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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

FRIDAY
Dec. 19, 2003
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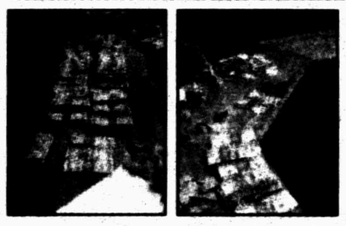
Home of Carl Burleson



EVIDENCE — Part of $203,160 in cash taken in the August robbery was presented in evidence this week. (Contributed Photos)

Man convicted of August WTSB robbery in Rowena

A 28-year-old Ballinger man was convicted in U.S. District Court in Lubbock Wednesday of robbing West Texas State Bank in Rowena last August.

Darin Heath West will be sentenced in February on three counts to include aggravated robbery and kidnapping. The conviction carries a maximum 30 years in prison and West remains behind bars awaiting sentencing.

The trial began on Monday and continued until the verdict was announced Wednesday. An earlier trial was declared a mistrial after a juror became ill.

A total of $210,900 was taken in the heist during the early morning hours on Aug. 5.

West confronted a bank teller the morning of the robbery as the teller was opening the bank.

Armed with a pistol, the man forced the female teller into the bank, took the money and fled in the teller's vehicle. He abandoned her vehicle a short distance from the bank and got into another one parked at the Rowena Gin.

West then fled to Dickinson in Galveston County.

A routine check of a suspicious vehicle the next day in Dickinson resulted in the arrest of West when officers there discovered he had outstanding city warrants from that community.

The vehicle, which had been rented in West's name, was later inventoried and a weapon and most of the money from the bank were found, still in WTSB wrappers.

Officers recovered $203,160 and it was presented in evidence in this week's trial.

Following West's arrest, Runnels County Sheriff Bill Baird said, "It is great to have a crime of this magnitude solved in such a short time and to recover as much of the money as was recovered."

Jurors hear call for help

CHESAPEAKE, Va. (AP) — Jurors at the trial of teenage sniper Lee Boyd Malvo heard an emotionally wrenching 911 call today as prosecutors opened their effort to convince the panel that Malvo deserves the death penalty.

In the frantic call, William Franklin sobs to the dispatcher that his wife, FBI analyst Linda Franklin, was shot in the head.

The opening of the sentencing phase of Malvo's trial came the morning after he was convicted of two counts of capital murder in the spree of slayings that terrorized the Washington, D.C., area last year.

The tape was excluded during the guilt phase of Malvo's trial, but Circuit Judge Jane Marum Roush turned aside defense objections and ruled it was admissible in the sentencing phase.

Prosecutor Ray Morrogh said the tape demonstrates the vileness of the crime, a necessary factor under Virginia law for the jury to impose a death sentence.

Prosecutor Robert F. Horan Jr. said he also will present evidence of an escape attempt Malvo made the day he was arrested in October 2002, to demonstrate that Malvo could pose a future danger.

Defense lawyer Thomas Walsh, who had unsuccessfully mounted an insanity defense in the first phase of the trial, asked the jury in his opening statement Friday to remember the difficult circumstances of Malvo's childhood and to conclude "that there's value in this man's life."

Malvo, 18, was convicted for the Oct. 14, 2002, killing Franklin, one of 10 people killed by Malvo and partner John Allen Muhammad during the three-week spree. The jury deliberated for 13 hours over two days before rendering its verdict.

Malvo's lawyers claimed that Muhammad had brainwashed the teen so that he came to believe his father figure was chosen by Allah.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Wade Warren

Tatum, N.M. is normally our first stop when heading to points west, and we don't stray far from the Town & Country convenience store.

As we pass through Tatum, someone always seems to say that they are glad they don't live there.

We all agree as we look at the vacant buildings lining Hwy. 380 and don't give it much more thought.

An article in The Lovington Daily Leader last week has prompted me to view Tatum in an entirely different light.

The school district in that small New Mexico community is holding a school bond election in February for $3.5 million to make improvements in the form of heating and cooling upgrades and other improvements.

Tatum's superintendent, T.J. Parks, said the majority of their school buildings were built from the 1940s to the 1960s.

"It is a very expensive endeavor, but if Tatum intends to continue the quality of education we have, we need to upgrade our buildings," said Parks.

Was that an echo?

Parks said new heating and cooling systems could translate into big savings on electric bills.

In talking about the high school, Parks said the heating and cooling system was either completely on or completely off with no way to regulate different areas.

Snyder's school board recognized this as a problem over the past few years and has since updated the HVAC systems at West Elementary, East Elementary, Northeast Elementary and are in the middle of a major overhaul at Snyder High School.

In Tatum, the superintendent said the district had been planing the work for more than 2½ years and had received input from two architectural firms, plus parents and community members.

Tatum has fewer than 700 people in its community and is surrounded by oil and gas properties.

At one time, the school district was the wealthiest school district in New Mexico per capita. That was before their state legislature passed an equalization law in the early '70s that redistributed taxes equally to all districts based on enrolled students.

Now Tatum is one of the poorest.

Maybe so, but Tatum citizens are taking the bull by the horns and are making an earnest effort to make much needed improvements to their schools.

With that in mind, we're looking forward to the results of the study the Snyder school board commissioned on SISD facilities and what plans they might generate.

On the subject of remodeling, there's some talk around town about de-modernizing the courthouse by taking the granite siding off and restoring the building to its original appearance.

It seems there might be some grant money available for such an undertaking.

The question then would be what to do with all that granite.

One person suggested it could be made into grave markers and everyone in the county would be given one free.

This prompted another to ask if the markers would just be for persons living outside the city limits since it is a county building, or would it include those living within the city limits.

Sounds like another year of interlocal agreement talks coming up.

Bremer survives ambush on convoy

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer escaped a rebel ambush on his convoy two weeks ago, authorities said today. An explosion, meanwhile, struck the office of a major Shiite party, killing an Iraqi woman.

Also today, a roadside bomb exploded near a U.S. military truck outside Baghdad, wounding two U.S. soldiers, the military said.

Nobody was injured in the attack on Bremer's convoy on Dec. 6, the same day as a visit by Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, a spokesman said.

Bremer was riding in an armored car near the Baghdad airport when a roadside bomb exploded and guerrillas attacked with small arms fire, but his convoy sped away, said Dan Senor, a spokesman for the U.S.-led coalition.

"As you can see, it didn't succeed," Bremer told reporters today in Basra.

The attack was not believed to have been a planned assassination attempt on Bremer but merely another in a series of strikes against U.S. convoys on that heavily traveled road near the airport.

Bremer has not curtailed his schedule of touring Iraq since then, and he traveled to the southern city of Basra today, Senor said.

Today's predawn attack on the Supreme Council for the Islamic Revolution Party office, which also wounded five others, came a day after Shiites buried a senior party politician assassinated Wednesday as he left his home in Baghdad.

Party officials blamed both attacks on loyalists of Saddam Hussein, who was captured by U.S. forces on Saturday.

Rahim Jabar, who lives in the building in western Baghdad, said his sister was killed and five other residents were wounded in the explosion, which brought down half of a one-story residential building that also housed a party branch office.

Supreme Council members rushed to the scene, and an anti-Saddam rally was planned in the capital later today.

The blast that wounded the two American soldiers was caused by a homemade bomb, said Capt. Tammy Galloway of the U.S. Army's 82nd Airborne Division.

The tanker truck blew up about 7:50 a.m., near Abu Ghraib, about 20 miles west of Baghdad, sending flames and clouds of smoke rising from the wreckage.

One witness, 19-year-old Jassim Mohammed, said he saw the bodies of two Iraqis in a damaged civilian car.

On Thursday, the military reported that rebels had killed a U.S. soldier in the first fatal ambush for the U.S. military since Saddam's capture.

The soldier was killed late Wednesday.

On gambling...

Perry's staff reviews options with tribes

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry's chief of staff has privately reviewed gambling options with Indian leaders in what a governor's official said was a meeting to explore ways to help fund Texas public schools.

A Perry spokeswoman said representatives of the Kickapoo, Alabama-Coushatta and Tigua tribes attended the gathering in Austin last week that was organized by Mike Toomey, but no commitments were made.

Limited "Indian gaming can and should be a part of the solution to the Texas public school finance crisis," Kevin Battise, vice chairman of the Alabama-Coushatta tribe, said this morning.

Battise said a "fair share" of gaming revenues would go to Texas public schools.

The governor has said he would call a spring special session if a consensus plan emerges on the way Texas funds public schools and other educational reforms. State legislators who faced a $9.9 billion shortfall had balanced the budget through cuts, consolidations and added fees.

Perry spokeswoman Kathy Walt said gubernatorial aides are reviewing various revenue-generating options in case Perry calls a spring special session to address the funding of public schools and other educational reforms.

"All the ideas are on the table, and they're all being discussed," said Walt.

School district sets TAAS testing dates

The Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) tests will be administered Feb. 24-26.

Enrolled 11th and 12th graders, as well as individuals who are out of school, are eligible to take any section of the exit level test on which they have not yet met minimum expectations.

TAAS writing tests will be administered on Feb. 24 to exit level.

Exit level math will be given Feb. 25, and exit level reading tests will be administered will be given Feb. 26.

The new TAKS writing tests will be given Feb. 24 to grade four and seven. The TAKS reading tests will be given to grade nine on Feb. 24, and the TAKS English Language Arts test will be given to grades 10 and 11 on Feb. 24.

TAAS out-of-school examinees must register by Jan. 16 in order to take the tests.

Registration packets are now available in the Snyder High School counselor's office. That office will be closed Dec. 22 – Jan. 2 for the Christmas holidays.

Anyone with questions about the tests can call Janell Jones at 574-6050 or Melissa Jones, 573-5401.

FAJITAS, WITH TRIMMINGS — Snyder volleyball players enjoyed a fajita supper at the annual volleyball banquet Thursday at Towle Park Barn. From left, Kelbi Drum, Sara Thornhill and Beth Clements load up at the buffet line before the start of the awards ceremony. (SDN Staff Photo)

ASK US

Q—How does the KSNY "Boogie Van" get by with having emergency lights on it?

