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WT-Int. Crude - $36.28
WTIC Posted - $33.00
Natural Gas - $5.40

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

March 10, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 270
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Michale Stahl

By over 200 votes...

Jana Young captures tax assessor post

Jana Young has worked in the county tax office for some five years and will continue doing so. The only difference is come Jan. 1, she will be the boss.

In Tuesday's Republican primary, Young received 678 votes for the office to defeat Magali Bernal. Bernal received 442 votes. Percentage wise, Young received 60.05 percent of the votes, with Bernal receiving 39.14 percent. There is no Democratic opponent in November for this post.



Jana Young

Young also prevailed in the early voting period as she garnered 223 votes to Bernal's 178.

Current tax assessor-collector Diana Williamson chose not to seek another term.

"I thank everyone for their support," Young said this morning. "I promise to work as hard as I can for everyone in Scurry County."

In all, the voter turnout in Scurry County was poor as only 1,456 people voted out of a registered voter list of 10,840.

Republican voters easily outdistanced their Democratic counterparts by 1,129 votes to 327.

In November, Republican Terry Williams will face incumbent Ralph Trevey, Democrat, for Precinct 1 commissioner, while Precinct 3 incumbent commissioner Howard Limmer, a Republican, is being challenged by Democrat Susie White.

In the only other contested race on the ballot for Scurry County voters, Midland CPA Mike Conaway outdistanced Brownwood educator Bill Lester 752 votes to 194 for U.S. Rep. for District 11.

Conaway carried the entire district by a like margin with unofficial returns for Lester indicating he led only his home county of Brown.

Conaway garnered strong support from Ector and Midland counties as 88 percent of the voters cast their ballot for him in Ector County, and 83 percent of the voters in Midland County did likewise.

President George W. Bush received 1,019 votes Tuesday, while Democratic candidate John Kerry led the field of that party's candidates with 224 votes, or 68.5 percent.

CEO interviews are continuing

Two more candidates for the vacant chief executive officer's position at Cogdell Memorial Hospital were interviewed Tuesday night by the board of managers.

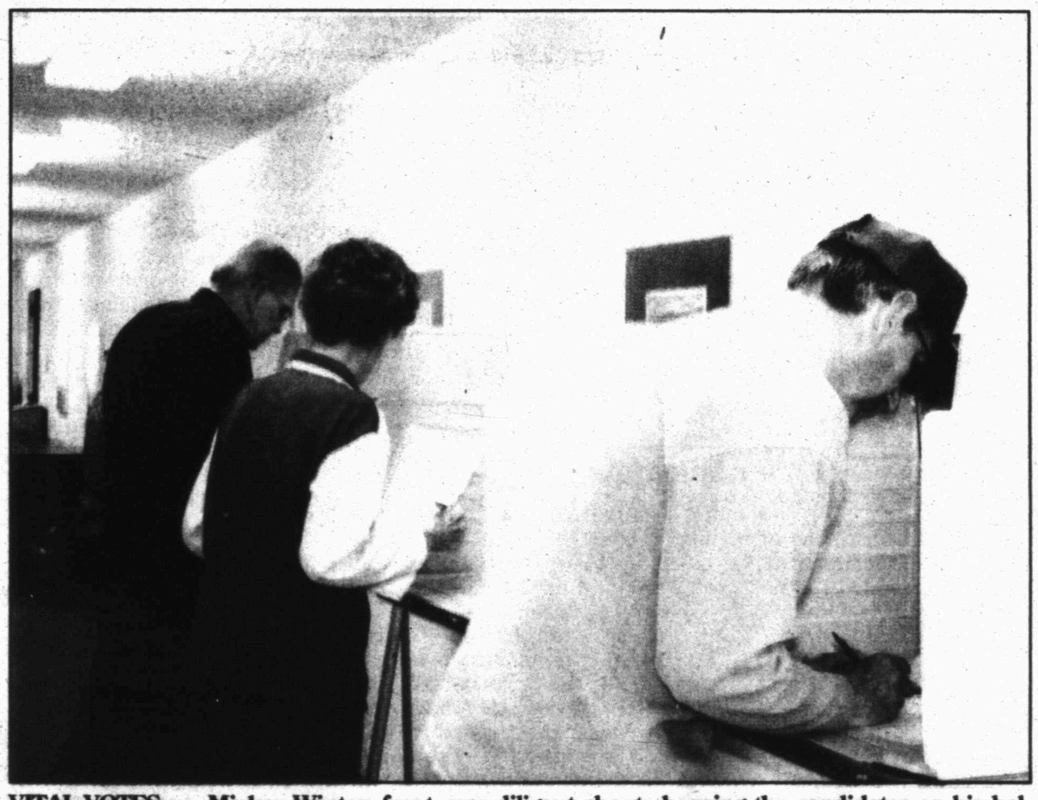
The first to interview was Donald Griffin of The Woodlands, followed by James Koulovatos of Lindsey, Okla.

At 7 this evening, Carol Hanes of Linden will meet with the board.

James Robinson Sr. of Keller and Evan Moore of Comanche met with the board Monday night.

One candidate finalist, Larry Knetzer of Dumas, has accepted a position elsewhere.

The meetings are held in closed session. No time line has been given by the board on the hiring of a new CEO.



VITAL VOTES — Mickey Winter, front, was diligent about choosing the candidates on his ballot as were Nona and J.O. Morrison during Tuesday's primary. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

Welder theft investigated

The recent increase in criminal activity, specifically thefts, in and around Snyder, has prompted law enforcement officials to ask citizens to be more alert of possible illegal activities.

As such, the Scurry County sheriff's office is seeking information on a theft that occurred Monday.

"This is an unfortunate situation and I'd really like to see it resolved," said Scurry County deputy Kevin Roemisch.

Roemisch said shortly after 3:30 p.m. Monday Marion Becerra requested a deputy at a farm field in the 1300 block of N. College Ave., approximately a half mile north of the city limits behind RichCo.

A Miller brand portable welder, cutting torch head, 10" crescent wrench and a blue plastic container had been stolen along with the trailer on which the welder was mounted.

"If the public has any information, or saw anything in the area at around 3:30 p.m. Monday, we would appreciate it if they would contact the sheriff's department at 573-3551," said Roemisch.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Shirley A. Gorman



I had the right to vote on Tuesday because courageous women — suffragettes — and like-minded men struggled for more than seven decades before women in the U.S. were allowed to vote.

I have always taken voting for granted, but my eyes were opened recently when I watched HBO's excellent *Iron Jawed Angels*, which tells the story of Alice Paul who led the final campaign for women's suffrage in the U.S.

The courageous Paul, expertly played by Hilary Swank, stood up to the U.S. Congress and President Woodrow Wilson.

The movie picks up Paul's struggle from 1910 until President Wilson spoke in favor of women's suffrage in 1918. However, the 19th amendment was not approved until 1920.

Wondering how accurate the movie was, I searched the Internet and discovered that the remarkable Alice Paul was a real woman and the HBO film accurately portrayed her tenacity, perseverance and her acumen as a political strategist.

Paul, a Quaker, was born in 1885 in New Jersey. She earned a master's degree in sociology in 1907 and moved to England to pursue her Ph.D. at the School of Economics and Political Science.

The following year, she joined the Women's Social Political Union (WSPU). She met another American, Lucy Burns, (also featured in the HBO film) who had joined the WPSU while attending college in England. They returned to the U.S. in 1910 and joined the women's suffrage movement.

The two women tried to introduce the militant methods they had learned in England, including organizing large demonstrations and picketing the White House every day. Bitter cold, wet weather, or the ridicule of bystanders did not discourage them.

However, their tactics were not well received even by other suffragettes, so in 1913 Paul and Burns organized the Congressional Union for Women Suffrage.

The two women and others in their group continued the protests even after the U.S. entered World War I. Men assaulted Paul on the picket line and in October of 1917 she was arrested and imprisoned for seven months. Other suffragettes who had already been arrested were held in the same prison.

Paul went on a hunger strike and the scenes of her being force-fed were as horrific as they were compelling.

In January of 1918, President Wilson relented somewhat and said women's suffrage was needed as a "war measure." But the 19th amendment was not passed until two years later.

Paul did not rest on the laurels she and other suffragettes had earned. She continued to champion women's rights, founding the World Party for Equal Rights For Women in 1938. The group was also known as the World Women's Party.

Among her other accomplishments, Paul successfully fought for references to sex equality in the preamble to the charter of the United Nations and in the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

She was 92 years old when she died in Moorestown, N.J. on July 9, 1977. The Alice Paul Institute, organized in 1984, empowers women and girls to accept leadership challenges in their lives.

Besides Alice Paul, scores of women and men fought for women's suffrage over a 72-year period.

No big surprises across the state

DALLAS (AP) — U.S. Rep. Ciro D. Rodriguez pulled out a narrow victory over Democratic rival Henry Cuellar in a hard-fought primary race that featured two former friends battling each other because of a new, Republican congressional map.

Cuellar, aided by an overwhelming victory margin in his home Webb County, which includes Laredo, led in early returns. The incumbent overtook him as votes came in from his hometown of San Antonio.

With all but seven precincts reporting today, state and county officials had Rodriguez with 24,004 votes, or 51 percent, while Cuellar, of Laredo, was at 23,169 votes, or 49 percent.

"It's time to unite the party and time to build bridges," said John Puder, an election consultant for Rodriguez. "We're very proud to have won."

Cuellar, a former Texas secretary of state, refused to concede.

"We're going to wait until every vote is counted," he said today by phone from Laredo.

Cuellar was leading by a 2-to-1 margin in Zapata County, south of Laredo, where only about 1,500 Democratic votes had been tabulated today morning. County election officials did not answer calls seeking comment, but Rodriguez had said he heard that voting machines broke down.

Rodriguez' opponent in November will be determined by an April 13 runoff election between Seguin lawyer Jim Hopson and Francisco Canseco.

Rodriguez, 57, said repeatedly that he felt betrayed by Cuellar's candidacy. He said he deserved more respect after providing financial and campaign help to Cuellar in 2002, when Cuellar nearly defeated Rep. Henry Bonilla in District 23.

Court battles over the redistricting plan had shortened the campaign to seven weeks. The U.S. Supreme Court is not expected to rule on the Democrats' appeal before November. If the court overturns the map, its decision is unlikely to affect congressional lines until 2006. The bitter redistricting fight had led legislative Democrats to twice bolt outside the state to foil votes on the measure.

Republicans hope to win at least 22 of Texas' 32 congressional seats, now split evenly between the parties.

Al Green, a former head of the Houston NAACP, trounced freshman Rep. Chris Bell, winning 18,018 or 66 percent of the vote to Bell's 8,482 or 31 percent. Bell, who is white, ran in a predominantly minority district against two black candidates.

Green will next face Arlette Molina in the November general election.

Veteran Democratic Rep. Lloyd Doggett, of Austin, dipped into a more than $2.5 million campaign chest to defeat former state district Judge Leticia Hinojosa to keep his job secure.

Doggett, 57, bill his victory as a win over U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, who masterminded the redrawing of Texas' districts. Doggett won 64 percent, 40,276 votes, to Hinojosa's 36 percent with 22,296 votes.

Doggett faces Republican Rebecca Armendariz Klein in November in their predominantly Hispanic district.

Republican Rep. Ralph Hall, who left the Democratic party in January, easily defeated two lesser-known challengers a day after riding with President Bush on Air Force One to a Houston fund-raiser.

Hall is expected win in November against businessman Jim Nickerson, a Democrat.



SHADES OF SNYDER — The steeple of the First Baptist Church stands as a beacon silhouetted against the colors of a recent sunset. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

ASK US

Q—How many signatures are needed to require a taxing entity to call an election to freeze taxes for senior citizens?

A—The law requires signatures of five percent of the registered voters of that entity.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Daphny Lopez...

...has lived in Snyder for 10 years and graduated from SHS in 2000. She is engaged to Bobby Clinkinbeard. Hobbies are spending time with her kids and taking vacations.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Live truth instead of professing it.

—Elbert Hubbard

MAR 10 2004

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

First Baptist support group

First Baptist Church sponsors a support group for persons facing difficulties – including cancer, divorce, grief, etc. It meets on the first floor Adult 6 Department at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month.

WTC GED testing dates

Western Texas College has scheduled GED testing dates, the next set for Friday and registration is from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Thursday. The remaining dates are March 26, April 16 and April 30. To take the test or for more information contact Betty Thompson at 573-2310 or Emily Hataway 573-8511, ext. 297 or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

What's up guidelines

Items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.

Government warns that being fat might surpass smoking as a killer

WASHINGTON (AP) — More Americans soon will be dying of obesity than from smoking if current trends persist, which would make being fat the nation's No. 1 cause of preventable death, the government says.

A poor diet and physical inactivity caused 400,000 deaths in 2000, a 33 percent jump over 1990, said a study released Tuesday by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Tobacco-related deaths in the same period climbed by less than 9 percent to 435,000 as the gap between the two narrowed substantially. At this rate, obesity will claim the top spot, the report said.

"Our worst fears were confirmed," said Dr. Julie Gerberding, the CDC's director and an author of the study.

An ad campaign that begins today tells viewers they can lose midsection love handles and double chins one step at a time if they eat less and exercise more.

"We're just too darn fat, ladies and gentlemen, and we're going to do something about it," Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson said at a news conference.

Thompson drew parallels between the drives to stop smoking and to get Americans to eat less and exercise more.

"We're so busy with our lives we use fast foods more often as not. We don't cook as a family any more. We don't exercise," Thompson said today on NBC's "Today" show. "As a result of that, we're getting too darn fat."

"It's a difficult fight but we all have to partake in it," he said, citing a recent move by McDonald's Corp. to drop its "Supersize" french fries as among a host of actions the food industry has taken, including greater package labeling, at the prodding of the government.

