INSIDE

Truckers Law Considered 2
Dear Abby 3
Lady Tigers Excel 5
Midday Stocks 7
What's Up 9

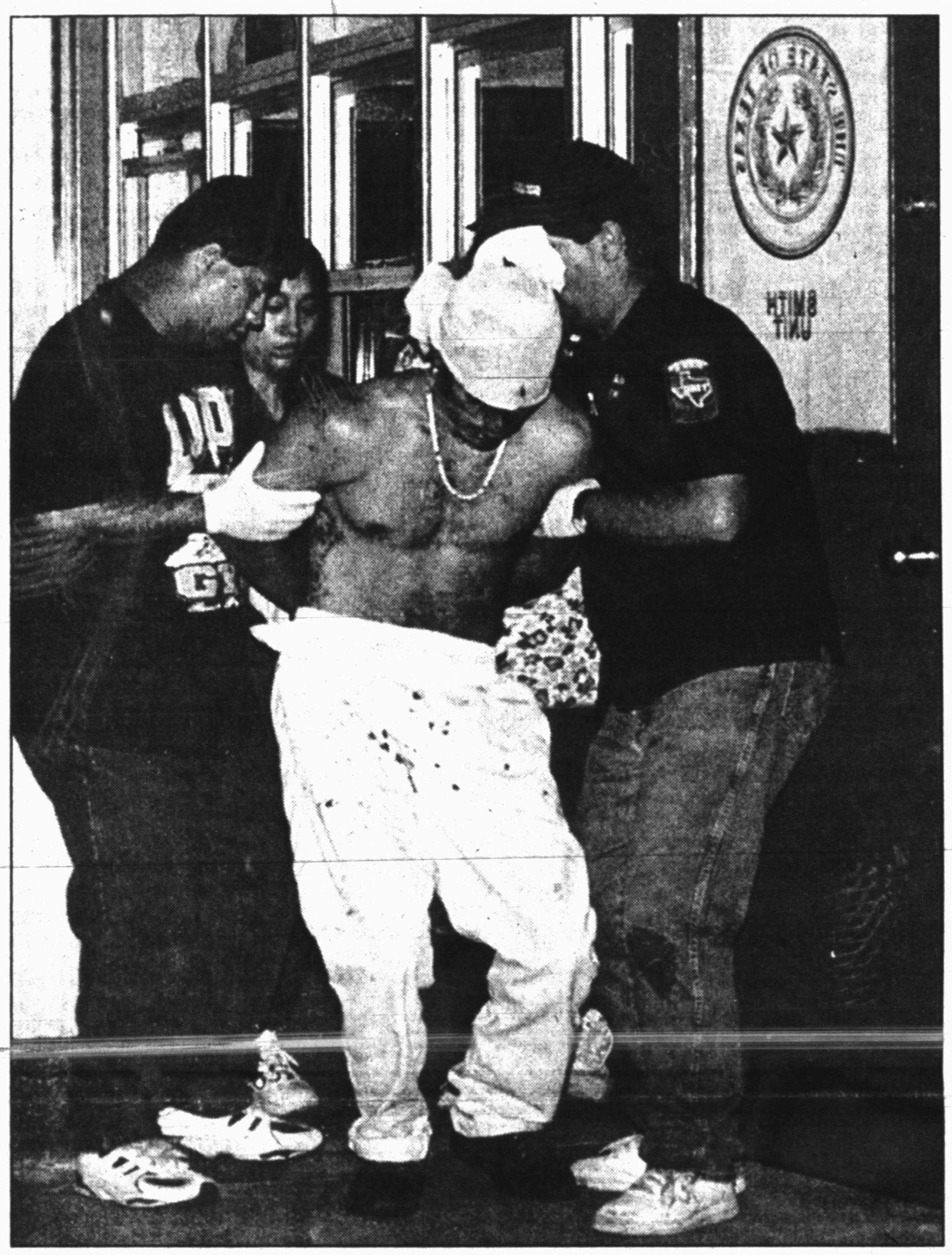
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

April 26, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 308
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Tate Thompson



RIOT IN LAMESA PRISON — An injured Preston Smith Unit inmate is assisted out of the unit following the altercation between some 300 black and Hispanic inmates. One inmate was killed, and at least four correctional officers were treated for minor injuries. (Photo courtesy of Lamesa Press-Reporter)

One killed during rioting at Lamesa TDCJ prison unit

Three WTC staffers on unit during incident

From staff and wire reports

LAMESA (AP) — The Preston Smith Unit is under lockdown today in the aftermath of a riot by some 300 black and Hispanic inmates wielding garden tools. One inmate was killed and 31 others were injured.

The disturbance at the minimum-to-medium-security Smith Unit began around 6:30 p.m. Tuesday and was under control by midnight, said John Barton, spokesman for Warden Lupe Lozano.

State prison officials said it took about 300 guards to quell the riot, which centered in the prison's recreation yard. A kitchen was gutted by fire, Fitzgerald said.

Price Daniel Unit Warden Wilhelmenia Howard said this morning that 20 correctional officers and six ranking officers were sent from Snyder to the Lamesa unit Tuesday evening. Assistant Warden Vernon Pittman was among those responding to the disturbance, Howard said.

You're looking at one-on-one instead of 10-on-one in this kind of situation," Barton said, in reference to the number of guards needed to regain control.

Three instructors from Western Texas College were inside the unit when the riot started, said Mike Thornton, dean of workforce education at WTC.

The instructors were Ava Russell, math teacher from Snyder; Kyle Smith, a government instructor from Sweetwater; and workforce education instructor Ron Huddle of Lamesa.

"All three were inside the educational building when the riot began," said Thornton. "They were immediately moved to the book room in the building which was considered the most secure spot."

While the rioting was occurring outside the building, several windows were reportedly broken out of the educational facility.

Thornton said he spoke with the instructors two times Tuesday night, and all were complimentary of the correctional officers who helped move them to safety.

Thornton said the three were later moved to the command post inside the administration building, but remained on the unit past midnight.

Mrs. Russell, the instructor from Snyder, said she needed to speak with her supervisors before talking to the newspaper or other media.

WTC instructors have taught in four area prisons since 1989, and this was the first incident encountered by the WTC staff, said Thornton.

Larry Fitzgerald, a spokesman for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice in Huntsville, said the incident started in the chow hall between two inmates.

A Hispanic inmate confronted a black inmate who was fondling himself in front of a female officer, Fitzgerald said.

Word of the confrontation then spread throughout the unit.

"We're still trying to put all this together," said Fitzgerald.

Guards used a pepper spray-like substance to subdue the inmates. One guard suffered minor injuries from a gas grenade that went off in his hand.

The prison, located in a former cotton field southeast of Lamesa, was put under lockdown and an investigation is underway, Fitzgerald said.

The riot came as the Texas Department of Criminal Justice was auditing staffing patterns at the prison, following guards' complaints about understaffing. The prison was designed to hold 1,276, but currently houses 1,322 inmates, Barton said.

It was the latest case of unrest at Texas prisons, the nation's second largest prison system, and the second in West Texas this month.

On April 14, an inmate held a guard hostage for seven hours at the William P. Clements Jr. Unit in Amarillo before surrendering. The guard was not hurt. In December, a guard at Beeville became the first Texas correctional officer killed in 17 years. In January, a guard at the Byrd Unit in Huntsville was stabbed in the belly with a pencil. In February, two death row inmates armed with pieces of metal took a female officer hostage and held her for 13 hours before surrendering.

The name of the inmate who died Tuesday was not released.

Some of the injured inmates were taken to Brownfield Regional Medical Center. The hospital refused to give information, but Barton said some of the injuries were critical.

Six others were taken to the University Medical Center in Lubbock; none of the injuries was life-threatening, said Terry Martin, house supervisor at the hospital. Nine others were taken to the hospital at the Montford prison unit in Lubbock.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Expect change – except from vending machines."

At last report, the population of the United States was 13,165. Apparently, more than a few folks haven't returned those census forms.

Or perhaps those door-to-door census workers were distracted.

We couldn't help but chuckle when we received a faxed news release from State Rep. David Counts urging citizens in the 70th District to help get people counted.

The news release declared, "Census workers have hit the sheets."

After a little harassment for fun, Counts' Austin office sent out a revised press release, changing sheets to streets.

Folks are wanting to blame Greenspan, the federal reserve chief, for the stock market's recent roller coaster ride.

A close look would probably reveal his fingerprints, but he would likely have to share blame with sweetheart packages by company insiders.

Just before the big slide, the Wall Street Journal reported the annual executive compensation survey. It concluded that the .com pay bonanza is creating lots of angst.

At the top of the list this year was Dennis Kozlowski of Tyco International. He had direct compensation of $170 million and that tidy sum included a $39.7 million gain from stock options.

Assuming he does some work seven days a week, 365 days a year, the CEO's daily income is just under half a million bucks a day. And that's better than a winning lottery ticket.

But the guy did okay for other stockholders as well, as the shareholder return was 87.1 percent. That was good for him, too, the CEO's stake in the company at year-end was valued at $160 million.

Runner-up was David Pottruck, co-CEO of Charles Schwab. But don't feel badly for ole Dave. His paycheck, including stock options, was $127.9 million. And he owned stock valued at $160 million.

It's one thing to reward someone for outstanding performance, but consider mediocre or even poor bottom lines.

We noticed where the top guy at J.C. Penney got a 75 percent pay hike, from $612,235 to $1.1 million.

But the CEO didn't get top dollar from the retailer. Penney's executive vice president, hired away from Wal-Mart, was paid $1.3 million.

If the second guy is worth more than the top guy, then no wonder the chain's stock plunged more than 60 percent last year.

DCOS planning labor survey

As an aid in recruiting industry to Snyder, the Development Corporation of Snyder is planning to conduct a labor survey in conjunction with the cities of Colorado City and Sweetwater.

DCOS executive director John DeLille said the survey would pinpoint the type of employees available to industrial prospects.

DeLille said the cost is expected to be in the neighborhood of $10,000, and the expense would be shared by the three communities.

In his monthly report to the DCOS board Tuesday, DeLille also said Snyder Brick and Tile has 15 employees on its payroll working to get the plant back in working order.

"The firm is still looking at a July date to open," said DeLille.

DeLille also reported that he has plans to meet in Los Angeles with Tom Lorber, president of Lorber Industries, in the near future.

"We'll be discussing the future plans of their plant here, including possible expansion," said DeLille. "I know that Tom is very committed to the plant here. He, and Jack Whitworth (Snyder plant manager and vice president of Lorber Industries of Texas) are dedicated to fulfilling the dreams of Arnold Lorber in regards to the local plant."

In other reports Tuesday, board member Roy McQueen reported that the contract for the gas line to the industrial park had been finalized by the DCOS and TXU Gas. The board also discussed advertising for bids for the construction of the gas line with "owner-furnished" materials. Anticipated savings would be in markup by a contractor and sales tax savings.

"We also may be able to buy the supplies at a municipality price and save some money," said McQueen.

McQueen also said the technical committee that includes himself, Roy Baze and Mike Post were to meet Wednesday afternoon to consider selection of a supervisor for the gas line construction.

The board also approved the monthly financial statements.

Box office opens

The box office for the Ritz Community Theatre spring production, God's Favorite, opens Thursday.

Box office hours for the Neil Simon comedy are from 2-5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The production dates are May 4-6 and May 12-14.

Curtain times on Friday and Saturday will be 8 p.m., while Sunday matinees are at 2:30.

Tickets are $7 and group rates for 10 or more are $6, as are senior and student tickets and the Sunday matinees.

Reservations can be made by calling the box office during business hours at 573-8880.

The production is Simon's contemporary counterpart of the story of Job from the Bible.

The show stars Kent Wright as Joe Benjamin, a wealthy Long Island businessman; Mike Harrison as God's messenger, Sidney Lipton; Barbara Vincent as Joe's wife, Rose; Justin Stice as the prodigal son, David; Kara Babcock and Caleb Durham as the twins, Sarah and Ben Benjamin; and Linda Proctor as the faithful servant, Mady.

Rotary program planned Thursday

Some 90 Snyder High School juniors and seniors will participate in the Rotary Club's shadowing program Thursday.

Dr. Bryan Cave, chairman of the program, said the students will spend the morning at various Snyder businesses, and then meet for lunch with the Rotary Club.

Cogdell board sets meeting

Cogdell Memorial Hospital board of r
Thursday for its monthly board meeting
Agenda items include the election of
medical report by Dr. Bid Cooper, ch
Jo Beth Hardegree will preser
ance improvement evaluation
ology renovation and for mam
Chief Executive Officer
report, and financial statements v
will meet at 8 a.m.
ch an, and the
perform-
for radi-
onthly

ASK US

Q—Is there a legal age that a child can be left alone in a home?
A—No.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 83 degrees; low, 58; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 59; no precipitation; total for 2000, 7.64 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy, 30% storm chance, some severe; low 60-65. S wind 10-20 mph. Thursday, partly cloudy, slight storm chance; high 80-85, S wind 5-15 mph becoming NE 10-20 mph.



Lucy Colunga
Partly Cloudy

Sunset:
8:20 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:03 a.m.
Of 116 days in 2000, the sun has shone 113 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Action must be taken at once; there is no time to be lost.
—Miguel Hidalgo

APR 26 2000

More rest for truckers law considered

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — Truckers say they can only sleep so much — or drive so long.

Long-distance drivers interviewed at one of the country's major crossroads were unanimous Tuesday in their disapproval of proposed federal regulations requiring 10 to 12 hours' rest between driving shifts.

"You can't lay in bed that long. It's going to create a problem," said Don Alyea of Kansas City, Mo.

Alyea's truck was among 50 or so big-rig diesels stopped Tuesday at Travel Centers of America truck stop. Located at the intersection of Interstates 25 and 40 in Albuquerque, the truck stop handles an estimated 100,000 rigs a year.

Under existing, 60-year-old regulations, truckers can drive no more than 10 hours straight, followed by at least eight hours off, leaving open the possibility of driving as much as 16 hours in a 24-hour period.

The new rules would require big-rig drivers to take a mandatory rest period of 10 consecutive hours every 24 hours, with an additional two hours of rest taken during the work shift or at its beginning or end. Drivers could conceivably work 12 hours on and 12 off each day.

"A man can't sleep 12 hours," said Danny O'Brien, a trucker from Lake of the Ozarks, Mo.

"If you sleep eight hours and wake up, you still have to wait four hours before you start driving again," O'Brien said. "That's 16 hours you have to be awake."

Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater announced the proposed regulations in Washington on Tuesday. He estimated that the changes would prevent 2,600 accidents and as many as 115 fatalities each year that are blamed on exhaustion.

"This proposal is designed to increase safety on our nation's highways," Slater said.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, fatalities in crashes involving large trucks dropped from 5,374 in 1998 to 5,203 in 1999.

The federal plan would establish work limits for five different classes of drivers and calls for electronic monitors to oversee work hours.

"There won't be one in mine — I'll just go ahead and quit," said Leo Hillman, 57, owner of L&H Trucking Co. of Little Rock, Ark., which has five trucks hauling produce from California to Arkansas.