A—It is not against the law for the van, formerly an ambulance, to have the lights, but they cannot be turned on while moving.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Daniel Burton...

...has lived in Snyder for eight years and is a junior at Snyder High School. His parents are Danny and Marita Burton. He has one brother, James, 22. Daniel is involved with Technology Students Association and enjoys woodworking and working on cars.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

A man is what he thinks about all day long.
—Ralph Waldo Emerson

DEC 19 2003

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Santa at Snyder Healthcare

Santa Claus will visit Snyder Healthcare at 6:30 this evening. Family and friends are invited.

FBC to present Christmas musical

First Baptist Church will present *A Family Christmas* at 6:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday, featuring more than 150 people. All are invited.

Holy Child

Holy Child, a celebration of the majesty, the mystery and the miracle of Christmas by Marty Parks, will be performed by the Trinity United Methodist praise and worship team at the 11 a.m. service Sunday.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "God Has Spoken of His Enemies," followed by "Chief of Sinners Saved by Grace."

Lions meetings cancelled

Snyder Lions Club will not meet Tuesday, Dec. 23 or Dec. 30, but will start meeting again Jan. 6 at noon at the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Candlelight service

First United Methodist Church will hold a Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7 p.m. at the church, 2700 College Ave.

Goodfellows drive underway

Canned goods may be brought to any school campus and monetary contributions can be made at any financial institution for the Goodfellows Food Drive.

LVN testing dates

LVN testing dates are Jan. 20 and Jan. 27. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

Doodle Bug writers club

Members of the Doodle Bug writers club invite all writers to meet at 1 p.m. every other Tuesday at the Golden Village Terrace community room. For more information call 574-1817, 573-7369, or 573-5819.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conversation District is taking orders through Jan. 31 for windbreak trees. Large trees available are Oaks, Pines, Desert Willows, Golden Raintree, Texas Redbud and Chinese Pistache and more. To place orders, call 573-6317.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Michael Jackson's attorney vows to fight

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — Child molestation charges against Michael Jackson are being driven by "money and revenge," said defense attorney Mark Geragos, who vowed to derail the alleged victim's credibility and fight what he called a prosecutor's vendetta.

For District Attorney Thomas Sneddon, whose similar 1993 case against the pop singer evaporated when the accuser reportedly accepted millions in settlement money, the charges filed Thursday represent a second chance to convict the fading pop star before the prosecutor begins his planned retirement.

Unlike the 1993 case, Sneddon says, this time he has a cooperative witness who isn't interested in a piece of Jackson's fortune.

The self-styled "King of Pop" faces seven counts of molesting a child under the age of 14. He also was charged with two counts of plying the boy with "an intoxicating agent" to make it easier to carry out the assaults. A source speaking for the family on condition of anonymity told The Associated Press the intoxicating agent was wine.

The molestation charges each carry between three and eight years in prison.

Geragos denounced the allegations as driven by money and vengeance, and said Jackson, who is free on $3 million bail, looks forward to resolving the matter in court.

"Anybody else who knows anything about the history of these accusers, anybody who knows anything about the history of the investigators and the axes they have to grind know that these charges are not only categorically untrue, but they're driven, driven by two things: money and revenge. And we will prove that," Geragos said at a news conference Thursday.

Later, he told CNN's "Larry King Live" that winning the case will send a message to anyone who is considering trying to extort the entertainer.

"This is going to stick a fork in people who want to do this to Michael Jackson," he said.

Authorities raided Jackson's Neverland Ranch last month and arrested him days later on suspicion of child molestation. Sneddon agreed to delay Jackson's arraignment a week to Jan. 16.

Sneddon says he has a credible witness and a strong case, but appears to have several hurdles to overcome to win a conviction. For starters, he must persuade a jury to accept the timeline of the alleged crimes.

Five of the counts state that Jackson molested the boy, a 14-year-old cancer victim he had befriended, sometime between the approximate dates of Feb. 7 and March 10. The other two counts, and the charges of giving the boy an intoxicant, state that those crimes allegedly occurred between the approximate dates of Feb. 20 and March 10.

That means Jackson, 45, would have begun molesting the boy amid the swift and fervent criticism he received after the Feb. 6 airing of a documentary in which he told of letting children sleep in his bedroom and sometimes in his bed when they visited his Neverland Ranch in Santa Barbara.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Thursday's Lottery Tickets Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 10-16-19-30-33.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Prize per winner: $0.

Matching four of five: 156. Prize: $430.

Matching three of five: 4,381. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 45,929. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Friday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 7-5-6
(Night) 5-6-5

Woman happy with lesser prize

AUSTIN — Tuesday's *Mega Millions*™ drawing produced two tickets that matched five numbers, but not the Mega Ball. Each ticket is worth $175,000. You would have thought by Isabel Rodriguez's reaction that she hit the $71 million jackpot instead.

"I found out this morning, and I cried, screamed and jumped for joy," Rodriguez said. "I'm paying my house off and getting a car. I also plan to take care of my five children's future."

The numbers drawn were: 47 - 16 - 31 - 24 - 46 and the Mega Ball number was 47.

Rodriguez purchased her winning ticket at My T Quick, located at 1422 Acton Avenue in Duncanville. The other ticket matching five numbers, but not the Mega Ball, was sold in Weslaco at Mid Valley Express. The store is located at 1006 N. Texas Boulevard.

Tonight's *Mega Millions* jackpot is worth an estimated $85 million.

For more information about the Texas Lottery®, please visit the official Texas Lottery Commission Web site at http://www.txlottery.org

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Mega Millions boosts lottery sales in Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Lottery ticket sales have increased since Texas joined the multistate lottery Mega Millions two weeks ago, state officials said Thursday.

But the increase accompanied an advertising push to promote the new game. Lottery officials cautioned that more time is needed to determine the long-term impact of Mega Millions on existing games.

The two-week revenue on overall lottery ticket sales increased from an average of $56 million before Mega Millions to $65 million during the past two weeks, said Liz Jambor, marketing research manager for the Texas Lottery Commission.

Texans spent an average of $2.9 million since Dec. 3 on each of the four Mega Millions drawings, which take place on Tuesdays and Fridays, said Robert Tirloni, the commission's online products manager.

Lotto Texas and Texas Two Step sales apparently suffered from Mega Millions' popularity. The introduction of Mega Millions coincided with a 19-percent drop in weekly ticket sales for each game when compared to their earlier averages, Jambor said.

Reagan E. Greer, executive director of the lottery commission, said the decrease in sales for Lotto Texas — the state's only jackpot-driven game before the introduction of Mega Millions — was within the benchmarks that the commission had expected.

"Lotto Texas is holding, and we're pleased about that," he said.

The commission is more concerned about Texas Two Step, a game that provides players with higher odds of winning but lower payoffs.

The game's average weekly sales dropped to $936,091 during the past two weeks, down from its $1.5 million average before Mega Millions began.

Greer told the commission that his staff is considering a proposal to shift the Texas Two Step draw days to Mondays and Thursdays to prevent direct competition with Mega Millions drawings.

Jambor said that the two-week report is too premature to identify trends associated with the new game.

"This is simply a snapshot in time so that we can report how Mega Millions is doing and how the other games are responding to it," she said.

Texas joined Virginia, Georgia, Illinois, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio and Washington for its first Mega Millions drawing on Dec. 5.

Multistate lottery games like Mega Millions and Powerball are designed to generate jackpots into the hundreds of millions dollars, creating a frenzy of ticket purchases across the country. Participating states get a cut of the tickets sold within their borders.

No players from the 11 participating states hit the $71 million jackpot on Tuesday, resulting in a jackpot surge to an estimated $85 million for tonight's drawing, officials said.

The Lotto Texas jackpot is also on the upswing, with an estimated jackpot of $27 million for its Saturday drawing.

Tom Clowe, chairman of the three-member Texas Lottery Commission, said he is interested to see how players will react when the jackpot-driven games return to their starting amounts.

"We're in uncharted waters here, and we're going to see how these games affect each other in the players' minds, which is what's really important," he said.

On the Net:

Texas Lottery Commission: www.txlottery.org

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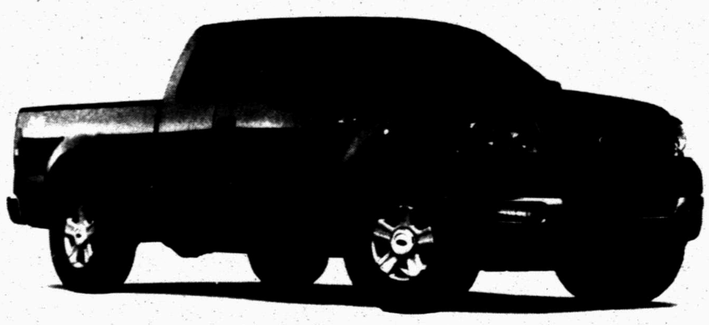

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DEAR ABB
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ALL-REGION BAND — Snyder High School band students auditioned for the all-region band Saturday in Floydada. Brandi Russell, left front row, earned 7th chair trumpet and advanced to the area contest Jan. 10 at Lubbock Cooper. Hope Cole, right front row, placed 10th chair bass clarinet. Back row from left, Jason Hook, 8th chair trombone; Patrick Jones, first alternate, trombone; and Sterling Millhollon, 1st chair alto sax; 2nd chair tenor sax and 1st chair baritone sax. Millhollon qualified for area in all three but chose to compete in baritone sax. Not pictured is Kirisa Torres, first alternate bass clarinet. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

A mall and the right visitor by Jef Mallett

Green River killer given life

SEATTLE (AP) — The case of the Green River Killer, the serial murderer who preyed on dozens of troubled young women, tore apart families and terrorized the region two decades ago, ended with a moment of silence and many tears.

A King County Superior Court judge on Thursday sentenced Gary Ridgway, a 54-year-old truck painter from suburban Auburn, to 48 consecutive life terms and fined him $480,000. That amount represented $10,000 for each woman he confessed to killing.