The Bush administration wants to cut funding for the VERB campaign, a CDC project to promote physical activity among 9-to-13-year-olds, from $36 million this year to $5 million in 2005. Gerberding said the program has resulted in a 30 percent increase in exercise among those children.

While Congress rejected limits on lawsuits against tobacco companies, the House will debate a bill today that would shield restaurants and fast food franchises from lawsuits seeking to blame them for obesity and health problems related to it. The bill was prompted by the fast-food industry's complaints about a rash of lawsuits that fault their food for Americans' bulging bellies.

"If you eat a lot of food and you get sick, it's your responsibility, and not the restaurant's," said House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas.

McDonald's has announced it will end Supersize fries and drinks except for special promotions in its more than 13,000 U.S. restaurants by year's end.

Several soft-drink makers also have announced plans to offer a larger number of healthier products.

Many states are making attempts to slow the increase in obesity among children by limiting their access to unhealthful foods during the school day.

The CDC study is the latest in a line of research that documents widespread weight gain, and its consequences, among Americans from children to the elderly.

The researchers analyzed data from 2000 for the leading causes of death and for those preventable factors known to contribute to them. Like tobacco, obesity and inactivity increase the risks for the top three killers: heart disease, cancer and such cerebrovascular ailments as strokes. Obesity and a sedentary lifestyle also strongly increase the risk of diabetes, the sixth leading cause of death.

The results appear in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

A separate report by the Rand Corp. found that increases in obesity threaten to erase improvements in health among middle-aged and older Americans. At current rates, health-care spending on obesity among 50-to-69-year-olds is expected to increase by 50 percent by 2020, the study said.

Americans' predilection for fast food, increased use of computers and a reduction in school physical education programs were cited by Thompson and other officials as contributors to the nation's fat problem. Two out of three adults and 9 million children are overweight or obese, they said.

Rather than recommend dramatic changes in diet and exercise, Thompson said Americans could begin a gradual exercise program. They could get off the bus a block farther from their homes, he said, and slowly cut back on unhealthful foods.

The new public service announcements debuted by Thompson use humor to tell people they can slowly trim their waistlines.

Senate GOP leaders hope to block restrictions on tax cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House and Senate Republican leaders are trying to fend off attempts to make it harder for Congress to approve tax cuts that President Bush considers the heart of his economic plan.

Sens. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and Russell Feingold, D-Wis., were pursuing similar plans that would require 60 Senate votes to approve tax cuts that are not paid for with other savings. The restriction would also apply to increased spending for benefits like Medicare.

It was unclear if the two sides would support each other's efforts, and the fate of the drive was uncertain. It was coming in the early phases of a presidential and congressional election campaign that has colored everything that happens in Congress.

The work — and the intense opposition it drew from the White House and Senate GOP leaders — illustrated the political potency that record federal deficits have gained as they approach an expected $500 billion for this year.

"I'm hoping to find a way the two of us can agree," Feingold said.

The move came as the Senate debated a Republican-written $2.36 trillion budget. It underlined the stakes for a president who has made the permanent extension of tax cuts enacted in 2001 and 2003 the focus of his election-year remedy for the economy.

In a letter to congressional leaders, White House budget chief Joshua Bolten said extending the tax cuts would mean "American families and workers are not hit with tax increases that slow economic growth and job creation."

Sixty votes can be hard to get in the 100-member chamber — especially with the GOP in control with just 51 seats. Related but weaker constraints already are in effect.

"We've got deficits and we have to begin to grapple with that," said Sen. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, a moderate considering supporting the move to make it harder to cut taxes. "That's for everybody, the executive branch and legislative branch."

Feingold's plan would take effect immediately. It would cover three popular tax cuts that Congress is expected to approve this year — cuts he said he favored enacting — and others with less support, like eliminating the estate tax in 2009, a year early.

Domenici was shopping a proposal that would start next year — not affecting this year's tax cuts.

Today's chuckle

Parents in 1379 name daughter Diot Coke



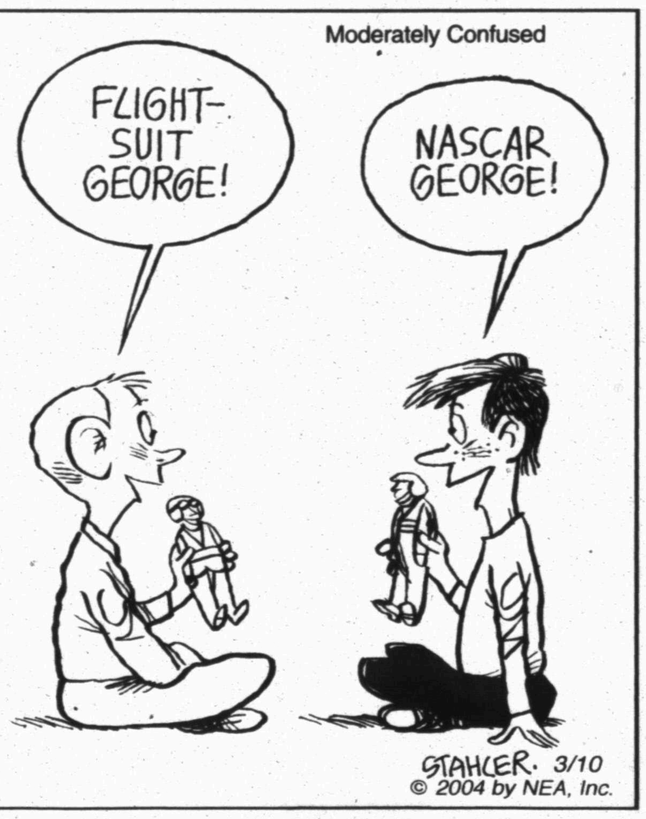
LONDON (AP) — Naming your child after a soft drink could be seen as a little bit faddish, but the parents of young Diot Coke might be forgiven — they gave their baby daughter the name way back in 1379.

Researchers at Britain's National Archives believe that the little girl, born in West Riding in Yorkshire, was the unfortunate victim of the corruption of the name Dionisia. One of the diminutives derived from that name on its path to the modern day Denise was Diot.

The girl's surname is believed to be a variation on the name Cook.

Archivist George Redmonds, writing in the organization's Ancestors magazine, also discovered in his scrutiny of the birth archives that names now considered to be masculine, such as Philip and Thomas, were once used for girls in the 14th century.

Another revelation: Girl names such as Godelena, Helwise, Idony, Avice and Dionisia were as popular as Mary in their day.



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THANK YOU

I would like to thank the many people of Scurry County who voted for me during my campaign. I look forward to serving you as Scurry County Tax Collector.



Many thanks to my family and friends for having faith and standing beside me all the way. I couldn't have done it without you!!!

Jana Young

Political ad paid for by Jana Young, Snyder, Texas

events

LOTTO TEXAS TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers

Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $20 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $13 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were three second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing. But 13 players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.

The winning numbers from Friday's drawing were: 16, 23, 29, 36, and 51. The Mega Ball number was 49.

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-5-15-22. Bonus Ball: 13.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Prize: $725,000.

Number matching four of four: 13 Prize: $1,160.

Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 31. Prize: $59.

Number matching three of four: 1,219. Prize: $20.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 932. Prize: $18.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 5,740. Prize: $7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 10,209. Prize: $5.

Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: $875,000.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Tuesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 1-8-9-20-37.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $40,835.

Winning tickets sold in: Arlington.

Matching four of five: 170. Prize: $108.

Matching three of five: 4,453. Prize: $10.

Matching two of five: 43,727. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Pick 3

(Day) 6-2-1

(Night) 4-0-0

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50 Lb. 18-4-4 . . .$10.95

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World Almanac

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

Today is the 70th day of 2004 and the 80th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1862, the United States issued its first paper money.

In 1969, James Earl Ray pleaded guilty to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

In 1972, the U.S. Senate approved lowering the minimum voting age to 18.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Pablo de Sarasate (1844-1908), violinist/composer; Chuck Norris (1940-), actor, is 64; Sharon Stone (1958-), actress, is 46; Rod Woodson (1965-), NFL player, is 39; Edie Brickell (1966-), singer, is 38; Shannon Miller (1977-), Olympic gymnast, is 27.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1991, Merlene Ottey set a world indoor track and field record when she ran the 200-meter race in 22.24 seconds at the World Indoor Championships in Seville, Spain.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Like anybody, I would like to live a long life. Longevity has its place. But I'm not concerned about that now." — Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

TODAY'S FACT: The estimated federal budget deficit of $374 billion for fiscal year 2003 and the estimated one-year deficit increase of $216 billion between fiscal years 2002 and 2003 are both the largest in dollar value in U.S. history.

TODAY'S NUMBER: $660,043,406,301 — value of the total U.S. currency in circulation, as of June 30, 2003.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (March 6) and last quarter (March 13)

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Actress talks funding

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — Cynthia Nixon, co-star of HBO's "Sex and the City," emerged from the office of state Assembly Speaker Sheldon Silver to the TV cameras, microphones and tape recorders of a dozen reporters.

But Nixon didn't want to talk about her next role or her series' recent finale. She was among the celebrities lobbying at the state Capitol Tuesday, and the 37-year-old actress wanted to talk education funding.

Nixon, who has a child in New York City public schools, also came to Albany last year to push for more school spending.

Special interest groups such as the Alliance for Quality Education, which sponsored Nixon's appearance, were banking on star appeal to help win publicity.

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World/Na

Pales ship

BAGHDAD, Abbas, the planned the 198 Achille Lauro which a wheelc can tourist was overboard, has tody in Iraq. He

U.S. officials Monday in Ba was captured April, nearly t being convicted Italian court an in prison for the

Bridg

By Phillip

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Opening

Wednesday, M

Do not as everythin

By Phil

Edmond Rost and playwright, overcome with th hue and the kn mere rooster, ha rise."

We usually pla the sun has rise

Best Available Copy

Palestinian hijacker of an Italian ship dies in U.S. custody in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Abul Abbas, the Palestinian who planned the 1985 hijacking of the Achille Lauro passenger ship in which a wheelchair-bound American tourist was killed and thrown overboard, has died in U.S. custody in Iraq. He was 56.

U.S. officials said Abbas died Monday in Baghdad; where he was captured by U.S. forces in April, nearly two decades after being convicted in absentia by an Italian court and sentenced to life in prison for the hijacking.

Pentagon spokesman Bryan Whitman said Tuesday that Abbas died "apparently ... of natural causes." He said an autopsy would be performed, but he declined to say whether Abbas was being interrogated in the period before his death.

Officials with the U.S.-led Coalition Provisional Authority, speaking on condition of anonymity, said efforts were made to revive Abbas, but they were unsuccessful.

The death of Abbas, whose given name was Mohammed Abbas, was initially announced by officials in Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's office, but they gave no cause of death.

Abbas' small Palestine Liberation Front commandeered the Italian cruise ship, demanded the release of 50 Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails and threw an elderly Jewish American tourist, Leon Klinghoffer, overboard after shooting him.

Klinghoffer's daughters, Lisa and Ilsa Klinghoffer, said that Abbas' death deprived them of the right to hold him legally accountable.

"Our hopes were raised last year, when he was captured in Iraq by U.S. troops and arrested," the daughters, who live in New York, said in a statement. "Now, with his death, justice will be denied. The one consolation for us is that Abul Abbas died in captivity, not as a free man."

Abbas was captured on April 15 in a raid in the southern outskirts of Baghdad by U.S. forces and he lived the last 11 months of his life in American custody.

The Palestinian Authority had demanded his release, saying Washington had pledged not to prosecute him as part of a blanket agreement not to press charges against Palestinians who acted against Israel before interim peace accords were signed in the 1990s.

The United States also endorsed a 1995 interim peace deal that grants PLO members immunity for violent acts committed before September 1993, when the two sides signed a mutual recognition agreement.

Abbas had been a marginal figure in the PLO of late. He was a member of the PLO's executive committee, but left in 1991. His tiny faction has very few followers in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. According to Israel's Shin Bet security service, the PLF had sent some members to Iraq for military training.

In April 1996, Abbas visited Gaza for the first time, as part of the amnesty offered by Israel.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 03-10-04
♠ A J 9 8
♥ A Q 10 2
♦ 7 3
♣ 8 5 4

West
♠ K 2
♥ J 6 5
♦ J 10 8 2
♣ K 9 6 2

East
♠ Q 10 7 6 3
♥ K 9 8 4 3
♦ —
♣ Q J 3

South
♠ 5 4
♥ 7
♦ A K Q 9 6 5 4
♣ A 10 7

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♣ 2

Wednesday, March 10, 2004

Do not assume everything is rosy

By Phillip Alder

Edmond Rostand, a French poet and playwright, wrote, "I recoil, overcome with the glory of my rosy hue and the knowledge that I, a mere rooster, have made the sun rise."

We usually play bridge well after the sun has risen. And some players spend their whole time assuming the sun is shining on them, with every suit-split favorable and all finesses successful. The more realistic expect some storms, and they try to find a dry route home.

On this deal, you (South) are in three no-trump. West leads the club two. How would you plan the play?

When one partner shows a long minor suit, the pair's priority is to try to reach three no-trump. So, with no club stopper, North rebids three spades. This makes no statement about the lengths of his majors. Luckily, South had a club stopper, so he bid three no-trump.

There seem to be 10 easy tricks via one spade, one heart, seven diamonds and one club. What could possibly go wrong? One declarer found out very quickly. He grabbed the first trick and cashed the diamond ace. It was suddenly raining felines and canines.

The more cautious player is willing to sacrifice an overtrick to ensure his contract. After winning the first, second or third club trick, he leads a low diamond from hand. Then he puts on his sunglasses.