Hillman, a 37-year veteran trucker, also was critical of the proposed sleep requirements.

"It would be the worst thing they could do because 10 hours of vibration is all a man can stand," he said. "I can live with the 10 (hours driving) and eight (hours sleeping)."

The American Trucking Association also opposed the new rules, saying they would require thousands of additional drivers and trucks to meet current delivery schedules.

"That translates into as many as 180,000 additional drivers and trucks on the road just to keep the current economy moving," association president Walter McCormick Jr. said. "This all adds up to a threat to the U.S. economy and American jobs."

Kenneth Aldridge of Poplar Bluff, Mo., said high driver turnover is at the heart of the safety problem.

"It's the inexperienced drivers who are having the accidents," said Aldridge, who made $24,000 last year driving 280 days. "As long as we get an eight-hour sleep, that's plenty of time. Any guy should know when he's too tired to drive and when it's time to pull over."

As for monitoring devices, many industry representatives called them an invasion of privacy. And anyone who would tamper with a logbook could also tamper with a monitor, they argued.

Other limits proposed by Slater:

—For local drivers who travel no more than six hours away from their base and return after each shift, at least 12 consecutive hours off in each 24 hours.

—For local drivers working split shifts, at least nine consecutive hours off during each 24-hour period with an additional three hours off at some other point in the same 24 hours.

On the Net:
Transportation Department:
http://www.dot.gov

Boy walks out of woods after crash

MEDFORD, Ore. (AP) — Three times, cars sped by Chris Palmer as the boy stood on an isolated stretch of highway, waving for somebody to help him rescue his injured father and sister from the wreckage of their small plane.

Nobody stopped, forcing him to retrace his steps — guided only by his family's voices — back to a remote forest clearing as darkness fell.

"He is only 11 years old, but as far as I'm concerned, he has the heart of a lion," said his mother, Patti Palmer, as she sat with her son at a Medford hospital Tuesday.

Chris' father, John Kenneth Palmer, a 47-year-old financial planner from San Jose, Calif., and his 13-year-old daughter, Stephani, were both in fair condition following Sunday's crash.

The father and his two children were traveling to Medford from Los Banos, Calif., when the engine of their small plane cut out over the rugged Cascade Range at the California border.

Chris, whose mother had stayed behind in California, helped his dad spot a clearing because they didn't have enough altitude to reach a little airfield they could see in the distance.

Ken Palmer managed to glide the single-engine Piper to a crash landing between two trees that ripped the wings off before the fuselage ground to a halt in the mud, ending up on its side. He then managed to kick out the windshield and helped his son get the boy's sister out of the wreckage.

Some bones in Stephani's lower back had been cracked and she couldn't walk. Palmer was bleeding from facial cuts and fading in and out of consciousness from a severely bruised chest.

Chris, a fifth grader who likes to ride his bike, play video games and make things out of Legos, decided to look for help.

Meanwhile, search and rescue teams had mobilized to look for the plane after Seattle's air traffic control center reported an emergency locator transmitter signal was coming from the area.

The driver of one of the cars that passed Chris called 911 to report that a child had tried to flag them down, and the dispatcher figured it might be related to the crash, said state police Sgt. Ralph Nelson.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Tickling can be upsetting to kids

DEAR DR. GOTT: What would you say to a man who tickles his children until they cry?

DEAR READER: I'd say "back off." Such a father is somewhat sadistic and ought to pick on someone his own size. Tickling has its place in horseplay, but it can quickly become unpleasant and painful. While I hesitate to label this excessive activity as child abuse, it certainly comes close. Tickling becomes abusive when it is perceived by children to be unwelcome, repetitive and out of their control.

I think that the man should develop more appropriate methods of getting close to his children and having fun with them. As a general rule, youngsters cry when they are frightened or uncomfortable. This should be the indication to any grownup that the situation has progressed beyond mere play and that the adult should lay off.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Because of lumpy and sore breasts, I recently had a mammogram that — thank God — was normal. My doctor diagnosed mastitis. What is the current therapy for this condition?

DEAR READER: Mastitis means breast inflammation. In lactating women, it is common. Following surgery, mastitis usually indicates infection that should be treated with antibiotics, surgical drainage or both.

In other women, mastitis may actually reflect a condition, called fibrocystic disease, which is not really an infection at all; it is periodic lumpy swelling of breast tissue that can be ignored or treated with hormone supplements. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Breast Cancer and Disorders." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: What do you think of reflexology?

DEAR READER: Not a whole lot, I'm afraid. This is yet another example of quackery.

Reflexology is based on the idea that pressure on the hand or foot can cure disease in other parts of the body. While we all agree that a foot massage feels good, reflexologists carry this observation to the extreme. According to Stephen Barrett, M.D., and William Jarvis, M.D., editors of "The Health Robbers" (Prometheus Books, 1993), reflexologists have claimed to cure earaches, anemia, bedwetting, bronchitis, hemorrhoids, hiccoughs, deafness, hair loss, emphysema, prostate trouble, heart disease, cataracts — you name it.

In the view of authorities, you should stay away from reflexology unless your shoes are too tight and you absolutely must have your feet rubbed — to the tune of $50 to $100 a session.

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Lie detector talks break down

DENVER (AP) — The issue of who will administer a lie detector test to John and Patsy Ramsey has snagged negotiations between Boulder police and the parents of slain beauty queen JonBenet.

The Ramseys have said they wanted a company not associated with the police to administer the test, but Chief Mark Beckner said he wanted the FBI to give it.

The police chief's proposal was unfair because the FBI helped investigate JonBenet's death, Lin Wood, the Ramseys' attorney said Tuesday, the informal deadline Beckner had set for the couple to take the test.

"Anyone familiar with FBI polygraph exams recognizes it is not really a primary tool for determining truth or deception," Wood said. "It is designed as an investigative tool that is used to intimidate and interrogate."

Police said Wood refused their offer to provide an FBI examiner who had not been linked to or had knowledge of the Ramsey case, and who was chosen without police involvement.

"We want to make sure if we do it, we do it right and with as much protection built in as possible," Beckner said.

Wood countered that he asked the FBI to oversee a polygraph exam conducted by a non-FBI examiner. He also asked whether the FBI would submit names of examiners not employed by the agency who were nevertheless deemed to be qualified. Those requests were not honored.

Last month, the Ramseys told ABC's Barbara Walters on "20/20" they would submit to an exam if the results were publicized, if it were administered independent of the Boulder police, and if it were conducted in their new hometown of Atlanta.

When asked whether the Ramseys would continue pushing to take a lie detector test, Wood was doubtful.

"It serves no purpose for them to take an exam unless it is one that will have an impact on the investigation," he said.

No one has been charged in JonBenet's death on Dec. 26, 1996, though police say the Ramseys remain under an "umbrella of suspicion." The Ramseys contend an intruder killed the 6-year-old, who was found strangled and beaten in the basement of her parents' former home in Boulder.

MINUTES OF SCURRY COUNTY FINANCES
TREASURER'S REPORT

THE STATE OF TEXAS County of Scurry BE IT REMEMBERED, that a regular* Term of Commissioners Court of Scurry County, Texas, was held at the Court House in Scurry County, Texas, Snyder, Texas, on the 17th day of April A.D. 2000. Present and presiding, the Honorable Ricky Fritz, County Judge: Ralph Trevey, Commissioner Precinct No. 1: Roy L. Idom, Jr., Commissioner Precinct No. 2: Howard Limmer, Commissioner Precinct No. 3: Chloanne Lindsey, Commissioner Precinct No. 4: and Joan Bunch, County Clerk: Eddie McHaney, County Auditor: when the following proceedings among others were had to-wit:

ACCOUNT OF COUNTY TREASURER

In the matter of the Quarterly Report of Charlie Bell, Treasurer, Scurry County, Texas IN THE COMMISSIONERS COURT, Scurry County, Texas, 1st Quarterly Term A.D. 2000. On **this 17th day of April A.D. 2000** in Quarterly* Monthly Session of the Commissioners Court of said County, came on for examination the Quarterly Report of Charlie Bell, County Treasurer of said County, for the period beginning on the **1st day of January, 2000** and ending on the **31st day of March, 2000** filed herein on the **17th day of April, 2000**, and the same having been compared and examined by the Court, and found correct. It is therefore ordered by the Court that the same be and is hereby approved: And it appearing to the Court that during the said time the said County Treasurer had received for account and credit of, and paid out each of the several County Funds, the amounts set forth, and leaving a balance to each of said Funds as reflected in said report which follows, and becomes a part hereof; and that said amounts were received and paid out of each of the respective funds since the filing of the preceding report of said County Treasurer, and during the period above stated, and that the said separate amounts as therein shown are correct.

IT IS THEREFORE, FURTHER ORDERED by the Court, that the said report be, and the same is hereby, in all things approved, and the Clerk of this Court is hereby ordered to file this said report, together with this order, in a Record Binder provided for the Minutes of County Finances of the Commissioners Court of this County, and that proper credits be made in the accounts of the said County Treasurer in accordance with this order.

Witness our Hands, this **17th day of April, 2000.**

Ricky Fritz,
County Judge
Ralph W. Tevey,
Commissioner Precinct No 1
Roy L. Idom, Jr.
Commissioner Precinct No. 2

Howard L. Limmer,
Commissioner Precinct No 3
Chloanne Lindsey,
Commissioner Precinct No 4
Attest: Joan Bunch,
Clerk, Commissioners Court, Scurry County, Texas

SCURRY COUNTY TREASURER
FIRST QUARTERLY SUMMARY

FUNDS	CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCES DATE: 12-31-99	RECEIPTS	TRANSFERS IN	DISBURSEMENTS	TRANSFERS OUT	CASH & INVESTMENT BALANCES DATE: 03-31-00
GENERAL						
Departmental				$898,598.05		
Jury				728.30		
Permanent Improvement				0.00		
Airport				31,066.12		
Health Unit				38,912.18		
Park & Colleaum				76,136.83		
Library				37,508.82		
TOTALS						
GENERAL FUND	$337,373.36	$2,349,744.20	$854,732.76	$1,082,950.30	$2,414,365.62	$44,534.40
PAYROLL CLEARING FUND	357.96	1,877.11	784,365.62	784,365.62	1,958.03	377.04
TEXPOOL FUND	6,324,225.55	98,250.33	2,355,176.00	0.00	1,890,000.00	6,887,651.88
ABANDONED VEHICLE FUND	2,811.94	614.83	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,426.77
D.A.R.E. PROGRAM FUND	441.45	5.55	0.00	49.00	0.00	398.00
HEALTH UNIT FUND	606.29	10,881.33	0.00	1,187.92	9,041.21	1,257.49
JUVENILE PROBATION FEES FUND	5,548.22	266.49	0.00	0.00	0.00	5,814.71
LIBRARY DONATIONS FUND	2,332.87	1,777.38	0.00	755.00	0.00	3,355.25
COGDELL DEPRECIATION FUND	67,895.30	1,544.17	300,000.00	272,146.99	0.00	97,292.48
COGDELL REFUND FUND	279.13	306.84	32,382.98	32,407.98	0.00	559.97
COGDELL PAYROLL FUND	3,058.93	702.60	984,099.22	985,385.59	0.00	2,475.16
COGDELL OPERATING FUND	219,869.33	3,384,772.04	425,000.00	2,313,808.44	1,407,656.20	318,176.73
TOTAL ALL FUNDS	$6,964,798.33	$5,859,941.87	$5,735,756.58	$5,473,056.84	$5,722,121.06	$7,365,319.88

Airport Revenue 1st Quarter	$13,934.28
Interest 1st Quarter	$115,222.56
Interest Earned to Date	$115,222.56

Charlie Bell
Charlie Bell, Scurry County Treasurer

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, April 27, 2000
Most of your attention in the year ahead will be focused on career oriented goals. This devotion to betterment will lead you to high places.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Your companions or associates might have a different set of goals than you do, but that doesn't necessarily make them wrong. Be as respectful of their desires as you'd want them to be of yours. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Some responsibilities belonging to others might get dumped in your lap today. Making a big brouhaha over the situation doesn't help one bit — it'll only add insult to injury.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Conditions are rather uncertain today, and obligations might be difficult to fulfill, so don't take on any more than you can easily and comfortably handle.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) The best way to lose momentum in accomplishing a goal is to switch your focus from your target onto something or someone that is annoying you. Forget the irritant and keep your eye on your goals.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Offering unsolicited advice about something you know little is a quick way to get yourself into hot water today. Your interference could muddle a good thing that is presently underway.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Friends may not be in the position to loan or give you want you want today. Don't take it personally; understand where they're coming from.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Even though you may get your licks in when you suddenly find yourself in a confrontation, in reality, nobody wins. If this involves a loved one, the hurt will be even worse. Stay mum.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Unfortunately, today you're rationalization for procrastinating is likely to create a log-jam for you during the rest of the week.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Most of the time, you tend to be a rather conservative player, but today you could step out of character and take risks for which you'll later regret.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Forego attempting to be a peacemaker today by placing yourself smack in the middle of two opposing factions. The end result could be that they'll both turn on you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) One-upsmanship has never been your cup of tea, so why risk looking like a fool? Only if you have the trophy mounted on the wall should you attempt to top the other guy's fish story.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Those negative financial aspects influencing your ability to mediate a joint venture are still in play today. Try to postpone your bargaining until another day.

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Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Italian cable car tragedy suits settled

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — More than two years after a Marine jet severed an Italian ski gondola cable, killing 20 Europeans, the victims' relatives will get nearly $40 million from the U.S. and Italian governments.

A Virginia attorney representing the Belgian relatives of five of the victims of the Feb. 3, 1998, tragedy near Cavalese, Italy, said the settlement accepted by the families April 14 was a bittersweet end to their quest for compensation.

"The sad part is that this is what the United States should have done two years ago," C. Torrence Armstrong of McLean, Va., said in a telephone interview Tuesday. "In taking this long, it's not a very satisfying feeling for them."

Each victim's family will get nearly $2 million. The U.S. government will pay 75 percent of the settlement's cost, and the Italian government will pay the rest, Armstrong said. The settlement ratio is governed by NATO accords.

"It seems this is all the U.S. is going to do," he said, adding that the U.S. Navy hasn't kept its promise to give the families a report about the safety of military flights over Italy. "They reneged on that and never provided it," Armstrong said.

Efforts to reach the Pentagon for comment Tuesday were unsuccessful.

The Italian government is continuing to investigate the accident, but the settlement ends all civil litigation, Armstrong said.

An EA-6B Prowler based at Cherry Point Marine Air Base was deployed at Aviano Air Base in Italy for missions over Bosnia when it clipped the ski gondola cable during a training flight. All 20 people in the gondola died when it plummeted into an alpine valley. The damaged jet made it back to base.

Investigators blamed the flight crew for the tragedy, saying the plane was flying too low and too fast when it hit the cable.

The pilot, Capt. Richard J. Ashby, of Mission Viejo, Calif., was acquitted of manslaughter but sentenced to six months in the brig for destroying a videotape shot during the flight.

The Prowler's navigator, Capt. Joseph Schweitzer of Westbury, N.Y., was dismissed from the Marines. after pleading guilty to a similar charge for the videotape's disappearance.

