

American SW Brine...

Closed industry foreclosure sale posted Tuesday

Snyder National Bank officials have posted notice of foreclosure on facilities once operated by American Southwest Brine and Chemical with plans to auction land and equipment at the site Aug. 2.

The posting by SNB officials Tuesday was at both the Scurry County and Borden County courthouses.

The foreclosure sale is to include a 10-acre tract of land plus

improvements on this land. These include a pipeline transmission system, lease holding interests, to include a series of solar ponds, all personal property and equipment to include mixing tanks, storage tanks, mixers and pumps.

According to the posting, the sale will take place "to the highest bidder for cash."

The reason listed for the foreclosure was a default in pay-

ment by American Southwest Brine and Chemical Inc.

The operation of the plant was closed April 29 by its Tulsa, Okla.-based owners.

Plans for the operation with hopes of employing up to 100 individuals were announced here Dec. 19, 1986. At its closing, it had an estimated 15 employees.

The facilities at the old American Magnesium Plant site See INDUSTRY, page 9

Wednesday

July 13,
1988

Ask Us

Q — I was told that blood donations given for a particular person are only honorary donations since United Blood Services of Lubbock gives the blood to the hospitals at no charge. This being the case, where does UBS get its funding?

A — UBS, a non-profit entity, charges the hospitals for the treatment of the blood, not for the blood itself, which is donated. The honorary donations are to help a hospital resupply its own supply of blood.

In Brief

Judge resigns

AUSTIN (AP) — Justice Franklin Spears has stepped down after five years as the Texas Supreme Court's liaison to the State Bar of Texas, citing a loss of support among the majority of court members.

The action came Tuesday, when the court signed an order approving an 1988-89 bar budget topping \$19 million.

"Recent events establish that I no longer enjoy the confidence and support of a majority of the court in matters concerning the fiscal policies and governance of the state bar," Spears said in a letter to Chief Justice Tom Phillips.

No secession

MOSCOW (AP) — The leadership of Azerbaijan annulled Nagorno-Karabakh's decision to secede from the republic and accused the disputed region's officials of breaking the law and defying higher authorities, Tass said today.

The official news agency said the Presidium, or executive committee, of Azerbaijan's parliament met Tuesday night, a few hours after the secession declaration by Nagorno-Karabakh's legislature.

Local

For freshmen

Incoming students who plan to attend the Western Texas College Success Seminar Thursday should call the admissions office by 5 p.m. Wednesday to make reservations. Dean of Student Services Duane Hood said.

All freshmen, including those who took summer classes, are required to attend a success seminar to meet with academic advisors who help choose classes, pre-register students for the fall semester and guide tours of the campus.

The seminar will begin at 8:30 a.m. Thursday in the Student Center, with students who have taken ACT or SAT tests to talk with counselors and then pre-register.

Students who do not have ACT or SAT test scores on file will take an ASSET test, beginning at 10 a.m. There is a \$5 fee to take the test.

Weather

Snyder Temperatures: High Tuesday, 93 degrees; low, 71 degrees; reading at 7 a.m. Wednesday, 73 degrees; no precipitation; total precipitation for 1988 to date, 13.65 inches.

Snyder Area Forecast: Tonight, fair with low near 70 and winds 5 to 10 mph. Thursday, mostly sunny and hot with high in upper 90s. South winds 5 to 15 mph.

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The Snyder Daily News

WTC finalizes \$5.3 million budget

A reduced operating budget for Western Texas College was approved by trustees Tuesday, a 12-month estimate which includes a \$2 per semester hour tuition increase for in-district students and a \$4 increase for out-of-district students.

In addition, the approximate \$5.3 million budget includes merit pay raises of some \$700 per year for 22 faculty members and 18 maintenance and clerical personnel as well as new faculty positions for eight staffers.

Despite the increase in budgeted salaries, administrators at WTC were able to keep the total operating expenses under last year's primarily due to reductions in major campus repair projects which were included in the current budget of some \$5.4 million.

Exact figures include \$5,324,490 for next year's operating budget and \$5,418,530 for the current year.

This year's budget included such major capital outlays as

roof repairs for almost all campus buildings and the replacement of two large electrical transformers on campus.

Regarding tax requirements to fund the new budget, a final decision on the college tax rate is not expected until the August meeting of trustees.

Just over a 1½ cent increase in the tax rate is now projected, although the total amount of tax income is expected to stay exactly the same.

The increase would offset a

decrease in the college's overall tax base.

The current WTC tax rate is 15.8 cents per \$100 valuation and a rate of 17.4 cents would be required to generate the same amount of taxes as the current year, some \$1.6 million.

Regarding the increase in student tuition, the charge to students living within the college district would go from \$8 to \$10 per semester hour. For out-of-district students, the cost per semester hour would go to \$12.