Legally, the sentencing was little more than a formality — but it gave the victims' relatives a chance to confront Ridgway, at last. With an eloquence honed by years of grief, they stepped forward and cursed the killer, or forgave him.

"There are people here that hate you. I'm not one of them," said Robert Rule, a shopping mall Santa whose daughter, Linda, was killed in September 1982. "I pity you, sir. You won't have a Christmas. You won't have the love around you that everyone needs at Christmastime."

Ridgway broke down when Rule forgave him, but maintained a blank stare through much of the proceedings, only occasionally nodding or dabbing tears that slipped from behind his dark-rimmed glasses.

When the family members finished addressing him, Ridgway, who once bragged to police about his skill at strangulation, offered a tearful apology: "I'm sorry for killing all those young ladies. I have tried to remember as much as I could to help the detectives find and recover the ladies. I'm sorry for the scare I put into the community."

Judge Richard Jones blistered Ridgway for his "Teflon-coated emotions and complete absence of genuine compassion," and ordered a moment of silence for the victims before passing sentence.

"The time has come for the final chapter of your reign of terror in our community," Jones told Ridgway. "It is now time for our community to have peace from the Green River murders."

Prosecutors agreed to spare Ridgway the death penalty in exchange for his confession and helping investigators, who recovered four sets of remains during the summer. He pleaded guilty to 48 counts of aggravated first-degree murder Nov. 5.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Clues point to husband's addiction to illegal drugs

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been married almost three years. Like every marriage, we've had our ups and downs. My husband constantly accuses me of having an affair. I've never given him any reason not to trust me, nor have I been with anybody else since we married.

He constantly asks, "Where did you go? Who did you go with? What time did you go? How long were you there?" I stay home all day so he won't give me the third degree.

On Fridays when he gets paid, he picks a fight so he can leave. He doesn't return until Sunday, and then half his cash is gone. During the week, he stays up until the wee hours of the morning, even though he has to get up at 5 a.m. for work.

Also, I have found pieces of burnt foil in his belongings, along with a straw. Once I even found drugs.

I pack my husband a good lunch every day. I'm loving and have his dinner ready when he comes home. I don't go anywhere or do anything. Please help me. I don't know what else to do. — **PRISONER IN SALINAS**

DEAR PRISONER: You are either married to the Energizer Bunny, or your husband is using some kind of stimulant. The fact that you found drug paraphernalia is your first clue. The disappearing act he pulls every payday should be another. Among the side effects of stimulants are a short temper and paranoia. Your husband exhibits both behaviors.

Please understand that what is wrong in your marriage has nothing to do with you. If you love your husband, give him an ultimatum: Get off the drugs and get into a rehabilitation program, or his marriage to you is over. (Your doctor can give you a referral for rehab.) For your own mental health, you must be prepared to follow through.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am writing because my 12-year-old daughter, "Dorothy," is pregnant for the second time. Due to our religion, we do not believe in birth control or abortion. We kept the first baby, but we're afraid if we keep the second, Dorothy will continue to have premarital sex. Should we abort this one or let her have this baby, too? Please reply soon. — **CONCERNED PARENT IN TEXAS**

DEAR CONCERNED: Whether your 12-year-old daughter should carry her second child to term is not a decision I can, or should, make for you. Because of her tender age, there could be medical risks involved. Take your cues from her OB/GYN.

It should be clear by now that your daughter is, and will continue to be, sexually active. Unless you intend to keep her under lock and key, she MUST be educated about sexually transmitted diseases and birth control. Since you consider using birth control a sin, please consider that it's a bigger sin to bring children into this world if you cannot educate and support them emotionally and financially.

P.S. You haven't mentioned how old the father(s) of these babies are. If they are more than four years older than Dorothy, she could be a victim of statutory rape, and you should notify the police.

**

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

**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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World Almanac

Friday, Dec. 19, 2003

Today is the 353rd day of 2003 and the 88th day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1777, the Continental Army under George Washington set up winter quarters in Valley Forge, Pa.

In 1972, the last manned mission to the moon, Apollo 17, ended with a successful splashdown in the Pacific.

In 1998, the U.S. House of Representatives voted to impeach President Bill Clinton.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Leonid Brezhnev (1906-1982), Soviet leader; Robert Urich (1946-2002), actor; Cicely Tyson (1933-), actress, is 70; Warren Sapp (1972-), football player, is 31.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1980, Brigham Young University, down 20 points with three minutes to play, staged an amazing comeback to defeat Southern Methodist University in the Holiday Bowl, 46-45.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Whatever else may divide us, Europe is our common home; a common fate has linked us through the centuries, and it continues to link us today." — Leonid Brezhnev.

TODAY'S FACT: The first winner of the Nobel Prize for Literature was Rene F.A. Sully Prudhomme of France in 1901.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 3,000 — estimated number of soldiers who died from illness in camp or in hospitals at Valley Forge.

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Dec. 16) and new moon (Dec. 23).

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17 die in bus chash

KIEV, Ukraine (AP) — A bus carrying miners headed for a seaside holiday veered off a mountain road and plunged into a deep ditch on Ukraine's Crimean peninsula, killing 17 people and injuring 19 others, officials said Thursday.

The driver lost control of the bus on the road from the Crimean capital of Simferopol to the Black Sea resort city of Alushta on Wednesday night, the Emergency Situations Ministry said. A preliminary investigation indicated that the brakes had failed.

Fifteen people died at the scene and two more in the hospital, the ministry said.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Saturday, Dec. 20, 2003

In the year ahead, some of those "impossible dreams" you harbor may actually have chances to come true. Lady Luck will be working behind the scenes doing her part to bring them about; your part will be to keep the faith.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Follow your sixth sense today, because chances are it will be trying to tell you something that could take you onto bigger and better things. Whatever it is, it will be quite fortunate for you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Attitude is the most important thing to determine whether or not we achieve success in life. Be optimistic and hopeful today, and sit back and watch Dame Fortune wield her magic wand.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — All joint ventures, in your personal or business life, work to your advantage today. Rather than trying to "go it alone," look to form coalitions with those with whom you feel compatible.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Your greatest asset today is your ability to make everyone you encounter feels like a VIP. By doing so, it isn't surprising that you'll be drawing more and more people to you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — An extremely fortunate change might be in the offing today concerning your work or career. What transpires could mean substantial rewards for you, and you deserve them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — There's a good chance you could find yourself smack in the middle of a social scene today. You didn't plan on it and won't seek it out, but when it occurs, you'll love every minute of it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You'll be at your best today when placed in a position where you are free to express your thoughts and your talents. This might be a good day to do some home entertaining.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Just about anything you plan to do with just about anyone you choose to do it will turn out to be fun today. Much of this is due in great measure to your outgoing personality.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — If there is a financial situation that needs immediate attention, you couldn't find a better day to take measures to bring it under control. Others will be responsive to your solutions.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — That charming, ingratiating personality you possess will be in high gear today and working overtime. It shouldn't surprise you if you are the most popular person in your crowd.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Chances are others will anticipate your needs today before you even realize what they are. They'll even endeavor to fulfill them without being asked; all you have to do is remember to say, "Thank you."

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — There is a strong possibility that you could meet someone new today who will bring good fortune and happiness into your life. It behooves you to be pleasant to all you encounter.

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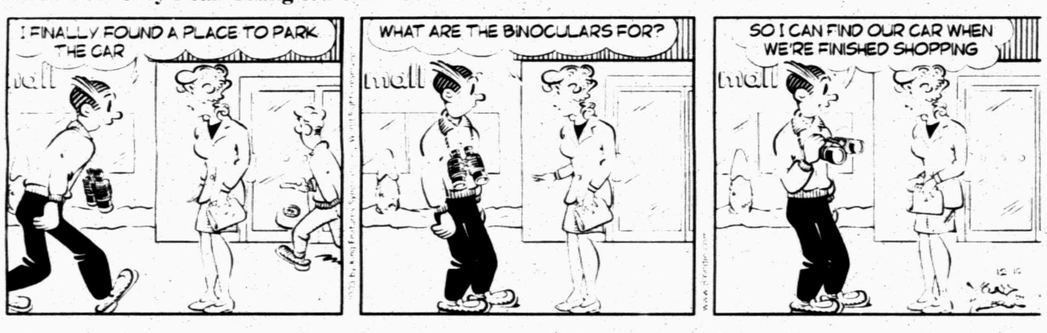

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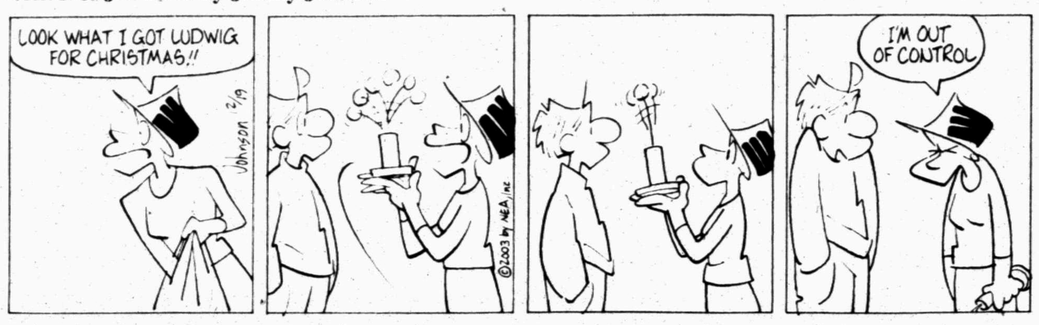