Charges were dropped against the two back-seat crewmen.

West Nile virus prevention slated in seventeen states

BETHESDA, Md. (AP) — Federal health officials are working with 17 states to prevent an outbreak of the West Nile Virus, which last year killed seven people in New York City.

Stephen Ostroff, West Nile coordinator for the federal Centers for Disease Control, said surveillance of mosquitos and birds that carry the virus is under way in states along the Atlantic seaboard and the Gulf of Mexico. Humans may contract the virus when they are bitten by an infected mosquito.

Officials are concerned that birds from the Northeast may have spread the virus, a form of encephalitis, when they migrated south for the winter. An infected dead bird was found in Baltimore, the only bird with the virus to be found outside the New York City area, Ostroff said.

The CDC provided the 17 states and two cities considered at risk with $2.7 million to create surveillance programs.

States and cities targeted by the CDC are: Alabama, Connecticut, District of Columbia, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Pennsylvania, Maryland, New York, New York City, New Jersey, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

Most people who become infected either show no reaction or become mildly ill with flu-like symptoms. Fatalities are rare. The most vulnerable are the elderly, the very young and those with immune deficiencies. In those people, the virus can cause the brain lining to swell.

Health officials who were caught off guard by the outbreak last year in New York City said they are better prepared this time around.

Still, the full reach of the virus will likely not be known until mosquitos stir from hibernation in the coming weeks. Researchers have already detected the virus in some hibernating mosquitos in New York City.

The chances of becoming seriously ill from the virus are low.

Antitrust case will hurt consumers, Bill Gates predicts

SEATTLE (AP) — Microsoft Corp. Chairman Bill Gates says his company would have difficulty replicating its groundbreaking technology efforts if the government decides to breakup the company.

In an interview Tuesday with The Associated Press, Gates said further development of the Windows operating system, the software that powers the vast majority of the world's personal computers, would be stunted if the Windows or Office software divisions were split from the rest of the company. He called the proposed breakup "anti-consumer."

"We wouldn't have Windows today if it hadn't been for the Office group and the Windows group working together," Gates said, speaking by telephone from a computer hardware developers' conference in New Orleans. "It was the thinking that was done, being in one company, going after a new user interface, taking a huge risk, that we were able to create Windows."

Gates' comments came as the U.S. Justice Department briefed White House officials for an hour and 45 minutes on what remedies the government would seek in its antitrust action against the company.

Lawyers for the Justice Department and the 19 states that successfully sued Microsoft for antitrust violations are considering breaking up the company as a way to curb anticompetitive practices.

Microsoft has said it would fight any move to break up the company. Gates said the next generation of Windows, which will help power various consumer electronics devices as well as personal computers, depends on the interaction between his company's divisions.

"We need to have our research people, our Office people, our Windows people all in one group taking breathtaking risks on this breakthrough user interface that is delivered in this next phase of the Internet," said Gates, who founded Microsoft 25 years ago.

He added that any breakup of his company would be "a very inappropriate thing, even given the government's unfortunate theory that innovation should be regulated."

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Brother's stiffened backbone massaged by readers praise

DEAR ABBY: Having read the letter from "Hank in Tacoma" — who was upset because his sister-in-law had urged his brother "Eric" into therapy and freed him from years of servitude to his family — I must admit I was surprised that you didn't let Hank and the rest of the family have it!

Apparently Hank feels it is Eric's wife's fault that his brother has found his backbone. How dare Hank and the family make judgments about Eric's wife without even taking Eric up on his offer to join him in counseling sessions to learn more about the changes that are taking place.

Finally, how dare Eric put his children and wife first? Why, Abby, if more spouses put their significant other and children first, perhaps we would have fewer divorces and happier families in this world. — **SUZANNE IN SAN FRANCISCO**

P.S. There was one thing I didn't understand in your answer. What did you mean, "Eric has slipped his chain"?

DEAR SUZANNE: Simply put, it means, "freed himself from his shackles." When I wrote the phrase, I was envisioning a dog escaping from his training collar, or choke chain.

That letter generated a ton of response. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: In today's paper I read the letter from "Hank in Tacoma," and I recognize his family!

Hank: Wake up! Your brother Eric is no longer the family doormat.

Hank wrote, "He used to always put his family first, but now he favors his wife and children." Guess what a wife and children are, Hank? That's right, a family — Eric's family.

Eric is finally a person in his own right, thanks to his insightful wife, and he's probably happier than he has ever been. If he no longer squires your mother around town because Pop "doesn't like those events," perhaps YOU should jump in and volunteer to be the escort now and then. And you might find yourself the favored sibling, the one with all the footprints on his back from "your" family walking all over you! Good luck, Hank, and give my love and admiration to your brother, Eric. — **FORMER DOORMAT IN DELAWARE**

DEAR ABBY: Was "Hank in Tacoma" for real? By favoring his wife and children, Eric IS putting his family first. Hooray for the new Eric. He sounds like a healthy adult and good husband and father to boot. — **JACQUELINE M. IN L.A.**

DEAR ABBY: Please pass my message on to Eric in Tacoma. Good for you, Eric. You have obviously made some tough but important changes in your life, and you clearly have married well.

As to the family: Too bad Eric won't let you bully him anymore, but don't worry, you'll get over it. If you're lucky, you'll learn to appreciate him and his family. — **PETER R., SAN RAFAEL, CALIF.**

DEAR ABBY: Regarding the letter from "Hank in Tacoma," whose brother Eric has become more assertive, I have two words for Eric: GO ERIC!!! — **SUSAN S., A FAN FROM TEXAS**

**

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**

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Study: Fiber used in kidney machines can break down

CHICAGO (AP) — A fiber used in dialysis machines across the country can break down with age, causing such severe reactions in kidney patients as vision and hearing loss, according to a study published today.

The discovery came after seven patients at an Alabama hospital had bad reactions within 24 hours of undergoing dialysis in 1996, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said. Their symptoms ranged from near blindness and deafness to intense headaches.

Researchers found that the breakdown of old fiber making up the membranes of the patients' dialyzers — which filter blood before it is returned to the patient — probably caused the reactions by introducing chemical byproducts of the fiber into their blood.

All of the patients had been treated the same day using dialyzers that were more than 11 years old. Five died within 13 months, but researchers said their deaths could not be definitively linked to the dialyzers.

The CDC and the Food and Drug Administration's findings were reported in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

Dr. Matthew Kuehnert, a CDC epidemiologist and co-author of the study, said it is extremely rare that dialyzers that old are used. Even so, he said the study is of note for all hospitals that perform dialysis.

"It certainly raises a question that it likely does apply to all dialyzers that use this type of material that can degrade," Kuehnert said.

About 250,000 patients in the United States are undergoing dialysis treatment. The CDC said 43 percent of dialysis centers use equipment that includes cellulose acetate, the fiber used in the Alabama cases.

The material is generally safe, said Joseph Hutter, an FDA chemical engineer and lead author of the study. But it can degrade after several years, allowing chemicals from the fiber to mix with the blood being pumped into a patient's body through the artificial kidney.

Two other patients who went through the Alabama hospital's dialysis unit the day of the outbreak were treated with dialyzers that were less than a year old and did not have adverse reactions.

After the Alabama cases, the FDA and the CDC sent letters to all U.S. dialysis centers suggesting the centers should check with the manufacturer before using old dialyzers.

All new dialyzers must now display a date of manufacture, and the FDA is working with manufacturers to develop shelf-life criteria for the equipment, Hutter said.

On the Net: Journal of the American Medical Association: http://jama.ama-assn.org

American Association of Kidney Patients: http://www.aakp.org

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-26-00
♠ K J 7 5 4
♥ 5
♦ K 8 5 2
♣ J 9 5

West
♠ A 8
♥ J 10 8
♦ Q 9 7 3
♣ Q 8 3 2

East
♠ Q 10 9 6 2
♥ K 9 6 2
♦ J 10
♣ A 4

South
♠ 3
♥ A Q 7 4 3
♦ A 6 4
♣ K 10 7 6

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♣	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ??

Listening closely leads to good leads

By Phillip Alder

The bidding is over. You are the declarer. But no opening lead appears. After 30 seconds or so, you tap your left-hand opponent and say, "It's your lead."

"Oh, is it? How did the bidding go?"

After you reprise the auction, he says, "Please run through that again."

Only then does he start to decide on his lead.

In particular, the game has been slowed down unnecessarily. And how likely is he to find the best lead when he cannot even be bothered to pay attention?

West can find the killing lead in this deal only if he analyzes the auction accurately. What would be your choice?

While the opponents are bidding, build up pictures of the hidden hands. It will improve your defense considerably.

Now consider West's options. The spade ace is dreadful. The heart jack is even worse. The diamond three is passable. Yet, as the auction strongly suggests that declarer will be ruffing hearts in the dummy, the recommended lead is the club two.

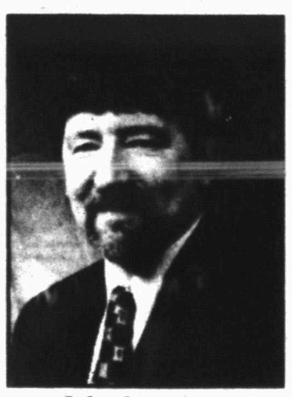
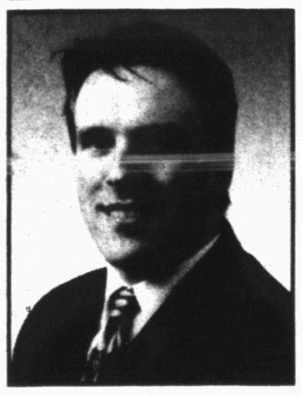
When East wins with the ace and pokes back his remaining trump, the contract should die. Assuming declarer wins trick two with his club king, he can either lead toward the king-jack of spades (West must go in with the ace if South does that) or get into the dummy, finesse the heart queen, and take a heart ruff with dummy's third trump — but he cannot do both.

Leading away from the trump queen is usually inadvisable. Yet, listening closely leads to good leads.

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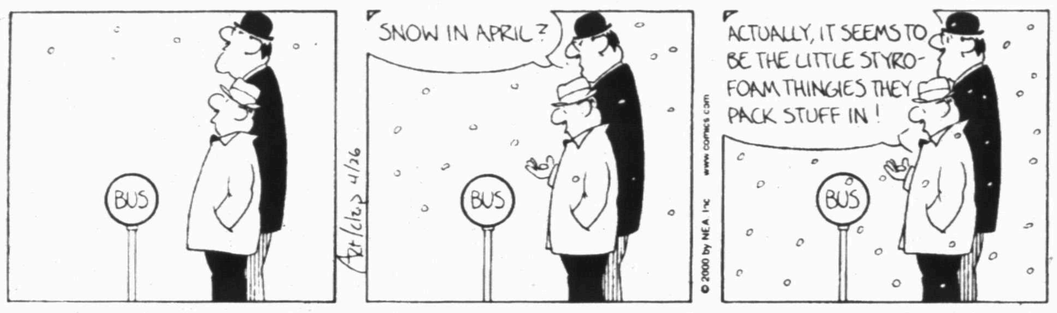
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Waterford Artisan Event
WATERFORD CRYSTAL
You are invited to meet Waterford's Master Glass Blower, David Cretzan & Master Glass Cutter, John Stenson on April 28th from 10am-3pm at Cox Jewelers in Sweetwater.
Come see their exclusive piece "Biscuit Barrel", retail $250.00.
Both artisans will be available for signing your new purchases of Waterford Crystal.

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Abilene
(915) 670-9992

David Cretzan
Master Glass Blower
110 E. Broadway
Sweetwater
(915) 235-8611
(800) 750-4381
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THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



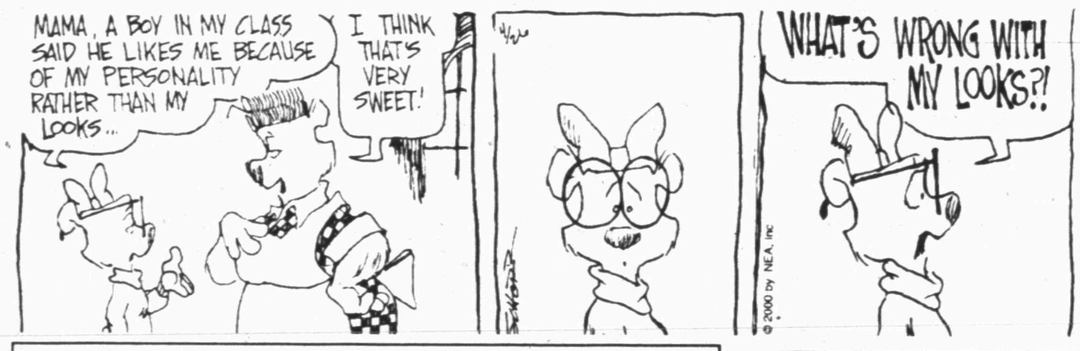
BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Lasswell



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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



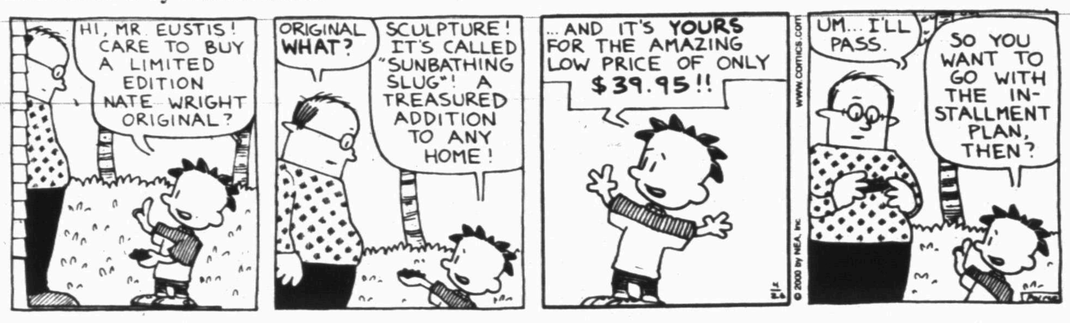
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



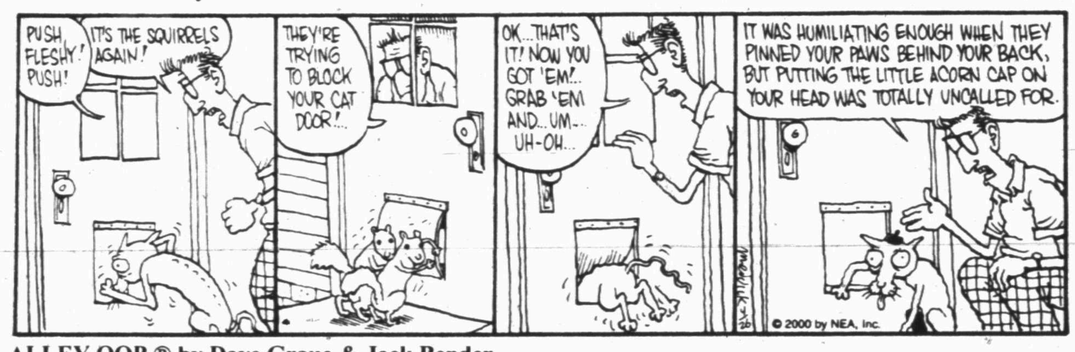
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ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Perfume ingredient
6 Matinee man
10 Norwegian money
12 Porcelain clay
14 Crystalline gem
15 Current unit
16 Clam genus
17 "Le Coq —"
19 Mild oath
20 Regal homes
23 Coral island
26 2,000 lbs.
27 Scooby —
30 Hard-handed defense
32 Monks
34 "The — Cometh"
35 Ms. Fawcett
36 Islanders' org.
37 Bank-statement abbr.
39 Actress Davis
40 Intersects
42 Pelvic bones
45 Tunisian ruler
46 Cut the lawn
49 Canine "hotel"
51 Not at all
54 It could be real!
55 Ballet movement
56 Piece for one
57 Like beer in bars (2 wds.)