However, if you are competing in a duplicate pair event, you cannot afford this safety-play. A 4-0 split happens less than 10 percent of the time, and overtricks are the name of the game. Go for the maximum.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Sexual fantasy fulfilled turns out to be nightmare

DEAR ABBY: I have heard many men fantasize about hooking up with a nymphomaniac. Speaking as someone with 20/20 hindsight, I advise any man who meets one to run!

I was married to a woman with that problem, and at first I did think I was in heaven. I didn't learn about the downside until much later.

Every day after I left for work, another man spent the day with my wife. And when I went into the military, she disappeared. I later learned that she was frequenting bars, having encounters with anyone and everyone who would, and contracting multiple STDs in the process. At the time I was very angry at her. I now realize she was driven by an addiction over which she had no control.

So, unless you are prepared to spend every minute of every day with a nymphomaniac, expect to share — with the world. — **OLDER AND WISER**

DEAR OLDER AND WISER: As your letter proves, sometimes there CAN be too much of a good thing. What's the old saying, "Moderation in all things"? It's true.

**

DEAR ABBY: My daughter, "Kim," is in grade school. She's an only child, and ever since she was little, I have invited kids over so she'd have someone to play with. Most of their parents promise they'll have Kim over for a play-date at their house "soon," but soon never seems to come.

Kim is nice to her classmates and well-behaved in school. Her friends' parents always tell me what a great time their kids have at our house.

Kim never says anything about not being invited to the homes of other children, but I'm starting to feel like a free baby-sitting service.

What should I do the next time a parent says, "Let's get the kids to play together over vacation or the weekend"? — **EVERYONE'S BABY SITTER**

DEAR BABY SITTER: Say this: "That's a wonderful idea. Can we do it at your house? I have some things I have to take care of at that time, and your supervising the children would really help me out."

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a 15-year-old high school freshman. English is my second language. I was in ESL during junior high school. I not only learned enough English to go into mainstream, but I also have college-prep classes in which I am quite good.

My history teacher told me about a program called "Upward Bound" that holds classes on Saturdays and is very promising. I didn't think my English was good enough, but I applied and was accepted. Now I am afraid to go. I'm worried that people will judge me because of my Colombian accent.

I have received much advice about this issue, but I still need more. Perhaps you will help me. — **WORRIED ABOUT COLOMBIAN ACCENT**

DEAR WORRIED: Go to the class! You were accepted, so for heaven's sake, take advantage of the opportunity. You have nothing to lose and everything to gain. Should anyone be rude enough to comment on your accent, sweetly ask him or her how he or she would do taking classes in YOUR native language.

**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

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Safety board says older tank cars may rupture in derailments

WASHINGTON (AP) — More than half of the 60,000 railroad tank cars carrying hazardous materials are not built to current industry standards and are more likely to break open after derailing, federal safety investigators said Tuesday.

The concern about the older tank cars punctuated a series of National Transportation Safety Board recommendations regarding track inspections and repairs designed to avoid train derailments such as the one in January 2002 near Minot, N.D., that killed one person and injured more than 300.

"This shows how important every link in the accident chain is," board chairwoman Ellen Engleman Conners said. "Every aspect of safety must be addressed."

The board said federal standards were needed for tank cars that carry hazardous materials. The 122-car Canadian Pacific Railway train in 2002 was carrying anhydrous ammonia, a fertilizer, when it derailed after hitting a damaged joint. Five of the cars broke open, spilling 146,700 gallons of ammonia, which had been carried as a liquid but quickly became a gas after coming in contact with air. The chemical formed a vapor cloud, forcing residents of the area in north-central North Dakota to remain indoors. One person was killed after breathing the fumes and 333 were injured, 11 seriously.

"We believe Minot serves as a warning that there is a risk out there to the public," said Tom Lasseigne, a safety board investigator.

Of the almost 60,000 cars now in service, more than 35,000 were built before manufacturers began using stronger steel in 1989.

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Sheet of plywood
6 Canyon
11 Just
12 Take aim (2 wds.)
13 Muss up
14 Wrapping up
15 Luau welcome
16 Bewildered
17 Have the nerve
18 Deli order
19 Move slowly
23 Sweater material
25 Wine valley
26 Natural resin
29 Finish second
32 "— Rheingold"
33 Oh, gross!
34 Long-distance charges
35 Serpent
36 Close
38 Solemn promise
40 — spumante
41 Cable channel
42 Feed the kitty
46 Thrilled
48 Canine warning
49 Quarrel
52 Warm greetings
53 Decks out
54 Comfortable (2 wds.)
55 Utter happiness
56 Cheers

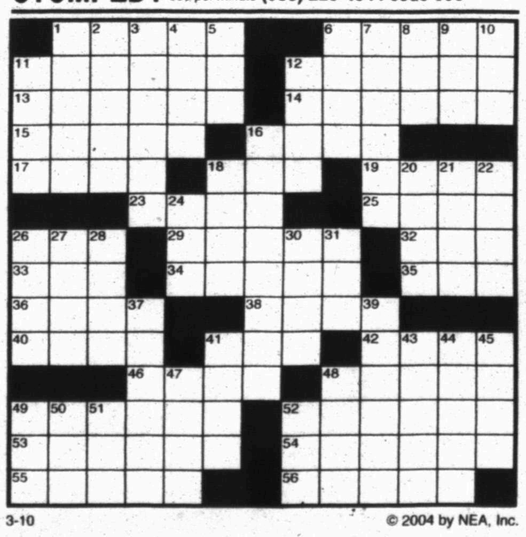
DOWN

1 Actress — Prentiss
2 Knight attire
3 Brother's son
4 She, in Seville
5 Drain cleaner
6 Chromosome unit
7 Decree
8 King (Fr.)
9 Whitney invention
10 High school subj.
11 Metal fastener
12 Keen enjoyment
16 The whole time (2 wds.)
18 Western necktie
20 Goose egg
21 IRS employees
22 Briefcase closer
24 Make a decision
26 Moon goddess
27 Long periods
28 Talk
30 Laird's household
31 N.Y. hours
37 Lassos
39 Grimm youngster
41 CBer's "bears"
43 Kind of congestion
44 Lock or curl
45 Otherwise
47 Fellows
48 Locality
49 Apply makeup
50 Web addr.
51 — Lanka
52 Kendall or Starr

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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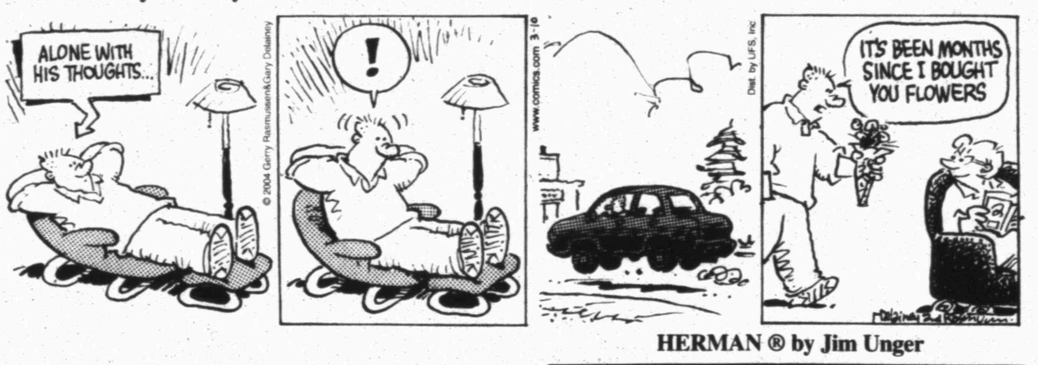
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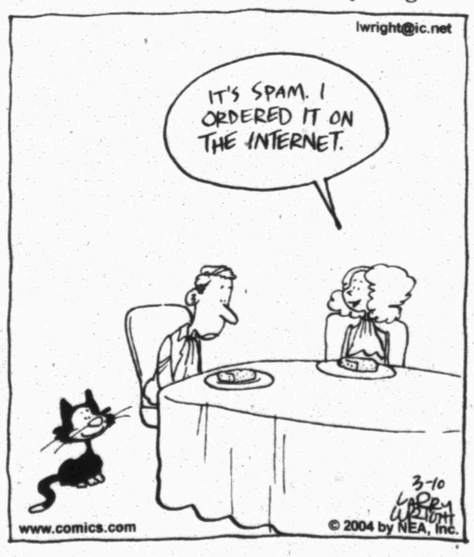


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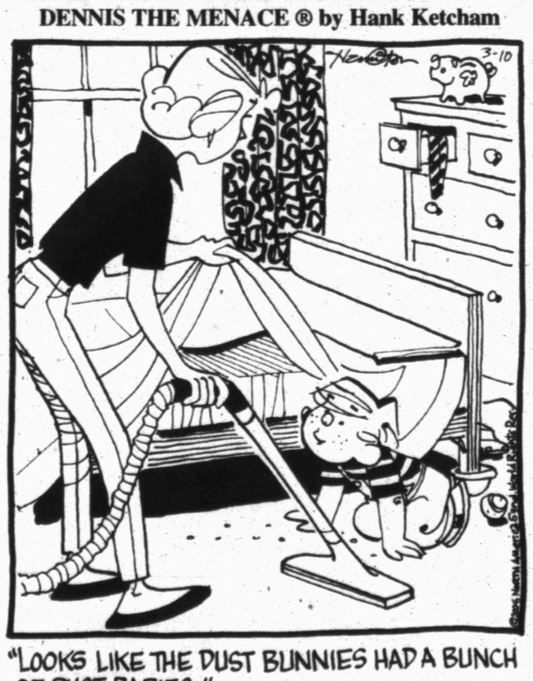
"He wants to sit with his back to the wall."

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"LOOKS LIKE THE DUST BUNNIES HAD A BUNCH OF DUST BABIES."

Best Available Copy

SPORTS

WTC hammers Wayland

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

The Western Texas College Westerners exploded for 13 runs in their final two innings Tuesday, breaking 5-5 deadlock in the seventh to roll to an 18-5 victory over Wayland Baptist JV.

It was the first home game for the Westerners (4-20) since Feb. 3, and gave the team a load of confidence heading into this weekend's series with defending conference champion Midland Junior College.

Robert Cedillo returned from a nagging injury to deliver a two-out, game-winning double in the sixth, igniting a seven-run outburst in the inning that gave WTC a comfortable lead.

"We started out a little flat. It wasn't easy until the last two innings. We need to come ready to score early," head coach Billy Hefflinger said. "We battled back and the guys responded well."

The Westerners have scored 35 runs in the last three games, half the total the scored through the first 17 games of the season.

Hank Casey earned his first ever win, going four innings, giving up two runs on four hits.

Logan Hill and Troy Krugar combined for no hits and no runs over the final two innings.

"Hank really stepped up, as did Hill and Krugar," Hefflinger said. "Troy had a rough outing Sunday, so this will give him some confidence heading into Midland."

Hefflinger said he wants his club to get excited to be playing, something he stressed to the team after the win.

The Westerners took advantage of nine Wayland errors, stole eight bases in nine attempts and cracked 13 hits.

Eric Brown stole two of those bases, going 2-for-3 with four runs scored.

Kyle Toney was 3-for-5 with two runs and three driven in, and Josh Heiney and Chase Gilbert each hit a double and single. Gilbert also had two RBI.

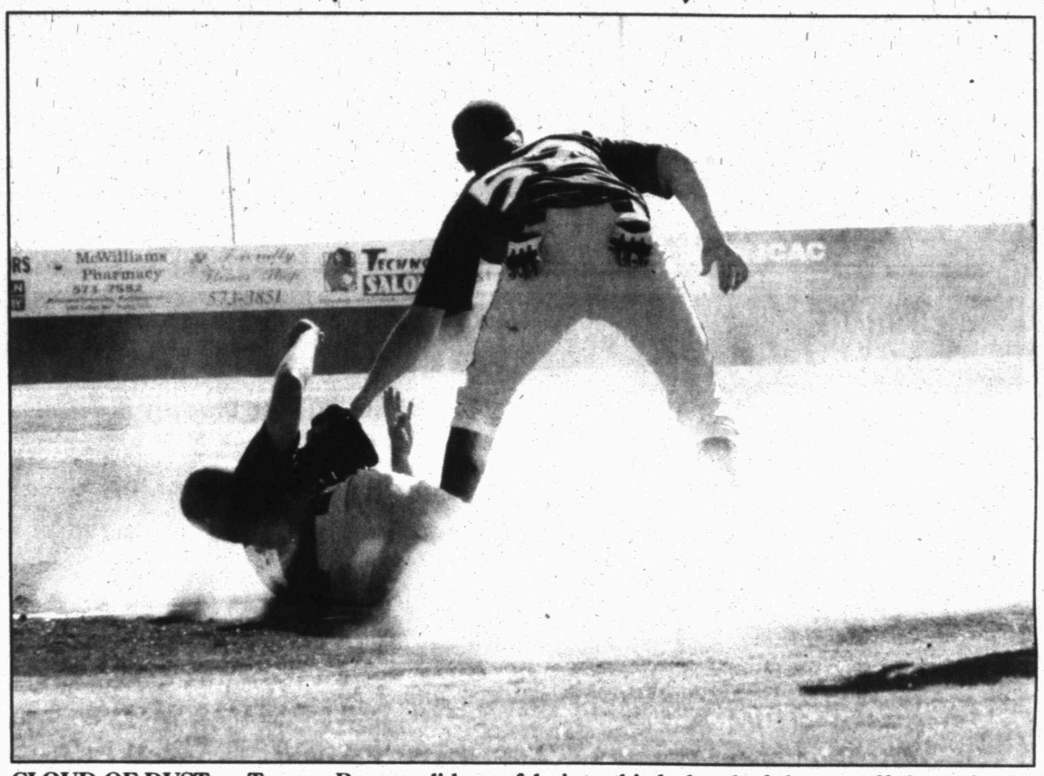
Hefflingler said the crowd and the conditions, which were perfect, encouraged him.