Also, hourly fees for summer school classes would increase from \$10 to \$15 for in-district students and to \$17 for those living out-of-district.

Student services fees would increase as well, from \$1 to \$3 per semester hour.

For the current school year, tuition charges generated some \$175,500 in revenue. With the increases, it is projected in-district student tuition would generate some \$105,000 while out-of-district would go to \$12.

See BUDGET, page 9

Broader TDC role is sought

College aims at regional training

Trustees for Western Texas College were told Tuesday that plans have been submitted to make WTC a regional training facility for TDC correctional officers during the coming two-year cycle of new prison construction.

Regarding the regional concept, Mike Thornton, the college's liaison with TDC, noted that currently only four other community colleges, all located in South Texas, offer such training.

During the next two years, he noted, it is projected the state will need 2,000 new staffers in guard positions to accommodate the construction of the six new prison sites now planned.

Thornton also informed the board of plans for the correctional officer class planned this fall. It is designed to accommodate local and area residents interested in becoming eligible for employment when the 1,000-man Texas Department of Corrections unit opens here next spring.

A projected class size for the fall class, based on similar class sizes offered for TDC, is 38 students. The deadline to apply for admission is Sept. 1.

A tuition of \$200 per student is to be charged. It is noted that correctional officers for TDC can earn \$21,408 annually after the first 18 months of employment.

After the Sept. 1 cutoff for enrollment applications, an interview schedule for qualifying applicants is planned Sept. 27-30 with TDC.

Those who have been selected for training would be notified Oct. 3 and the first day of class would be Oct. 8.

The course itself would consist of 120 hours in the classroom. These classes would be held on two nights a week with the

See TDC CLASS, page 9



ALMOST DONE — Ralph Price of Price Brothers Construction is shown adjacent to the road and parking lot, in the background at right, that his company is said within two days of completing at

the Texas Department of Corrections construction site northeast of town. Construction of the prison is set to begin one week from Monday. (SDN Staff Photo)

Union Baptist set to mark 80th year

Union Baptist Church will celebrate its 80th anniversary Sunday with special activities to include a 2 p.m. anniversary service which will involve past

pastors, members of the congregation and special music.

Services begin that Sunday with 10 a.m. Sunday School classes to be followed by the 11 a.m. worship service. Lunch will be served on the grounds beginning at noon.

Union Baptist Church organized in July 1908 after a brush arbor revival. After the meeting, the members of Saints Rest Church and those of the Antioch

Church decided to merge. W.F. Walker was called as the new church's pastor.

Since neither congregation had a building, a committee composed of members of both churches was selected to find a site for construction. The committee chose the present property because it was halfway between the Bethel schoolhouse, where the members of Saints Rest worshipped, and the Crowder schoolhouse, meeting place for the Antioch congregation.

In September of 1908, the first building was completed. At that time the church held Sunday

School every week, but met for worship only on the second and fourth Sundays each month.

When the membership called Cone Merritt as pastor in 1945, the church was able to support a man full-time and was then able to conduct services every Sunday.

Present facilities were constructed in 1950 under the leadership of Jack O'Neal.

Pastors who have served at Union Baptist after W.F. Walker are: H.A. Leach, O.J. Hull, D.J. Berry, I.D. Hull, C.E. Ball, Joe Wilson, L.D. Sanders, S.B. Wilkenson, G.W. Land, L.T.

Nipp, C.C. Scott, Cal McGhey, J.F. Fields, Marvin Leach, V.W. Tatum, Orville Hendon, Cone Merritt, Jack O'Neal, L.V. Rattliff, Roy Womble, R.N. Tucker, Murry Kay, Guy White, Jim Mosley, Lee Jones, Jess Ramsey, Lynn Matthews, Clarence Minton, Gerald Langdon, Clifton Dove, Marvin Ward, Larry Rogers, and Jim Ray Mosley.

In addition to the regular worship services, the church offers Bible study and mission organizations for women and children. It has also started a

See BAPTIST, page 9

Value appeal hearings end

Appeals related to oil property values to the three-member board of review for the Scurry County Appraisal District were concluded Tuesday at the district offices.

While some adjustments were granted, staffers indicate totals for these adjustments will not be received from the oil valuation firm of Thomas Y. Pickett and Associates of Dallas until later this week.

Eighteen notices of appeal were filed with the district in connection with oil properties.

Review board hearings concluded Monday related to real

See HEARINGS, page 9

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Diplomacy is the art of letting someone else have your way."

Snyder's Martha and David Gist last month attended a family reunion in Childress—one of those large annual affairs attended by large throngs—many of them strangers or at least strange.

Martha was working hard to keep the right names with the faces. One fellow looked especially familiar, and he seemed to be right in the spirit of the reunion—busy taking pictures of family members.