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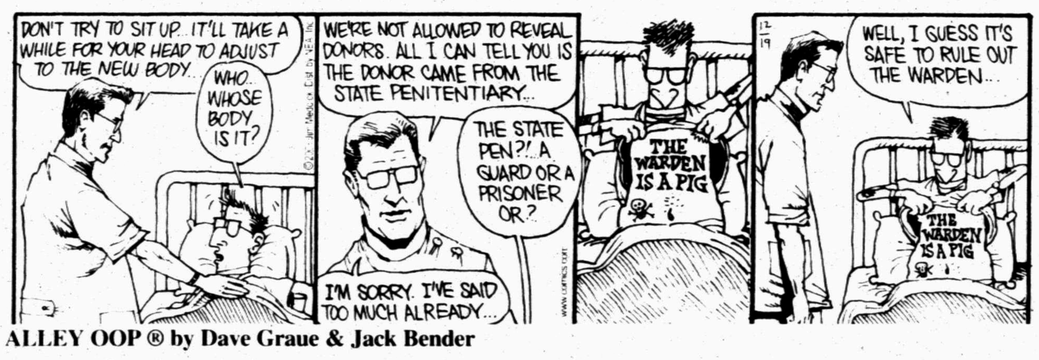

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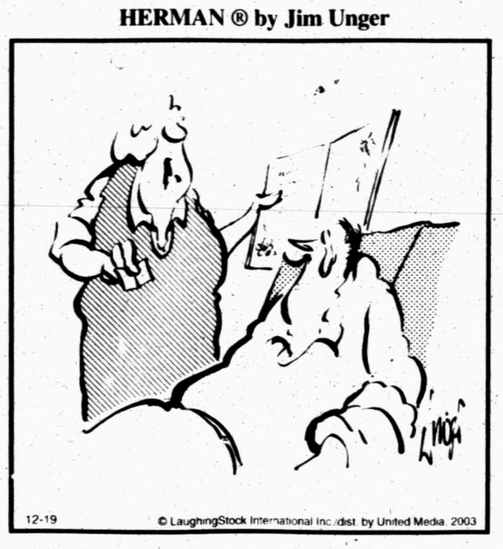

"Mother sent us each a Christmas card."

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Mideast potentate
4 Crevice
8 WWW site
11 American naturalist
12 Baseball family
13 Earth, in combos
14 Author — Gardner
15 Dots in the Seine
16 Chocolate-colored dog
17 Brownie nuts
19 Vogue
21 Toward the stern
22 Mr. Wallach
23 Final authority (hyph.)
26 Remit in advance
29 Kind of trip
30 Farm building
32 Booted
34 Takes vows
36 Nasty cut
38 APB datum
39 Polyester
41 Receded
43 Not their
44 Wool producer
45 Mongol dwellings
48 Cowboy's boss
52 Western Amerind
53 Time unit
55 Potter's oven
56 Rights-movement word
57 Harmful
58 Mine yields
59 Loop trains
60 Without
61 Reno's st.

DOWN

1 Mystique
2 Fish organ
3 Hockey locales
4 Singer Bonnie —
5 What Pandora unleashed
6 Rival
7 Fracas
8 Unsightly
9 Not fake
10 Ear part
11 Cat's sound
18 Alien spacecraft?
20 Waiter's rewards
22 Winged god
23 Stitch
24 Ripened, as cheese
25 Jedi master
26 Blueprint
27 Melville sea captain
28 Harness
31 Frankenstein's servant
33 Tie recipient, often
35 Glaswegian
37 Rough-cut
40 Makes it snappy
42 Gesture
44 Noblemen
45 Gift-giving time
46 Elec. or gas
47 'Yanks' adversaries
48 Bankrupt
49 Take on an employee
50 Mountain pass info
51 ER staffers
54 Roe

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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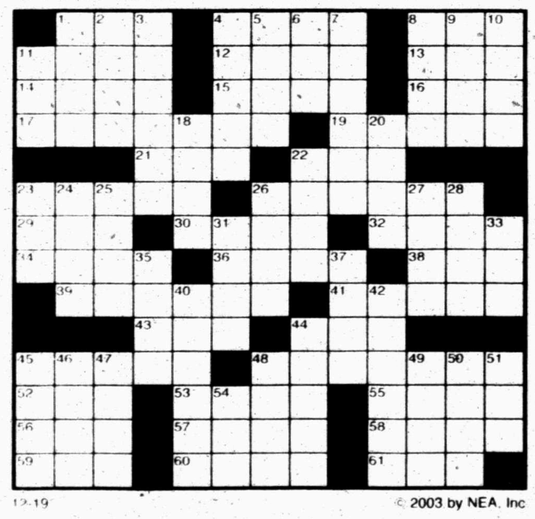

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"THIS ONE'S GOT TO BE GOOD, 'CAUSE IT'S TOO HEAVY FOR SOCKS OR UNDERWEAR."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

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SPORTS

Rangers GM Hart insists Rodriguez deal not dead

NEW YORK (AP) — The Boston Red Sox insist their trade for Alex Rodriguez is "dead." The Texas Rangers and the shortstop aren't so sure.

Just hours after commissioner Bud Selig ended talks to restructure A-Rod's $252 million contract Thursday, the Red Sox said Manny Ramirez would not be sent to Texas for the AL MVP.

"The proposed trade between the Boston Red Sox and the Texas Rangers is dead," Red Sox president Larry Lucchino proclaimed.

The Rangers, though, believed they could rekindle the swap of the two highest-paid players in baseball, and Rodriguez's agent acted as if Selig's announcement was immaterial.

"There is a likelihood the deal is dead," Texas general manager John Hart said. "But at the same time, we haven't issued a statement that it's completely dead."

Rodriguez offered to reduce salaries in his contract by $12 million in exchange for increased marketing and logo use rights, agent Scott Boras said. He also would have had the right to become a free agent after the 2005 season, a baseball source said on the condition of anonymity.

The proposal from the Red Sox that the players' association rejected a day earlier would have cost Rodriguez $28 million, according to the team's evaluation, and $30 million, according to the union's analysis, Boras said.

"We're going to be in communication with the Rangers as to their discussions with the Red Sox," Boras said. "Every indication we had was that the parties would continue to talk."

Rangers owner Tom Hicks will probably speak to the Red Sox to try to work out an agreement after all, Hart said.

Selig had set a 5 p.m. deadline for an agreement. It passed without a deal, and the commissioner ended the talks between Rodriguez and Boston.

Fans blame players' union

BOSTON (AP) — As the Alex Rodriguez for Manny Ramirez trade fell through, Boston Red Sox fans bemoaned what they said was the players' union interfering with a done deal that both the Red Sox and the Texas Rangers had wanted.

As Porter McManus of Lexington smoked a cigarette outside The International bar in Boston's financial district, he strongly criticized the union.

"The players agreed to it, the coaches agreed to it, everyone agreed to it, and the union stepped in and said no," McManus said. "They gave us a week to complete the deal from the word go. At the last second they stepped in and said 'the deal you arrived at is no good,' even though everyone agreed to it. They gave us one day then to scramble and make something they would agree to, which was untenable at that point."

Now, it's a lose-lose situation, he thinks.

"Manny knows we don't want him here. (Rodriguez) is stuck there and no one's happy," McManus said.

However, some fans took solace in the fact that the trade's failure means Ramirez and shortstop Nomar Garciaparra will remain with Boston — at least, for now.

After Rodriguez and Boston reached an agreement Wednesday, the union refused it, saying it reduced the value of his $252 million contract.

VOLLEYBALL SENIORS — Lady Tiger seniors received honors at the volleyball banquet Thursday. Graduating players are, from left to right, Kelbi Drum, Kelsi Johnson, Sarah Crawford, Missy Vasquez, Sara Thornhill and Beth Clements. (SDN Staff Photo)

Lady Tigers honored at volleyball banquet

The Snyder Lady Tigers volleyball team was honored at a team banquet Thursday at Towle Park Barn.

Courtney Cox

Following a fajita supper and a video presentation, the six graduating seniors collected all but one of the team and sponsored awards.

Senior Sarah Crawford was named Player of the Year by the team, and also dubbed the Gatorade Player of the Year. Crawford is an all-state academic selection, and was named to the District 3-3A all-district first team.

Kelbi Drum grabbed a pair of honors, earning the Kathy Armstrong Memorial award and the Gatorade Will to Win Award.

Beth Clements and Sara Thornhill shared the Lady Tiger Heart award, while seniors Kelsi Johnson and Missy Vasquez split the Defensive Player of the Year laurels.

Courtney Cox was tabbed the Gatorade Rookie of the Year.

Head coach Laura Moses said having the banquet now was better than in the spring.

"It was a good season," Moses said. "For these seniors, I know they will be successful in whatever they decide to do. I will miss them all."

Wood impacted Parcells' approach

IRVING (AP) — Bill Parcells was early into his coaching career, a know-it-all defensive coordinator at Texas Tech, when he noticed an old guy intently watching him during practice.

After five days of being observed, Parcells wanted to know what the man was doing. So he asked.

From there, his friendship with Gordon Wood blossomed.

Wood was in his early 60s and still going strong as the coach at Brownwood High. He had about a decade left on a career that ended with him leading the nation in wins at the high school level.

Parcells went on to become one of the top coaches in the NFL, winning two Super Bowls with the New York Giants and building two other teams into championship caliber. Now he's back in Texas as coach of the Dallas Cowboys and his relationship with Wood continued until Wood's death Wednesday night. Wood was 89, but never lost his knowledge or love of the game.

"He was a longtime friend of mine, a very special and influential person to me," Parcells said Thursday. "He was something special to me."

The pair were together last at Texas Stadium about two months ago, watching Brownwood play Fort Worth Dunbar.

"I'm glad I did that," Parcells said.

Parcells said he'd been coaching "just long enough to think I knew something" when he met Wood in the mid-1970s. He was amazed that anyone would drive 2½ hours each way just to watch a college team practice.

"I realized I didn't know very much," Parcells said. "I realized I needed to commit myself the way a guy like him did. He was something."

Recalling their introduction, Parcells said he respected Wood "from the first conversation we ever had."

"He stood 15 yards from me for the first five days and never said a word," Parcells said. "Finally, I had to go over there an ask him who he was."

Roethlisberger's four TDs lead Miami past Louisville

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — Ben Roethlisberger passed for 376 yards and four first-half touchdowns and No. 14 Miami of Ohio beat Louisville 49-28 Thursday night in the GMAC Bowl to extend major college football's longest winning streak to 13 games.

