wrong

direction and will worsen not narrow the ultimate cost to the government.

Wall has insisted that the cost of simply closing the institutions and paying off depositors would far exceed the sales which are being arranged through the use of tax breaks and direct federal assistance as a lure to buyers.

The tax benefits to S&L buyers will be effectively cut in half after midnight Saturday. The provisions that will expire allow firms purchasing failed S&Ls to deduct the previous losses of those associations from profits the firms earned on other operations.

Rep. Henry B. Gonzalez, D-Texas, the new chairman of the House Banking Committee, said he plans to hold a series of hearings starting in January on the deals, looking specifically at the two largest bailouts announced this week.

Those complex transactions will cost the government \$6.8 billion in assistance to the purchasers of American Savings of Stockton, Calif., by Texas billionaire Robert Bass and the acquisition of five deeply troubled Texas S&Ls by Revlon cosmetics chairman Ronald Perelman.

The S&Ls which were closed on Thursday included one institution in Springfield, Ill., and 12 insolvent S&Ls in Texas which were purchased by two separate groups of investors, including the first sale of Texas institutions to foreigners.

The details of the transactions were:

—Eight insolvent Texas S&Ls

were sold to Pacific USA Holdings Corp., a Texas subsidiary of Pacific Electric Wire and Cable Co. of Taiwan, which agreed to invest \$37.5 million. The branches will be operated under the name Pacific Southwest Savings Bank F.S.B., headquartered in Corpus Christi. The bank board agreed to provide \$566.2 million in government assistance to the purchasers.

The S&Ls being taken over were Charter Savings and Loan of Corpus Christi; Keystone Savings and Loan of Lampasas; Bayview Federal Savings Association of Corpus Christi; First Federal Savings and Loan of Luling; Independence Savings and Loan of Gonzales; Yoakum Federal Savings and Loan of Yoakum; Union Savings Association of San Antonio; and Seguin Savings Association of Seguin.

—Four insolvent Texas thrifts were purchased by the Centex Corp., a Dallas home builder, who will operate the former branches as Texas Trust Savings Bank F.S.B. In that transaction, the bank board will provide \$429 million in government assistance and Centex will invest \$26.5 million.

The insolvent S&Ls purchased by Centex were Burnet Savings and Loan of Burnet; Lee Savings Association of Giddings; Ranchers Savings Association of Johnson City; and Peoples Savings and Loan of Llano.

—The insolvent American Savings Bank of Springfield, Ill., was acquired by Citizens Federal Bank of Miami, which will operate American's 23 offices as branches of Citizens Federal.

The takeover will cost the government \$187.9 million. Citizens Federal invested no money in the deal.

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88 CHRYSLER 5th AVENUE Fully Loaded Only \$16,488 <sup>00</sup> 6 to Choose From	84 FORD MUSTANG GT CONVERTIBLE Beautiful MUST SEE \$6,488 <sup>00</sup>	88 PLYMOUTH SUNDANCE Auto, Air, Stereo Now Only \$8,988 <sup>00</sup>	87 FORD AEROSTAR Only \$9,988 <sup>00</sup>
85 DODGE CARAVAN Only \$5,788 <sup>00</sup>	87 PLYMOUTH RELIANT Only \$7,988 <sup>00</sup>	85 DODGE RAM 250 8 Pass. van low miles Only \$9,388 <sup>00</sup>	81 TOYOTA MOTOR HOME Fully self-contained \$6,988 <sup>00</sup>

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## Ingleside elated about boost to homeport

INGLESIDE, Texas (AP) — An announcement that a Naval Station homeport will be expanded could signal the resurgence of commercial and residential development halted by fears that the homeport would be abandoned, residents say.

A special commission announced Thursday that Naval Station Ingleside was not among the 34 military installations recommended for closure and instead would receive homeport fleets previously assigned to Galveston and Lake Charles, La., which were recommended for abandonment.

As officials in those communities criticized the government panel's decision, Ingleside residents said the news hopefully would increase development in the area hit by plunging oil prices and high unemployment in recent years.

"It's progress," said Gordon Kemp, 52, an independent insurance agent in this floundering community.

"I've lived here all my life and I think we needed something. There's so many people that have left and maybe now others will

come back again," he said.

The Ingleside homeport is in its initial stage, with site preparation, infrastructure and road construction work being done for the last six months. When completed in about three years, it will be home to the battleship USS Wisconsin, an aircraft carrier, a cruiser, a destroyer and a patrol boat.

More than 4,700 military personnel and dependents are expected to move to the Corpus Christi area, which will receive an economic boost of \$300 million annually because of the military installation.