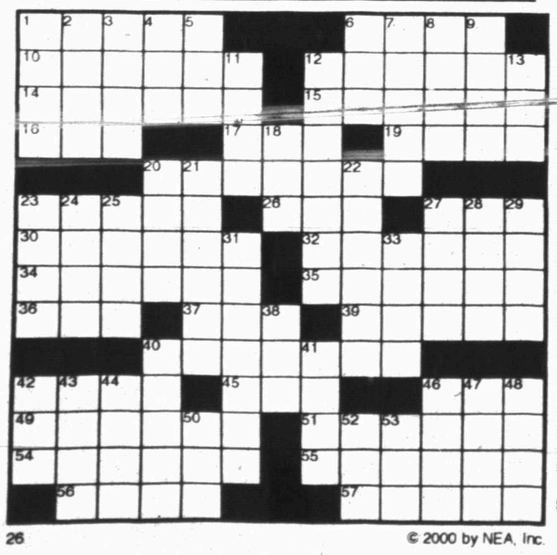
DOWN

1 Actor Tamiroff
2 Helen's place
3 Weight of India
4 "Wheel of Fortune" buy (2 wds.)
5 Soak, as flax
6 "I think, therefore — —"
7 Fools
8 Designer Cassini
9 Italian money
11 Cerise and garnet
12 Actor Boris —
13 Actor Beatty
18 Baseball player Mel —
20 Chowder ingredient
21 Star in Aquila
22 Madden
23 Related
24 Dashboard instrument, for short
25 City in Russia
27 Risk
28 Algerian port
29 Dept. of Labor org.
31 Give a title to
33 Irritates
38 Mao — -tung
40 Panama —
41 Unison
42 DDE
43 Minus
44 Toward the center of
46 Spray
47 Greek peak
48 Shed tears
50 WWII area
52 Cry of surprise
53 Pale

Answer to Previous Puzzle

M	I	M	E	D			B	O	T	H
A	G	E	N	C	Y		P	L	U	R	A	L
P	E	S	T	L	E		A	T	T	U	N	E
S	T	A			W	E	T		R	E	S	T
			G	A	S	P	I	P	E			
R	I	M	E	S		I	E	R		B	T	U
A	G	A	S	S	I		N	A	B	O	R	S
P	O	T	T	E	R		T	I	E	R	O	D
T	R	A		T	K	O		S	A	N	T	A
			E	S	S	A	Y	E	D			
M	I	S	C		O	F	A		H	E	E	
A	S	Y	L	U	M		P	L	A	I	N	S
S	E	N	A	T	E		S	E	A	S	O	N
	E	S	T	E			M	A	S	S	E	

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"NO! I'M NOT PLANTING ANY BEANIE BABIES THIS YEAR."

"Look at my rug! I told you not to put exploding cheese down the mouseholes."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SPORTS

Lady Tiger linksters, boys' doubles duo...

SHS sends two teams to state

SAN ANGELO — It wasn't dramatic, and it wasn't a surprise. In fact, it almost wasn't even fair the manner in which the Snyder Lady Tigers dominated the Region I-4A Regional Golf Tournament.

Snyder shattered their old regional mark on Tuesday, closing the event with a 302 for tourney total of 608.

The regional title is the sixth straight for the Lady Tigers, and earns them a seventh consecutive trip to the state tournament.

Also earning a trip to Austin was Snyder's doubles duo of Adrian Gonzales and Ryan Gibson, which claimed the runner-up spot at the regional tennis tournament.

Snyder's boys golf team, making its first trip to regionals in recent years, hung on to finish seventh overall with a two-day total of 315-312—627.

At Riverside Golf Club, the Lady Tigers led the event from start to finish, surpassing their closest competition by 25 strokes. Andrews was runner-up at 633.

"This was a remarkable performance by our girls," said Snyder coach Matt Glenn. "Everybody kind of thought that the Lady Tigers weren't as strong this year. But these girls set extremely high goals for themselves, and they plan on reaching them. This was the best performance by any team I've coached at Snyder."

Five players tied for second place in the individual standings, with four of them lining up for the Lady Tigers.

Randi Reed, Lacey Kidd, Sally Barham and Andra Lancaster all finished at 152, which is 8-over-par on the Riverside layout. Kara Harrison finished tied for 20th at 167.

The low round of the day belonged to Barham who followed up an opening-round 80 with an even-par 72.

Snyder and Andrews will compete in the state tournament May 8-9 at Roy Kizer Golf Course in Austin.

Gonzales and Gibson will be in Austin at the same time for the state tennis tourney.

The Tiger tandem cruised through its first three matches at regionals, before falling to the top-ranked team of Kenneth Hines and J.D. McCain from Wichita Falls in the finals, 6-2, 6-2.

Hines and McCain have suffered only two losses all year, and one them came at the hands of Gibson and Gonzales in invitational action earlier this season.

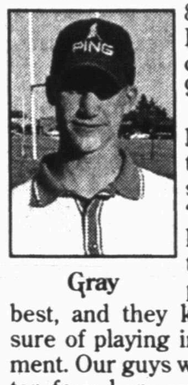
"We knew we were playing well enough to get to Austin," said Gibson. "We just had to go out and prove it. I think we have a good chance of doing well at state. We're the only team in 4A this year that has beaten Hines and McCain, so we plan playing our best when we get there."

For the Tiger linksters, regionals was a learning experience, and they showed that they are quick studies. On Tuesday, Snyder shaved three strokes off its first-round score.

Landon Day's 1-under-par 71 anchored the Tigers' final-round effort, and propelled Day into tie for 10th place in the individual standings.

Zach Starnes finished with a 78 to grab a share of 15th place, while Stafford Gray trimmed six shots off his score to come in at 87-81—168.

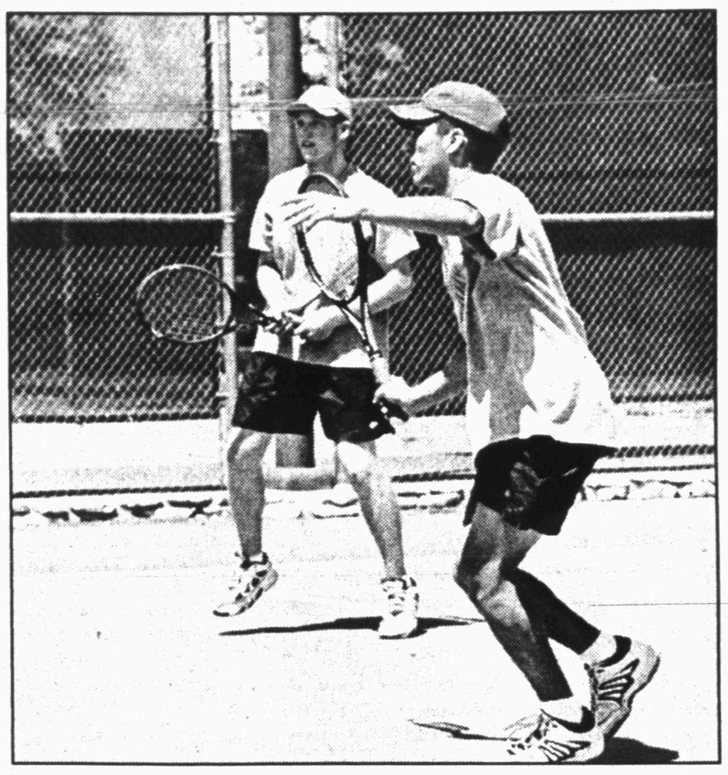
Clinton Calmes tallied a 79-82—161, and Levi Mandrell carded an 84-90—174.



Gray

"Our guys learned a lot this week," said Glenn. "Now they know what it takes to compete with the best, and they know the pressure of playing in a big tournament. Our guys will only get better, from here on out. They had a remarkable year just to get here."

Granbury won the event with a two-day total of 581, followed by defending state champion Andrews at 594.



RETURN — Snyder's Adrian Gonzales prepares to return a shot, while teammate Ryan Gibson (back) looks on during regional tennis action in San Angelo. (SDN Staff Photo)

REGION I-4A GOLF and TENNIS RESULTS

REGION I-4A TOURNAMENTS
Girls' Golf
at Riverside Golf Club

Team standings: 1. Snyder 306-302—608, 2. Andrews 316-317—633, 3. Pampa 341-325—666, 4. Granbury 337-336—673, 5. Pecos A 354-347—701, 6. Stephenville 350-354—704, 7. Borger 359-354—713, 8. Weatherford 357-369—726, 9. WF High 368-364—732, 10. Justin Northwest 371-372—743, 11. Plainview 399-365—764, 12. Canyon Randall 388-377—765, 13. WF Rider 388-378—766, 14. EP Ysleta 401-413—814, 15. Pecos B 420-397—817, 16. EP Burges 438-426—864.

Individual standings: 1. Ashley Robb, Andrews 75-74—149, 2. (five tied at 152) Randi Reed, Snyder 76-76, Lacey Kidd, Snyder 75-77, Sally Barham, Snyder 80-72, Andra Lancaster, Snyder 75-77, and D'Rae Ward, Weatherford 72-80.

Other Snyder scores: Kara Harrison 84-83—167.

Other Andrews scores: Jessica Thames 81-81—162, Rachel Robb 79-82—161, Jessica Thurston 81-80—161, Jesscia Wilson 85-86—171.

Medalist state qualifiers: D'Rae Ward, Weatherford 72-80—152; Karoline Kable, WF High 78-79—157.

Boys' Golf
at Bentwood Country Club

Team standings: 1. Granbury A 282-299—581, 2. Andrews 296-298—594, 3. Granbury B 302-303—605, 4. (tie) Frenship 298-309—607 and Justin Northwest A 305-302—607, 6. WF Rider A 302-307—609, 7. Snyder 315-312—627, 8. Pampa 322-321—643, 9. WF Rider B 326-322—648, 10. Borger 325-330—655, 11. 318-338—656, 12. Justin Northwest B 333-330—663, 13. EP Burges A 337-355—692, 14. Pecos A 366-360—726, 15. Pecos B 378-372—750, 16. EP Burges B 371-388—759.

Individual standings: 1. Brad Gibson, Andrews 68-69—137, 2. (two tied at 140) Nathan Wilson, Granbury A 67-73, and Jeremy Alcorn, Brownwood, 69-71, 4. Bill Hambrick, Granbury B 71-73—144, 5. (two tied at 145) Brian Crocker, Granbury A 71-74, and Shawn Melville, Frenship 72-73.

Other Granbury A scores: Pete Pennington 70-78—148, Brandon Mullin 74-74—148, Andrew Heffley 78-80—158.

Other Andrews scores: Dustin Sherrill 75-78—153, Colby Brownlee 76-75—151, Coy Ellison 77-76—153, Parker Stovall 86-84—170.

Snyder: Zach Starnes 74-78—152, Landon Day 78-71—149, Clinton Calmes 79-82—161, Levi Mandrell 84-90—174, Stafford Gray 87-81—168.

Medalist state qualifiers: Jeremy Alcorn, Brownwood 69-71—140, Bill Hambrick, Granbury B 71-73—144.

Tennis
at Bentwood Country Club
Semifinals

Boys' singles: Luke Epps, Fort Stockton def. Allen Flack, WF Rider 6-4, 6-1; Andrew Ulrich, WF High def. Cort Spellman, Burleson 6-4, 7-5.

Girls' singles: Toni Doerre, Burkburnett def. Bobbye Thompson, Burleson 6-0, 6-1; Summer Beesley, Weatherford def. Linsey Cannedy, WF Rider 6-1, 5-7, 6-3.

Boys' doubles: Hines-McCain, WF High def. Kornegay-Copenhaver, Boswell 6-3, 6-2; Gonzales-Gibson, Snyder def. Wolfshol-Wolfshol, Frenship 6-1, 6-0.

Girls' doubles: Chandler-Campbell, WF Rider def. Curtis-Waters, Pampa 6-1, 7-5; Bolin-Bolin, WF High def. Cox-Chrestman, Weatherford 6-2, 6-2.

Finals

Boys' singles: Ulrich def. Epps 6-0, 6-3.

Girls' singles: Doerre def. Beesley 6-2, 6-0.

Boys' doubles: Hines-McCain def. Gonzales-Gibson 6-2, 6-2.

Girls' doubles: Chandler-Campbell def. Bolin-Bolin 6-2, 6-2.

WTC grabs spot at nationals

SEMINOLE — Knowing it needed one of its best rounds of the year, Western Texas went out and posted the second-lowest score of the tournament.

On the strength of an 8-under-par effort in Tuesday's final round of the regional tournament, Western Texas jumped all the way to third in the regional standings, and secured a spot at the JUCO National Tournament.

For the Westerners, who will be making their first appearance at nationals since 1992, Tuesday's effort was the culmination of two year's worth of work.

"These kids have come a long way from where they were last year," said WTC coach Milton Ham. "And they've had to work hard to get where they're at. Everybody wants to go to the national tournament, so you have to earn your place there."

Western Texas entered the regional tourney at Gaines County Golf Course in fourth place in the standings, 17 strokes behind New Mexico JC.

But the Thunderbirds couldn't keep pace with the Westerners, who bettered their score in each successive round.



McGrath



McLauchlan

After opening the event with a 2-over-par 290 in Monday morning's opening round, Western Texas shaved eight strokes in the afternoon's second round for a 282, before closing with a 280 on Tuesday.

"In all honesty, we're playing our best golf, right now," Ham said. "And that's what it takes to qualify for the national tournament. People aren't going to lay down and let you have it, you have to go out and play some good golf, and that's what we did."

The Westerners were paced by Jason McGrath who fired a three-round total of 213 that included a 5-under 67 Monday afternoon.

Scott McLauchlan carded rounds of 73, 70 and 71 for a 214, while James Higdon posted a 71-75-69—215.

Michael Hansen finished with a 76-72-70—218, and Martin Gustafson turned in a 75-73-70—218.

Steven Fraser, competing as a medalist, came in with an 80-77-80—237.

At the national event, to be held May 21-26 in Dothan, Ala., the Westerners will have to battle powerhouses Scottsdale College, Central Alabama and conference rival Midland.

"The competition will be tough, because you have the best teams in the nation there to play," Ham stated. "But the pressure of playing for a national title affects everybody, so anything can happen.