The RedHawks (13-1) raced to a 35-7 second quarter lead and scored two more touchdowns in the fourth to stymie a rally by Louisville (9-4), which has lost five bowl games in the past six years.

It was the first bowl appearance since 1986 for the Mid-American Conference champion RedHawks and their first postseason win in 28 years, punctuating the team's only 13-win season. After a season-opening loss at Iowa, Miami rebounded to match its longest winning streak set from 1972-74.

If it was Roethlisberger's final college game, he made it a beauty, completing 21 of 33 passes, shaking off would-be sacks and throwing perfect strikes on the run. A third-team Associated Press All-American, he is a likely top 10 NFL draft pick if he decides to skip his senior season but had said he won't make a decision until after the game.

Roethlisberger certainly looked NFL-ready in the first half, going 16-for-20 for 291 yards for an offense that produced 16 plays of 10-plus yards before halftime.

The RedHawks outgained Louisville 597-492 in a matchup of high-powered offenses.

The Miami defense twice came up big in the fourth. Matt Pusateri stepped in front of Stefan LeFors' pass and raced 35 yards for a touchdown to erase Louisville's comeback hopes, the RedHawks' fifth score of the season on interception returns. Then, Terna Nande picked off another pass in the end zone.

Cal Murray rushed 15 times for 142 yards and a touchdown for Miami. Martin Nance had nine catches for 169 yards, all but one catch and 6 yards in the first half.

It's the first time a MAC team has produced a 4,000-yard passer, a 1,000-yard receiver and a 1,000-yard rusher in a season.

LeFors was 17-of-26 for 224 yards but was intercepted three times after getting picked off only seven times in the first 12 games.

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Chiefs, Ravens lead Pro Bowl picks

By the Associated Press

This Pro Bowl stuff can get dangerous. Just ask Al Saunders.

The Kansas City offensive coordinator was cut over the left eye Thursday during the celebrations when the Chiefs found out fullback Tony Richardson was one of their eight players voted to the AFC team.

General manager Carl Peterson announced to the players that Richardson was a first-time Pro Bowler, and his teammates began swinging their arms and whooping and hollering.

Other Chiefs chosen for the Feb. 8 game in Honolulu were tight end Tony Gonzalez, quarterback Trent Green, kick returner Dante Hall, tackle Willie Roaf, guard Will Shields and safety Jerome Woods.

"Now we've got to win," coach Dick Vermeil said, "because we have good football players. I have no place to hide. If we don't win, it's poor coaching."

Also with eight players on the AFC roster was Baltimore. Ravens elected in voting by fans, players and coaches were linebackers Ray Lewis and Peter Boulware, running back Jamal Lewis, tight end Todd Heap, cornerback Chris McAllister, tackle Jon Ogden, safety Ed Reed and special teamer Adalius Thomas.

The biggest surprises were the absence of LaDainian Tomlinson on the AFC team, beaten by Jamal Lewis, Holmes and Clinton Portis of Denver, and only two players selected from both New England and Philadelphia, which own the No. 1 seeds in their conferences.

Tomlinson, San Diego's star running back, was a first alternate even though he leads the NFL with 2,011 total yards from scrimmage.

The Eagles and Patriots have been better than everyone, but Philadelphia got only quarterback Donovan McNabb and cornerback Troy Vincent on the NFC team. New England's representatives are cornerback Ty Law and defensive lineman Richard Seymour.

Some other surprises were the including of Dallas tackle Larry Allen and Giants tight end Jeremy Shockey on the NFC roster.

Sports Briefs

Grady tops Ira Junior High

The Ira junior high girls fell to Grady Thursday, 46-6. Rebecca Juarez scored four and Laura Juarez added two in the loss.

Twilight time change

The twilight time at the WTC golf course will begin at 1 p.m. daily from December through February.

Two Yankees charged in bullpen brawl

BOSTON (AP) — Yankees Jeff Nelson and Karim Garcia and a Fenway Park groundskeeper were charged with assault and battery for brawling in New York's bullpen after the groundskeeper cheered for Boston during a playoff game.

MOVIES

STUCK ON YOU PG13

Bob and Walt Tenor are small-town legends who excel at sports, and who are the proud owners of a fast-food restaurant where their four hands work the grill at lightning speed. When the acting bug bites Walt, he convinces Bob to honor their childhood pact to never hold back the other, and the brothers head west for the bright lights of Hollywood. Walt lands a grizzled agent whose idea of a prime gig for Walt is a porn film.

THE LAST SAMURAI R

Set in the late 1870s, this epic film depicts the beginnings of the modernization of Japan, as the island nation evolved past a feudal society, as symbolized by the eradication of the samurai way of life. We see all this happen from the point of view of an alcoholic Civil War veteran turned Winchester guns spokesman

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In Next Week's American Profile...
Simple acts that meant so much
It happens every day in every town in America. Ordinary people who go miles out of their way or take hours out of their day to do something kind for a stranger. Read about nine such acts of kindness.

In Addition...
• Ste. Genevieve, Mo.
• Wild rice salad

American Profile
Celebrating Hometown Life

DEC 19 2003

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CARPORT SALE
507 20th St.
Saturday 8a.m. – Noon
Lots of misc. Come see!

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1601 Hilltop Lane 3-1-2cp.....$49.5T
4109 Eastridge 3-2-2.....$41.5T
3749 Avondale 3-1 3/4 .....$39T
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224 33rd 2-1-2 living areas $25T
3005 Ave. T 3-1.....Reduced $7,500
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2609 37th 3-2 3/4-2 .....$107.5T
3201 Houston 3-2-2, very nice.....$92T
4021 Eastridge 3 or 4-2-2, Nice..Red. $47T
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Country - For Sale or Rent: 378 CR 251 2-1-1, 2 acres $35T
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1801 22nd .....CALL
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Shop w/2 offices & waiting room, fenced yard, .87 A's 23rd St. Old Gail Rd.....Call
Established local restaurant....Good location!!
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Appelate rulings: Bush terror suspects belong in U.S. courts

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Two federal courts ruled that the U.S. military cannot deny prisoners access to lawyers or the American courts by detaining them indefinitely, dealing twin setbacks to the Bush administration's strategy in the war on terror.

One of Thursday's rulings favored the 660 "enemy combatants" held at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The other involved American citizen Jose Padilla, who was seized in Chicago in an alleged plot to detonate a radioactive "dirty bomb" and declared as an enemy combatant.

In Padilla's case, the New York-based 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ordered the former gang member released from military custody within 30 days and if the government chooses, tried in civilian courts. The White House said the government would appeal and seek a stay of the decision.

In the other case, a three-judge panel of the San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that prisoners held at Guantanamo Bay Naval Base should have access to lawyers and the American court system.

The White House said the ruling was inconsistent with the president's constitutional authority as well as with other court rulings.

"The president's most solemn obligation is protecting the American people," White House press secretary Scott McClellan said Thursday. "We believe the 2nd Circuit ruling is troubling and flawed."

An order by President Bush in November 2001 allows captives to be detained as "enemy combatants" if they are members of al-Qaida, engaged in or aided terrorism, or harbored terrorists. The designation may also be applied if it is "the interest of the United States" to hold an individual during hostilities.

The Justice Department this week said such a classification allows detainees to be held without access to lawyers until U.S. authorities believe they have disclosed everything they know about terrorist operations.

But Padilla's detention as an enemy combatant, the New York court ruled 2-1, was not authorized by Congress and Bush could not designate him as an enemy combatant without such approval.

Michael Greenberger, a University of Maryland School of Law professor and former Clinton administration Justice Department official, said the government "is being painted into a corner that is not very favorable. How bad of a corner will be determined by the U.S. Supreme Court."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 12-19-03
♠ A 2
♥ K 9 5 4
♦ K Q J 10
♣ 7 4 3

West
♠ Q 10 8 5
♥ Q 6 2
♦ 9 4
♣ Q J 10 9

East
♠ 9 7 6 4 3
♥ 7
♦ A 8 5 3
♣ K 6 2

South
♠ K J
♥ A J 10 8 3
♦ 7 6 2
♣ A 8 5

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♣ Q

Friday, Dec. 19, 2003

It is tricky to do in tempo

By Phillip Alder

One of the hardest aspects of defense is to make your plays so silky smooth that you do not give away free information.

This deal features a standard example. How should the play proceed in four hearts after West has led the club queen?

If one of your opponents responds with one of a major, receives a single raise from the opener, and jumps immediately to game, it is highly likely that he has at least five cards in his major. With only four, he would be worried about a three-card raise and would not zoom straight past three no-trump.

The irritating club lead has left declarer with four potential losers: one heart, one diamond and two clubs. Probably, he must play the trump suit without loss.

South should duck the first club trick, win the second, then immediately place the heart jack onto the table.

Maybe West will make the mistake of covering, ending South's worries. Perhaps West will fumble for a while, then play low. If he does, he is marked with the heart queen.

However, West should be ready, playing low in tempo, as if he has never heard about a trump queen. Then, surely declarer will call for dummy's king and play a trump back toward hand, planning to finesse the 10 if East plays a second low heart.

Here, of course, East shows out on the second round of trumps, and the contract will fail.