"It's great to be back home. You couldn't ask for better weather," he said. Temperatures at game-time were in the high 60s, with a slight breeze.

Having to travel throughout the first half of the schedule because of construction delays may have hindered the team, but Hefflinger said there is a silver lining with all the early road games.

"We have the best schedule in America," he said. "We play all of our conference games after Midland at home; and have 26 of our last 28 games here."

WTC begins a four-game set with Midland JC with a double-header at noon Saturday.



CLOUD OF DUST — Tanyon Reeves slides safely into third ahead of the cut-off throw in the fourth inning of Tuesday's 18-5 drubbing of Wayland Baptist University. WTC travels to Midland this weekend, then has 26 of its next 28 games at home. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Lady Tigers edge Coahoma

The Snyder Lady Tigers got three no-hit innings from Kelsi Johnson Monday, securing a 6-5 win over Coahoma to reach .500 on the season heading into the district opener against Lubbock Cooper Friday.

Ashley Martinez pitched two innings in relief and was perfect at the plate, going 4-for-4 with a pair of doubles.

Terann Ragland was 3-for-4 with a triple, a double and four RBI, and Brianna Bernal added a triple for the Lady Tigers (8-8).

"Kelsi was on, but we made some errors behind her," head coach Darren Pool said. "We are pretty optimistic, but we have to take it one game at a time and stay focused each game. We'll take our shots as we get them."

The junior varsity played its Coahoma counterpart to a 4-4 tie.

The Lady Tigers will play the Lady Pirates at 5 p.m. Friday at Cates Field.

Tigers power past Levelland

The Snyder Tigers got one the hard way, rallying from a first-inning deficit to earn a 12-9 triumph over a solid Levelland squad in a slugfest Tuesday.

"I'm proud of the way we came back," head coach Charles Bollinger said. "Levelland is a good team. It was a good win for us — we showed we can come from behind and win."

The Tigers (6-1) banged out 13 hits to Levelland's nine, with both clubs committing three errors.

Down 8-7, first baseman Alex Neal smashed a three-run homer to put Snyder up for good. Neal was 2-for-4 as four Tigers had multiple hit games.

Blake Grimmett, Isaac Ramon and Eric Martinez also collected two hits each, and drove in a run apiece, and Jordan Dea delivered an RBI double.

Bradley Price, Hadley Hirt, Marcus Villarreal and Lico Castillo each had a base knock.

Starter Castillo struggled, allowing five earned runs on seven hits while fanning two.

"They have a 300-foot right field fence, and we made a few mistakes," Bollinger said, adding that the defense allowed three unearned runs to score while Castillo was on the mound.

Dustyn Williams pitched two scoreless innings, not allowing a run, and Ty Collier got the final six outs to earn the save.

The Tigers open the Snyder Tournament Thursday at 7 p.m. against Dumas.

Lady Bulldogs win Sands Tournament

The Ira girls dominated the Sands Invitational Golf Tournament at Lamesa Country Club Tuesday, taking the top two medals and winning the tournament with a 519.

Lacie Thompson was the first medalist, pacing the field with a 111, while Aryn Calley was the second medalist, firing a 131.

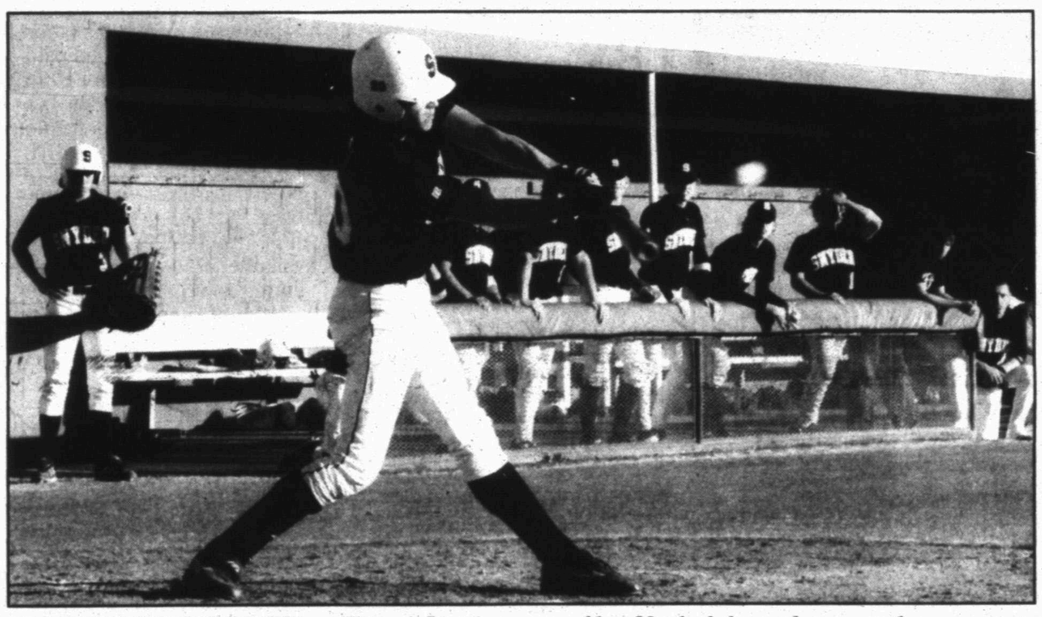
Lindsey Wilson carded a 134 and Kelbi Pitner stroked a 143.

The boys also had a strong showing, shooting a 482 to claim third.

Justin Taylor stroked a 109 to lead the Bulldogs, and Chad Nickerson fired a 119.

Brandon Crane finished with a 126, Bubba Walker stroked a 128 and Chris Dobbs recorded a 130.

Ira will next participate in the Loop Invitational March 24 at Gaines County Golf Course.



GAME-WINNING HOMER — Tigers' first baseman Alex Neal clubs a three-run home run to put Snyder ahead to stay over a scrappy Levelland club Tuesday. The Tigers came from behind to claim a 12-8 victory. They open the Snyder Tournament at 7 p.m. Thursday against Dumas. (Contributed Photo by Tim Dea)

Police investigating cheap shot on Colorado's Moore

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — It will be a while before Steve Moore gets back on the ice for the Colorado Avalanche. Todd Bertuzzi might have to wait just as long.

Moore will miss the rest of the season with a broken neck, the result of a sucker punch from Bertuzzi. Moore also sustained a concussion and deep cuts on his face, and he'll remain hospitalized in Vancouver indefinitely.

Bertuzzi, an All-Star forward for the Canucks, was suspended indefinitely pending a hearing at the NHL office in Toronto today.

B.C. Solicitor General Rich Coleman and Vancouver police are investigating, the second time in four years police have looked into an on-ice hit at an NHL game in the city.

"It doesn't matter what the score was, what the time was, what the place was, what the history was, there's no room in our game for that," Colorado coach Tony Granato said.

Bertuzzi slugged Moore in the side of the head late in Monday night's 9-2 Colorado victory. He hit Moore from behind and drove his head into the ice. Moore landed face-first — with the 245-pound Bertuzzi on top of him — and lay in a pool of blood for several minutes before he was removed on a stretcher.

"All I'm concerned with is he regain his health," said Pierre Lacroix, Avalanche president.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
New Jersey	38	24	.613	—
Boston	29	36	.446	10½
New York	29	36	.446	10½
Miami	28	36	.438	11
Philadelphia	27	38	.415	12½
Washington	20	42	.323	18
Orlando	18	48	.273	22
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
x-Indiana	48	16	.750	—
Detroit	41	25	.621	8
Milwaukee	33	30	.524	14½
New Orleans	33	30	.524	14½
Cleveland	28	36	.438	20
Toronto	27	37	.422	21
Atlanta	20	43	.317	27½
Chicago	18	45	.286	29½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Minnesota	44	19	.698	—
San Antonio	42	22	.656	2½
Dallas	40	23	.635	4
Memphis	40	24	.625	4½
Houston	37	26	.587	7
Denver	34	31	.523	11
Utah	32	32	.500	12½
Pacific Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Sacramento	46	16	.742	—
L.A. Lakers	41	22	.651	5½
Portland	30	33	.476	16½
Seattle	27	36	.429	19½
L.A. Clippers	26	37	.413	20½
Golden State	25	36	.410	20½
Phoenix	21	43	.328	26

x-clinched playoff spot

Tuesday's Games

Denver 117, Washington 87
Indiana 94, Toronto 84, OT
Miami 100, Orlando 89
Boston 87, New York 84
Memphis 94, San Antonio 88
Philadelphia 89, Chicago 81
Houston 90, L.A. Clippers 85
Minnesota at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Golden State at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

Today's Games

L.A. Lakers at Boston, 6 p.m.
Cleveland at Toronto, 6 p.m.
Washington at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Chicago at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Denver at New Jersey, 6:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Milwaukee, 7 p.m.
Miami at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Utah, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Portland, 9 p.m.

Congress pressures MLB on drug tests

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress is pressuring baseball and its players' union to implement more rigorous drug testing in the face of growing suspicion about alleged steroid use.

Commissioner Bud Selig and Donald Fehr, leader of the players' union, were appearing to give baseball's side of the controversy.

Sen. Joe Biden is sponsoring legislation that would ban over-the-counter sales of androstenedione, a steroidlike supplement that Mark McGwire used the year he broke the single-season home run mark, and the newly detected steroid THG.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE							
Atlantic Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Philadelphia	36	17	12	6	90	204	162
New Jersey	35	21	11	2	83	170	140
N.Y. Islanders	30	25	10	4	74	192	180
N.Y. Rangers	25	33	7	5	62	182	207
Pittsburgh	16	44	6	4	42	154	267
Northeast Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Toronto	38	20	9	3	88	203	175
Ottawa	37	18	9	5	88	230	152
Boston	33	16	14	7	87	178	159
Montreal	37	26	6	2	82	184	162
Buffalo	30	31	6	1	67	176	187
Southeast Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
x-Tampa Bay	39	17	8	5	91	205	157
Florida	24	29	14	3	65	152	182
Atlanta	27	33	7	3	64	186	214
Carolina	22	29	13	4	61	131	167
Washington	21	38	8	2	52	159	207
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Detroit	39	17	10	2	90	214	153
Nashville	33	26	8	2	76	182	184
St. Louis	32	26	9	2	75	161	171
Columbus	20	37	8	4	52	147	200
Chicago	18	35	9	6	51	158	206
Northwest Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
Colorado	35	17	12	5	87	208	165
Vancouver	36	21	8	4	84	199	167
Calgary	34	26	6	3	77	168	153
Edmonton	28	27	12	2	70	183	177
Minnesota	22	26	19	2	65	149	156
Pacific Division	**W**	**L**	**T**	**OL**	**Pts**	**GF**	**GA**
San Jose	33	19	11	6	83	176	153
Dallas	35	23	11	0	81	160	149
Los Angeles	26	19	16	7	75	178	177
Anaheim	25	28	9	8	67	157	180
Phoenix	20	28	16	5	61	171	208

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.
x-clinched division

Tuesday's Games

Pittsburgh 4, Dallas 0
N.Y. Rangers 2, Atlanta 0
Toronio 5, Florida 0
Philadelphia 3, New Jersey 1
St. Louis 3, N.Y. Islanders 2, OT
Boston 3, Nashville 2
Edmonton 1, Calgary 1, tie
Minnesota 4, San Jose 3
Los Angeles 3, Phoenix 2

Today's Games

Buffalo at Washington, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Carolina, 6 p.m.
Colorado at Edmonton, 7:30 p.m.
Los Angeles at Phoenix, 8 p.m.
Minnesota at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Softball: WTC at Clarendon College, DH, 1 p.m.
Baseball: WTC vs. ACU, 2:30 p.m.
Golf: SHS JV boys at Gaines County

THURSDAY

Baseball: Snyder vs. Dumas, 7 p.m.
Snyder Varsity Tournament
SHS JV at Frenship Tournament
Track: SHS JV at Sweewater
Rodeo: WTC at Weatherford

FRIDAY

Baseball: Snyder Varsity Tournament
SHS JV at Frenship Tournament
Softball: SHS varsity vs. Lubbock Cooper, district opener, 5 p.m.
Track: SHS varsity at Odessa
SHS JV vs. Lubbock Cooper, 7 p.m.
Tennis: SHS varsity at State Team Tournament, Waco
Golf: SHS varsity boys at San Angelo Tournament
SHS varsity girls at Andrews Tournament
Rodeo. WTC at Weatherford

SATURDAY

Baseball: Snyder Tournament
WTC at Midland JC, DH, noon
SHS JV at Frenship Tournament
Softball: SHS varsity at Lake View, 11 a.m.
SHS JV at Lake View, 1 p.m.
Tennis: SHS varsity at State Team Tournament, Waco
Golf: SHS varsity boys at San Angelo Tournament
SHS varsity girls at Andrews Tournament
SHS JV boys at Sweetwater Tournament
Track: SHS varsity at Odessa
Powerlifting: SHS at Regionals, Lubbock
Rodeo: WTC at Weatherford

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Broadcasters' indecency fines may increase

WASHINGTON (AP) — Still upset over last month's Super Bowl halftime show, lawmakers are moving closer to making it more expensive for radio or television stations to put indecent programming on the air.

The Senate Commerce Committee voted Tuesday to raise the maximum fine for indecent programming from $27,500 to $500,000. The House Commerce Committee approved a similar increase last week, and the full House is expected to take up the measure Thursday.

Senators diverged from their House counterparts by also voting to delay the Federal Communications Commission's new broadcast ownership rules from taking effect until investigators at Congress' General Accounting Office can study any relationship between media consolidation and indecency.

The rules, temporarily blocked by a federal appeals court, would make it easier for companies to own newspapers and broadcast stations in the same community.