"Midland is considered one of the best teams in the country, and we know we can play with them, because we have for the last two tournaments."

Tigers hold off Chiefs to earn share of District 5-4A lead

The Snyder Tigers could be forgiven for being a little tired, right now. After all, it was a long climb back to the top of District 5-4A.

Snyder, which trailed Lake View by two games only five days ago, held off the Chiefs, 7-6, Tuesday night at Moffett Field to cap its climb to first place in the district standings.

With the win, the Tigers (14-12) move into a first-place tie with Lake View (14-11) at 7-2 with one game remaining. With a win Friday over Andrews, the Tigers can clinch at least a share of the district title, a feat that seemed unlikely when league play began.

"This was our biggest win of the season. There's no doubt about it," said Snyder coach Roland Herrera. "The guys knew they had to step up their play, and they did. They didn't get down when we were behind, because they were confident they would come back."

Snyder's confidence comes from back-to-back comeback wins prior to Tuesday's contest, and the Tigers needed a third straight rally to upend the Chiefs.

After Snyder opened a 1-0 lead in the second inning, Lake View answered with six runs in the third.

The Chiefs sent 12 men to the plate, posting their six runs on three hits, five walks and three Snyder errors.

Sonny Cumbie came on in relief of Tiger starter Ralph Ramon to record the final out of the inning.

Trailing 6-1, the Tigers immediately went to work at the plate. Snyder got back two runs in the bottom of the frame on an error, a hit batter and a double by Matthew Grimmett.

Lake View got the lead-off man aboard to start the fourth, but left him stranded. It would be the final base runner of the night, as Cumbie and the Tigers retired the last 12 Chiefs in order.

Snyder took the lead for good in the fourth, sending across four runs on only one hit.

Adam Beck, who drove in the winning runs Thursday over Big Spring, came through again. Beck blasted a 2-1 pitch from Chris Martinez off the wall in right-center field to drive in Jesse Haines and Grimmett for a 7-6 advantage.

It was all Snyder needed, with Cumbie striking out four of the last six Chiefs he faced.

"Adam just keeps coming through with clutch hits," said Herrera. "He's hitting the ball extremely hard right now, and he's doing it in big situations. And Sonny was on his game, too. I'd say he was throwing around 86 or 87 mph in the last few innings."

While the Tigers close out the regular season on the road at Andrews, the Chiefs play Fort Stockton in the finale. Should Snyder and Lake View finish in a first-place tie, they would play a one-game playoff to determine the first and second seeds for the playoffs.

Lake View	ab	r	h	bi
Rodriguez 3b	1	0	1	0
Doyle 3b	3	1	1	1
Morrison ss	3	0	0	0
Martinez p	4	0	3	1
Guerrero cr	0	1	0	0
Gonzales c	2	0	0	0
Blankenship cr	0	1	0	0
Solis rf	4	0	0	0
Rios dh	4	1	1	1
Lankford cf	4	1	1	0
Abott 1b	2	1	0	0
Yanez ph	1	0	0	0
Cowen lf	3	0	0	1
Totals	**31**	**6**	**7**	**4**

Snyder	ab	r	h	bi
Ramon p	4	0	0	0
Haines dh	2	2	0	0
Grimmett cf	3	2	1	1
Beck 1b	2	0	1	2
Jones lf	3	0	0	0
Cumbie c	3	0	0	0
Burleson cr	0	1	0	0
Ward ss	3	1	1	0
Ortegón 3b	2	1	0	0
Gordon rf	3	0	0	0
Totals	**25**	**7**	**3**	**3**

Lake View	0	0	6	0	0	0	0—	**6 7 6**
Snyder	0	1	2	4	0	0	x—	**7 3 6**

LOB -Lake View 9, Snyder 5. 2B - Martinez; Grimmett, Beck.

Lake View	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO
Martinez	6	3	7	4	2	6
Snyder	**IP**	**H**	**R**	**ER**	**BB**	**SO**
Ramon	2 2/3	6	6	4	4	2
Cumbie	4 1/3	1	0	0	1	5

Bulldogs pound Aspermont

IRA — The Ira Bulldogs hit the field expecting a battle, but didn't even get in a full game.

Ira had no problems disposing of Aspermont on Tuesday, pounding the Hornets 13-2 in a district contest that lasted only five innings.

The victory improves the Bulldogs' record to 3-1 in league play and 11-3 on the season, but more importantly keeps Ira in second place in the district standings.

"This was a big win for us, because Aspermont has been so strong in the past," said Ira coach Bubba Edwards. "I told the guys this was an important game, but that it was more important to have fun playing it. They went out relaxed and made the plays to get the job done."

Jerek Brown picked up the win on the mound to up his mark to 5-1. The senior lefthander worked all five innings, allowing five hits and a walk to go along with six strikeouts.

Brown also anchored the Bulldogs at the plate, going 2-for-4 with a pair of doubles. It was his ground-rule double in the bottom of the fifth that plated two runs to end the ballgame on the 10-run mercy rule.

Jenson Gainer had his bat working as well, belting a double and a single, while Jeremy Bowden busted a double.

Drew Wall, Jase Olvera and Seth Sterling slapped singles.

Ira trails Rotan by one game in the district standings. The Bulldogs visit the Yellowhammers on Tuesday at 5 p.m.

Ira linksters turn in solid final rounds

ABILENE — Ira linksters wrapped up the Region II-A Golf Tournament with solid rounds on Tuesday.

Korbey Calley followed up her opening-round 93 with a 98 Tuesday to finish at 191, while Ira's boys squad carded a 391 to post a tourney total of 773.

For the second day in a row, Jeff Fine anchored the Bulldogs. Fine fired an 86 to go along with his 88 from Monday for a 174.

Chet Stuart tallied a 90-88—178, while John Gainer turned in a 97-99—196, and Jerry Jameson finished with a 107-118—225. Jenson Gainer, who carded a 108 on Monday, withdrew from the final round.

Throckmorton won the boys' title with rounds of 317 and 300, followed by Menard at 312-319—631.

Local Sports Schedule

THURSDAY

Rodeo: Western Texas at Tarleton rodeo in Stephenville

Baseball: Snyder JV at Lubbock tourney

FRIDAY

Rodeo: Western Texas at Tarleton rodeo in Stephenville

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Andrews, 7:30

Baseball: Snyder JV at Lubbock tourney

Track: Snyder at regional meet, ASU's Multi-Sports Complex in San Angelo

Track: Ira at regional meet, ACU's Elmer Gray Stadium in Abilene

SATURDAY

Rodeo: Western Texas at Tarleton rodeo in Stephenville

Track: Snyder at regional meet, ASU's Multi-Sports Complex in San Angelo

Track: Ira at regional meet, ACU's Elmer Gray Stadium in Abilene

Baseball: Snyder JV at Lubbock tourney

Major League Baseball

American League
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	12	7	.632	—
New York	12	7	.632	—
Boston	10	7	.588	1
Toronto	10	12	.455	3½
Tampa Bay	7	12	.368	5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	13	7	.650	—
Cleveland	10	7	.588	1½
Minnesota	11	11	.500	3
Kansas City	9	12	.429	4½
Detroit	5	14	.263	7½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	12	7	.632	—
Anaheim	10	11	.476	3
Oakland	9	12	.429	4
Texas	8	12	.400	4½

Tuesday's Games

Minnesota 6, N.Y. Yankees 1
Boston 6, Texas 3
Kansas City 7, Tampa Bay 6
Baltimore 12, Chicago White Sox 6
Seattle 8, Cleveland 5
Oakland 11, Toronto 2
Detroit 4, Anaheim 2

Wednesday's Games

Minnesota (Mays 0-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 0-1), 1:05 p.m.
Boston (Fassero 1-1) at Texas (Clark 2-1), 3:05 p.m.
Toronto (Carpenter 1-3) at Oakland (Olivares 1-2), 3:35 p.m.
Cleveland (Wright 2-1) at Seattle (Ramsay 0-0), 6:35 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Rupe 0-3) at Kansas City (Durbin 1-1), 8:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Ponson 2-0) at Chicago White Sox (K.Wells 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Nitkowski 1-3) at Anaheim (Schoeneweis 3-0), 10:05

National League
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	13	6	.684	—
New York	14	7	.667	—
Florida	13	9	.591	1½
Montreal	11	8	.579	2
Philadelphia	6	13	.316	7

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
St. Louis	13	7	.650	—
Cincinnati	8	11	.421	4½
Houston	7	11	.389	5
Milwaukee	7	12	.368	5½
Pittsburgh	7	12	.368	5½
Chicago	7	15	.318	7

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Arizona	13	7	.650	—
Los Angeles	11	8	.579	1½
San Diego	10	10	.500	3
Colorado	10	11	.476	3½
San Francisco	8	11	.421	4½

Tuesday's Games

Montreal 10, Colorado 4
Arizona 10, Philadelphia 2
San Francisco 6, Florida 4, 11 innings
Pittsburgh 4, San Diego 3, 11 innings
N.Y. Mets 6, Cincinnati 5
Atlanta 1, Los Angeles 0
Houston 11, Chicago Cubs 7
St. Louis 7, Milwaukee 2

Wednesday's Games

Chicago Cubs (Lorraine 1-1) at Houston (Dotel 0-2), 8:05 p.m.

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Country Dream Home 4 13/42 Wonderful Storage, 20 Acres, Pool, Several Outbuildings.. $185T
14.49 Acres 3-2-Hot Tub Sprinkler System..$105T
2-1-2 + 2cp 3 Lots 911 17th.....$37T
Mobile Home to be Moved 2-2....$4T
Fixer Uppers: 101 Elm & 2107 27th St. 3-1
3774 Dalton Drive Lg Home 3 1¾ 1cp $37.5T
Great Area 3-1 3/42 + 2cp 2304 43rd Pl. $65T
1907 15th 3-1-2cp.....$20T
2-2-1 + 1cp + 2 Apts 2812 Ave. W.....$30T
Stock Farm Wheat Field-Pasture ...2 Earth Tanks

Doris Spikes.....573-6602
Shirley Drum.....573-1550

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2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage 3733 Highland. $2,000 down/payments under $200. 915-425-9995.

Small 2 bedroom house, 2804 Ave. Q. Reduced, $6,000 cash. 725-7496 Days/573-3761 after 6p.m.

~~**Very nice house** for sale.~~ Clean & neat!! 3–1, remodeled bathroom, new carpeting, large fenced back yard. 3406 44th. 573-5495 or 573-9872.

Farms & Ranches

Would like to lease 1/2 –10 sections of grass land for cattle. References furnished. 806-497-6392.

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SIDS campaign has had mixed results

CHICAGO (AP) — Many babies are still being placed on their stomachs at bedtime despite a years-long campaign aimed at having infants sleep on their backs to reduce the risk of death, researchers say.

The American Academy of Pediatrics began the "Back to Sleep" campaign in 1994 after research showed that infants placed on their stomachs run the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, or SIDS.

But the effort has yielded mixed results.

The SIDS rate nationwide fell 38 percent during the first two years of the campaign and the number of stomach-sleepers has declined significantly.

But by 1998, one-fifth of infants were still being placed on their stomachs, according to a report in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The findings are based on 1,000 telephone interviews with parents and other caretakers nationwide conducted each year between 1994 and 1998.

Back placement "is increasing but has not reached desired levels," wrote the researchers, led by SIDS specialist Marian Willinger of the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development.

Concerns that infants would sleep better on their stomachs or would spit up and choke while on their backs were among the reasons cited by caregivers for not following the advice.

The number of SIDS deaths nationwide fell from 2,705 to an estimated 2,529 in 1998, the latest figures available.

On the Net:
American Academy of Pediatrics:
http://www.aap.org/policy/re9946.html

Wal-Mart union vote legal, official says

DALLAS (AP) — The United Food and Commercial Workers has won a tentative victory in its bid to preserve the first successful union vote at a Wal-Mart store.

A hearing officer for the National Labor Relations Board recommended dismissal of Wal-Mart's objections to a 7-3 vote in February by meat cutters at the Wal-Mart in Jacksonville, Texas, 100 miles southeast of Dallas.

The recommendation, made Friday, was released late Monday.

Wal-Mart argued that union organizers used illegal tactics and acted improperly by providing "alcohol, cash and sexual titillation" to induce employees to vote for union representation.

Wal-Mart spokeswoman Jessica Moser said Tuesday that the company will protest the recommendation to the NLRB, which must certify the union representation.

"Many people would think if you take someone to a strip bar and buy them drinks and give them money, that might sway someone's vote," she said.

Two weeks after the Jacksonville vote, Wal-Mart announced that it would eliminate butchers in Jacksonville and 179 other stores in six states and begin selling prepackaged meat. Wal-Mart said it would offer the butchers other jobs.

Wal-Mart said customers prefer prepackaged meat, but union officials said the timing of the announcement was suspicious.

Union officials said Friday's recommendation means Wal-Mart will have to negotiate with the Jacksonville butchers before moving forward with plans to eliminate the meat-cutting department.

The company alleges that union organizer Brad Edwards took Jacksonville meat cutter Maurice Miller to an exotic dance club, where he offered Miller beer and dollar bills for tipping dancers.

But the NLRB hearing officer, Michael Cooperman, said in his recommendation that the action was acceptable because Miller is a regular customer at the topless club and he and Edwards were "winding down from the pre-election hearing."

Ohio motto declared unconstitutional

CINCINNATI (AP) — Ohio's state motto, taken from a Bible passage, expresses "a uniquely Christian thought" and therefore is unconstitutional, a federal appeals court has ruled.

A panel of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals decided 2-1 Tuesday to reverse a lower court's decision permitting Ohio's use of the motto, "With God, all things are possible."

State officials said they would appeal.

Judges Avern Cohn and Gilbert Merritt said U.S. District Judge James Graham of Columbus erred in 1998 when he concluded that the words were acceptable as an official motto if the state did not attribute them to their biblical source.

The Ohio Legislature in 1959 adopted the motto, a quote from Jesus Christ taken from the book of Matthew in the New Testament. Graham had ruled that in a secular setting the words are compatible with Judaic or Muslim beliefs.

The majority of the appeals panel disagreed.

"We are satisfied that the words of the motto cannot be treated as they were by the district court," Cohn wrote. "When Jesus spoke to his disciples, he was explaining to them what was needed of them to enter heaven and achieve salvation, a uniquely Christian thought not shared by Jews and Moslems."

In his dissent, appeals Judge David Nelson said he found Ohio's motto no more troubling than the words "In God We Trust" on U.S. coins.

Gov. Bob Taft promised to do "everything within my power to uphold and defend the motto."

"The state does not use the motto to promote or advance any single set of religious beliefs," Taft said.

The state can now ask for a hearing before the full, 13-judge appellate court or appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Ohio's motto was challenged by the American Civil Liberties Union, which is representing the Rev. Matthew Peterson, a Presbyterian minister in suburban Cleveland. The group contends the phrase cannot be separated from its biblical context as part of a discussion of salvation.

According to Cohn, two federal appeals courts since 1970 have ruled that "In God We Trust" is permissible and does not amount to a government sponsorship or endorsement of religion. Cohn said the U.S. Supreme Court has never decided a direct challenge to either the inclusion of God in the Pledge of Allegiance or "In God We Trust," which he said is adapted from the Book of Psalms.