Try to anticipate potential "guesses" and have your play ready when the critical moment arrives. Avoid telltale hesitations.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	13.07	12.75	13.01	+ .08
AT&T Corp	19.46	19.16	19.16	—.09
Albertsons	21.83	21.51	21.83	+ .17
Alltel	46.65	46.40	46.58	+ .01
AmEl Pw	30.04	29.82	29.95	+ .08
AndarkPtr	51.10	50.46	50.56	—.39
ATMOS Egy	24.48	24.27	24.48	+ .14
Availl	15.95	15.71	15.76	—.22
BP PLC	48.60	48.30	48.53	+ .36
BakerHughes	32.27	31.88	32.04	—.09
Bank of Amer	79.29	78.65	79.20	+ .30
BellSouth	27.94	27.65	27.87	+ .25
BurlNorSFe	32.07	31.80	31.98	—.22
Caterpillar	84.40	83.10	84.36	+ .65
CenterPoint	9.50	9.37	9.39	—.10
ChevronTex	83.68	83.21	83.46	—.09
Citigroup	48.07	47.83	48.00	+ .11
CocaCola	50.03	49.81	50.01	+ .07
ColgatePal	50.31	48.83	49.23	—1.07
CmclMetals	30.64	29.73	30.64	+ .39
ConocoPhill	63.90	63.26	63.35	—.60
Cooper Inds	58.75	58.31	58.69	—.01
DaimlrChry	45.12	44.92	45.02	+ .16
DeltaAirLines	11.66	11.36	11.53	—.12
Dillards Inc	15.99	15.80	15.89	+ .12
DowChem	40.76	40.21	40.34	—.41
DuPont	44.99	44.78	44.88	+ .15
EastmanChem	38.37	38.17	38.22	+ .22
EstKodak	24.59	23.78	24.35	+ .78
EDS Corp	23.39	23.15	23.29	
Entergy	56.23	55.70	56.09	+ .17
ExxonMobil	39.81	39.25	39.43	+ .02
FootLocker	23.70	23.28	23.30	+ .10
GenDynam	89.64	88.74	88.74	+ .16
GenElec	31.70	30.62	30.79	—.06
GenMills	45.25	44.86	44.90	—.33
GenMotors	50.69	50.00	50.22	—.17
GaPacific	29.74	29.45	29.47	—.16
Goodrich	30.09	29.84	30.04	+ .05
Goodyear	7.31	7.11	7.20	—.01
GtAtlPac	7.38	7.10	7.34	+ .11
Halliburtn	27.55	26.52	26.89	—.23
Hanson PLC	35.38	35.30	35.31	+ .16
HarteHanks	21.83	21.57	21.79	—.05
HomeDepot	35.48	35.08	35.24	—.09
Honeywellintl	31.80	31.55	31.72	+ .15
IBM	93.23	92.76	92.94	+ .21
IntlPaper	42.51	42.14	42.14	+ .20
JohnsonJn	50.20	49.62	49.97	
KinderMorg	57.60	57.22	57.23	—.16
Kroger Co	17.45	17.26	17.36	—.09
LockheedM	50.30	50.02	50.29	+ .21
Lowes Cos	55.80	54.84	55.21	—.40
Lubys	3.69	3.60	3.61	—.05
LucentTech	2.95	2.88	2.88	—.05
MarathonOil	32.34	32.15	32.30	+ .16
MayDeptStr	28.15	27.88	28.12	+ .17
Medtronic	48.92	48.41	48.79	+ .01
Motorola	13.48	13.30	13.42	+ .02
NCR Corp	36.54	36.11	36.54	+ .35
Navistar	47.68	46.26	47.66	+ 1.54
PNM Rescs	27.83	27.49	27.83	—.02
Penney JC	24.66	24.43	24.57	+ .04
PepBoys	22.25	21.95	22.21	
PepsiCo	47.15	46.91	47.05	—.09
PhelpDodge	75.90	74.20	75.49	+ 1.77
PilgrimsPride	15.15	14.95	14.96	—.15
Praxair s	37.58	36.49	37.16	—.42
ProctGamb	99.49	98.31	98.36	—.95
RadioShack	30.80	30.50	30.67	+ .18
RoyalDut	50.99	50.78	50.87	+ .07
SBC Comm	25.59	25.32	25.54	+ .23
SaraLee	21.33	21.19	21.33	+ .14
Scripps EW	94.08	93.35	93.90	—.12
SearsRoeb	45.32	44.55	44.86	—.45
SherwinW	34.17	33.95	33.99	—.20
SouthernCo	29.94	29.81	29.82	+ .02
SwstAirl	16.22	15.95	16.09	—.04
SprintFON	15.62	15.42	15.57	
SprintPCS	4.91	4.81	4.88	
Sunoco Inc	52.60	51.95	51.98	—.23
TXU Corp	23.47	23.14	23.15	—.25
TempleInland	61.05	60.79	60.83	—.07
TexInd	34.40	32.25	34.27	+ 2.27
TexasInst	29.15	28.35	28.82	—.06
Textron	57.25	56.85	57.20	+ .07
TimeWarner	18.21	17.83	18.19	+ .32
TrinityInds	32.24	31.79	31.82	+ .12
TylerTech	9.16	8.94	9.05	—.11
UnionPacif	67.95	67.66	67.79	—.16
USSteel	33.48	32.50	33.12	—.04
UnitedTech	94.98	93.62	93.78	—.05
Unocal	36.48	36.11	36.27	—.11
VerizonComm	34.71	34.15	34.18	—.22
WalMart	52.99	52.61	52.86	+ .26
WellsFargo	57.93	57.70	57.90	+ .11
WstnGasRs	46.90	46.55	46.57	—.43
WinnDixie	9.32	9.18	9.25	+ .13
Xerox Cp	13.07	12.82	12.96	—.07
YumBrands	33.20	32.85	32.96	

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Snyder Devotional Page

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Proverbs 24:5

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Psalm 143:11

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Psalms 31:24

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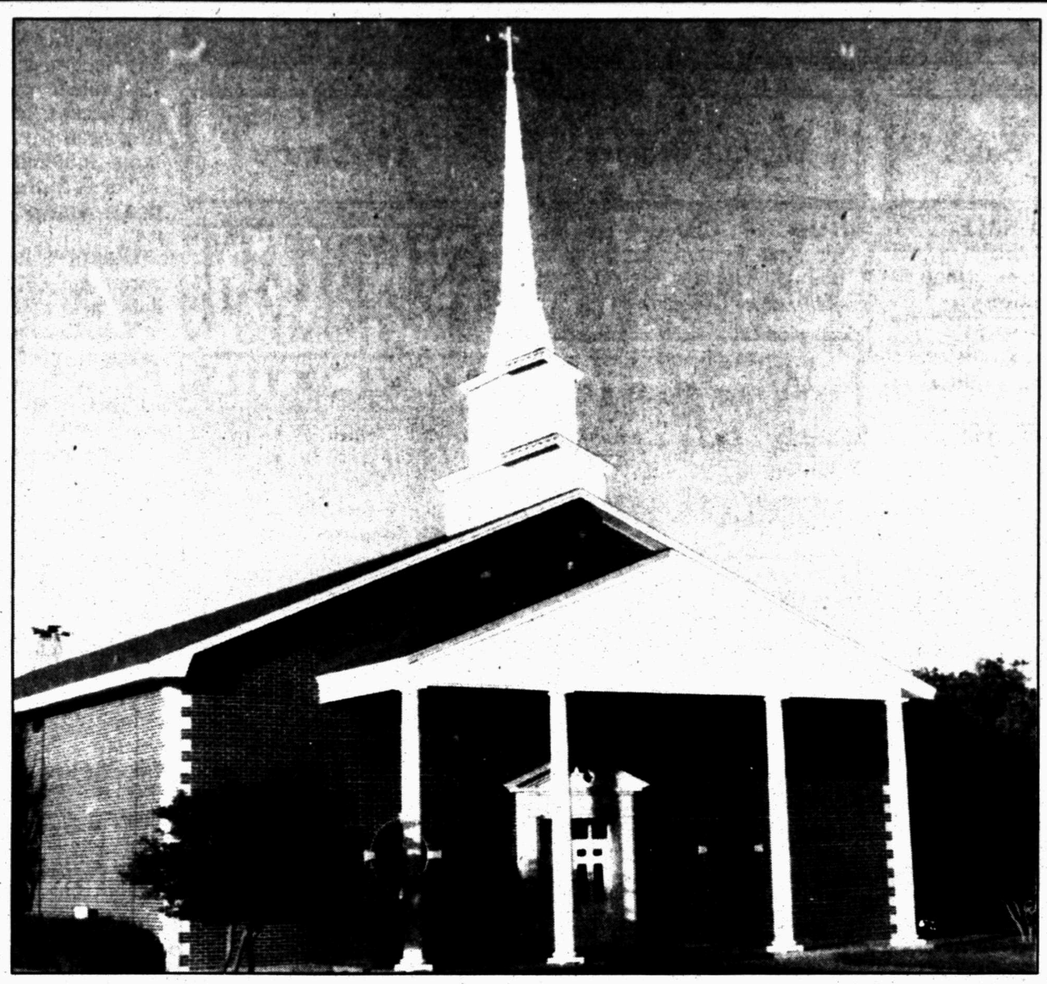

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MUSIC MINISTER: David Speegle

YOUTH MINISTER: Matt Prescott

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF MEMBERS: 1150

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Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.

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Psalm 143:11

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Proverbs 3:24

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Proverbs 8:14

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Taiwan reports new SARS case

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — The new emergence of SARS this week includes key elements of the global outbreak last winter and spring, but world and U.S. health authorities say they're not alarmed.

Two people who were exposed to a Taiwanese man with SARS later flew to the United States but have shown no symptoms.

In fact, no SARS has been reported in any known contacts of the 44-year-old military scientist diagnosed in Taiwan, said World Health Organization spokeswoman Maria Cheng.

"It doesn't look like the start of a new outbreak," Cheng said Thursday. "We're very much hoping that it's an isolated event."

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said Thursday it does not have any active role in the Taiwanese SARS investigation — even concerning the two scientists who arrived in the United States.

Health safety precautions conducted during the height of SARS last spring — such as handing out notices asking passengers to monitor themselves for SARS symptoms for 10 days — have not been activated, said CDC spokesman Dave Daigle.

Appeals court nixes subpoenas to ID music downloaders

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal appeals court ruled today the recording industry can't force Internet providers to identify subscribers swapping music online, dramatically setting back the industry's anti-piracy campaign.

The three-judge panel from the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia overturned a trial judge's ruling that enforced a type of copyright subpoena under a law that predated the music-swapping trend.

"It's an incredible ruling, a blow for the little guy," said Bob Barnes, a grandfather in Fresno, Calif., who was targeted by one of the earliest subpoenas from the Recording Industry Association of America but isn't among the hundreds who have been sued so far.