She asked her husband "Who is that man? I remember him from last year."

"That," replied David, "is the photographer."

Chic Hale, Snyder's number one rock hound, brought us an item about a new discovery being

put into use in Fullerton, Calif. It's called Glasphalt.

A street in that city was recently paved with Glasphalt. More than a million glass bottles and jars have gone into the new material.

The new product may be the answer of what to do with waste glass, thus reducing America's mammoth trash problem.

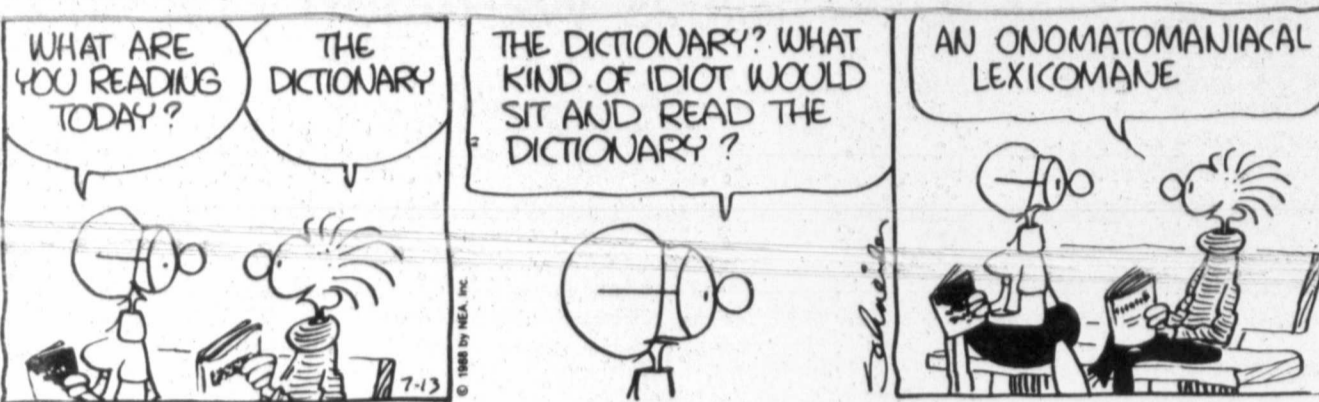
Glasphalt is 12 parts of broken glass blended with six parts of stone dust, one part asphalt and half part lime. This is the surfacing used for the new road, and about 300 tons of reclaimed crushed glass went into the three-inch layer of paving.

A guy in Louise's Coffee Shop panned that congressmen can't resist the temptation of running for re-election. "It's the overwhelming urge to return to the scene of the crime."

THE BORN LOSER® by Art & Chip Sansom



ECK & MEEK® by Howie Schneider



Barney Google and Snuffy Smith® By Fred Lasswell



FLASH GORDON By Dan Barry



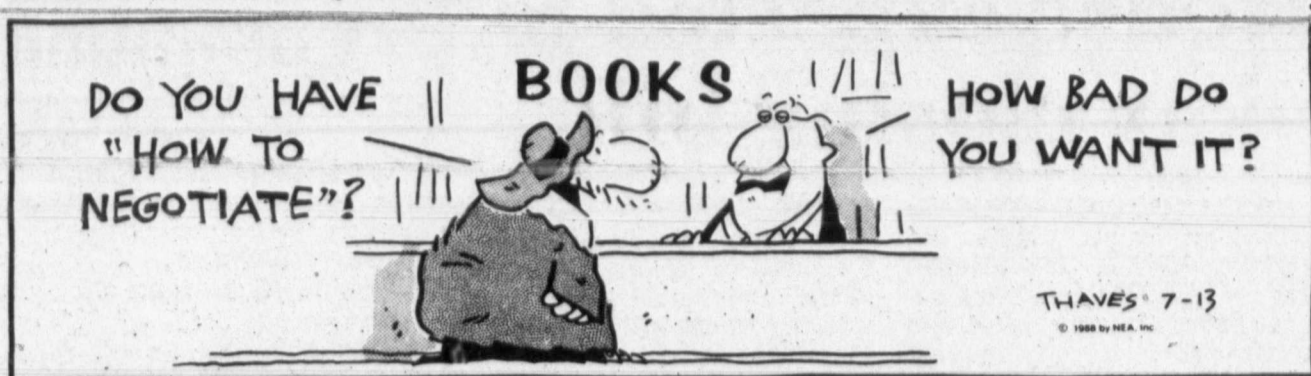
THE GRIZZWELLS™ by Bill Schorr



BLONDIE® By Dean Young & Mike Gersher



FRANK AND ERNEST® by Bob Thaves



ARLO AND JANIS® by Jimmy Johnson



WINTHROP® by Dick Cavalli



BUGS BUNNY® by Warner Bros.