"This is maybe the blandest statement about God that has ever been struck down," said Douglas Laycock, professor of law at the University of Texas.

On the Net: U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit:
http://pacer.ca6.uscourts.gov/opinions/main.php
American Civil Liberties Union:
http://www.aclu.org

Nutrition By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Are antioxidants useless?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am concerned that an official government group now says that big doses of antioxidants are not helping prevent illness. At least, that is what the headline in the newspaper stated. I am interested in taking what is best, but I don't want to cause harm. — G.H.R., Princeton, N.J.

Dear G.H.R.: News headlines notwithstanding, it helps to understand that change always comes slowly. The story is not that antioxidant vitamins are not helping prevent illness; it is that the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences is not yet convinced. Some organizations require more convincing than others.

The National Academy of Sciences, the organization responsible for setting the Recommended Dietary Allowances (RDAs), has always been one of the more conservative government organizations. They are "the last to get on board," so to speak. It is good to be conservative where science and government policy is concerned, but there are other factors at play here.

One consideration is that these are public health recommendations — ones that are designed to apply to everyone. It is always best to act conservatively when formulating advice for the general public.

Another factor is the fact that RDAs are used to formulate nutrition assistance programs (school meals, WIC, Food Stamps and others). If the National Academy of Sciences were, for example, to raise the vitamin C and E allowances to 200 milligrams and 100 IU per day — levels that might be considered defensible by current research evidence — it would require considerable increases in nutritional allowances for these programs. This would translate into increases in government expenditures. It is unclear if committee members would think about this, but it does make one think about the atmosphere in which such changes are considered.

That they increased the RDAs at all — raising the vitamin C 50 percent (60 milligrams to 90 milligrams) for men and 25 percent (60 milligrams to 75 milligrams) for women — is impressive. Recommended vitamin E intakes were also increased to 15 milligrams per day for men and women, which represents a 50 percent increase for men and an 88 percent increase for women.

The cautionary upper limits of 2,000 milligrams per day of vitamin C, 1,000 milligrams per day of vitamin E (which translates to 1,500 IU of natural vitamin E) and 400 micrograms per day of selenium are entirely reasonable.

So you see, the news isn't that bad. The re-emphasis on healthful foods is also key. The working concept here is that supplements cannot take the place of food; they supplement a healthful diet — they do not replace it.

Finally, you should be advised that you always call the shots. Stay up on the latest research so you can make an informed decision as to what is best for you and your family.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I have a friend who told me that if I would take vitamin E, my planter warts would eventually go away. Is this true? If so, how much is enough? — N.N.

Dear N.N.: I wish I had better news for you. The earliest mention I found that externally applied vitamin E might help eliminate plantar warts was in a 1979 book on vitamins written by a pharmacist. No evidence or scientific rationale was offered at the time, and unfortunately, there haven't been any studies since then to support this notion. Even the Vitamin E Research and Information Service (VERIS), which keeps track of all things "E," has no info on this particular use.

One thing of interest I did learn was that hypnosis has been found to be useful in combating warts. A number of scientific studies have found hypnotic suggestion to be an effective treatment.

On a personal note — and to show you how mysterious these things can be — I had a plantar wart for a number of years. I tried and retried all the over-the-counter remedies — and they succeeded in shrinking it — but the wart kept coming back. My doctor said she could have it removed with cryotherapy (freezing), but there would be no guarantee that it wouldn't return. The wart didn't bother me much, so I gave up on the idea of treatment. Two years ago, however, it went away, and it has never come back. I wish I could point to a reason.

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

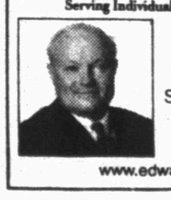
NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp s	34⅞	34⅜	34	13-16 + ⅛
AT&T Corp	52 3-16	50 9-16	51⅛	— 1
Albertsons	33 7-16	32¾	33	— ½
Alltel	68 13-16	67 13-16	68⅛	— ¾
AmerOnline s	61½	60¼	61⅛	+ 3-16
AndarkPtr	40 15-16	39¾	39⅞	—11-16
ATMOS Egy	14 15-16	14⅝	14	13-16 + 1-16
Aviall	7⅛	6⅞	7	1-16— 1-16
BP Amoco s	53 5-16	52 13-16	53	+ ¾
BakerHughes	29 5-16	28 13-16	29⅛	— 3-16
Bank of Amer	52 15-16	51¾	51	13-16— 1⅝
BellAtl	62 115-256	61⅝	62	3-16— ¾
BellSouth	52 3-16	51 13-16	51⅞	— 5-16
Beth Steel	5 11-16	5 7-16	5	9-16 + 1-16
BurlNoSFe	25⅝	25 3-16	25¼	— ½
CBS Corp	58 15-16	57 15-16	58	9-16 + 2⅞
Caterpillar	40 11-16	40 1-16	40	3-16 + 1-16
CenSoWst	22 5-16	21⅝	22¼	+ 9-16
Chevron	86 9-16	85 7-16	86¼	+ 1 7-16
Citigroup	64⅞	63	63⅜	— 1⅛
Coastal	50⅜	50 1-16	50¼	
CocaCola	50⅛	49	49	13-16—11-16
ColgatePal s	59½	57⅝	57	13-16— 1⅜
ComclMetals	28⅝	28¼	28	7-16 + ¼
CooperIn	36⅞	35½	35	11-16 + 5-16
DaimlrChry	60⅝	60	60	7-16
DallSemicn s	40¾	38⅞	40	5-16— 3-16
DeltaAirl	54 5-16	52 13-16	53⅛	—1 3-16
Dillards Inc	15¼	14 9-16	14¾	— ⅛
DowChem	107⅞	105	106	7-16—1 9-16
DuPont	50 11-16	48	48	9-16—2 9-16
EastmanChem	47 11-16	46⅜	46⅝	—1 7-16
EstKodak	59⅞	59	59⅛	— ⅛
EDS Corp	72 5-16	71⅜	72	1-16— 7-16
Entergy	26 5-16	25 5-16	26¼	+ ⅞
ExxonMobil	81	79 11-16	80	— 1
Flowers	15⅞	15 7-16	15	13-16 + ¼
FordMotor	55½	55 1-16	55½	+ ½
GTE Cp	73¼	72 9-16	73	3-16— ⅜
GenDynam	59⅝	57⅜	57	9-16— 1¾
GenElec	167 15-16	165⅛	167	5-16 + 1 9-16
GenMills s	38	37 9-16	37	13-16— 3-16
GenMotors	92⅜	89⅛	92	+ 2 9-16
GaPacGP s	39⅝	38⅝	39¼	+ ⅝
GlobalMar	23	22 1-16	22	5-16—11-16
Goodrich	32¾	31⅜	32¾	+ 1 13-16
Goodyear s	29⅞	29 5-16	29	13-16 + 3-16
GtAtlPac	18 15-16	18¾	18	13-16 + 1-16
Halliburtn	41¾	40 7-16	41	— ¾
Hanson ADS	37 1-16	36⅝	37	1-16 + 5-16
HarteHanks	24½	22 13-16	24	7-16 + 2
HomeDepot s	60 5-16	59 7-16	59	13-16 + 13-16
HoneywellIntl	58⅜	56 13-16	56	13-16— 1
IBM s	113 15-16	111 15-16	112⅝	+ ¼
IntlPaper	38 7-16	37⅜	37	13-16 + 9-16
JohnsonJn	84 1-16	83⅜	83¾	— 7-16
K mart	8 7-16	8¼	8⅜	
Kroger Co s	19½	19 1-16	19	1-16— ⅜
Litton	43	42 1-16	42	7-16
LockheedM	24⅞	23 15-16	24	1-16— 1½
Lowes Cos	54 11-16	54¼	54	7-16— ⅛
Lubys	9	8⅞	9	
LucentTech	65 15-16	64	65⅞	+ 1 15-16
MayDeptStr	29¼	28½	28½	— ⅝
MediaOne	80⅝	79⅜	79⅞	— 1⅛
Medtronic s	53⅛	52⅜	52⅞	— ⅛
MorganJP	138⅛	135 3-16	135	9-16— 2⅜
Motorola	115¼	112½	115	1-16 + 2 9-16
NCR Corp	42⅛	40⅝	41¾	—11-16
Navistar	35¾	35 5-16	35⅝	+ ½
Penney JC	14 11-16	14 5-16	14	5-16— 1-16
PepBoys	6 3-16	6⅛	6	3-16 + 1-16
PepsiCo	37⅝	37⅛	37⅜	— 1-16
Pharmacia	53⅜	51 11-16	52	— 2
PhelpDodge	45⅝	45	45¼	+ ⅛
PhilipPet	49½	49⅜	49	7-16— 1-16
PilgrmPrd B	7 5-16	7¼	7	5-16 + 1-16
Polaroid	21	20 5-16	21	+ 11-16
Praxair	43 7-16	42⅜	42	13-16 + 1-16
ProctGamb	63⅜	60	60	5-16— 4
PubS NwMx	17½	17 1-16	17½	+ ⅛
ReliantEngy	27 15-16	27 7-16	27	15-16 + 7-16
RoyalDut	57 3-16	56 11-16	56⅞	+ 3-16
SBC Comm	45 3-16	44⅝	44	11-16— ¼
SaraLee	16 5-16	15 13-16	15	15-16— ½
Scripps EW	47 7-16	46 3-16	47	1-16 + 11-16
SearsRoeb	42¼	40¾	40¾	— 1¾
SherwinW	26⅜	25⅞	26	— 1
SmithKlBchm	69 5-16	67¾	67	15-16—2 1-16
SouthernCo	27 1-16	26½	27	+ 5-16
SwstAirl s	20¾	20 5-16	20½	— 7-16
SprintFON s	60⅝	59	60½	
SprintPCS s	52⅝	51½	52¼	— 5-16
Sunoco Inc	29 15-16	29 7-16	29	15-16 + 9-16
Tandy s	58 13-16	56 11-16	58⅝	+ 2 3-16
TempleInland	52¼	50½	51½	+ 1
Texaco	52⅛	50½	51	3-16
Texlnd	31⅜	31¼	31⅜	— 3-16
TexasInst s	155⅝	151	154	11-16 + 3 3-16
Tex Util	34 7-16	33 9-16	34	7-16 + 13-16
Textron	64½	63⅜	64⅛	+ 1-16
TriconGlbR	33¾	33	33⅝	+ ⅜
TrinityInds	22 15-16	22¾	22	13-16— 1-16
TritonEngy	37⅞	36	37	9-16 + 1 9-16
TylerTech	5¼	5	5¼	+ ⅛
US West Inc	72 13-16	71 15-16	72	9-16 + ½
USX-Marathn	24⅜	23 15-16	24	3-16— 3-16
USX-USS	24 15-16	24 7-16	24	11-16 + 7-16
UnCarbde	55 11-16	54½	54	15-16— 1¼
UnionPacif	45¾	44 13-16	45¾	+ 1 15-16
UnitedTech s	64½	63⅛	63	3-16— 1⅜
Unocal	31 3-16	30⅜	31	+ ⅝
Venator Grp	11 7-16	11 1-16	11	7-16 + 3-16
WalMart	60¾	59¾	60	1-16 + ⅜
WellsFargo	44	43 1-16	43⅝	+ 9-16
WstnGasRs	16	15⅞	15	15-16— 1-16
WinnDixie	18	17 5-16	17½	— ½
Xerox Cp	27¾	26⅜	27¾	+ 1 1-16

Local Interest
STOCKS

Patterson	25 13/16	-13/16
Dell	51 1/4	+1/8
Wal Mart	60 1/8	+7/16
Compac	30 5/16	+1/16
Dol. Gen.	23 15/16	+13/16
GTE	73 1/4	-5/16
SBC Comm.	44 13/16	-1/8
BJ Services	66 9/16	-2 1/4
LU	65 15/16	+2
Cisco Sys.	68 1/2	+2 1/2

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Scurry County Country

Farmers find alternative uses for wheat fields

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Drought-caused declines in wheat production are forcing Texas farmers to find alternative uses for wheat fields, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service reports.

Extension economist Jose Pena of Uvalde said Texas wheat production is down 30 percent from last year. Pena said that most of the wheat did not come up or was never planted, due to this year's drought.

"When the farmers saw that the wheat crop was doubtful, they grazed it, insured it and diversified to other crops like corn and sorghum," he said.

Pena said Southwest Texas has been hit the hardest by the drought, with a decrease in wheat production of 60 percent.

Extension agronomist Dr. Travis Miller of College Station said 92 percent of the Texas wheat crop has been rated poor to fair for the last couple of months. Miller said producers with cattle have reduced losses from wheat by grazing their fields or baling the wheat for hay.

Miller said this year's drought, greenbug infestations and a fungal disease called stripe rust have contributed to the decrease in wheat production. Stripe rust has been a problem because of the cooler-than-average temperatures in March and April.

Pena and Miller said the decreased wheat production in Texas will not affect the prices in the wheat market. Texas contributes a small amount of wheat to the country's total supply.

District Extension director Galen Chandler of Vernon said one inch of rain was recorded in the Rolling Plains.

"Ranges and pastures are responding to the moisture," he said. "While many stock tank levels have improved, some areas still need additional runoff to fill tanks."

Chandler said the wheat crop remains in fair condition.

"Many acres are being either grazed out or cut down and baled for hay," he said. "Some wheat ground is being plowed at this time."

Chandler said field preparations are continuing at a fast pace.

"Cotton producers are applying herbicides and making final tillage passes prior to planting," he said. "Many acres of hay grazer and sorghum have already been planted."

District Extension director Charles Neeb of Fort Stockton said livestock and pastures are suffering from drought conditions in Far West Texas.

"Forage supplies are very limited," he said. "Most cattle are being culled and sold."

Neeb said land for cotton is being prepared and pre-irrigated.

"Yet, most producers are waiting for more moisture to plant," he said.

Neeb said irrigated grains are in fair condition, but dryland crops continue to decline.

"Most of the dryland wheat is being grazed or plowed under," he said.

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

PANHANDLE: Soil moisture is very short. Corn stands are rated poor to excellent, with 25 percent planted. Wheat crop is very poor to good; poor dryland wheat is being plowed. Cattle are doing well; supplemental feeding continues at a reduced level.

SOUTH PLAINS: Soil moisture is short to adequate. Dryland wheat is being grazed. Irrigated wheat is fair; limited acreage will be harvested. Pre-plant irrigation continues; corn, cotton, peanut planting under way. Potato and onion planting is complete.

ROLLING PLAINS: Soil moisture is adequate. An inch of rainfall recorded. Wheat in fair condition; many acres being grazed or cut for hay. Pastures improving with additional moisture. Stock tanks need more rain. Supplemental feeding decreasing.

NORTH TEXAS: Soil moisture is adequate. Peach thinning continues. Legumes are especially good this year. Livestock look good, and cattle prices are holding well. Ponds are mostly full. Harvesting timber at a moderate rate. Cutting hay.