Ingleside also is scheduled to receive at least two frigates, two minesweepers, three patrol boats, an oiler and, perhaps, up to 830 military personnel and about 50 civilians from the Lake Charles and Galveston homeports, officials said.

The community, located about 20 miles north of Corpus Christi, once boasted a population of 5,700, but that has dropped to about 5,000 because of the oil bust.

## Dr. Gott



Peter Gott, M.D.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I'm 59 and a year ago had breast reduction surgery because of back and shoulder pain. What a mistake. I've had to have skin grafts, scar tissue causes me no end of pain, and there are places which have still not healed. The plastic surgeon came highly recommended. Where did he go wrong? And what do I do now?

**DEAR READER:** No surgical procedure is free of risks and complications. The disastrous result you experienced from your breast-reduction operation may not have been due to anything you or the surgeon did wrong. Nonetheless, you are left with an unacceptable consequence that needs treatment.

You could possibly be helped by a surgical revision. Seek a second or third opinion from qualified plastic surgeons. Specialists in medical centers, for example, are often quite skillful at restoring patients to normal after unsuccessful surgery. Ask for a referral to the plastic surgery

department of a teaching hospital or university health center. These widely sophisticated techniques, super-specialists may help you solve your problem.

For more information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "An Informed Approach to Surgery." Other readers who would like a copy should send \$1 with their name and address to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3369. Be sure to mention the title.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** At 73 I've started to have spells of epilepsy. What can I expect in the future?

**DEAR READER:** Epilepsy rarely begins in people over the age of 50. When older adults develop seizures, doctors usually look for causes other than epilepsy.

For example, drugs (such as anti-depressants), head injuries, brain tumors and certain forms of stroke are much more likely to provoke seizures than is epilepsy.

To answer your question, I'd have to know the cause of your seizures; some would be curable, others preventable.

Epilepsy itself — periodic abnormal electrical brain discharges of unknown cause — is entirely treatable, using a variety of modern anti-convulsant drugs. Ask your doctor to discuss your situation with you; this should give you a clearer idea of what to expect in the future.

**DEAR DR. GOTT:** I've been told by vets than humans do get heartworms, but that they can't complete their life cycle in our bodies and so die off. What do you think?

**DEAR READER:** Right on the mark.

Dirofilariasis (heartworms) is a disease of dogs, caused by a wormy parasite transmitted by infected mosquitoes. The parasite grows inside the heart and eventually reproduces, releasing tiny worms (microfilariae) that circulate in the blood and are taken up by mosquitoes that bite the dog. These microfilariae can be spread by mosquitoes to humans, but this is an exceedingly rare event.

In humans, the microfilariae find their way to the lungs, where they cause distinct areas of inflammation called nodules. This is not serious. The parasites do not complete their life cycle in humans; thus, the unusual case of human infection needs no treatment.

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### Soviets may catch up in computers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Soviet President Mikhail S. Gorbachev's restructuring drive eventually may enable Soviet computer makers to satisfy demand, but progress will be slow and Moscow can be expected to keep trying to acquire Western technology, a U.S. scientific advisory panel says.

## Officials say base closings blessing

HARLINGEN, Texas (AP) — In the wake of recommendations to close the homeport in Galveston and reduce personnel at other Texas military bases, officials who recall their experience with a base closing here say it ended up helping the economy.

A Pentagon panel on Thursday proposed shutting 86 military installations nationwide, including the Galveston and Lake Charles, La. homeports.

Commission members also recommended another five bases be partially closed and 54 others be realigned.

Texas, under the plan, would still gain about 2,158 military and civilian jobs through a transfer of positions from bases recommended for closure or realignment elsewhere in the country.

Officials said the Defense Department's announcement in March 1961 that Harlingen Air Force Base would be deactivated sent shock waves through the economy. But remnants of the air base is now home to Valley International Airport, Marine Military Academy, Texas State Technical Institute and the Confederate Air Force.

Tenants of Harlingen's Industrial Air Park include Tex-Steel Corp., General Dynamics and Federal Express. Many of Harlingen's residents bought homes here because of a "Go Harlingen" campaign that was the first step in saving the city's economy.

"We lost 20 percent of our population in a matter of 60 days. Row upon row of houses suddenly were completely empty," George

Young, who became mayor a few years later, told the Valley Morning Star.

"We were all in a state of shock," said Don Bodenhamer, then owner of Ferguson Motors and vice president of the chamber of commerce.

"What we did is take a liability and turn it into an asset. It would work again today."

He and Young decided that the situation would not improve until residents were living in the empty houses again. But there weren't any jobs to bring prospective home buyers to Harlingen.

Bodenhamer said he convinced the chamber to use all of its \$3,800 advertising budget for the year and run ads in Midwest newspapers pitching Harlingen as a retirement community.