ALLEY OOP® by Dave Graue



CAPTAIN EASY® by Crooks & Casale



SNAFU® by Bruce Beattie



KIT 'N' CARLYLE® by Larry Wright



LAFF-A-DAY



DENNIS THE MENACE



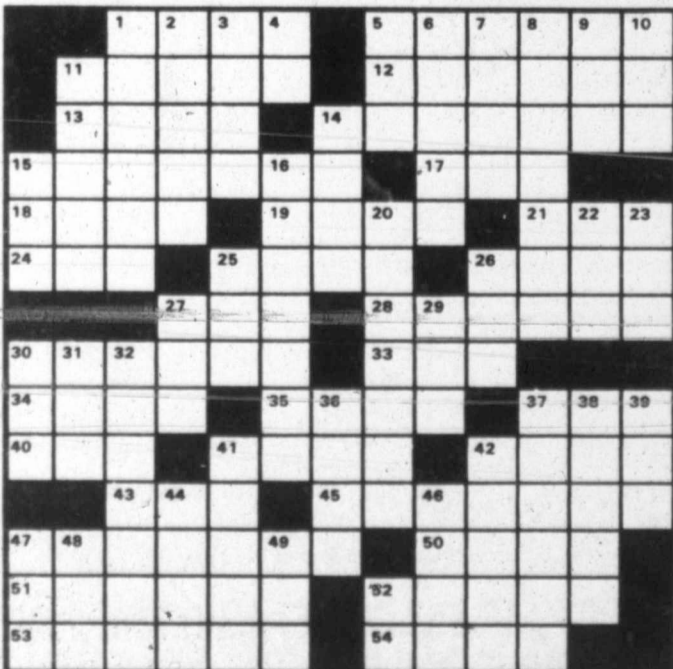
PUZZLES

ACROSS

- 1 Speechless
- 5 Arbiter
- 11 Jury
- 12 More miserly
- 13 Secrete
- 14 Livelier
- 15 Rats, e.g.
- 17 After deductions
- 18 Roman road
- 19 American patriot Nathan
- 21 Doctrine
- 24 voyage
- 25 Parcel out
- 26 Pacific shark
- 27 Three (pref.)
- 28 Legendary magician
- 30 Shadows
- 33 Intermediate (pref.)
- 34 Bedroom shoe
- 35 Seethe
- 37 Bird (comb. form)
- 40 Greek letter
- 41 Psalm
- 42 Alaska glacier
- 43 Mao-tung
- 45 Snubs
- 47 Foggiest
- 50 Assert
- 51 Overturns
- 52 Docks
- 53 Sincere
- 54 Actor Alan

DOWN

- 1 Unmarried woman
- 2 Less than
- 3 Adolescent
- 4 Bend
- 5 Baking pit
- 6 Middle (law)
- 7 Head
- 8 Of the beginning



Answer to Previous Puzzle



- 9 Dakota Indian
- 10 Be mistaken
- 11 Portrait
- 14 Future
- LL.Bs.' exam
- 15 Skeleton part
- 16 By means of that
- 20 Rodent
- 22 Engage in winter sport
- 23 Next to Sun.
- 25 culpa
- 26 Married
- woman's title
- 27 Three (It.)
- 29 Long fish
- 30 Short form of 5 across
- 31 Genus of rodents
- 32 One of the reindeer
- 36 Fail to mention
- 37 Polar lights
- 38 Watches
- 39 Apr. 15 addressee
- 41 Watches out for
- 42 Changed locations
- 44 Trigonometry term
- 46 Brad
- 47 Questioning sound
- 48 Gis' address
- 49 Swift aircraft (abbr.)
- 52 Male parent

Clements pushes school finance amendment

AUSTIN (AP) — There are inequities in the state's school financing system, but Gov. Bill Clements says lawmakers — not judges — are the people to solve them.

"There are inequities in our public schools and they need to be corrected," Clements told a conference of the Texas Association of School Administrators on Tuesday. "But they need to be corrected by the Legislature, not by a state court."

District Judge Harley Clark of Austin earlier ruled the Texas school finance system un-

constitutional. In a lawsuit filed by property-poor districts, Clark said the state's system denied equal access to state funds for all districts. The case is being appealed.

Clements said Texans have suffered bad experiences with court control of other state institutions, such as the prison system, and want judges to keep their hands off local schools.

"The people of Texas have had expensive and painful experiences with federal court intervention in the state's prison system. But Texans will not stand for intervention by a state court in the education of their children," he said.

The governor said he isn't arguing that all school problems have been solved and he said there is no question that no money must be pumped into public education.

"Funding, additional funding, is part of the solution," he said, adding that he expects recommendations from his Select Com-

mittee on Education to address the problem.