The ruling does not make it legal to distribute music over the Internet, but it removes one of the most effective tools used by the recording industry to track such activity and sue downloaders.

The appeals court said the 1998 copyright law doesn't cover the popular file-sharing networks currently used by tens of millions of Americans to download songs. The law "betrays no awareness whatsoever that Internet users might be able directly to exchange files containing copyrighted works," the court wrote.

The appeals judges said they sympathized with the recording industry, noting "stakes are large." But the judges said it was not the role of courts to rewrite the 1998 law, "no matter how damaging that development has been to the music industry or threatens being to the motion picture and software industries."

Legal experts said the appeals ruling probably would not affect the 382 civil lawsuits the recording industry already has filed since it announced its campaign nearly six months ago.

It will make identifying defendants for future lawsuits much more difficult and expensive.

The ruling forces the recording industry to file copyright lawsuits against "John Doe" defendants, based on their Internet addresses, then work through the courts to learn their names.

Woman arrested for Class B theft by check

Arrests

Law enforcement officers made one arrest Thursday. At 11 a.m. on U.S. 84 near the Snyder city limits, a 46-year-old man was taken into custody and charged with Class B theft by check.

Major accident

The driver of a 18-wheeler hauling a load of lumber suffered injuries as a result of a rollover at U.S. 84 and FM 1611 at 2:30 a.m. Friday. Dustin Kirk Ferrell, 22, of Lubbock was transported to Cogdell Memorial Hospital where he was treated and released.

Forgery

A representative of Snyder National Bank called police at 2:28 p.m. Thursday to report a forgery.

Threats

A caller reported to police at 7:44 p.m. Thursday that another subject had been verbally harassing and making threats to her at Wal-Mart. An offense report for Class C assault by threat was submitted.

Littering

A call was placed at 9:12 a.m. Thursday by a person who complained that a neighbor in the 200 block of 36th was throwing glass into the caller's yard.

Obituaries

Pat Bills

1918-2003

Pat W. Bills of Snyder died this morning in Medical Center Hospital in Odessa.

Graveside service for Mr. Bills, 85, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Loving Cemetery in Loving. The Rev. Hubert Foust, retired Methodist minister, will officiate. Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Born Nov. 13, 1918, he married Nelda Rich on March 18, 1938 in Loving. She died March 8, 1995.

Mr. Bills, moved to Snyder in 1949 and retired as maintenance superintendent from Monsanto in 1983 . A Baptist, Mr. Bills was a member of the Loving Masonic Lodge.

He also was preceded in death by his parents, John and Clemmie Cook Bills; one brother, J.R. Bills; and one sister, Leota Bills Miller.

Survivors include two daughters and sons-in-law, Sonya and Orville Watson of Lafayette, La., and Patsy and Bill Dubose of Odessa; two brothers, Donald Bills of Amarillo and Jack Bills of Kerrville; two sisters, Mary Glen Mayes of Grandview and Dorothy Ligon of Loving; two grandsons, Jim Watson and wife Sabrina of Houston, and Bill Dubose Jr. and wife Rebecca of Odessa; three granddaughters, Lori Charnell Brownlow and husband David of Odessa, Kelly R. Watson of Lafayette, and Shana Michelle Dubose of Odessa; seven great-grandchildren.

Family visitation will be 2-4 p.m. Saturday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Friends are contributing to the Loving Cemetery Fund in Loving, 76062.

Marian Moody

1917-2003

SEYMOUR — Marian Trevathan Moody, sister of Marjorie Dent of Snyder, died Saturday, Dec. 13, in Richmond, Kan.

Service for Mrs. Moody, 86, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday at Red Springs Baptist Church in Red Springs, Texas. Interment will follow at the Henson Cemetery under the direction of Seymour Memorial Funeral Home.

Born Feb. 5, 1917, Mrs. Moody lived in Wichita Falls and Seymour most of her life. Her husband, Orville Moody, died on Feb. 8, 1995.

A sister, Violet Trevathan Uttz, also preceded her in death.

Survivors include a daughter, Marilyn Holland of Ottawa, Kan.; two sons, Joseph Moody of Singapore and Wayne Moody of Fort Worth; eight grandchildren; and 11 great-grandchildren.

Lela Davis

1919-2003

SAN ANGELO— Lela Horton Davis, the sister of Martha Davis of Ira, died Monday, Dec. 15, in Austin.

Funeral service for Mrs. Davis, 94, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Johnson's Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Floyd Jennings officiating. Burial will follow in Lawnhaven Memorial Gardens.

Born June 19, 1919 in Somervell County, she had lived most of her life in San Angelo and was a member of the First Assembly of God Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Melba Jean Hearn of Austin; another sister, Gipsie Clark of Bowling Green, Ky.; two grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Joyce Boyd

1939-2003

SWEETWATER — Joyce Geron Boyd, the mother of Sherry Harbin of Snyder, died Wednesday, Dec. 17, in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Funeral service for Mrs. Boyd, 64, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Broadway Baptist Church. The Revs. Lyndel Mix, Ervin Lehrman and James Baker will officiate. Burial will follow in the Garden of Memories under the direction of McCoy Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 8, 1939 in Shallowater, she was a 1957 graduate of Sweetwater High School and married Arthur Ray Boyd on Feb. 9, 1957 in Sweetwater.

Mrs. Boyd, a homemaker, was a lifelong resident of Sweetwater and had been a member of the Broadway Baptist Church for more than 40 years.

She was preceded in death by her father, Arthur Dee Geron, on Sept. 26, 1989.

Survivors include her husband, Arthur Ray Boyd of Sweetwater; a son and daughter-in-law, Gary and De'Ann Boyd of Sweetwater; a son-in-law, Kenny Harbin of Snyder; a brother Jackie Geron of Sweetwater; her mother, Irene Geron of Sweetwater; five grandchildren, Sydnie Gossett, Amanda Boyd, Bryan Boyd, Britt Harbin and BranDee Harbin; and two great-grandchildren, Avery and Drake Gossett.

The family suggests memorials to the Hendrick Hospice Care, 1682 Hickory in Abilene; or to the Broadway Baptist Church, 710 East 3rd in Sweetwater.

Dalton Myers

1917-2003

LAMESA — Snyder native Dalton M. Myers, 86, died Thursday, Dec. 18 at his home in Lamesa.

Service is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Second Baptist Church with the Revs. Syl Moore, J.L. Bass and Clifton Igo officiating. Burial will follow in the Lamesa Memorial Park under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 4, 1917 in Snyder to Roy and Ruby Grace Corley Myers, he married Anna Lou Wyatt Sept. 4, 1938 in Dawson County. She died Jan. 9, 2001.

After his father's death, Mr. Myers began farming the family farm and continued until his retirement. He married Darnella Harris on Dec. 1, 2001 in Lamesa.

Mr. Myers was a member of the Second Baptist Church and served as a deacon there and at Friendship Baptist Church for 66 years. He served as Precinct 4 commissioner for 28 years and 13 years as trustee at Klondike ISD. He also served as moderator of the Lamesa Baptist Association and was a director of the chamber of commerce, Boys Club, Lamesa Cotton Growers, Dawson County Farm Bureau and was chairman of PMA (ASC) farm committee.

Survivors include his wife, Darnella Myers of Lamesa; a son, Kenneth Wayne Myers of Lamesa; a daughter, Linda Sue Clearman of Arlington; two brothers, Roy Dewayne Myers of San Diego, Calif., and Wesley (Hank) Myers of Lamesa; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Wilbert Sneed

1938-2003

FONTANA, Calif. — Wilbert Sneed, brother of Red Sneed of Snyder, died Tuesday, Dec. 16, in Fontana. Service for Mr. Sneed is set for 1 p.m. on Dec. 27 in the Inguld Funeral Chapel. Burial will follow in a Fontana Cemetery.

Mr. Sneed was born in Gauze, Texas, and had lived in California many years.

He also is survived by one daughter, Linda; and three sons, Wilbert Sneed Jr., Pappy Sneed and Tony Sneed, all of California.

Births

Ashley Rodriguez of Snyder announces the birth of her son, Ethan Robert Rodriguez, at 1:05 p.m. on Dec. 15 in Scenic Mountain Medical Center in Big Spring. Ethan weighed six pounds, 12½ ounces. He was 20½ inches long.

Grandparents are Robert and Linda Rodriguez of Snyder. Great-grandparents are Raul and Margarita Villanueva and Juan and Inez Rodriguez, all of Snyder.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Sat 12/20	Sun 12/21	Mon 12/22
65/36	**66/41**	**47/29**
Sunny skies. High near 65F. Winds SSW at 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the low 40s.	Occasional showers. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the upper 20s.
Sunrise 7:41 AM, Sunset 5:41 PM	Sunrise 7:42 AM, Sunset 5:42 PM	Sunrise 7:42 AM, Sunset 5:42 PM