EAST TEXAS: Soil moisture is adequate. Warm season grasses responding to warmth and moisture. Pasture fertilization active. Cattle doing well. Vegetable garden activity increasing. Peaches fair. Pecans progressing well.

FAR WEST TEXAS: Soil moisture is very short. Pastures in poor condition; limited forage availability. Cattle being culled and sold. Irrigated wheat in fair condition; dryland wheat being grazed or plowed. Some peaches lost to frost damage. Pecans budding early.

WEST CENTRAL TEXAS: Soil moisture is very short to short. Corn seedlings starting to emerge. Wheat is being grazed . Producers reducing herds and feeding heavily. Livestock in poor to fair condition. Stock tanks are dry. Fruit trees progressing well; some freeze damage.

CENTRAL TEXAS: Soil moisture is short to surplus. Low stock water levels a concern. Cattle numbers declining. Hail damage to wheat.

SOUTHEAST TEXAS: Soil moisture is short to adequate. Insect populations increasing. Growers spraying for pecan scab. Rice fields look good. Heavy rains, hail weakening corn stands; producers replacing damaged corn with grain sorghum. Fertilization continues.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS: Soil moisture is short. High winds and temperatures aggravating dry conditions. Forage availability below normal. Corn, sorghum, cotton making good progress under irrigation. Plant skips noted in dryland crops.

COASTAL BEND: Soil moisture is adequate. Wheat crop is poor. Peaches progressing well. Cattle are in good condition. Pastures responding to recent rains. Planting and replanting still under way. Low temperatures slowing cotton development.

SOUTH TEXAS: Soil moisture is short. Corn, sorghum progressing well. Pastures and ranges in fair condition. Harvest of onions, carrots, cabbage, greens continues. Citrus harvest winding down.

C-City auction

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 587 head of cattle for the Saturday, April 22, sale. Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers under 400 pounds were $2 to $5 higher, over 400 were steady. Slaughter cows were steady to $1 lower. Bulls were steady. Bred cows were weak in light test, pairs were steady. Trade was active, demand good.

Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 135-145
300-400: 143
400-500: 111-117
500-600: 98-102.50
700-800: 80-85.50
Feeder heifers:
200-300: 119-130
300-400: 106-118
500-600: 91-98
600-700: 86-89
Replacement cows:
Young bred cows: 560-610
Bred cows: 480-560
Pairs: 730-885
Aged pairs: 630-730
Slaughter cows: High yielding: 43-45
Slaughter bulls: High dressing: 56.50-56.75

Lubbock auction

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 677 head of cattle for the Thursday, April 20, sale. Cows were steady. Yearlings and calves were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 41-45
Canner and low cutters: 32-40
Slaughter bulls: 45-55
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 101-135
400-500: 100-115
500-600: 85-105
600-700: 85-94
700-800: 80-88
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 100-120
400-500: 92-108
500-600: 85-100
600-700: 78-87
700-800: 75-83
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 85-101
700-800: 70-84
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 700-900
Grade: 550-700
Springers: 500-750
Baby calves: 75-210
Doodlers: 190-250

Outlook not rosey for Midwestern farmers

STILLWATER, Minn. (AP) — Midwestern farmers are heading into another growing season with an unpleasant outlook in terms of commodity prices, government aid and weather.

Prices for major crops grown in the region are likely to be below most farmers' production costs; dairy prices have sunk with crop prices, matching 25 year lows; and large areas of the country are under threat of drought.

Uncertainty also hovers about whether the government will come to the rescue after bailing farmers out of financial problems for the past two years.

Congress is in the process of passing a $7 billion farm aid package for the start of this growing season, and more could be on the way if drought and weather damage to crops becomes measurable later, congressional leaders say.

Dairyman George Rydeen, who farms near Stillwater, said he hopes Asia's improving economy will help farmers through increased exports.

"Even our milk prices are tied to grains," he said. "Cheap feed leads to more milk and lower milk prices. We've had two pretty good years in dairying, so we knew what would happen. More cows, and milk production is up."

Weather provides another way for getting grain supplies back in balance with demand, he said.

"The long-range weather maps I look at show widespread drought," Rydeen said. "We're on the edge of it, so we have to figure we will get a crop."

Drought could bring higher prices for farmers before the year is out, said Helen Pound, an analyst and trader with Goldenberg Hehmeyer & Co. in Minneapolis.

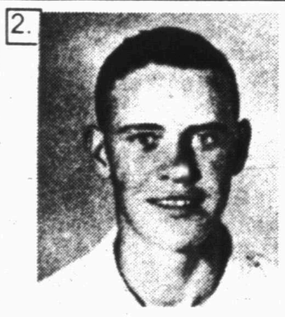
She said, however, that farmers and grain companies have huge supplies of grain to work with if this year's crop is reduced by poor growing conditions. Port elevators at Duluth, Minn., and Superior, Wis., have 18 million bushels of wheat on hand. Farms and country elevators are loaded with corn and soybeans for export.

"There's a lot of grain in storage that would find some happy buyers if drought happens," Pound said.

FACES FROM THE PAST

Do You Know These Faces? If You Do **ENTER!!!** You Don't Have To Know Them All!
The Prize For The Winner This Week Will Be **3 Months Subscription**
from The **Snyder Daily News** - 3600 College Ave. 573-5486

1. 
Texas Savings Bank
2619 College Avenue
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915-573-9305

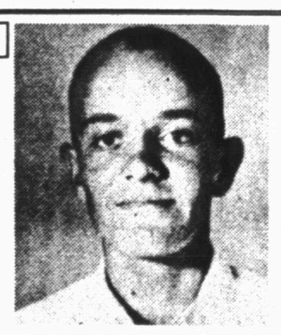
2. 
Fast Oil Change
Mark & Angie Strickland
417 27th Street
(Ave E & 25th Street)
915-573-9643

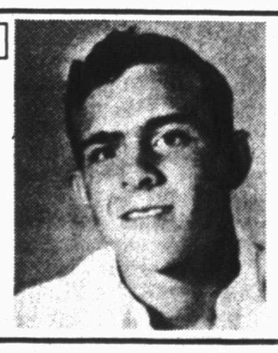
3. 
Plaza Cafe
Hwy. 84 Bypass
& Huffman

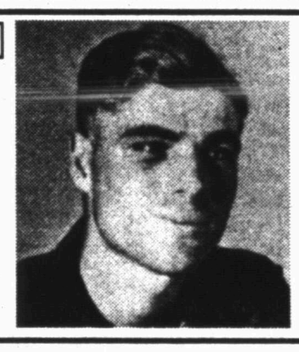
4. 
Cutting Edge Hair Salon
Xalyn Palacios
574-EDGE (3343)
2109 College Ave.
Snyder, Texas 79549

5. 
West Texas State Bank
Member FDIC

6. 
American State Bank
"Right Size To Be Friendly"
3610 College Ave
573-4041
Member FDIC

7. 
Rudy's
4604 College Ave
573-7455

8. 
Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home
3101 College Ave.
573-5454

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Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave
573-5486

10. 
THE SUBWAY A SANDWICH SHOULD BE.
3903 College Ave.
573-9782
Snyder, Texas

LAST WEEK'S WINNER IS JANE RAMEY
FACES FROM THE PAST ENTRY WEEK 117

1. Texas Savings Bank _____
2. Fast Oil Change _____
3. Plaza Cafe _____
4. Cutting Edge _____
5. West Texas State Bank _____
6. American State Bank _____
7. Rudy's Restaurant _____
8. Bell-Cypert-Seale _____
9. Snyder Daily News _____
10. Subway _____

Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

In each advertisement you will find a face from the past. Identify the faces on the entry blank opposite the name of the sponsoring business. **Bring or mail the entry blank to the Snyder Daily News, 3600 College Ave. PO Box 949, Snyder, Texas 79550.** The deadline for entering is 5 pm Monday before the next contest appears on Wednesday. The weekly winner will be drawn from all the correct entries. Employees of the SDN are not eligible to enter.

Last week's photos: 1.Aubrey Williams 2.Dwaine Williams 3. Eddie McHaney 4. Ethel Hundsnurcher 5. Jane Kuss 6. Jimmy Freytag 7. Kenneth Lofton 8. Morris Light 9. Patsy Johnson 10. Robbie Robinson

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WTC candidates face questions

By Joyce May
SDN Staff Writer

The three candidates seeking the Place 6 trustee position on the Western Texas College board were questioned at a forum Tuesday evening on views about such topics as the college golf course and raising taxes.

Some 25 people, including media representatives, attended the forum, sponsored by the WTC Faculty Association.

The format of the meeting included first allowing the three candidates - John Zalman III, James Hanks, and Scott Richburg - to make personal comments on why they are seeking the trustee position. The floor was then open to questions from the audience.

Questioned about the golf course, candidates responded according to the order on the ballot.

"The golf course is an asset to WTC in many respects, but it also is a liability," Zalman said.

Zalman quoted figures on how the golf course had lost almost $1 million in the last 22 years and that it had only operated in the black four years during that period.

"If we had that $1 million today, what could we do with it?"

Zalman discussed the possibility of bringing in an outside entity to operate the course. He said he is not against the golf course, but he said he realizes the course cannot continue to be a financial drain on the college.

"I'd like to keep it. I hope we can, but if it comes to a showdown, I vote for education."

Calling the topic a "point of contention," Dr. Hanks echoed similar sentiments.



CANDIDATE FORUM — The three candidates vying for Place 6 on the Western Texas College board of trustees attended a forum Tuesday night on campus. The event was sponsored by the WTC Faculty Association. From left are candidates John Zalman III, Dr. James Hanks and Scott Richburg. (SDN Staff Photo)

"The bottom line is can we afford to keep it. It is not a matter if we want to," Dr. Hanks said. "I certainly would not say turn it back to pastureland. That would be stupid and I strive not to be stupid."

Richburg also said he believed the golf course is an asset and said the college needs to take a different approach on the subject.

"We need to change our thinking on it," he said.

Candidates also were questioned whether they would vote to raise taxes. Richburg chose to respond to the question first, saying the community has made an investment for more than 20 years in the college and that taxes are necessary to maintain that investment.

"Odds are that the taxes will be raised. That's just the American way," he said.

Dr. Hanks responded, "I would be lying if I said I would never vote to raise taxes. I know that is unpopular, but it is honest."

He said just raising taxes is not the answer to the college's problems, but he would vote in favor if he "absolutely had to."

Zalman's response was, "Yes, I would vote to raise taxes, but it will darn well have to be justified."

The candidates also answered a host of other questions on topics such as student recruitment and what they consider to be the duties of a board member.

Police want zoo shooter tried as adult

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police are asking that a 16-year-old boy charged with shooting seven young people at the National Zoo be tried as an adult.

He was arrested hiding behind a water heater in his grandmother's home Tuesday night, 24 hours after the gunfire interrupted a black-families-day celebration at the zoo.

The youth, who was not identified because of his age, was charged with seven counts of assault with intent to kill.

"We'll know later today whether or not the U.S. attorney is going to try him as an adult," Police Chief Charles Ramsey said on NBC's "Today." "Right now it looks like he's the lone gunman."

Cmdr. Peter Newsham told a news conference that authorities are asking for trial as an adult.

Police still are searching for a motive for the shootings. Asked whether the incident was gang-related, Ramsey replied, "Obviously we still are pursuing that possibility. But to say it right now and confirm it would be premature."

Ramsey said the youth offered no resistance when arrested. A shotgun was taken from the home but police were still looking for the weapon, believed to be a 9 mm handgun, used in the shootings.

The seven who were shot ranged in age from 11 to 16.

A high-ranking police official said Monday and again early Tuesday that doctors told him the most severely wounded, an 11-year-old boy, was brain dead. Children's National Medical Center said the child was not brain dead and, in fact, his condition had improved and he was responding to care. "Although the child remains in critical condition, a repeat CT scan of the head continues stable," said Dr. Martin R. Eichelberger, director of trauma services at the hospital.

A 12-year-old girl who was shot in the back is hospitalized in good condition. The five others were released from hospitals.

Former teacher, cousin to visit

QUEENSTOWN, Md. (AP) — He still can't go home, so little pieces of Elian Gonzalez's life in Cuba are being brought to him in America as his family, the courts and the Senate consider the fate of the 6-year-old boy.

In the latest stop on his five-month odyssey, the young boat wreck survivor was moved to a secluded and wooded Maryland retreat with lots of room to play. There, he awaits visits by his former kindergarten teacher and a 10-year-old cousin, who left Cuba today en route to the United States.

SISD transfers due, deadline is Friday

Students who reside outside the Snyder Independent School District, but wish to attend the Snyder schools during the 2000-2001 school year, must complete an application for transfer by Friday, or a tuition fee may be assessed.

Parents must go by the school administration building at 2901 37th St. to file for student transfers.

The office is open from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Walter Falls and Janie Graham.

DISMISSALS: Alifonse Ramos, William Floyd, Joy Howell, Marie Rhone, Valdean Riley and Bobby Scott.

CENSUS: 40 (Med./Surg.-13, Long-term Care-25, OB-1 and Nursery-1)

Obituaries

Carrolynne Potts

1937-2000

COLORADO CITY — A memorial service is set for 3 p.m. Thursday in the First Christian Church for Carrolynne Kaye Potts, the sister of Leslie Bohannon of Snyder.

Mrs. Potts, 62, died Thursday, April 20, in a San Angelo hospital.

Born to William and Goldie Bohannon on Nov. 5, 1937 in Denver, Colo., she married Thurman Potts in 1972 in Lovington, N.M. She had been a resident of Colorado City since 1993.

Mrs. Potts is preceded in death by her parents; a son, Billy; and a daughter, Edie.

Survivors include two sons, Joseph Robinson of Colorado City, Randolph Ratliff of Plano; two daughters, Cynthia Partin of Lubbock and Angela Kaye Potts of Big Spring; another brother, Richard Bohannon of Lovington, N.M.; three sisters, Judy Jones of Fort Myers, Fla., Loava Swarengin of Murfreesboro, Tenn., Pat Bruner of Hambrick of Cisco; and four grandchildren.

Eddy Cardona

1960-2000

TULIA – Eddy Cardona, 40-year-old son of Victor Cardona of Snyder, died Monday, April 24, in Amarillo's Northwest Texas Hospital.

Funeral service for Mr. Cardona is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Wallace Funeral Home Chapel. Officiating will be the Rev. Tom Baker, pastor of Christ Evangelical Lutheran Church, and Trey Morgan, minister of the Central Church of Christ.

Burial will follow in the Rose Hill Cemetery.

Born Jan. 31, 1960 in Mercedes, Mr. Cardona was reared in Tulia and had worked for Young and Ellis Inc. and for Bartlett Feed Yard. He had moved to Stratford and was a farmer.

Survivors include four daughters, Lyndsey Cardona, Jennifer Cardona, Catarina Barila and Isabela Barila, all of Tulia; three sisters, Flo Bice of Amarillo, Mary Butler of Happy and Olga Rodriguez of Laredo; his grandmother, Josefina Cardona of Mercedes; and one grandson.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

3 theft reports filed Tuesday

Snyder police officers investigated three reports of theft on Tuesday.

