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2000

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Worship Directory

Assembly of God

Bethel Temple Assembly of God
2608 Villa Maria, Bryan
776-4835
Sunday Worship 8:30, 10:45, 6:00 pm
College & Career Class Sun. 9:30
Randy Scott, Pastor
www.startel.net/bethel

Baptist

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Visitors get a free, homemade pie!
You can expect...
• Uplifted worship
• A casual setting
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• Practical messages

Living Hope Baptist Church
Sunday Schedule: We are NOW meeting at
9:45 AM Bible Study Cypress Grove Inter. School
11:00 AM Worship on Graham Rd. between
6:30 PM Worship Wellborn and the West
INFO: 690-1911 bypass service Road.

Bible

Grace Bible Church
700 Anderson, College Station
693-2911
Services: 9:15 a.m., 11:00 a.m., 6:00 p.m.
College Sunday School Class 9:15 & 11 a.m.

Catholic

St. Mary's
603 Church Ave., 846-5717

Pastoral Team
Rev. Michael J. Sis, Pastor
Rev. David A. Konderla, Associate Pastor

Campus Ministers
Deacon Bill Scott • Martha Tonn
Lillian Smith • Maureen Murray
Heidi Nicolini

Daily Masses
Mon.-Fri.: 5:30 p.m.
Tues, Thurs: 12:05 Noon
All Faith's Chapel on A&M Campus
Sat.: 10:30 a.m. (Korean)

Weekend Masses
Sat. - 5:30 p.m. (English), 7:00 (Spanish)
Sun. - 9:00, 11:00 a.m., 5:30, 7:00 p.m.

Christian

First Christian Church
900 South Ennis, Bryan
823-5451
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:45 a.m.
Dr. Andrew Pate, Jr., Minister

Church of Christ

Bryan / College Station Church of Christ

Sunday Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
Worship 10:00 a.m.
Worship 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday Bible Class 7:00 p.m.
College Station Conference Center
Last across George Bush from TAMU Golf Course
(409) 731-1230
Email: mark-d@tamuc.edu or mwm@tamuc.edu

Episcopal

St. Thomas Episcopal
906 George Bush Dr. • College Station, TX
(Across from Duncan Dining Hall)
Sunday services at 8:00, 9:00 and especially for late rising A&M, 11:15 a.m.
Next door to Canterbury House, the Episcopal Student Center

Non-Denominational

Covenant Family Church
"Success Begins on Sunday"

Danny & Janet Green, Pastors
Sunday 10:30 a.m. Wednesday 7:30 p.m.
4010 Harvey Rd., (Hwy. 30) E-Mail: greencc@aol.com
College Station 774-1269 www.covenant-family-church.org

Community Church

260-1163

10 a.m.
Sundays
The Hilton
Small groups meet weekly
see www.comchurch.com
for more info

United Methodist

A&M United Methodist
417 University Dr. (on Northgate) • 846-8731
Sunday Services: 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.
College Sunday School 9:45
Sr. Pastor Charles Anderson
amumc@myriad.net

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NATION

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THE BATTALION

Friday, Jan. 31, 2000

After losing money, officer kills himself

DETROIT (AP)—After losing thousands of dollars in a day of gambling at Detroit's brand-new casinos, off-duty police Sgt. Solomon Bell tried one last high-stakes hand of blackjack.

He lost. The decorated officer abruptly stood up from the table, cried out "Noooooo!" and drew his gun and put a bullet in head as other gamblers scrambled for safety.

The death — believed to be the first suicide inside a U.S. gambling hall — has highlighted concerns about casino gambling in a city pinning much of its hopes for revival on three new casinos.

"I predicted this is the kind of problem we would face because of the addictiveness of gambling," City Councilwoman Maryann Mahaffey said.

Bell's death on Wednesday was shocking to people who knew him. They said the 38-year-old officer was a jovial fellow with few visible problems — gambling or otherwise. He joined the Oak Park force about 12 years ago and rose from uniformed patrol officer to investigator, sergeant and patrol supervisor. His service record was unblemished.

