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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
June 23, 1997
Vol. 49 No. 45
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of
Manuel & Marcos Rios

Swing plans already in works for 1998 festival

While the sounds of "Faded Love" are probably still echoing through Scurry County Coliseum following four days of record-breaking attendance for the Legends of Western Swing Festival, organizers are already well into planning for next year's event.

"The third week in June — same time, same place," said Chuck Woods this morning.

Woods and his partner, Dewey Miers, had told the crowd at the first day of the event Wednesday, that they would be back in Snyder, "as long as they will have us."

The festival, which will be in its 11th year in 1998, draws visitors to Snyder from all over the southwest and throughout the United States.

This year, a person representing the British Archive of Country Music was also in attendance.

"Ray Price was awed by his reception Saturday," said Woods.

Price, who is a member of the Country Music Hall of fame, told Woods he will be back in Snyder next year if at all possible.

"He jokingly said, 'If I'm still alive, I'll be here,'" said Woods.

The country music legend no doubt gained more than a few additional fans Saturday as he took time out after both his shows to autograph T-shirts, album covers and other memorabilia.

"It's rare a real legend of the country-music scene will take as much time as Ray did to sign autographs," said Woods.

Woods said he hopes to line up another big-name star for next year's event, as well. Ted Scanlon and the Desperados will again serve as the host band, and other performers expected to return are Dave Alexander and the Legends of Western Swing, Sounds of the Southwest and former members of Bob Wills and the Texas Playboys.

"I can't say enough about two local bands, Texas Sand and J.D Barham and Cowjazz," added Woods. "Both were real crowd-pleasers."

Snyder has hosted the Legends of Western Swing Festival for the past two years.

The coliseum will be the site for the Hearts on Fire Rally on July 11-12 and the Southern Gospel Music Festival on Oct. 11-12 with Wanda Jackson.

COUNTRY MUSIC LEGEND — Ray Price entertained visitors to the Legends of Western Swing Festival Saturday as he performed two shows at Scurry County Coliseum. (SDN Photo by Wade Warren)

Stenholm staffer to be here Thursday

Annette Wilson, a staff worker in U.S. Rep. Charles Stehholm's Stamford office, will be in Snyder Thursday morning to visit individually with citizens.

She will offer an opportunity for anyone having a problem with a governmental agency such as Social Security Administration, HUD, Department of Veterans Affairs and others to seek assistance.

She will also listen to persons who wish to express an opinion on current governmental issues. An appointment is not necessary.

Mrs. Wilson will meet citizens in the chamber of commerce board room from 10 a.m. until noon.

White House lawyers' notes must be surrendered to jury

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court today rejected a White House effort to stop Whitewater prosecutors from seeing notes of conversations between presidential lawyers and Hillary Rodham Clinton.

The court, without comment, rejected the White House's argument that the notes are protected by attorney-client privilege.

Today's action means the notes must be surrendered to a federal grand jury in Little Rock, Ark.

The action is a victory for Whitewater prosecutor Kenneth Starr, who had urged the high court not to review the case, saying it "would delay a highly sensitive criminal investigation." According to court papers, he has said Mrs. Clinton is a "central figure" in his investigation.

At issue were conversations Mrs. Clinton had with White House lawyers and her private attorneys concerning her role in Whitewater, a failed Arkansas real estate venture that has led to a wide-ranging investigation by Starr.

A federal appeals court in April ordered the notes turned over to the grand jury. Attorney-client privilege does not protect government lawyers' notes when they are being sought in a criminal investigation, the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled.

The White House's appeal to the Supreme Court called that ruling "extraordinary and unprecedented" and said it "will substantially impair the ability of the Office of the President (and other federal agencies) to secure sound legal advice, particularly in the face of independent counsel investigations."

Starr called the White House appeal "a bold assertion of a governmental privilege against a federal grand jury's interest in securing relevant evidence."

A judge's footnote in a lower court ruling indicated that Whitewater investigators have concluded that Mrs. Clinton's testimony has changed over time or differs from that of other witnesses.

The White House had said that if prosecutors prevailed in the notes case, the next step would be for the grand jury to require government lawyers to testify about conversations regarding legal advice they have given and information they have gathered.

"This swirl of inquiries has produced a host of legal issues for the office of the president, requiring the involvement and advice of White House attorneys," said the brief filed by private lawyers hired to represent the White House.

The Justice Department also asked the court to grant review, although it did not argue the White House always is entitled to keep its lawyers' notes confidential.

Justice Department lawyers said courts considering requests for government lawyers' notes should weigh prosecutors' need for the information against government officials' need for effective legal advice.

The dispute concerns two sets of notes taken by White House lawyers.

One set of notes taken by Miriam Nemetz involves discussions on July 11, 1995, regarding Mrs. Clinton's activities after the 1993 death of White House deputy counsel Vincent Foster. Prosecutors are investigating whether Whitewater-related documents improperly were removed from his office after his death.

Notes taken by lawyer Jane Sherburne involve conversations with Mrs. Clinton on Jan. 26, 1996, the day she appeared before a federal grand jury to testify about the mysterious disappearance and reappearance of her law firm billing records.

The case is Office of the President vs. Office of Independent Counsel, 96-1783.