"The evidence suggests that more of the complaints are filed against the larger organizations," said Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., a sponsor of the measure. "We don't need fewer voices in this country controlling the media. The growth of concentration in radio and television has been alarming in recent years."

The proposed moratorium would not affect a provision in January's giant spending bill that allowed media organizations to own TV stations reaching 39 percent of the viewing public, up from 35 percent.

Lawmakers have criticized broadcasters for airing what they say is increasingly coarse programming that can be seen or heard by children. The effort to crack down on such shows gained new momentum last month when singer Justin Timberlake exposed Janet Jackson's breast to 90 million viewers watching the Super Bowl halftime show.

"Americans, especially parents, are fed up with content producers and broadcasters who have for too long ignored regulations that are designed to keep a standard of decency and protect children on the public's airwaves," said Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan., a sponsor of the bill.

Even some broadcasters have endorsed the higher penalties.

"It's hard to get the attention of a broadcaster in a major market with a fine of $27,500," said Birney Blair, a current director and retired general manager of NBC affiliate KHQ-TV in Spokane, Wash.

The Senate bill would count each utterance rather than each program as a single indecency violation, and cap the maximum fine for a 24-hour period at $3 million. It also would direct the FCC to begin license revocation procedures after a third indecency violation.

The FCC already has said it will begin fining broadcasters for each indecent incident.

The rules prohibit over-the-air radio and TV stations from airing material that refers to sexual and excretory functions between 6 a.m. and 10 p.m., when children may be tuned in.

The committee rejected a provision to apply broadcast indecency standards to cable and satellite channels. The FCC currently has no power to regulate those channels, which are available to the 85 percent of the 108.4 million U.S. households with televisions.

Also on Tuesday, the nation's largest radio chain, San Antonio-based Clear Channel Communications announced it had bought equipment to provide for up to a 20-second delay for live broadcasts. The chain earlier had announced it would pay a record $755,000 fine for broadcasts of "Bubba the Love Sponge," which the FCC found indecent, and fired the disc jockey responsible.

The bills are S. 2056 and H.R. 3717.

Robot vehicles struggle in race trials sponsored by Pentagon

FONTANA, Calif. (AP) — They're a motley bunch of garage tinkerers, off-road enthusiasts, high-school students, physicists and programmers who hope their microprocessor-jammed jalopies usher in the next generation of military combat vehicles.

The question is, can any of these meticulously engineered, unmanned autos actually make it across the Mojave Desert on their own?

On Saturday, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, the Pentagon's few-holds-barred research and development arm, will award $1 million to the first team whose robotic vehicle can cover a rugged desert course from Barstow, Calif., to Primm, Nev., in less than 10 hours.

The vehicles in the so-called Grand Challenge, part of Pentagon efforts to have one-third of all ground vehicles unmanned by 2015, cannot be controlled remotely. They've got to navigate all by themselves.

"It's a marriage of the geeks and the greaseballs," said Sal Fish, a longtime desert off-road race promoter and the lead designer of the course. "If they go even two miles, I'll be in awe." Five teams dropped out of the competition even before qualifying runs began Monday, leaving 20 entrants.

Two hours before the race begins, DARPA will give competitors a CD-ROM with Global Positioning System coordinates that chart the eastward course.

A DARPA vehicle will be assigned to each robot contestant, with a judge ready to hit a kill switch if it goes astray. Helicopters will also monitor the action.

DARPA officials are considering several possible routes along dirt roads and rough trails, ranging from 150 to 210 miles. Even the shortest course would require the robots to average 15 mph, a feat that has eluded major defense companies.

Several of the robots are capable of 65 mph but obstacles along the way will require them to go much slower as they rely on combinations of orientation devices ranging from GPS satellite positioning to digital compasses, ultrasonic scanners and gyroscopes.

If no one finishes on time — a likely outcome, many participants say — DARPA will host another contest, probably in 2006.

All eight teams that took part in Monday's trials failed in their first try at finishing a flat obstacle course a little longer than a mile that was strewn with bricks, gravel patches and metal rods.

Only two teams — from the California Institute of Technology and Palos Verdes High School in a wealthy suburb of Los Angeles — made it very far past the starting line on their first attempt. The other six had immediate mechanical problems and were making modifications before trying again.

The other 12 teams were making their first run later this week and it was expected that the field would be winnowed.

Warren Williams of Baldwin, Mo., who calibrates precision manufacturing tools by day and plays with remote-controlled robots in his spare time, was desperately seeking radar for his converted Kawasaki all-terrain vehicle. Without the radar, the robot can't spot some roadblocks and must limit its speed to about 5 mph.

On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Iron stores bolstered by dietary sources

DEAR DR BLONZ: I am female, age 57, and have been told by my doctor that my iron stores are well below the normal level. No source of blood loss was found. A number of years ago I had a total hysterectomy, so menstruation is not an issue. I eat an extremely well-balanced diet with plenty of fresh fruits and vegetables and whole grains. I eat beef probably only every couple of weeks, with most of my protein coming from poultry, fish and pork. I also take a daily multivitamin. Can you tell me why I am not absorbing/storing my dietary iron? Also, what are the ramifications of low iron storage? Thanks for your help. **— P.G., no city or state given**

DEAR P.G.: Iron is an essential nutrient throughout life, especially in periods of increased demand such as during growth or after blood loss. Women tend to require more, with this requirement decreasing at the cessation of menstruation. The Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) for women between the ages of 11 and 50 is 15 milligrams per day. Upon reaching menopause, the RDA for iron drops to a level comparable to that of an adult man, namely 10 milligrams per day. The nutrition label on food products is based on a Daily Value (DV) for iron of 18 milligrams per day. This reference amount reflects the highest adult requirement. Unless there is a specific need, it is unusual for anyone to need more than the RDA.

The body needs iron to make hemoglobin, the oxygen-carrying compound in the blood, and myoglobin, a related compound that handles oxygen in our muscles. When we don't absorb sufficient iron from the foods we eat, the levels of hemoglobin and myoglobin can decrease, which can hamper our ability to produce energy. What results is an iron-deficiency anemia, marked by fatigue, dizziness and a general "rundown" feeling. These symptoms can mistakenly be dismissed as normal side effects of aging.

Given the essential nature of iron to our metabolism, the body makes use of a number of compounds to store and transport iron, and there are lab tests for each. A look at the iron level reflects the amount of the mineral inside the hemoglobin of the red blood cells. Ferritin is the storage substance, and there are normal values to determine how your storage compares with those of a normal population. Total Iron Binding Capacity (TIBC) reflects the body's ability to transport iron to and from storage. Transferrin is the compound that actually carries out the iron transfers, and there is a specific test that checks transferrin saturation to indicate how well the iron transportation process is working.

In any discussion of iron, it is important to mention that this mineral has a potential for toxicity, so don't overdo it. The body makes a protein that assists with iron absorption, and less tends to be available when the body's iron stores are full. On the other end of the spectrum, there is a genetic iron-storage disease called hemochromatosis in which the body is unable to rid itself of excess iron; this can wreak havoc on many bodily systems. The tests mentioned above can be used in the diagnosis of this condition.

In your case, it's difficult to say what might be responsible, and it is a discussion best left between you and your health professional. Your physician may decide on conducting only the above tests, or other tests that will complete the picture. If it is determined that you need to increase your intake of dietary iron, here are some possible dietary sources:

1/2 cup dried apricots: 8 milligrams
1/2 cup raw oysters: 8 milligrams
1 cup cooked spinach: 5 milligrams
1 cup cooked soybeans: 5 milligrams
1/4 pound lean beef: 3 milligrams
1/2 cup red kidney beans: 3 milligrams
1 tablespoon blackstrap molasses: 3 milligrams
1/2 cup raisins: 2 milligrams
1 ounce almonds: 1 milligram

Iron fortified foods, such as breakfast cereals and grains: up to 18 milligrams per serving

Dietary supplements: variable

Periodic use of cast-iron pans is another way to add iron to the diet. When acid foods such as spaghetti sauce are prepared in cast iron, a small amount of iron dissolves into the food. The actual amount of iron drawn into food depends on the condition of the cookware; a cast-iron pan that's frequently seasoned with oil tends to give off less iron, although some iron will be released.

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

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	14.60	13.92	14.49	+.29
AT&T Corp	19.80	19.45	19.49	—.19
Albertsons	24.12	23.66	23.69	—.22
Alltel	52.82	52.40	52.41	—.28
AmEl Pw	34.61	33.92	34.31	+.40
AndarkPtr	53.19	52.36	52.39	—.25
ATMOS Egy	26.82	26.60	26.70	+.14
Aviall	15.59	15.46	15.55	+.06
BP PLC	50.03	49.66	49.71	+.19
BakerHughes	37.00	36.02	36.21	—.79
Bank of Amer	81.79	81.10	81.17	—.60
BellSouth	28.80	28.35	28.37	—.47
BurlNoSFe	30.24	29.80	30.00	—.24
Caterpillar	77.40	75.97	76.68	+.28
CenterPoint	11.23	11.01	11.04	—.21
ChevronTex	90.50	89.80	89.92	—.09
Citigroup	49.90	49.50	49.79	—.05
CocaCola	50.33	49.93	50.29	+.11
ColgatePal	57.07	56.55	56.96	+.70
CmclMetals	30.00	29.48	29.59	—.33
ConocoPhill	70.82	70.21	70.23	—.40
Cooper Inds	53.89	53.30	53.55	+.21
DaimlrChry	43.68	43.20	43.50	—.73
DeltaAirLines	9.05	8.77	9.04	+.16
Dillards Inc	17.76	17.51	17.67	—.02
DowChem	40.84	40.15	40.42	—.49
DuPont	43.40	42.58	42.97	—.41
EastmanChem	41.15	40.56	41.02	+.01
EstKodak	26.47	26.04	26.34	—.02
EDS Corp	19.41	19.08	19.32	+.14
Entergy	59.43	58.78	59.41	+.44
ExxonMobil	43.40	42.75	43.17	+.39
FootLocker	25.66	25.27	25.32	—.11
GenDynam	89.50	88.76	88.97	—.16
GenlElec	31.66	31.30	31.40	—.16
GenMills	47.89	47.49	47.87	+.29
GenMotors	47.05	46.49	46.53	—.25
GaPacific	33.43	32.53	32.54	—.84
Goodrich	27.85	27.53	27.53	—.27
Goodyear	8.10	8.00	8.02	—.10
GtAtlPac	8.08	7.96	8.08	+.08
Halliburtn	30.92	30.24	30.43	—.27
Hanson PLC	37.34	37.04	37.34	—.96
HarteHanks	22.51	22.33	22.47	+.01
HomeDepot	37.05	36.53	36.87	—.10
HoneywellIntl	33.97	33.40	33.47	—.49
IBM	94.98	94.33	94.58	+.05
IntlPaper	42.59	42.00	42.23	—.22
JohnsonJn	52.80	52.26	52.59	—.08
KinderMorg	62.55	62.28	62.46	+.02
Kroger Co	18.48	18.01	18.05	—.51
LockheedM	45.59	44.26	44.51	—.47
Lowes Cos	54.79	54.36	54.57	—.01
Lubys	5.60	5.40	5.42	—.09
LucentTech	4.02	3.85	4.00	+.10
MarathonOil	35.67	35.29	35.35	—.02
MayDeptStr	34.38	33.76	33.98	—.32
Medtronic	50.90	50.01	50.39	+.76
Motorola	17.64	17.36	17.46	—.03
NCR Corp	43.49	43.02	43.08	—.63
Navistar	46.49	46.05	46.12	—.37
PNM Rescs	30.80	30.44	30.73	+.19
Penney JC	32.58	32.17	32.34	+.05
PepBoys	25.32	24.74	25.11	—.74
PepsiCo	52.98	52.56	52.91	+.32
PhelpDodge	81.75	80.37	80.89	
PilgrimsPride	21.96	20.70	21.75	+1.15
Praxair s	37.27	36.72	36.78	—.53
ProctGamb	106.60	104.26	106.45	+3.96
RadioShack	33.61	33.11	33.57	+.27
RoyalDut	50.33	49.97	50.00	—.01
SBC Comm	25.10	24.76	24.88	—.26
SaraLee	22.78	22.50	22.63	+.01
Scripps EW	98.51	98.05	98.16	—.35
SearsRoeb	46.55	46.12	46.25	—.31
SherwinW	34.92	34.60	34.74	—.05
SouthernCo	30.75	30.60	30.68	+.03
SwstAirl	14.15	13.95	14.06	—.04
SprintFON	19.15	18.29	18.59	—.14
SprintPCS	9.60	9.22	9.30	—.08
Sunoco Inc	62.20	61.92	62.01	+.01
TXU Corp	28.08	27.73	27.92	—.02
TempleInland	64.27	63.40	63.47	—.38
Textind	33.39	33.05	33.38	+.36
TexasInst	30.75	30.30	30.64	+.38
Textron	54.94	54.20	54.23	—.55
TimeWarner	17.07	16.91	16.98	—.12
TrinityInds	27.95	27.59	27.65	—.30
TylerTech	9.58	9.25	9.47	+.12
UnionPacif	61.57	61.26	61.57	—.02
USSteel	36.65	36.05	36.30	+.31
UnitedTech	88.39	87.47	87.87	—.88
Unocal	38.49	38.10	38.13	—.08
VerizonComm	39.11	38.68	38.74	—.46
WalMart	60.26	59.25	59.54	—.74
WellsFargo	58.80	58.34	58.77	+.33
WstnGasRs	51.30	51.01	51.17	+.17
WinnDixie	7.60	7.00	7.05	—.25
Xerox Cp	14.11	13.80	14.09	+.29
YumBrands	38.15	37.73	38.01	—.08

"Thank You"

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and kind words of encouragement during the primary election. I also look forward to serving as your commissioner in the future.