In 1988 and 1990, he got merit awards for arrests in stolen-vehicle cases, said Bob Bauer, the department's deputy director. "I just describe him as a good guy," Bauer said.

Away from his \$63,675-a-year job, the unmarried Bell kept mostly to himself and took meticulous care of his house in nearby Southfield. He owned a 1995 Cadillac Seville and liked to rollerskate.

Co-workers said they knew he occasionally gambled, but never saw signs of a problem.

Then, on his day off, authorities said he lost \$15,000 to \$20,000 at the MGM Grand Detroit Casino, which opened in July, and the 6-week-old MotorCity Casino. At MotorCity, spokesman Jack Barthwell said, Bell tried various blackjack tables in the high-stakes VIP room before losing roughly \$4,000 on a single hand at a \$100-minimum game.

Bell then pulled his gun and fired a shot into his temple so abruptly the few players and about 20 casino workers on the fourth floor had no time to intervene,

Barthwell said. As his body lay on the floor near the table, gamblers on lower floors continued playing. The VIP room where Bell died reopened five hours later.

"We felt it was important to get it opened and return things to normal," Barthwell said.

On Thursday, a 37-year Detroit firefighter threatened to kill himself at the MGM Grand Detroit while playing blackjack. Police, alerted by the dealer, took the man into custody for treatment at a crisis center.

City Councilwoman Kay Everett said the suicide should not cast a pall over the casinos. "One person deciding to have their own demise should not be the demise of the casino. That's ludicrous," Everett said.

Carol O'Hare, executive director of the Nevada Council on Problem Gambling, said she knows of no previous suicide committed inside a U.S. casino, though there have been suicides associated with gambling halls. In August, a German tourist jumped to his death from the roof of the nine-story Resorts Atlantic City parking garage in New Jersey, making him the third suicide at a casino building there in eight days. A gambler who lost \$87,000 at the tables jumped off a Trump Plaza roof, and a Caesars Atlantic City Hotel Casino dealer leaped from the casino's parking garage.

The National Council on Problem Gambling, citing various studies, said one in five pathological gamblers attempts suicide. A 1998 Harvard Medical School study estimated that 1.6 percent of adults in the United States and Canada had experienced pathological gambling at some point in their lives.

"Short of someone leaving a note that 'The reason I killed myself is ...,' there's a lot of armchair detective work to determine what chain of events caused someone to do that," O'Hare said. "Frequently, what you have is things playing together. Many times you have drinking problems or marital problems."

A third temporary casino is expected to open in Detroit this spring. Larger, permanent casinos with hotel rooms, showrooms and other amenities are expected to open by 2004.

"One person deciding to have their own demise should not be the demise of the casino. That's ludicrous."

— Kay Everett
City Councilwoman

New target in hunt for AIDS drug

WASHINGTON (AP)—Scientists have become increasingly frustrated in the hunt for novel ways to block the AIDS virus, but now getting some encouraging news from giant Merck & Co. as they move toward a long-elusive target.

It will take years of additional research to turn the finding into medication, experts cautioned. The research gives scientists another place to aim at in fighting HIV virus, important as today's drugs slowly lose their edge as options in sight.

It's called integrase, a crucial step in HIV infection. Merck's genetic material is essentially hijacking cells. Can HIV begin reproducing at a maddeningly fast rate.

Scientists have long known integrase's crucial function is to create "integrase inhibitors" to block its effect, much like "protease inhibitors" block the action of HIV enzyme called protease.

Attempts to create integrase inhibitors have failed so far. Merck's advance, reported in the journal *Science*, was to uncover the exact action of the enzyme's action that must be blocked for an integrase inhibitor to work.

Merck researchers analyzed 250,000 samples in the company's library of chemicals and found compounds known as "diacyl" that hit that spot. In laboratory tests, the compounds successfully blocked integrase and fought HIV.