Clements said he will make it a top priority during the 1989 Legislature to place on the ballot a constitutional amendment to guarantee that school funding issues stay in the Legislature.

"To ensure that Judge Clark's

court, or any court for that matter, stays out of the legislative process, I support a constitutional amendment reaffirm-

ing the responsibility of legislators and local school districts to provide for public education in Texas," he said.

TDC class details told

Continued From Page 1

possibility of some weekend training.

This schedule is planned to allow applicants to continue in their present job situations.

In other action Monday, the board granted a request submitted by the WTC Booster Club to retire the basketball jersey number worn by Paul Pressey, the former junior college All American who now plays for the Milwaukee Bucks.

A scholarship fund-raising banquet in honor of Pressey and former WTC coach Nolan Richardson is now planned by the WTC Booster Club Aug. 20.

Pressey wore Number 25 while playing with WTC.

Funds from the banquet are to be used to establish scholarships in honor of Pressey and for Yvonne Richardson, the daughter of the former coach who passed away last year after a long illness.

Trustees also ratified moving into the second phase of a campus roofing project. This will see new roofs for four campus buildings to include Applied Science, the WTC dormitory, the Learning Resource Center and the faculty office building. Expense for this work is set at \$117,736.

In other action, the board: —Approved the 1988-89 college catalogue.

—Approved the low bid of \$3,332 from Dean Hagler Inc. of Abilene to paint the college gymnasium.

—Approved a low bid of \$12,987 for a 1988 four-door sedan from Wilson Motors and the low bid of \$14,442 for a 1988 mini-van from Mal Donelson Chevrolet. Both will replace two existing vehicles used by staffers for college-related trips and extension center classroom travel.

—Approved the low bid of \$23,882 from Yellowhouse Machinery of Lubbock for a construction tractor with backhoe.

—Approved the low bid of \$5,111 for six computers, monitors and two printers for the English Dept. from E.E. Reese Company of Odessa.

—Approved the low bid of \$11,835 for an IBM compatible computer for the WTC computer lab.

—Voted to rebid a "desktop publishing" computer for the journalism department since only one bid was received.

—Approved a bid of \$2,697 for an IBM personal computer and parallel printer from DDM of San Angelo. It will be used in the admissions office.

Trustees attending Tuesday's meeting include Bob Hargrove, who presided in the absence of Bill Wilson, Howard Sterling, Roy Baze, John Fagin and John Gayle. R.C. Patton was absent also.

Industry property will be auctioned

Continued From Page 1

were purchased with the intent of producing such chemicals as calcium chloride and magnesium oxide to be used in such products as cement and animal feed.

Plant production apparently never reached levels to make operations economically feasible, however.

Baptist plan 80th observance

Continued From Page 1

children's choir and has an active youth program.

Union Baptist is affiliated with the Southern Baptist Convention.

Pickup hits utility meter

A 1979 Ford pickup driven by George C. Vincent of Rt. 5 hit a gas meter owned by Lone Star Gas Co. at 5:25 p.m. Tuesday in the 1900 Block of Ave. R, causing an undetermined amount of damage.

2 are arrested

Two men, 30 and 20 years of age, were arrested for public intoxication at 6:01 p.m. Tuesday in the 500 Block of 17th St.

Date nears for museum program

Friday is the last date to reserve tickets for a presentation by a Texas Tech Museum staffer who will speak on clothing of different periods and styles in wedding apparel at a noon luncheon on Wednesday, July 20, at Scurry County Museum.

The speaker, Esther McMurry, appraises historical costumes and repairs dolls at the Tech museum, where she has been a volunteer for the past 20 years.

Scurry County Museum curator Reenie Taylor will speak briefly about the care and storage of wedding gowns, which are the focus of the museum's current primary exhibit.

Tickets are \$5 for the noon luncheon and 1 p.m. program. These may be reserved by calling 573-6107.

Hospital Notes

ADMISSIONS: Sallie Boone, 2212 45th; Faye Eubank, 1801 Cedar Creek Dr.; Leberett Lewis, 3001 Ave. X; Nelda Burkhardt, 1003 23rd.

DISMISSALS: Mary Gutierrez.

Feds may push interest higher

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan confirmed today that the central bank has undertaken a series of steps to tighten credit in recent months and said the Fed was ready to push interest rates even higher to dampen inflationary pressures.

Greenspan warned of growing signs of price pressures stemming from such factors as the severe drought, tight labor markets and high industry operating rates.

"The costs to our economy and society of allowing a more intense inflationary process to become entrenched are serious," Greenspan said in testimony today before the Senate Banking Committee.

"As the experience of the last two decades has clearly shown, accelerating wages and prices would have to be countered later by quite restrictive policies, with unavoidably adverse implications for production and employment," Greenspan said.