Archie Floyd contacted officers at 8:46 a.m. in reference to two rod and reels being taken from his pickup while it was parked at his residence in the 4400 block of Avenue U. An offense report for Class B theft was submitted.

At 8:50 a.m., David Almanza reported the theft of gardening tools from his residence at 1510 39th Street. A theft report was filed.

A clerk with McD's 66 on College Avenue reported a gas drive-off in the amount of $20 at 5:22 p.m. Officers submitted an offense report for Class C theft.

One subject was taken into custody Tuesday.

A 21-year-old male was arrested by officers at 5:22 p.m. in the 1000 block of 37th Street on a Comal County warrant for theft by check.

Officers also worked four accidents Tuesday.

A hit and run accident report was taken in reference to an unknown vehicle hitting a parked, unoccupied 1999 Ford Crown Victoria owned by the Texas Department of Public Safety sometime between 5:30 p.m. Monday and 7:30 a.m. Tuesday. The vehicle is a DPS trooper patrol car and was parked in the 2300 block of Sunset when it was struck.

At 11:18 a.m., officers investigated a two-vehicle mishap in the 2300 block of Avenue R. Involved were a 1989 Chrysler New Yorker driven by Connie Farmer Jones, 52, of 2810 Avenue H and a 1998 Chevrolet C-1500 pickup driven by Jerry Don Early, 49, of 2600 47th Street.

A two-vehicle accident occurred at 6:35 p.m. in the 1900 block of 30th Street. Involved were a 2000 Chevrolet Malibu driven by Nathan Wood Wright, 24, of San Angelo and a 1992 Ford F-150 pickup driven by Vick Nolan Miller Jr., 49, of 264 North Ennis Creek Road.

Officers also handled a mishap at 9:30 p.m. in the 2800 block of Avenue O involving a 1993 Ford Escort that struck a shopmade barbecue pit owned by the Boys and Girls Club. Eddie Felix Montoya, 18, of 408 33rd Street was the driver of the Escort.

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WCFH

WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME

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Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Immunization clinic

Scurry County Health unit's immunization clinic will be held Thursday from 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m.

FBC worship service

The First Baptist Church Sunday morning worship service will air at 3 p.m. Thursday on TV Channel 2.

All-sports banquet meeting

All parents of SHS athletes are invited to a meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday in the student center to discuss plans for the banquet set for May 4.

GED exams

GED examinations will be administered Friday in the testing center at WTC. For more information, call Emily Hataway at 573-8511, ext. 297.

Mini-carnival

Wal-Mart employees will host a mini-carnival from 11 a.m. until 6 p.m. Saturday at the store to raise money for the Children's Miracle Network.

Snyder Neighbors Sharing

SNS is in need of workers and monetary donations for Saturday's work day. For more information, contact Thomas Fogleman at 573-3538, or Sam Robertson at 573-4053.

Union Baptist garage sale

Union Baptist Church garage sale will be from 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday, five miles west of Snyder on Hwy. 180. Proceeds will go to the church building mission trip to Pennsylvania in July. Call 573-6814 or 776-2403 to have items picked up.

Word Is Life anniversary

Word Is Life Deliverance Church will observe its 10th anniversary and dedication celebration at 3 p.m. Sunday at 312 Coliseum Drive. The public is invited. A meal will be provided following the services.

Avenue D Baptist anniversary

Avenue D Baptist Church will celebrate its 50th anniversary Sunday. A noon meal will be served following the morning service, and an afternoon service will also be held. Former pastors Calvin Brown and Jack Riley will speak, as will Darold Baldwin, Mitchell-Scurry director of missions, as will former interim pastor John Shugart. Charles Day is the pastor of the church.

Choirs' spring show

Tickets are now on sale from SHS Mastersingers and Tiger Jazz students for their Spring Show entitled *Reflections — Music From The Past*. This concert is set for 7 p.m. Monday in Worsham Auditorium. Tickets are $5 each and will include admission and dessert, to be served at intermission. Ticket deadline is 3:30 p.m. Friday.

Fellowship for Savages

Paul and Kathy Savage, missionaries to Tanzania, will be in Snyder Monday. A potluck dinner is set for 6 p.m. in First Baptist Church Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited. Bring a dish.

Holocaust survivor to speak

Helene Shiver of Lubbock, a survivor of the Dachau Death Camp during World War II, will speak at Snyder Junior High School at 2 p.m. Tuesday. The community is invited.

Parent education class

East Elementary is hosting a series of parent education classes from 6-7 p.m. each Tuesday in the school library. The next topic is "Expanding Your Child's Reading Ability." Refreshments are served. For more information, call 573-1769.

Hermleigh Cemetery meeting

The Hermleigh Cemetery Association will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the Hermleigh Community Center. Everyone is invited.

5th grade band signup

A one-day registration for 5th graders wanting to be in the 6th grade band is set from 3:45 to 6 p.m. next Wednesday in the Northeast Elementary auditorium. A parent or guardian must attend with student.

All sports banquet

Tickets for Snyder High School's all-sports banquet set May 4 are available at the principal's office. Tickets are $5 each for non-varsity and parents.

Senior Center May Day

The Senior Citizens Center's annual May Day fund-raiser begins at 2 p.m. Saturday, May 6, at the coliseum. Activities include silent auction, crafts, baked goods, entertainment and barbecue from 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Tickets are $6 each and may be purchased at the center, from seniors or at May Day.

East retirement reception

A retirement reception for East Elementary's Wayne Kennedy, Billie Adams and Kay Echols is set for 3:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9, in the First Baptist Church Garden Room. Photos and stories of Kennedy as a principal, teacher or co-worker are being sought for a special memory album to be presented at the reception. Contact Christy Smith at 2901 37th St., Snyder, Tx. 79549; or 574-6870 (fax), or 573-1769 (office).

New CHIP program

The new CHIP program is designed to provide medical coverage for children whose parents can't afford private insurance. A CHIP representative will be in Snyder on Tuesday, May 9. Applications and assistance will be available. Applicants will need to bring their last two months income verifications, or a letter from their employer, and verification of day-care expenses. If you have any questions, call 1-800-592-7433.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery: 6-17-24-35-36

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
5-1-6

Students petition to continue bonfire

HOUSTON (AP) — Two Texas A&M students have started a petition drive to ensure that the university's annual bonfire continues in the wake of last year's collapse that killed 12 Aggies and injured 27 others.

Will Clark and Beth Riedel told the Houston Chronicle they've collected at least 2,000 signatures and another 1,000 e-mails and other forms of support from as far away as Alaska, which they plan to present to university president Ray Bowen in College Station.

"We don't care if they change the Bonfire to make it safer, we just want to make sure that the tradition continues," said Clark, a junior majoring in rangeland studies. University officials said it is premature to determine the effects of such a petition.

Clark and Riedel also are selling T-shirts and bumper stickers that say, "Keep the fire burning." Money from the $10 T-shirts will help finance the effort, and contributions for the bumper stickers will go to a memorial fund for the 12 Aggies who died, said Riedel.

They said they will present the petitions to Bowen on Monday, the day before the special Bonfire commission returns with results of a $1.67 million study. The commission has hired five consultants to determine the cause of the collapse.

"Texas A&M students over the years have often taken initiatives in supporting the university and its traditions, so we are not surprised by this latest show of support," school spokeswoman Cindy Lawson said. "However, we cannot at this time say what bearing it may ultimately have on the future of Bonfire because there are many factors to consider, including those that could be addressed in the report to be issued next week by the Bonfire commission."

Misconduct of jury leads to new trial for candy bar thief

TYLER (AP) — An East Texas man sentenced to 16 years in prison for swiping a $1 candy bar will get a new day in court after a judge found evidence of jury misconduct during his trial.

Visiting Judge Gene Ater ruled Tuesday that Kenneth Payne III deserves a new trial after two jurors admitted that Payne's failure to testify in his case was considered during deliberations.

The two also said a fellow juror, a former corrections officer, told jurors that Payne would still get out within four or five years, even if they gave him a 16-year sentence.

"He said that if a prisoner doesn't get a longer sentence, he would be out in a few months and would not have learned his lesson and would be right back out there breaking the law," one juror wrote in an affidavit obtained by the Tyler Morning Telegraph.

Judge Ater set Payne's bond at $3,000 and scheduled a new trial for June 26. However, Payne can't bond out of jail because authorities are holding him for a parole revocation.

Defense attorney Linda Altier, who filed the motion for a new trial for her 29-year-old client, said she believed the jury made an honest mistake and didn't act maliciously.

Payne has ten prior convictions, including three felonies. He was on parole for felony theft when he stole the Snickers bar. He has a previous conviction for stealing a bag of Oreos.

The district attorney's office tried Payne as a habitual offender, bumping the misdemeanor shoplifting charge to felony theft, making him eligible for a sentence of up to 20 years in prison.

D&N Grocery store owner Dale Klinner, who said he caught Payne stuffing the candy bar in his pants, said he hopes for another conviction, and another lengthy sentence.

"What is it going to take for him to learn a lesson?" Klinner said. "I'm not joyous that somebody has to go to prison, but the Bible says thou shalt not steal."

Mother sends harasssing letters to son's sports rival

BURGAW, N.C. (AP) — The mother of a high school athlete sent harassing letters to the home of her son's sporting rival that taunted the bigger, older boy as "Humpty Dumpty."

Beth Rich of Wallace has agreed to undergo counseling and perform 24 hours of community service. Her sentence, which helped her avoid a possible criminal conviction, was chosen by the victim.

Rich confessed April 12 to sending seven harassing, unsigned letters and a package that contained a Humpty Dumpty stuffed toy over a seven-month period to the home of Darrell Blanton, 18, police said.

Blanton was a center on the football team and catcher on the baseball squad at Wallace-Rose Hill High School. Rich's son plays the same positions but is about 50 pounds lighter and a year younger than Darrell.

The first letter arrived with the start of football practice, said Roy Blanton, the victim's father. The letter humiliated Darrell's play and ridiculed his size.

He went to authorities after the letters persisted.

"We really were getting tired of having to watch our backs, making sure he's home when he was supposed to because we really didn't know what was going on," the elder Blanton said.

Rich declined to provide an explanation Tuesday.

"I think we've reached an understanding and I'm just glad it's over," she said.

The break in the case came when a package arrived for Darrell last month containing another unsigned letter and a Humpty Dumpty stuffed animal, Roy Blanton said. The Pender County sheriff's department traced the toy to a Wallace pharmacy.

Hilary Swank's husband also a winner

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hilary Swank wasn't the only winner when she picked up this year's Academy Award for best actress.

Her husband, Chad Lowe, says she's getting more acting jobs and he doesn't have to work as much.

"My balancing of art and commerce just got a lot easier," he told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "It's been a challenge in the past at times."

Lowe stars in "Take Me Home: The John Denver Story" on CBS this Sunday.

New study says...

Healthy diet reduces deaths among women

CHICAGO (AP) — Women who eat a wide variety of healthy foods may significantly lower their risk of dying from such things as cancer, heart disease and stroke, researchers suggested today.

The findings might sound familiar, but this is the first time the health effects of overall eating patterns have been studied, according to the report in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

The researchers found that a diet that includes plenty of fruits, vegetables, whole grains and low-fat meat and dairy products reduces a woman's chances of dying — up to 30 percent for women who ate the healthiest diets compared with those with the most unhealthy eating habits.

Most previous studies have looked at the health effects of specific nutrients, foods or dietary habits — such as eating low-fat foods — but not at overall eating patterns, said Dr. Arthur Schatzkin, chief of the National Cancer Institute's nutritional epidemiology branch and one of the study's authors.

"It's another way of following the standard advice, but may be a strategy that makes it easier for people to adopt dietary guidelines," he said.

The study was based on questionnaires completed between 1987 and 1989 by more than 42,000 women.

Researchers then looked at 23 recommended foods and counted how many times the women reported eating those foods at least once a week, giving each woman a score based on the responses. The scores were compared with death rates among those women 51/2 to six years after the survey was completed.

The study found women's risk of dying decreased as the scores went up. Those who ate the highest amount of recommended foods were 30 percent less likely to die than those who ate the lowest.

"We were trying to come up with a fairly simple and practical approach to looking at overall diet in terms of diversity of food and recommended food," Schatzkin said.

On the Net: Journal of the American Medical Association: http://jama.ama-assn.org

Date Book

Wednesday, April 26, 2000
Today is the 117th day of 2000 and the 38th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1607, Captain John Smith landed at Cape Henry, Va., to found the first permanent English settlement in the New World.

On this day in 1819, the first Odd Fellows lodge in the United States was established in Baltimore, Md.

On this day in 1986, an explosion and fire damaged the Chernobyl atomic power plant at Pripyat, Ukraine, releasing radioactive materials into the atmosphere.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: John James Audubon (1785-1851), naturalist-painter; Ludwig Wittgenstein (1889-1951), philosopher; Anita Loos (1893-1981), writer; Bernard Malamud (1914-1986), writer; I.M. Pei (1917-), architect, is 83; Carol Burnett (1936-), comedian-actress, is 67; Duane Eddy (1938-), musician, is 62; Vladimir Zhirinovsky (1946-), Russian politician, is 54.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1931, Lou Gehrig of the New York Yankees hit a home run but was called out when he passed a teammate on the base paths.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "It is not an individual act, architecture. You have to consider your client. Only out of that can you produce great architecture. You can't work in the abstract." — I.M. Pei

TODAY'S MOON: Last quarter.

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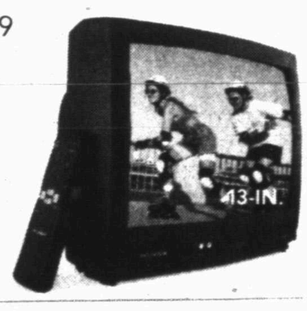
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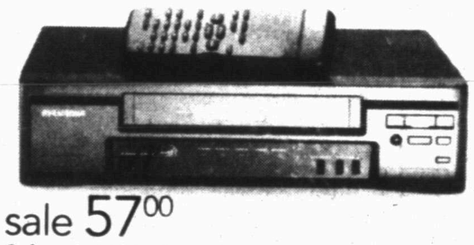


sale 12.49 Companion 8-pc. pliers set, Save $12.50 Cushion grip handles for comfort, better grip. Reg. 24.99. #30039



sale 89.99 Sylvania 13-in. TV, Save $40 Reg. 129.99. #43029

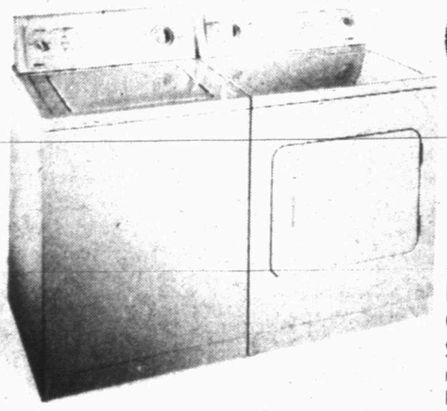




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BIG SPRING: 1801 East FM 700-C6 Big Spring, TX Phone: 915-267-1127 Owner: Jody & Teri Swinney Mon.-Sat. 10-7, Sun. 1-6

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