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MAR 10 2004

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Scurry County Country

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By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Garden Checklist for March 2004

•Prepare beds for planting flowers and vegetables. You may want to consider renting or buying a garden tiller to speed up the process; however, a strong back and a garden fork will still do an excellent job.

•For every 100 square feet of bed area, work in a several-inch layer of either compost, pine bark or sphagnum peat moss, plus 5 pounds of balanced fertilizer.

•Check with your local county agent for the average last killing freeze date for your area. Remember that killing freezes can occur after this date.

•Pruning of evergreens and summer flowering trees and shrubs should be completed in early March. Prune spring flowering trees and shrubs as soon as they finish blooming.

•Select and order caladium tubers as well as geranium and coleus plants for late April and early May planting. Do not plant caladiums until soil temperature reaches 70 F.

•As camellia and azalea plants finish blooming, fertilize them with three pounds of azalea-camellia fertilizer. Check mulch on azalea and camellia beds and add where needed.

•In North Texas there is still time to plant seeds of your favorite annuals in flats to be transplanted out-of-doors when danger of frost is past.

•Beware of close-out sales on bare-root trees and shrubs. The chance of survival is rather low on bare-root plants this late in the season. Your best bet at this time of year is to depend on container-grown or balled-and-burlapped plants for landscape use.

•Start hanging baskets of petunias and other annuals for another dimension in landscape color.

•Plant dahlia tubers in fertile, well-drained soil.

•Dig and divide summer and fall flowering perennials just before they initiate their spring growth.

Cotton industry eyes problems in quality

ALBANY, Ga. (AP) — Cotton growers across the South produced a banner crop last year, but experts say they still may have lost millions of dollars in potential earnings because quality is slipping.

Traits such as fiber length (known as staple) and fiber density (also called micronaire) are important because cotton that fails to meet certain length and density specifications is harder to dye and spin into yarn.

"Fiber length has gotten shorter over the last 10 years," said University of Georgia cotton agronomist Steve Brown. "The textile industry is built on speed. Everything they do is at tremendous speed. Short fibers or inconsistent fibers create down time in the spinning of yarn."

Some experts say Georgia, with a $619 million crop last year that nearly doubled the value of the previous year's crop, has lost business and perhaps some of its reputation because of quality concerns.

"Some textile mills are avoiding purchase of Georgia cotton because of it," said Don Shurley, a University of Georgia agricultural economist.

Andy Jordan, vice president of technical services for the Memphis-based National Cotton Council, said his organization has noticed a trend of shorter length and high density in recent years. He said that may be due to the higher-yielding varieties of cotton that growers are planting.

Texas was the nation's leading cotton producer last year, with 4.3 million bales. Georgia and Mississippi, at 2.1 million bales, tied for second.

Quality problems cost Georgia's growers an estimated $43 million in potential income in 2002 — a devastating year of low prices, drought during the growing season and then torrential rain that soaked the mature cotton at harvest time.

Of course, farmers have no control over the weather, but they can influence quality in other ways.

Scientists and textile industry representatives were to discuss some of those ways next week in a symposium at the University of Georgia. The symposium will include a tour of the university's new micro-gin, a scaled-down commercial gin intended to let scientists study quality control issues in a real-world environment.

"If we could make a 1 or 2 percent improvement, it would mean piles of money for Georgia farmers," said the agronomist Brown. "We want to share ideas and listen to ideas on proceeding from here."

As cotton is ginned, a sample from each bale is sent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture to be graded. Cotton classifications are based on such characteristics as color, fiber strength, fiber length and micronaire. Farmers earn less when they produce inferior fiber.

Farmers can make a difference by selecting appropriate varieties, planting at optimal times, providing enough fertilizer, controlling insects and promptly harvesting.

The closing of U.S. textile mills because of cheap imports has forced the U.S. cotton industry to sell a greater portion of the crop to foreign customers. Sixty to 75 percent of the 2003 crop is expected to be exported, compared with only about 39 percent when U.S. mills consumed the bulk of the U.S. crop.

This increased reliance on exports makes quality an even more important issue, said Sylvester farmer Johnny Cochran, noting that foreign mills demand longer fibers.

On the Net:
National Cotton Council:
www.cotton.org

Warehouse blaze is under control

PASADENA (AP) — It took firefighters all morning to get a blaze at a suburban Houston pesticides warehouse under control, forcing many area residents to take cover indoors for half the day.

Huge balls of flame and black smoke were visible for miles from the Controlled Solutions warehouse, which caught fire around 5:30 a.m. about 20 miles southeast of downtown Houston.

The warehouse, officials said, contained an assortment of pesticides and other combustible materials such as wood and paper.

A dense column of black smoke drifted southeast, prompting appeals for the public to stay indoors in the towns of El Lago, Taylor Lake Village and Seabrook, as well as the Pasadena neighborhood of El Jardin.

The warning was lifted shortly before 1 p.m. after firefighters got the flames and smoke under control.

There were no immediate reports of injuries or what caused the fire.

?Weather Whys?

Topic: Squall Lines

Q: You hear the weatherman use the term "squall lines" a lot. What are they?

A: "A squall line is a complex of thunderstorms with isolated super cells imbedded within the line or at the end of it, says Kelsey Curtiss of Texas A&M University. "These lines form ahead of a cold front," she explains. "The cold front is the lifting mechanism for the formation of the squall line, allowing for cold air to collide with the warm, moist air ahead of the front.

"Squall lines can have varying sizes. They can be compact and only span across a few counties, or they can affect multiple states at the same time and stretch to hundreds of miles in length."

Q: So do squall lines mean severe weather is coming?

A: "Not necessarily, Curtiss says. "There are some occasions where squall lines will have an isolated super cell, which is a rotating thunderstorm capable of producing large hail, heavy rain, lightning and possible tornadoes," she adds.

"These supercells will often form at the end of the squall line. But the primary threat is severe weather, such as strong winds, hail and heavy rain, developing ahead of the squall line.

"Again, these often form in the spring and summer when cold fronts collide with warm and moist air. If you see such storms approaching, it's best to find shelter immediately."

ABOUT WEATHER WHYS

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weather-whys/.

For more information, please contact Keith Randall at 979) 845-4644 or kr@univrel.tamu.edu. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

Markets

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 289 head of cattle for the Wednesday, March 3, sale. Market was active and demand good. Feeder and stocker steers and heifers were steady. Bred cows and pairs were $25 to $50 higher. Packer cows and bulls were steady.

Feeder Steers:
300-400: 100-121
400-500: 98-117
500-600: 89-105
600-700: 81-98
Feeder Heifers:
300-400: 98-120
400-500: 97-116
500-600: 80-94
600-700: 82-89.50
Replacement cows:
Bred cows: 625-950
Pairs: 725-1,230
Packer cows: 42-53
Old and Shelly: 28-37
Packer bulls: 60-63.75
Low yielders: 48-58

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc had a run of 652 head of livestock for the Thursday, March 3, sale. Bulls and cows were steady. Calves were $2 to $3 better. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows:
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 44-51
Canners and low cutters: 33-43
Slaughter bulls: 55-65
Feeder steers:
300-400: 110-125
400-500: 105-114
500-600: 90-105
600-700: 85-94
700-800: 75-90
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 100-117
400-500: 95-105
500-600: 85-95
600-700: 82-88
700-800: 75-83
Feeder bulls – Good and choice
500-600: 85-100
700-800: 80-85
Cow and Calf Pairs
Good: 650-935
Grade: 500-650
Springers: 425-925
Baby Calves: 125-175
Doodlers: 200-275

Recent rain keeps corn producers from planting

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Recent rains are keeping corn producers out of the field while Central and South Texas' optimal corn planting window is coming to a close, Texas Cooperative Extension reports.

Travis Miller of College Station, extension agronomist, said wet fields have kept farmers from planting since the middle of February. With most of Texas under constant rain last week, soils in Central Texas are still extremely wet.

"Planter units cannot handle wet soils. Tractors have to have something to ride on. It is physically impossible to plant when it's wet," Miller said.

According to Miller, little corn will be planted by March 15, the critical date for receiving the best yields. Corn is very sensitive to high nighttime temperatures at bloom time.

"Once the tassels (on the corn) are out, you could get sterility in the crop if it is exposed to extremely high temperatures, 100 degrees or higher" Miller said.

"Planting late could cut yields by 50 percent. It just doesn't pay to plant late because of that chance you'll run into high sterilizing temperatures."

Producers who plant late could also acquire aflatoxin in their crop, said Steve Livingston of Corpus Christi, extension agronomist.

"Aflatoxin could form if stress conditions prevail and Aspergillus flavus is present," he said.

Miller believes the rain and wet fields will probably result in changes for many planting operations.

"A lot of farmers bought seed in November. They'll have to return it and buy new seed; that means they'll have to use different herbicides and change their management plan for the rest of the season," he said.

Constant rains caused land preparations to be put on hold as well.

"Many fields have not seen a tractor in months," Miller said.

That sentiment is echoed from one Bell County corn producer.

"I have 10 acres planted. Only 12,000 more to go," said Jerrod Lancaster, of Temple.

According to Miller, good corn planting time still exists for most of the area, but farmers are losing possible yields every day they plant late. The optimal time for the Southeast district is six days from now, he said.

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district extension directors:

PANHANDLE: soil moisture is adequate to surplus. All parts received welcome rain. Land preparation for planting is postponed until fields dry. Rains have been beneficial to wheat conditions with most rated poor to good. Insecticide applications are being made to control army cutworms in the north east portion. Greenbugs continue to be reported. Cattle are in fair condition; supplemental feeding continues.

SOUTH PLAINS: soil moisture is adequate. Recent rains delivered 1 to 3 inches of moisture which allowed tanks to capture much-needed water. Soil moisture for pre-planting is excellent. Land preparation will continue when fields dry out. Ranges and pastures are in poor condition; supplemental feeding continues.

ROLLING PLAINS: soil moisture is adequate to surplus. Rainfall ranged from 1 to 4 inches and provided needed runoff water to fill stock tanks. Several counties experienced extensive wind damage. Wheat producers are experiencing great growth aided by warm days and excellent moisture conditions. Spring land preparation will continue when fields dry. Range and pasture conditions are excellent. Supplemental feeding continues, but will be decreasing soon as warm season grasses begin to emerge. Spring branding has begun on some ranches.

WEST CENTRAL TEXAS: soil moisture is adequate to surplus. Strong thunderstorms along with heavy rainfall, high winds and some small hail were reported. Rain and overcast conditions have been favorable for retaining soil moisture. Wet conditions have postponed any field work. Wheat fields are greening up after recent rains giving promise of a possible grain crop. Most wheat will be grazed out. Prewatering continues on cotton fields. Range and pastures are responding well to the recent rain. Supplemental feeding continues. Youth livestock shows are under way.



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2002 Chevy Tahoe #TC6072A — LS Pkg., Red, 44K Miles, Sale Price **$23,495**
2003 Chevy Tahoe #TC6787A — LT Pkg., 4x4, Pewter, Tan Leather, Tow Pkg. **$29,595**
2001 GMC Yukon XL #C6429A — Maroon, 4 Leather Bucket Seats, SLT **$24,995**
2000 Chevy Tahoe #TC0680 — LT Pkg., Gold, Tan Leather, 43K Miles 4x4 . . . . . **$23,595**

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, March 11, 2004

Some of your greatest opportunities in the year ahead are likely to develop through links you'd least expect. Flow in the direction the soft winds take you, instead of trying to fight your way through storms.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Discussions with friends today shouldn't be allowed to reach the level of serving as a forum for the United Nations. Nobody's views will win any arguments.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — It's natural for us to protect that which we feel is ours, but today you might have to be careful not to be unreasonably concerned about being taken advantage of and forsake a good investment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Remember that everything is negotiable, so be careful not to take such an unyielding position today that you won't even listen to other possibilities. You would be shooting yourself in the foot.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Usually you're never hesitant about being of service to others whenever possible. Yet today, when something is asked of you, you could take the position of it being imposed upon.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Do what you can today not to mix together any friends who hold divergent points of view. If you do, you might end up being the one who has to play referee to a bunch of hotheads.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Be on guard as to how you might react or respond if someone who likes to call the shots for everybody starts issuing you directives on how to run your life. Keep your temper in check.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Although you might be dying to tell someone about your latest bright idea, keep it to yourself if the only person around is one who lacks vision. This individual could put a damper on it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Rightfully so, you might get a little miffed today when someone who owes you money starts buying expensive things instead of paying you back.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you hope to further an interest today that is important to you, you'd better make certain there is also something in it for others if you expect them to help you accomplish your purpose.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Don't expect to be able to relax and enjoy yourself today if you haven't yet taken care of a responsibility that you know is in much need of attention. Get your duties out of the way first.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — If you plan to participate in some form of strenuous sport or activity today, be particularly careful not to exert yourself beyond your endurance level or be ready to face aches and pains tomorrow.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Don't give any credence today to critical comments being voiced by an associate who you know is envious of your accomplishments. Let this person eat his or her own sour grapes.

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Myer hits jackpot

COACHELLA, Calif. (AP) — "Moon River" crooner Andy Williams was playing blackjack at the Trump 29 Casino last week when a friend ran up and told him: "You better come quick, your mother-in-law ..."

Williams had taken family and friends to the casino for dinner. He then gave his mother-in-law, Mary Jane Myer, $100 in gambling money. The first-time gambler headed for the slot machines while Williams and wife, Debbie, went to a blackjack table.

Concerned over the breathless message from their friend, the 76-year-old singer bolted from the blackjack table to find out what had happened to his mother-in-law, who was 200 yards away. A large crowd had formed and Williams feared the worst.

He asked her what was wrong.

"Wrong? I just hit the jackpot and won a new red Ford Mustang convertible by putting two quarters in this machine," Myer said.