That comment was an obvious reference to the severe 1981-82 recession brought on by Greenspan's predecessor, former Fed Chairman Paul Volcker, as a way to fight the double-digit inflation that

plagued the country at the beginning of the decade.

Greenspan gave no indication that the central bank was planning anything close to the tight-money policies pursued by Volcker. But Greenspan said that the Fed did intend to err on the side of tighter credit conditions rather than worrying that Fed policy could be too restrictive and thus harm long-run growth prospects.

"The long-run costs of a return to higher inflation and the risks of this occurring under current circumstances are sufficiently great that Federal Reserve policy at this juncture might be well advised to err more on the side of restrictiveness rather than stimulus," he said.

Greenspan's comments came in his mid-year report to Congress on the central bank's conduct of monetary policy and its economic outlook.

The remarks were not considered a surprise. Financial markets have been expecting another slight tightening of credit conditions in coming weeks because of continuing evidence that the U.S. economy is growing rapidly.

Hearings end on tax appeals

Continued From Page 1

estate and personal property appeals with seven cases decided by the board.

The appeal process is the final step prior to the certification of this year's tax roll for local taxing entities.

These figures are expected to be provided by the district by July 25.

College budget okayed Tuesday

Continued From Page 1

district students would bring in another \$139,000.

Other categories, to include foreign students, would add some \$5,000 to this for a total projected income related to tuition of \$249,000.

Second arrest follows burned auto incident

A 17-year-old Lubbock youth was arrested Tuesday and returned to Snyder Tuesday night by a city detective in connection with a Saturday car theft case in which another youth had already been arrested.

William Davis joined Ruben

Baker III as a defendant in the Saturday theft of a Cogdell Memorial Hospital employee's car that was later found burning in East Lubbock.

The detective said police believe Davis and Baker stole a vehicle in McKinney, where they were working for the Job Corps, stole a car at a hospital in Abilene and tried unsuccessfully to steal a car at a hospital in Sweetwater before reaching Snyder.

They are believed to have tried to steal two cars in the Cogdell parking lot, causing more than \$200 in damages to one of them, before successfully hot-wiring the car that was found burning in Lubbock.

He said charges are pending against them for unauthorized use of a motor vehicle in McKinney and Abilene, attempted UUMV in Sweetwater and arson in Lubbock.

Man returned for charges

County deputies returned from Knox City Tuesday night with a 31-year-old Hermleigh man who had been sought in a January theft case.

Lawrence Fletcher is accused of stealing a suitcase, clothes and a man's wedding ring from the home of Danny Withers, where he was a guest, last Jan. 13.

Fletcher had been apprehended by Knox County officers on the Scurry County charge.

Obituaries

D. E. Brazell

HASKELL—Services for D. E. (Buddy) Brazell, 59, are set for 10:30 a.m. Thursday in the Haskell Church of Christ. Burial will follow in the Willow Cemetery.

The brother of Louise Kiker of Snyder, he died Monday in a San Antonio hospital. He was a resident of the Paint Creek community.

Born in Skellytown, he had lived in Munday before moving to Paint Creek in 1961. He was a mechanic for the Paint Creek school district, was an army veteran of World War II and was a member of the Church of Christ.

Survivors include his wife, Jenny Walker Brazell of Paint Creek; two sons, Mike Brazell of Junction City, Kan., and Rick Brazell of Vernal, Utah; a daughter, Connie Abbott of Midland; six brothers and three other sisters; and six grandchildren.

Dr. Gott



Peter Gott, M.D.

Jaundice and blood donation

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: When I was 18, I wanted to donate blood but was told I couldn't because I had jaundice as a kid. Now that I'm older, I'm wondering why a person who had jaundice couldn't donate blood to another person who's had it.

DEAR READER: Jaundice (yellowing of the skin) is a sign of liver malfunction. It can occur with blockage of bile (as from gallstones) or with liver inflammation (such as hepatitis).

Hepatitis B is a particularly dangerous form of liver infection. Not only can it lead to chronic liver disease, but it can easily be transmitted from one person to another by blood products. Even if a patient has recovered from hepatitis B, he can still have dormant, potentially active virus particles in his system. These viruses could cause full-blown hepatitis in a susceptible person, particularly if that person were so ill that he required a transfusion during which he was given blood containing the viruses.

In the past, blood banks have refused donors with a history of jaundice because of the risks to the recipient. Today, patients can have blood tests to determine what type of hepatitis they had and whether the virus particles are still infective. Obviously, not all jaundice-patients have had

hepatitis B; they may have had benign diseases, such as hepatitis A or mononucleosis. In your case, I believe that you should have these tests performed so that you can learn what caused your childhood jaundice. Then your doctor can advise whether or not to donate your blood. Even if you had hepatitis B, your blood might be useful to a blood bank. By separating out the protein components of your blood, scientists might be able to add portions of it to a gamma globulin pool — a purified blood extract containing antibodies to many diseases, which can be given to prevent illness.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Why is it that people can live with flea-infested cats and dogs and never be bothered by them while, in their homes, I attract fleas like magnets?