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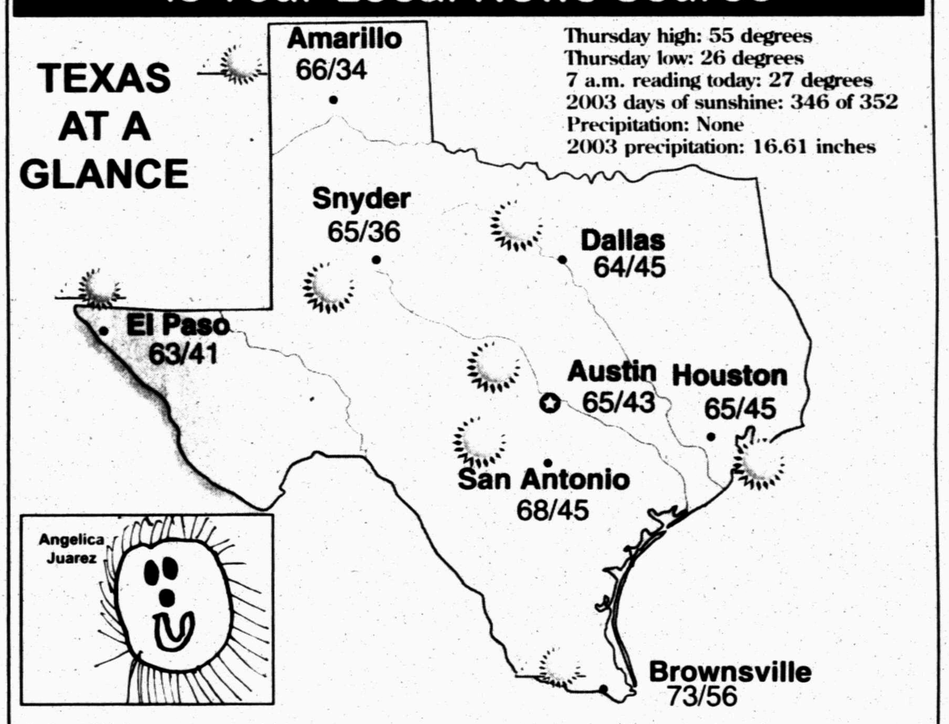
TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Thursday high: 55 degrees
Thursday low: 26 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 27 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 346 of 352
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 16.61 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	66	42	sunny	El Paso	63	41	mst sunny	Midland	65	36	sunny
Amarillo	66	34	mst sunny	Fort Stockton	68	39	sunny	Raymondville	73	53	mst sunny
Austin	65	43	sunny	Gainesville	63	40	sunny	Rosenberg	66	45	sunny
Beaumont	63	43	sunny	Greenville	61	41	sunny	San Antonio	68	45	sunny
Brownsville	73	56	mst sunny	Houston	65	45	sunny	San Marcos	66	43	sunny
Brownwood	65	42	sunny	Kingsville	73	53	mst sunny	Sulphur Springs	61	40	sunny
Corpus Christi	71	53	mst sunny	Livingston	63	38	sunny	Sweetwater	67	40	sunny
Corsicana	63	43	sunny	Longview	61	38	sunny	Tyler	62	40	sunny
Dallas	64	45	sunny	Lubbock	68	35	sunny	Weatherford	64	40	sunny
Del Rio	65	44	sunny	Lufkin	63	38	sunny	Wichita Falls	67	39	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	44	24	sunny	Houston	65	45	sunny	Phoenix	75	49	mst sunny
Boston	31	18	cloudy	Los Angeles	66	52	cloudy	San Francisco	57	47	rain
Chicago	32	28	pt sunny	Miami	62	46	mst sunny	Seattle	50	42	rain
Dallas	64	45	sunny	Minneapolis	37	26	pt sunny	St. Louis	45	35	sunny
Denver	57	34	pt sunny	New York	35	23	cloudy	Washington, DC	37	24	pt sunny

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	New
Dec 16	Dec 23	Dec 30	Jan 21

UV Index

Sat 12/20	Sun 12/21	Mon 12/22
3	3	3
Low	Low	Low

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

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Texas A&M Kingsville to get $4.3 million

KINGSVILLE (AP) — Gov. Rick Perry on Thursday announced $4.3 million in funding for the Irma Rangel School of Pharmacy at Texas A&M Kingsville, the state's fifth pharmacy school.

"The Rangel School of Pharmacy will fill a vital need for the people of South Texas and the entire state," Perry said. "With a total of $4.6 million in funding, the Rangel School of Pharmacy will be able to attract top-notch faculty, administrators and staff who will train a new generation of pharmacists for South Texas."

South Texans consider the school a sign of progress for a region that lags the state in opportunities for degrees in professions such as medicine, dentistry, and law.

The funding allows the school to take its first class of 75 students in the fall of 2005, as planned.

The school is being named for the late state Rep. Irma Rangel, a Kingsville Democrat who spearheaded efforts to create the pharmacy program and other higher education projects in South Texas. She died in March after a five-month bout with brain cancer.

"I can only imagine the excitement that Irma would feel at this moment, and the immense pride she would feel for those first students," state Rep. Vilma Luna, D-Corpus Christi, said.

The Texas Legislature established the school in 2001, appropriating $350,000 to get it started. The 2003 Legislature appropriated an additional $306,000 in operating costs in addition to $14.5 million for construction. The three-story, 62,000-square-foot is scheduled to be completed by December of 2004.

Mauro Castro, a chemist who is the university's assistant dean, said architects studied the state's four existing pharmacy schools (at the University of Houston, Texas Southern University in Houston, the University of Texas at Austin, and Texas Tech in Amarillo) for a facility with all the right amenities — such as well-equipped research labs and laptop computer connections at every classroom seat.

"Techonology-wise, nothing is going to beat it around here," he said.

Even before the school accepts its first student, that future graduate is in demand.

Castro said the demand for pharmacists in Texas is such that before the ink on the degree is dry a graduate can expect an offer of an $85,000 or more starting salary — and even more in the Rio Grande Valley.

Texas last year had 870 new openings for pharmacists, but between the four schools, only 365 students graduated.

Jim Martin, executive director of the Texas Pharmacy Association, said the competition was not bad because it assures qualified candidates. He said the need was not so acute that pharmacies were closing, but it did make it hard for pharmacies and hospitals to cover all their shifts.

Area leaders hope that Kingsville graduates decide to stay in South Texas.

"We certainly have been supportive of the Kingsville school," he said. "It should serve a real purpose in the South Texas area."

Castro said representatives from one Lower Rio Grande Valley hospital who heard about the school called to offer graduates an $8,000 per month, or $96,000 yearly, salary, plus a sign-on bonus of a Mercedes-Benz. He said a 78-year-old acquaintance still got calls with job offers.

Even with a fifth school, he said, the spots would be competitive.

"If I were to open the door tomorrow 500 students would want to come," he said. "Eighty percent of the students will have to be turned away."

Georgia O'Keeffe painting gets stolen

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — A painting by Georgia O'Keeffe is missing from a state-owned museum and authorities posted a reward for its return.

The painting, titled "Special No. 21 (Palo Duro Canyon)," was discovered missing Tuesday by a security guard at the Museum of Fine Arts, officials said Wednesday.

Investigators offered a "substantial reward" but would not disclose the amount. They would not discuss a possible motive or how much the painting is worth.

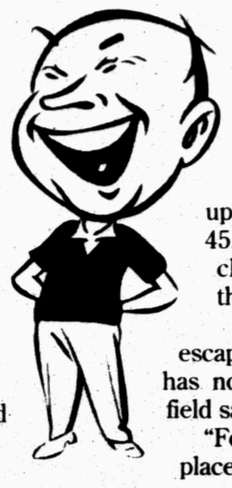
The oil painting measures about 13 inches by 16 inches. It was painted by O'Keeffe in 1916 and given to the museum by the artist's estate in 1993, said police and the museum.

The museum is downtown just a few blocks from the privately owned Georgia O'Keeffe museum.

Today's chuckle

Man caught trying to flee in sheriff's car

NAPLES, Fla. (AP) — A suspect in jewelry heist got caught after he tried to get away — in the sheriff's car.



The two men dressed in black jumped into a car they apparently thought was a getaway car, only to bolt again when they noticed the driver wore a badge. They were fleeing as a sheriff's helicopter and K-9 units searched for burglary suspects shortly after a break-in.

Combing a gated community for men who had stolen jewelry from a home, Collier County Sheriff's Sgt. Robert Maxfield saw two men run out of the bushes and toward his unmarked car.

The men's backs were turned as they got into the car, and they didn't notice his sheriff's jacket until they were inside.

Maxfield said he yelled "sheriff's office, freeze!" But the men scrambled out of the car and started running.

Maxfield caught up with Dale McClain, 45, who was later charged with grand theft and burglary.

The other man escaped and the jewelry has not been found, Maxfield said.

"For me to be in that place, at that time, in that car, everything must have been in alignment," Maxfield said.

McClain was jailed on $105,000 bail.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Hypertension in any form needs therapy

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm an elderly woman with primary pulmonary hypertension. My blood pressure consistently hovers around 160/90. I'm on Vasotec, but my doctor has not explained my illness. What's my prognosis?

DEAR READER: Pulmonary hypertension is somewhat different from arterial hypertension, the high blood pressure that is diagnosed with a familiar device applied to the upper arm.

Pulmonary hypertension is increased pressure in the blood circulating through the lungs. It has many causes, including blood clots in the lungs, lung surgery, chronic pulmonary disease and cardiac disorders. An uncommon form is of unknown cause.

Ordinarily, the condition can be diagnosed with a cardiac echo or ultrasound test. Sometimes, a cardiac catheterization is necessary to directly measure the pressures in the heart's chambers and in the lungs.

As the pressure in the lungs increases, patients experience difficulty breathing during exercise, fainting and weakness. Their hearts may enlarge. Thus, any cause of pulmonary hypertension must be identified and treated. In addition, most patients require therapy for the hypertension itself. Vasotec, for example, lowers arterial resistance and thereby reduces pressure in the lungs.

I am somewhat concerned that, despite treatment, your blood pressure remains elevated; in such a situation, your lung pressure is probably high as well. This combination is exceedingly dangerous and should be addressed immediately with an increase in your medication or a drastic change in therapy.

Perhaps this would be a suitable opportunity for you to suggest that your primary care physician refer you to a cardiologist or pulmonary specialist for a second opinion. First, there should be an effort to discover the cause of your pulmonary problem. Second, your blood pressure needs to be lowered into the 120/80 range.

Once these goals have been accomplished, your prognosis should be favorable. Until that time, however, you are at risk for complications such as heart failure, so don't delay.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: As a nurse practitioner who provides health care to residents in nursing homes, I was disappointed in your inaccurate and derogatory comments about sexual relations between such residents. It is the right of these seniors to have their consensual desire for sexual relations accommodated.

DEAR READER: Maybe in your nursing homes, but not in the facilities I serve. Sex between seniors is, in my experience, considered to be inappropriate by nursing home administrators and staffs. I'll acknowledge that perhaps this prejudice is not universal — but it is no less real in some facilities.

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

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