Hubble shows deepest view of universe

BALTIMORE (AP) — The deepest-ever view of the universe, a photo by the Hubble Space Telescope that looks back to the edge of the big bang, shows a chaotic scramble of odd galaxies smashing into each other and re-forming in bizarre shapes.

The snapshot of the universe, called the Ultra Deep Field, captured light that had streaked through space for more than 13 billion years, starting its journey when the universe was only 5 percent of its 13.7-billion-year age. The view has about 10,000 galaxies, some mixed in chaos that one astronomer said "looked like a train wreck."

Capturing such faint and distant light, officials at the Space Telescope Science Institute said Tuesday, was like photographing a firefly hovering above the moon.

"For the first time we're looking back at stars that are forming out of the depths of the big bang," said Steven V. W. Beckwith, director of the institute. "We're seeing the youngest stars within a stone's throw of the beginning of the universe."

Hubble's images were collected by focusing its instruments at a single point in the southern sky for 1 million seconds, an exposure that took more than 400 orbits of the space telescope.

The portion in the sky photographed by two Hubble instruments is very small. Astronomers compared the field of view it to looking at the sky through an 8-foot-long soda straw. They said capturing the images is akin to reading the mint date on a 25-cent coin from a mile away.

What the view lacks in width, however, it makes up for in depth. Beckwith said that never before had a telescope captured such detail from such a distance.

"These images will be in astronomy textbooks for years," he said.

Many of the photographed galaxies lack the stately grace and order of spirals, such as the Milky Way, or of the huge elliptical galaxies seen in the nearby universe. Some of the galaxies in the Ultra Deep Field appear to be colliding, with gravitational forces mashing them into unusual shapes. Some resemble toothpicks and others are like a string of faint lights. There also are faint points of vivid red, which may be the most distant and ancient of the galaxies.

Astronomers believe that during the few hundred million years of star formation, the universe was smaller, the objects closer together and galaxy formation more chaotic.

In what Beckwith described as a "land rush," astronomers worldwide now will begin an intensive study of the deep field view, searching for clues to fundamental questions about the formation and evolution of stars and galaxies.

"Getting us the deepest picture of the universe ever is giving us new land to explore," said Massimo Stiavelli, a Space Telescope Science Institute astronomer.

Release of the Ultra Deep Field may be among the Hubble's last major contribution to astronomy. Maintaining the orbiting telescope requires periodic repair visits by space shuttle astronauts. NASA has announced that, in the aftermath of the Columbia accident in 2003, it is canceling future plans to service the Hubble.

Beckwith said the Hubble batteries or gyroscopes eventually will fail and disable the observatory. He said it may be down to two gyros by the end of 2005, and if another fails after that, "We'll be out of business."

"We don't know exactly when that will happen," he said. "It could happen this year, or it could be another five years."

Sen. Barbara Mikulski, D-Md., who attended the presentation of the new deep-space images, said that such a result "is why I continue to stand up for Hubble."

She said she continues to fight to extend the life of Hubble and is awaiting a "second opinion" about the telescope's fate. Astronomers present cheered her words.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Grapefruit may interact with medications

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am really concerned about the interaction of grapefruit and medications. I am 86 and have developed diminished muscle strength. I love grapefruit and enjoy it every day. At my age, I also take many medications. Do I need to worry?

DEAR READER: I cannot give a quick and easy answer to your question. Grapefruit, which is metabolized by the cytochrome p450 system in the body, can interfere with the biodegradation of many medications, leading to possible toxic reactions.

While I would not presume to advise you, based on the sparse information you supplied I can confirm that your worries are legitimate and should be addressed.

The grapefruit itself is probably not a cause of your symptoms; however, the combination of the juice and your medication could certainly be a concern.

Check with your physician or pharmacist. At the very least, a health professional should be aware of your issues.

As an off-the-record observation, I've discovered that pharmacists are far more knowledgeable than are physicians about drug and fruit interactions. This is not a surprise; it is what pharmacists are trained to do. In this situation, you need accurate information that can probably be best provided by a pharmacist. (I'll deny I wrote this because doctors, who are very sensitive to the intricacies of in-program referrals, may come down hard on me. But, so what?) Check with your pharmacist.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Consumer Tips on Medicine." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am taking Lasix for high blood pressure, but I'm concerned that I may become deficient in potassium because my doctor hasn't prescribed a potassium supplement. Is this a valid concern?

DEAR READER: Yes. Several diuretics (kidney stimulants) will cause an accelerated loss of potassium, a vital mineral, from the body. If extra potassium is not simultaneously administered as a supplement, dangerous heart irregularities and other harmful consequences can result.

When prescribing potassium-losing diuretics, most doctors "cover the bases" by also prescribing potassium pills (or liquid). Perhaps your physician should revise his approach and tell you why he feels a potassium supplement is not necessary. At the very least, you need to have periodic blood tests to check your potassium levels.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Hypertension." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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Pharmacists brace for rush to get 'Human Joint Oil'

New FLUIDjoint™ has substantially greater effect over Glucosamine for improving overall joint function*

By Lee Stearns
Universal Media Syndicate*

Pharmacists around the country are bracing for the rush of people expecting to get one of the newest breakthroughs in medical science called FLUIDjoint.

What calcium is to your bones FLUIDjoint is to your joints.

It's being compared to "human joint oil" for adults because of it's ability to deliver powerful micronutrients to the human joints.

Just imagine a formula that will help your body to reduce joint discomfort, stiffness and improve flexibility to enhance daily living activities.

Scientists have identified and condensed the micronutrients that your body can use and put to work within days.

With the special micronutrients in FLUIDjoint the only "effects" experienced are more mobility, comfort and improved joint health.

It's called FLUIDjoint. This brand-new supplement is a huge breakthrough for those concerned about joint function, because the clinical results show that the remarkable health benefits are substantial.

Not all drugstores have received deliveries of FLUIDjoint yet. But for those who want it first, we are providing the phone number and information on who has it so you can get it right now.

"FLUIDjoint goes directly to the cartilage and helps joints move with ease, helping to preserve cartilage and improve joint function," explains John L. Zenk, M.D.

"FLUIDjoint combines micronutrients that work with our own bodies immune systems to slow the cycle of cartilage destruction, leading to joint dysfunction."

"The major problem is that our immune function declines as we age. FLUIDjoint provides the valuable micronutrient support needed to help protect our joints," Dr. Zenk said.

Each chewable dose of FLUIDjoint is so good it tastes just like a tablespoon of a vanilla milkshake. That makes most people happy because they can get rid of all those huge supplement pills they choke down everyday.

"FLUIDjoint's effect was far superior than Glucosamine in every clinically measured joint parameter. A remarkable 90% of the people who use FLUIDjoint can expect to experience an improvement in joint function. FLUIDjoint is safe and effective for continuous, long term use, according to study results."

John L. Zenk, MD
Principal Investigator
Certified American Board of Internal Medicine

For most, FLUIDjoint provides rapid results. A noticeable improvement in joint performance can be seen in less than 14 days of taking the daily dosage.

Each place in your body where bone meets bone is a potential spot for the grinding agony of joint pain, arthritis, stiff fingers or sore knees.

Until now, many people have flocked to remedies that contain Glucosamine, Chondroitin, MSM or Collagen.

Yet, Glucosamine and Chondroitin have a common drawback, they do not work for everyone.

In contrast, FLUIDjoint is a new micronutrient supplement. Drugstores will be able to provide FLUIDjoint without a prescription.

Dr. Lee Randolph Beck, a biologist and former professor at the University of Alabama Medical School explains, "FLUIDjoint has extensive scientific support, and FLUIDjoint's micronutrients have been tested in well-controlled clinical studies."

"The results of one study revealed that FLUIDjoint was substantially effective in improving all measured parameters (joint pain, joint stiffness, activities of daily living and total WOMAC scores which measures overall joint function) beginning at the second week and continuing to the completion of the trial. No serious adverse reactions were noted in any of the groups," Dr. Beck said.

Figure 1 depicts the effect measurements for FLUIDjoint and glucosamine sulfate in one of the studies. In that study FLUIDjoint substantially beat glucosamine in the combined study.

Although both compounds show the ability to produce a large effect size in every category, FLUIDjoint out-performed glucosamine in every area measured in the study.

With many years of science behind FLUIDjoint, clinical tests show that daily consumption of the amazing key ingredient in FLUIDjoint is of great benefit to those who worry about joint function.

The active ingredient in FLUIDjoint was awarded a United States Patent 5,650,175, for the anti-inflammatory factor method of isolation and use.

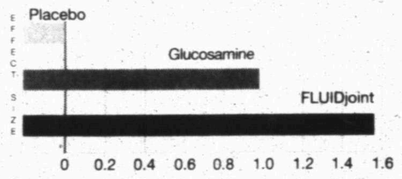
"This all results in the most advanced joint health supplement on the market today. It lets you move with ease. It works sooner than imagined. Your joints can bend and flex easier so you can do all the things you love to do," Dr. Beck said.

"Not all drugstores have received deliveries of FLUIDjoint yet. Until shipments have reached all 30,000 of our drugstores, we've opened a National Direct Order Line **1-800-239-6133 ask for Dept. FJ3463.** So anyone who doesn't want to wait can call immediately and have FLUIDjoint sent to their home," said John Lindesmith, PatentHEALTH spokesman.

"It has been announced that **Eckerd** stores are the first in the area to receive FLUIDjoint and now have it available," Lindesmith said. ■

THE 10 JOINT TROUBLE SPOTS
✔ Check all that apply:
❑ Neck ❑ Wrist ❑ Toes ❑ Elbow
❑ Shoulder ❑ Fingers ❑ Hip
❑ Back ❑ Knee ❑ Ankle

THE CLINICAL RESULTS



FLUIDjoint Outperformed Glucosamine in Every Clinically Measured Joint Parameter of the Study

FLUIDJOINT ORAL DOSAGE
Just 2 Chewables Per Dose
FLUIDjoint vanilla milkshake chewable tablets are well accepted and easier than swallowing pills. They can deliver faster and increased absorption to your joints than pills. The twice daily dosage comes in a cobalt blue prescription designed bottle.

For Complete References see Current Therapeutic Research, Vol. 63, No. 7, July 2002. Dr. Lee Randolph Beck a biologist and former professor of the University of Alabama Medical School is currently the Chief Scientific Officer for the producer of the milk biologics ingredients. John L. Zenk, M.D. the former Chief of Medicine at St. Francis Hospital, Minnesota, is currently retained as the Chief Medical/Scientific Officer of the licensee of the milk biologics ingredients.

*THESE STATEMENTS HAVE NOT BEEN EVALUATED BY THE FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION. THIS PRODUCT IS NOT INTENDED TO DIAGNOSE, TREAT, CURE OR PREVENT DISEASE.

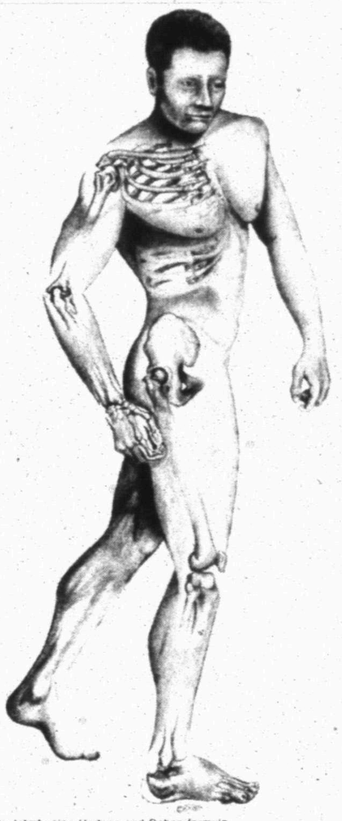


Figure 1 Source: PatentHEALTH, LLC ©2004 – Effect is calculated using Hedges and Cohen formula.

HOW TO CONTACT FLUIDJOINT'S NATIONAL DIRECT ORDER LINE

1. **Eckerd** stores are offering a special introduction of FLUIDjoint while supplies last.
2. Until shipments of FLUIDjoint have reached all U.S. drugstores you can get FLUIDjoint now directly from the National Processing Center by following the instructions below. FLUIDjoint carries an unconditional money back guarantee. Each shipment of FLUIDjoint contains 60 chewable tablets.
   A. For fastest service to get FLUIDjoint order by phone. Those with a credit card can call **1-800-239-6133** ask for Dept. **FJ3463** to order. You can call 24 hours a day.
   B. To order by mail, enclose $29 plus $5.87 for shipping and handling, in check or money order made payable to *FLUIDjoint*. Send with this FLUIDjoint order form to:
      PatentHEALTH, LLC
      FLUIDjoint National Processing Center Dept. FJ3463
      Postal Drawer 3678, Akron, OH 44309-3678
   C. Print your name and address here:

Best Available Copy

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Teen sniper Malvo gets life without parole

CHESAPEAKE, Va. (AP) — Teenage sniper Lee Boyd Malvo was sentenced to life in prison without parole today for an October 2002 killing spree in the Washington, D.C., area that left 10 people dead.

Malvo was sentenced a day after sniper mastermind John Allen Muhammad was given the death penalty.

Circuit Judge Jane Marum Roush imposed the sentence on Malvo during a brief hearing. Malvo did not speak.

Muhammad used his sentencing hearing on Tuesday to again deny any role in the killings, echoing a claim of innocence he made in his opening statement to the jury when he briefly served as his own attorney.

"Just like I said at the beginning, I had nothing to do with this, and I'll say again, I had nothing to do with this," Muhammad said.

Circuit Judge LeRoy F. Millette Jr. said the evidence of Muhammad's guilt was "overwhelming" and sentenced him to death.

"These offenses are so vile that they were almost beyond comprehension," Millette said.

Unlike in the Malvo case, Millette had the option of reducing the jury's recommendation of death to life in prison without parole. Virginia law allows a judge to reduce a jury's recommended sentence but not increase it.