"We ran ads in Kansas City, Omaha and the Chicago Tribune," he told the newspaper. "We sold 150 houses in two weeks and we were amazed. It told us we had something going."

"We developed the 'Go Harlingen' program and we went down the street asking for money. In the first year, we raised \$100,000, and the letters started pouring in from people looking for a place to retire in the sun."

Letters were soon coming in at the rate of 1,200 a day "and even housewives were opening and answering them," he said.

About 4,000 homes had been sold after three years "and the retirees even started their own building companies to build more retirement homes," he said.

When the air base land had been deeded back to the city, the CAF moved its headquarters from near Mercedes to the air base site.

"When we started, we decided we needed to get tenants in those empty air base buildings," said Bodenhamer, who served as chairman of the airport board.

"We figured if we had 1,000 people working out there at the end of five years we'd be doing good. At the end of 2½ years, we had 2,300 people working on that base."

### Proposed merger is challenged

MIDLAND, Texas (AP) — In an effort to collect \$3.9 million in long-distance charges, U.S. Sprint has threatened an injunction to block a proposed merger between Midland's ClayDesta Communications Inc. and an Atlanta-based corporation.

"ClayDesta owes us some money and we are trying to collect it," U.S. Sprint spokesman Syd Courson told the Odessa American from company headquarters in Kansas City, Mo.

U.S. Sprint informed ClayDesta Communications that the company will file an injunction to prevent the sale of ClayDesta stock to Advanced Telecommunications Corp. unless the telephone bill is paid.

ClayDesta, which disputes the bill, is seeking a judge's order to stop U.S. Sprint's interference.



STOCKINGS AND CANDY CANES—The local VFW organization distributed some 190 Christmas stockings and candy canes to residents of both nursing homes in Snyder. Wayne Merritt, commander, is pictured at left; Lynn Breeden, auxiliary president is at right; and Geneva Buchanan, is in the center. (VFW Photo)



CHILDREN'S PARTY—These children attended the VFW Christmas party held earlier in December. (VFW Photo)

### State-funded health insurance program sought

AUSTIN (AP) — A proposed state-funded health insurance program for public school employees will cost the state \$300 million per year, but will save money in the long run and provide better coverage for workers, a teachers union said.

public school employees are finding it more difficult to pay skyrocketing medical insurance premiums that provide less coverage.

Many school districts are financially unable to provide group health coverage, while others provide only minimal coverage, said John Cole, president of the 15,000-member union.

The Texas Federation of Teachers on Thursday said

## Astro-Graph

Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Dec. 31, 1988

Dame Fortune will be doing all that she can in the year ahead to help you where your expectations are concerned, especially if your past performances show you warrant it.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)** Although you're not apt to appreciate it at the time, something might occur today that will be for your ultimate benefit. At first it may even upset you a bit. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail \$2 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 91428, Cleveland, OH 44101-3428.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19)** If you take yourself too seriously today, it could make your companions feel rather uneasy. On the other hand, if you treat life in a jovial manner, it will inspire them to do likewise.

**PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20)** Be careful today that you do not reward someone who is undeserving while ignoring or overlooking a person to whom you should be grateful. Your oversight could leave a lasting scar.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19)** A loved one will be disappointed in you today if the relationship is out of balance to a point where this person is the only one doing the giving.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)** There are indications you may be involved with two diverse types of people today. One will be extremely grateful for your kind gestures, while the other may think you aren't doing enough.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)** Even though you are a rather restless person, you are likely to feel uncomfortable today around friends who are too hyper. Seek companions with calmer spirits.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22)** You might have to contend with something today that you'll know is difficult going. If you attempt to do it when angry, it will only make matters worse.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)** Someone may treat you in a rather hostile fashion today. If you turn the other cheek, instead of reacting in kind, it will win you the respect of your peers.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)** Taking foolhardy risks could land you in red ink today, but if you use your common sense and keen judgment, things should turn out profitably.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23)** Some good news you're hoping for might not arrive today at the time you expect it. But don't despair, because, although delayed, you should be receiving it soon.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)** You could have tendencies today to fly off the handle at the slightest provocation. If you let your guard down and do so, you'll feel silly later for being so easily irritated.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21)** Someone with whom you weren't too friendly at a social gathering recently might have an opportunity to even the score today. Unfortunately, what goes around somehow seems to come around.

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<b>Giant Flash Bombs</b> 10¢ ea. <small>Limit one per person per day</small>	<div style="text-align: center;"> <p><b>UP TO 75% OFF</b></p> </div>	<b>Smoke Balls</b> 12 for <b>99¢</b> <small>Limit one per person per day</small>

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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Coke, Diet Coke, 7-Up</b> <b>\$1.09</b> 2 Liter</p>	
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