DEAR READER: Fleas prefer animals. An occasional human may seem to provide a tasty morsel for the parasites, but this is unusual and no one understands why. Perhaps people develop a resistance to the fleas in their own homes, something like beekeepers who become inured to stings as the season wears on.

Dr. Gott's new Health Report, "What You Should Know about Nursing Homes," offers a step-by-step guide to rating facilities and finding the best care available. For your copy, send \$1 and your name and address to P.O. Box 91369, Cleveland, OH 44101-3369. Be sure to mention the title.

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Berry's World



"I recommend that you go the new 'master limited partnership' route to avoid corporate taxes."

Match Today's Lucky Number and win A Colibri Key Chain From Haney's Jewelry You Have Until 5 p.m. Thursday

6.5 inches falls in 75 minutes

By The Associated Press
Heavy rain deluged some drought-hit areas as Congress began working on a package of relief for America's farmers, and the first shipment of hay airlifted from Oregon was to arrive in Kentucky today.

"Everything looks so good with a bit of rain over the past 24 hours," farmer Herman Krone said Tuesday at his 2,800-acre farm southern Illinois, which President Reagan plans to visit Thursday during a tour of the drought-stricken area.

However, Krone said, almost one-third of his 1,200 acres of corn already have been lost.

Very heavy rain fell Tuesday in sections of Texas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Arkansas.

In Texas, more than 6 1/2 inches of rain fell in just 75 minutes in Mesquite, washing a pickup truck and several cars into a creek and leaving some homes 8 inches deep in water. Water was up to the tops of cars in Garland and street flooding was reported in Heath. Nearly 6 inches fell in DeQueen, Ark.

Showers and thunderstorms were widespread over the Middle Atlantic States, the Tennessee Valley and the Gulf Coast states.

Thunderstorms boomed today over the Dakotas and Minnesota.

In Washington, the House and Senate Agriculture committees began working on wide-ranging legislation which would provide payments of up to \$100,000 each to farmers whose crops have been wiped out by the dry spell.

House Agriculture Committee Chairman E. "Kika" de la Garza, D-Texas, called for final action on the measure by mid-August.

Lawmakers eye drought relief

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers unveiled a wide-ranging drought relief package for the nation's farmers and quickly began work on it as a House chairman called for final action by mid-August.

House Agriculture Committee Chairman E. "Kika" de la Garza, D-Texas, promised fast action as his panel began reviewing the bill on Tuesday. He said Congress should send "a signal that we care" about the drought ravaging the nation's cropland.

To speed the bill to passage, de la Garza said, lawmakers should dispense with the usual parade of witnesses from farm organizations and other groups.

Across Capitol Hill, the Senate Agriculture Committee raised the curtain on a similar bill to provide disaster payments of up to \$100,000 each to farmers whose crops have been wiped out by the drought.

The lawmakers acted as the Agriculture Department released a fresh report forecasting severe damage to the harvest from the drought.

It estimated, for example, that U.S. corn output this year would shrivel to 5.2 billion bushels, down from 7.06 billion last year.

Agriculture Secretary Richard E. Lyng told lawmakers it is "the largest drought that our nation has ever experienced."

"I think history will show that it's truly more mammoth than any of us has ever experienced," Lyng said. He said a recurrence next year would "suggest that we've done something wrong and the gods are against us."

For their part, Agriculture Committee members resolved not to allow the drought to force a



ROPING WINNERS — A roping team from Snyder recently won the annual Pee Wee Johnson Memorial Tournament Roping held at the Post Stampede Rodeo Grounds. Team captain was Ty Springer with members Vance Voss, Kim Billingsley, Johnny Eicke, Mark Mauldin and Terry Mauldin. It marked the second year for the Ty Springer team to win the event. Team members are shown receiving their first place plaque. (Post Photo)

State comptroller audit reveals missing funds

PATTON VILLAGE, Texas (AP) — An audit by the state comptroller's office has revealed that more than \$21,000 in traffic citation and warrant fees were not sent to the state as required, prompting an investigation by city officials.

City officials must now attempt to determine what happened to the money.

"At the very least, we're talk-

ing shoddy bookkeeping. At the worst, embezzlement," Patton Village Mayor Robert Devaney said Tuesday. "If the state didn't get its percentage, there's a good possibility we didn't get ours."

Devaney met with officials from state Comptroller Bob Bullock's office Monday.