Roush had no leeway to change the jury's recommendation of life in prison for Malvo because that is the minimum punishment allowed for a capital murder conviction.

Muhammad appeared in court Tuesday in an orange jail jumpsuit with a slightly graying, unkempt beard, in sharp contrast to his clean-shaven, well-dressed appearance at trial.

Ex-Tech professor will be sentenced

LUBBOCK (AP) — More than 100 letters of support for Dr. Thomas Butler, whose report of missing vials of plague bacteria last year sparked a bioterrorism scare, have been sent to the judge who will sentence him.

A couple of them requested that U.S. District Judge Sam Cummings sentence Butler to community service rather than to prison. Butler's attorneys have filed a motion seeking probation.

Butler, a former Texas Tech infectious diseases professor, faces up to 240 years in prison for convictions on 47 of 69 charges he faced as a result of the investigation into 30 vials of missing plague-causing bacteria.

"Dr. Butler's travels have given him a firsthand knowledge of the types of illness and disease confronting children, the elderly and others living in developing countries," wrote David Weaver Jr., executive director of the nonprofit South Plains Food Bank in Lubbock. "Dr. Butler's knowledge of microbiology and skills as a researcher would be invaluable at our Breedlove Dehydrated Foods Division."

Breedlove is a division of the food bank and ships products to developing countries.

Butler, who was set to be sentenced today, has lost his job, his medical license and now may lose his freedom because of his convictions.

Though his convictions carry lengthy sentences, federal sentencing guidelines likely will reduce them. He also faces fines up to $11.7 million.

Butler declined to comment Tuesday.

The motion for probation comes as Cummings also considers a presentencing report, which is not a public record and will not be disclosed.

"No purpose would be served by a prison sentence, and the good that could be done by ordering community service should not be ignored," the motion states.

Prosecutor Bob Webster said he supports the report's recommendation.

Floyd Holder, Butler's attorney, said he hopes Cummings grants the motion for probation.

"We are hoping, have our fingers crossed," he said.

In a settlement with Tech in late January, Butler agreed to pay $250,000 to the school and retire. Last month, Butler voluntarily surrendered his medical license to the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners.

In December, a jury found Butler guilty of mislabeling a Fed Ex package that contained plague samples he sent to Tanzania and their unauthorized export to the African country.

The jury also found Butler guilty of theft, embezzlement, fraud, and mail and wire fraud charges pertaining to shadow contracts prosecutors claimed he had illegally negotiated while at Tech. The settlement with Tech pertained to these charges.

Kerry pledges to retain tax cuts for middle-class people

CHICAGO (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry said today he will ask Americans earning more than $200,000 a year to pay the taxes they paid under President Clinton and pledged to retain the Bush tax cuts for the middle class and even add to them.

"Under George Bush's policies, middle-class families are paying more. America's middle class can't afford a tax increase," Kerry told labor leaders. He accused the president of draining thousands of dollars from working families and practicing "the politics of blame."

"George Bush is running on the same old Republican tactics of fear — and they're already getting tired," he said. "It's clear that this president will fight like hell to keep his own job, but he won't lift a finger to help Americans keep theirs."

Just hours after a four-state sweep that moved him tantalizingly close to claiming the Democratic nomination, Kerry toured a mechanical contracting business and spoke via satellite to leaders of the AFL-CIO gathered in Bal Harbour, Fla., for their winter convention. He spoke from the shop floor, surrounded by about 50 workers.

The Massachusetts senator won the labor federation's endorsement last month and hopes to use labor's organizational muscle and money to boost his campaign. While labor's share of the work force has declined over the years, union members are reliable voters, with 26 percent of those casting ballots in the 2000 election coming from union households.

Kerry, contending that President Bush's tax cuts for the rich have driven up costs for workers, said he will propose new middle-class tax credits to pay for health care and college tuition and establish a $50 billion fund to help states provide tax relief for state, local and property taxes for working families.

Six arrested on Tuesday

• Arrest

Six arrests were made in Snyder and Scurry County on Tuesday.

A resident reported at 9:32 p.m. Tuesday that a subject was at her residence on 40th St. and refusing to leave. The call resulted in the arrest of a 32-year-old man for public intoxication and Class C assault family violence.

At midnight Tuesday, a 24-year-old man was arrested on the Hwy. 84 bypass for misdemeanor DWI.

A 25-year-old woman turned herself in to law enforcement at 10:50 a.m. Tuesday on a Lubbock County warrant for driving while license invalid.

At 5:30 p.m. Tuesday a 27-year-old man was placed under arrest by deputies on a warrant for violation of a protective order.

Sheriff's deputies arrested a 31-year-old man on Hwy. 180 Tuesday afternoon near Snyder for driving while license suspended.

At 9:28 p.m. officers took a 20-year-old woman into custody on two warrants for not wearing a seatbelt and failure to appear.

• Accident

A two-vehicle minor accident occurred at 3:30 p.m. Tuesday in the 2900 block of El Paso. The mishap involved a 1988 GMC school bus driven by Stacy Peevy, 42, 2336 CR 496, Hermleigh, and a 1996 Suzuki SUV driven by Mickey Babcock, 46, of 4106 Ave. U.

• Theft

A caller reported the theft of two dogs from her home at 1244 Ave. P.

At 3 p.m. a resident reported the theft of $950 and two Playstation games valued at $120 from 1368 Smith Ave.

• Recovered stolen vehicle

A caller reported an abandoned vehicle in the 3100 block of Ave. F at 12:15 p.m. Tuesday. Officers checked the Chevrolet S10 and discovered it had been reported stolen. The pickup was released to the owner.

• Officer requested

At 10:26 a.m. Tuesday a caller requested an officer in reference to finding some drug paraphanelia in the 500 block of 28th St. and wanting to turn it in. Officers took the items into custody.

• Harassment

A caller reported harassment by former family members at 3:08 p.m. Tuesday in the 200 block of 34th St.

A caller reported to police from the 3900 block of Muriel Dr. that a female subject had been coming to his home and harassing him. He requested that officers advise the subject not to go onto his property again.

A caller requested an officer at 6:13 p.m. Tuesday in the 500 block of 35th St. in reference to being harassed by another person. Officers located the subject and criminal trespass papers were served.

Obituaries

Mrs. Covington

1910-2004

LAMESA — Christine Orvetta Covington, the mother of Woody Covington of Snyder, died Monday, March 8, in the Lamesa Healthcare Center.

Funeral service for Mrs. Covington, 93, is set for 4 p.m. Thursday in the Second Baptist Church with the Revs. Syl Moore and Clifton Igo officiating. Burial will follow in Lamesa Memorial Park under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.



Covington

Born Sept. 7, 1910 in Big Spring to John and Harriet Elizabeth Robinson, she married Henry Dewey Covington on Sept. 7, 1928 in Big Spring. He died May 3, 1997.

She also was preceded in death by one brother; four sisters; and two granddaughters, Orvetta Kay and Glenda Ann.

Mrs. Covington and her husband owned a service station, a laundry, café, trucking company and farm. She worked for Lamesa Tire and Battery, Oakes Irrigation and McDonald's Department Store, and was a member of the Second Baptist Church for many years.

Survivors include another son and daughter-in-law, Ruben and Vera Covington of Big Spring; a daughter-in-law, Shirley Covington of Snyder; two daughters, Joyce Miles and Ernestine Eastham, both of Lamesa; a sister, Elizabeth Pierce of Stanton; eight grandchildren; 24 great-grandchildren; and 38 great-great-grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Second Baptist Church.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Bessie Cleveland

1914-2004

ROTAN — Bessie Cleveland, a former teacher in the Hermleigh schools, died Monday, March 8, in Rotan Healthcare Center.

Funeral service for Mrs. Cleveland, 89, was set for 2 p.m. today in the First Baptist Church with Charles Doty and Corkey Wells officiating.

Born Dec. 1, 1914 in Fisher County, she earned her B.S. degree from McMurry in 1946 and her master's from Howard Payne in 1955.

She had begun her teaching career in a two-room school in Pleasant Valley in 1942 where she worked for two years. She taught in Roby for six years, Hermleigh for four years and Fort Stockton for 25 years, retiring in 1979.

A Baptist, Miss Cleveland was past-president of Delta Kappa Gamma and a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Survivors include three sisters, Annis Joplin of Ransom Canyon, Stella Mash of Roby and Ruth Riddels of Lewisville; two brothers, William Cleveland of Rotan and John Cleveland of McCaulley.

LaRue Hyatt

1928-2004

LaRue Hyatt, 75, died Tuesday, March 9, at her residence in Snyder.

Services are pending at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Mrs. Hyatt was born on April 17, 1928 in Wichita Falls.

WCFH

Independently Owned & Operated

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 3/11	Fri 3/12	Sat 3/13
49/36	55/44	64/38
Cloudy with a few showers. High 49F. Winds NE at 15 to 25 mph.	Few showers. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the mid 40s.	Showers. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the upper 30s.
Sunrise 6:59 AM / Sunset 6:49 PM	Sunrise 6:57 AM / Sunset 6:50 PM	Sunrise 6:56 AM / Sunset 6:51 PM

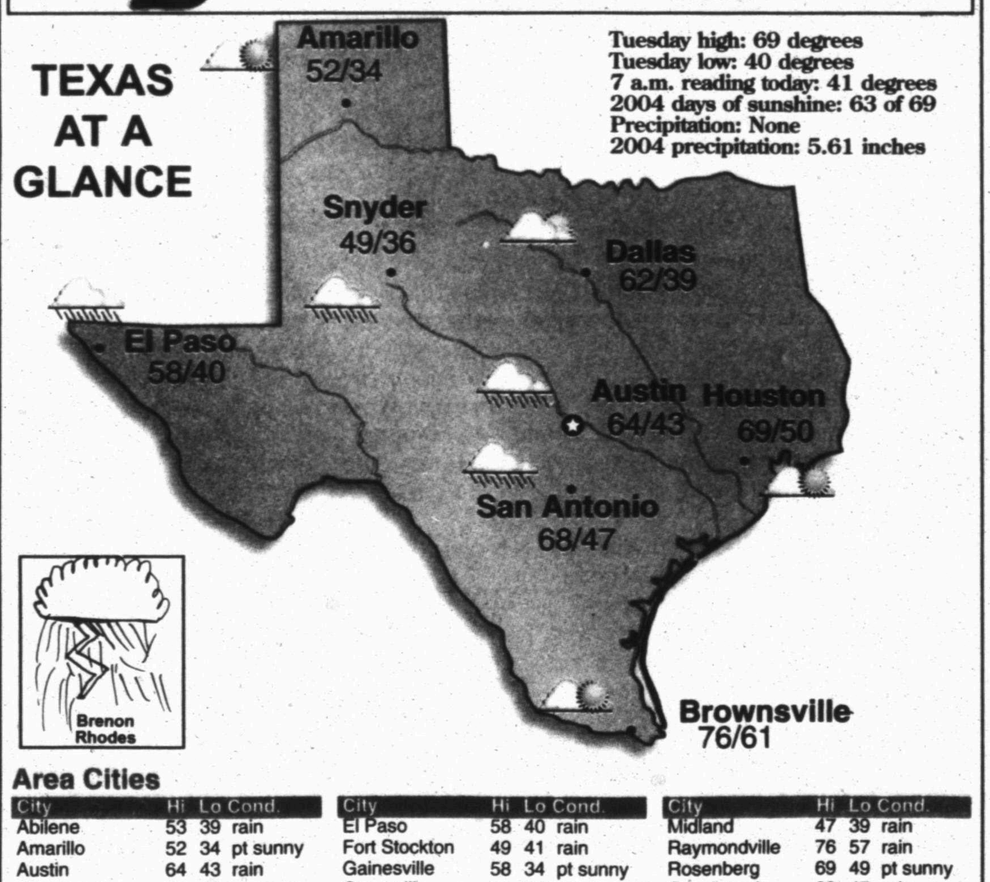
Texas Savings Bank

"MOVE IT ON OVER"

2619 College Avenue FDIC 573-9305

TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Tuesday high: 69 degrees
Tuesday low: 40 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 41 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 63 of 69
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 5.61 inches



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	53	39	rain	El Paso	58	40	rain	Midland	47	39	rain
Amarillo	52	34	pt sunny	Fort Stockton	49	41	rain	Raymondville	76	57	rain
Austin	64	43	rain	Gainesville	58	34	pt sunny	Rosenberg	69	49	pt sunny
Beaumont	69	48	pt sunny	Greenville	61	36	pt sunny	San Antonio	68	47	rain
Brownsville	76	61	pt sunny	Houston	69	50	pt sunny	San Marcos	66	43	cloudy
Brownwood	60	40	rain	Kingsville	74	56	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	61	35	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	71	56	pt sunny	Livingston	68	43	pt sunny	Sweetwater	51	39	rain
Corsicana	63	39	rain	Longview	63	38	pt sunny	Tyler	62	38	rain
Dallas	62	39	cloudy	Lubbock	49	36	rain	Weatherford	60	36	rain
Del Rio	63	51	rain	Lufkin	67	43	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	56	36	pt sunny

National Cities

Atlanta	62	34	mst sunny	Houston	69	50	pt sunny	Phoenix	85	60	pt sunny
Boston	42	36	sn shower	Los Angeles	82	58	sunny	San Francisco	72	53	windy
Chicago	38	20	sn shower	Miami	73	60	mst sunny	Seattle	60	44	pt sunny
Dallas	62	39	cloudy	Minneapolis	22	17	sn shower	St. Louis	47	26	windy
Denver	53	34	sunny	New York	48	37	pt sunny	Washington, DC	55	35	mst sunny

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Mar 6	Mar 13	Mar 20	Mar 28

UV Index

Thu 3/11	Fri 3/12	Sat 3/13
4	5	5
Low	Low	Moderate

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV Index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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