Merck executives refused to name the lead scientist — Daniela Discenza — but she discussed her discovery with the press. A Merck spokesman said the company is hunting better compounds described in *Science* than the ones described in *Science*.

"It's opened up a third target everyone knew was out there, but no one's been able to hit," said Jeffrey LaSala, senior scientist for the National Foundation for AIDS Research. "It's nice to know it's doable."

"They have now developed methodology, which is a critical step in developing drugs against HIV," added Dr. Douglas Richman of the University of California, San Diego. "It's very exciting."

Mayors discuss school shooting, call for Congress to 'do its part'

WASHINGTON (AP)—Calling on Congress to pass more stringent gun laws, the nation's mayors displayed on Thursday a "wall of death," filled with the names of nearly 3,100 Americans fatally shot since the killings at Columbine High School.

"Our hope is the tragic message of this wall will not be missed on Capitol Hill," Denver Mayor Wellington E. Webb said, standing before a black, 10-foot board with victims' names recorded in white and the date of their deaths in red. "It's time for Congress to do its part."

Webb, who is president of the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting here this week, called on Congress to renew its work on gun restrictions.

Last spring, in consideration of a juvenile justice bill, the Senate passed new provisions requiring background checks at gun shows. But a similar set of proposals died in the House when Republicans complained the measures were too strong and some Democrats said they were too weak. Work on the gun legislation continues.

The bloodshed didn't end with Columbine, Webb said, noting last year's other high-profile school and workplace shootings, which included the November slaying of seven at a Xerox office building in Honolulu.

Mayors are on the front lines of the battle, New Orleans Mayor Marc Morial said in releasing a survey on gun deaths. "We attend the funerals," he said. "We comfort the families. We clean up the blood."

The 3,094 victims' names and ages on the movable wall were reported from the group's survey of 100 cities, which recorded gun-related homicides from April 20, 1999 — the date of the high school shootings in Littleton, Colo. — through Dec. 31, 1999.

Chicago, with a population of about 2.7 million, was the largest city in the survey. It recorded the largest death toll at 343. The smallest city surveyed — Superior, Wis., which has a population of 27,500 — reported a single death.

Eleven cities had no gun violence deaths in the period reported, but among the other 89 cities surveyed, not a day went by without a gun fatality.

The next highest death counts were reported in: Detroit with 273; Baltimore, 197; Houston, 186; Miami-Dade County, Fla., 169; and Philadelphia, 164. Denver, the nearest city to Littleton, reported 35 deaths.

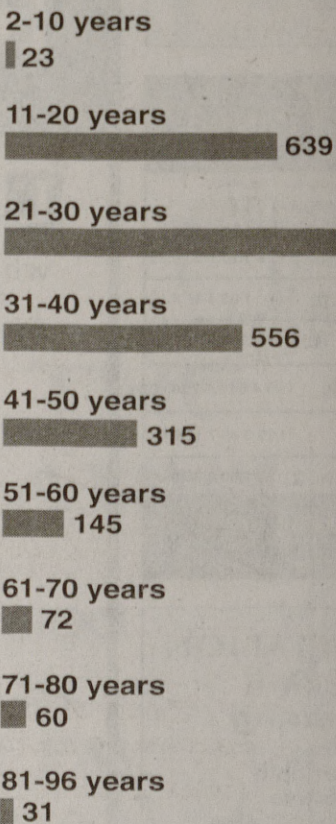
The victims ranged in age from 2 to 96, but one in three were 18 to 25 years old.

Most of the deaths were homicides. Not all cities distinguished accidental shootings or suicides.

The mayors want congressional action on gun control, but a separate conference meeting on school violence, it was the mayors who were asked to take action.

Gun-related deaths

A survey of 100 cities, conducted after the mass killing at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999, found that 3,094 Americans were fatally shot that time through the end of the year. Here is a look at the fatalities, by age group.



Source: U.S. Conference of Mayors