State officials said that \$21,485 in fees that should have been forwarded to the state from failure-to-appear warrants and traffic citations were unaccounted for during an audit of city marshal and municipal court records spanning late 1985 through the present, Devaney said. The City Council disbanded the marshal's department in May.

"They're not saying the money is missing and neither am I at this point," Devaney said. "They're just saying they don't have a record of receiving it."

It's up to us now to go over all the records and try to chase this stuff down."

Comptroller's office spokeswoman Merrell Foote confirmed that about \$21,000 was unaccounted for during the June audit.

The comptroller's office furnished Devaney him with receipt numbers and other information "so we can proceed to chase this stuff down," the mayor said.

Only a few dollars had been accounted for by Tuesday night, Devaney told the Houston Chronicle.

Comptroller's officials will send the city notice of what it owes within 30 days, he said.

Patton Village Municipal Judge Floyd Duval, 76, has been suspended pending the outcome of a case accusing him of offering to pay a 21-year-old Splendora woman's ticket fine in exchange for sex.

Pretrial motions in that case

Abuser is given life sentence

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A jury has set life in prison as punishment for a man convicted in the beating death of his eight-month-old niece, who died in what prosecutors called a "chamber of horrors."

Jurors deliberated about an hour Tuesday before finding Raymond Macias guilty and then deliberated another hour before setting his punishment at life in prison.

Macias had been accused in the Dec. 29, 1987 death of Sarah Macias, who died from a blow to the head with a blunt object.

Helicopter pilot pleads innocent

SANTA FE (AP) — The pilot and a woman allegedly involved in Monday's helicopter escape from the state prison near Santa Fe have pleaded innocent to conspiracy and assisting an escape.

Charles Bella, 43, and Beverly Shoemaker, 41, were presented with the formal charges on Tuesday and ordered held under \$100,000 bond by Santa Fe County Magistrate Isaac Archuleta.

Ms. Shoemaker told reporters Tuesday that she acted out of love for inmate Daniel Mahoney, 31, and would do it again.

"It's probably my way of giving him a birthday present," Ms. Shoemaker said. Today was his birthday.

She also said in a copyright interview with the Albuquerque Journal that Bella had offered to help during the wild flight Monday from the state penitentiary.

"He told me if I quit pointing a gun at him, he'd help me. He did tell me he was going to help me but (that) he would deny it later," she told the Journal.

However, she conceded Bella was "probably scared I was going to shoot him." One of Ms. Shoemaker's attorneys, whom the newspaper did not identify, said Bella had no part in planning anything illegal.

"I examined every possible way out, and I didn't have a way out," Bella told reporters shortly before his arraignment.

Bella, who flew the same Aerospaciale Gazelle helicopter last year during filming of "Rambo III" in Arizona, said the escape Monday was "scary." He said he was handcuffed to the aircraft within four minutes after leaving the penitentiary.

Bella's lawyers entered a plea of innocent for him. Ms. Shoemaker also was presented with formal charges Tuesday and ordered held on \$100,000 bond. Archuleta entered an innocent plea on her behalf.

She told the Journal that she and Mahoney had planned the escape during weeks of letters and telephone calls to the prison.

"Apparently the prison phones aren't bugged," she said. Penitentiary warden Robert

Tansy said prison officials don't normally monitor calls.

"I want you all to know that whatever I did yesterday, I did out of my love for Danny Mahoney," Ms. Shoemaker said. Asked if she would do it again, she replied: "Yeah."

The three prisoners airlifted from the recreation yard of the state penitentiary have also been formally charged with escape and conspiracy and could appear in court as early as today, prosecutors said.

In addition, Tansy said he has suspended two guards for failing to shoot at the helicopter Monday.

"I think they (the guards) just froze," Tansy said Tuesday. He said he didn't think either man intended to fire. He declined to identify them.

Bella's lawyer, Robert Ramos of El Paso, asked Archuleta to set a lower bond, saying Bella is cooperating with authorities. He said the evidence will show that Bella was, as he claims, hijacked and forced at gunpoint to make the daring escape.

"The way the evidence is developing will show that Mr. Bella was not a participant in this offense," Ramos told Archuleta. He said Bella agreed to accompany police officers on an aerial survey to locate some "pertinent" evidence.

Santa Fe District Attorney Chet Walter brought the charges after conferring with law enforcement officials Tuesday morning. He acknowledged that it may be tough to prove the charges, but he said there is probable cause to believe Bella was involved in the plot.

They face identical charges: three counts of assisting an escape, one for each of the three inmates, and one count of conspiracy to commit escape.

The three inmates, Daniel Mahoney, Preston Mitchell and Randy Lackey, were captured within 16 hours of the escape, the last in a wooded area near the Rio Grande near Los Lunas about 1 a.m. Tuesday.

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