Northern Scurry gets early morning rainfall

Late evening and early morning thunderstorms which passed through Scurry County were selective in where they deposited rain.

Generally speaking, the northern portion of the county received substantial rainfall, while much of the southern half encountered little more than a trace.

The Camp Springs area received the most, as residents there reported 1.9 inches. Lloyd Mountain received 1.5 inches. A report from seven miles north of Snyder along Highway 208 also came in at 1½ inches.

Residents in Fluvanna reported up to seven-tenths inches while the area just west of Snyder caught about a quarter-inch.

Southeast Scurry County recorded from a tenth to two tenths.

Lake J.B. Thomas caught three-tenths early this morning. The lake is now at 12½ percent capacity, according to Colorado River Municipal Water District officials. Most of the rain benefitting the CRMWD lakes and reserviors fell near Winters, which received 4½ inches. Lake Ivie is full, CRMWD officials said.

Ira received just a trace last night; Dunn got two-tenths and Hermleigh reported three-tenths.

Snyder got just 15-one hundredths, bringing the total for the year to 19.28 inches.

A 20 percent chance of thunderstorms remains in the forecast for tonight.

For $4.2 billion...

UPR trying to buy Pennzoil Co.

NEW YORK (AP) — Union Pacific Resources Group Inc. is making an unsolicited $4.2 billion bid for rival energy explorer and producer Pennzoil Co. Pennzoil said its board would study the offer.

Union Pacific Resources, the largest independent U.S. oil and gas exploration and production company, said its experience would enable Pennzoil to grow faster than it could on its own.

The combined company would be the leader in several key industry measures, including drilling activity, production and cash flow, Union Pacific said in announcing the offer today.

In addition to exploring for and producing oil and gas, Houston-based Pennzoil's brand name is one of the best-known in the motor oil business and its Jiffy Lube unit supplies products to quick-service automobile lubrication outlets.

Union Pacific said it had begun the first part of a two-stage tender offer under which it would pay $84 a share in cash just over half of Pennzoil's more than 50 million shares.

That represents a 41 percent premium over Pennzoil's closing price of $59.62 ½ a share on Friday on the New York Stock Exchange. Union Pacific Resources closed at $26.37 ½ a share Friday on the NYSE.

If its cash offer is successful, Union Pacific would later pay $84 a share in stock for the remaining Pennzoil shares.

Union Pacific Resources said it would also assume $2.2 billion in Pennzoil debt, pushing the total value of the transaction to $6.4 billion.

In a statement today, Pennzoil said its board would review the tender offer and announce its response on or before July 7.

AUTOGRAPH TIME — Linda Sellars, left, and Stacie Westmoreland got a close look at country-music legend Ray Price following his appearance at the Legends of Western Swing Festival. Price performed twice at the event and signed autographs following both shows. (SDN Photo by Wade Warren)

Motorcyclists hurt in mishaps

Traffic accidents involving motorcycles this morning and Sunday sent four people to the hospital, where two were undergoing evaluations today.

DPS trooper Pat Alexander said Marvin Leroy Ledtje, 50, and his wife, Dorthy, 51, were southbound on U.S. Highway 84 around 8:30 this morning when their 1967 BMW motorcycle overturned. They were transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital where they were being evaluated this morning.

The two are from Santa Clara, Calif.

At 2:15 p.m. Sunday, Snyder residents Jimmy Don Everett, 52, and his wife, Ann, 51, were injured along Highway 208, three miles north of Colorado City, when their 1983 Honda motorcycle was in collision with a 1995 Mazda driven by 28-year-old Michael Alewine. They were transported to Mitchell County Hospital by its ambulance service where they were treated and released.

The Everetts live at 527 N. CR 221. Alwine resides at 4503 College Ave., # 14.

ASK US

Q—Where are the weather instruments located that give the information on Channel 2?

A—The instruments are located on top of the Snyder Cablevision office located at 2211 Ave. R.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Saturday, 86 degrees; low, 65; high Sunday, 86; low, 70; .15 of an inch precipitation; total for 1997, 19.28 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy; 20% chance of storms. Low, upper 60s. SE-S wind 5-15 mph. Tuesday, morning low clouds, otherwise partly cloudy. High 85-90. S wind 10-20 mph.

Joseph McGough

Cloudy

Sunset: 8:52 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:40 a.m.
Of 173 days in 1997, the sun has shone 161 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Millions saw the apple fall, but Newton was the one who asked why.

Bernard M. Baruch

Hungry plants attract viewers

FORESTVILLE, Calif. (AP) — In a greenhouse just off a winding back road in the heart of California's wine country, unsuspecting prey are being lured, captured and devoured.

There are no toothy, growling beasts — just a roomful of plants. Hungry plants. This is the macabre world of California Carnivores, home to the nation's largest selection of carnivorous plants.

The store grows and sells thousands of Venus flytraps, American pitcher plants, sundews and Mexican butterworts. All bug killers.

More than 450 varieties of carnivorous plants — called CPs by hobbyists — are cultivated 50 miles north of San Francisco at California Carnivores by partners Marilee Maertz and Peter D'Amato.

And who's buying these stealthy green assassins?

"I see a lot of fathers with their sons," said Maertz, while tending to a row of young sundews. "A lot of our customers are people who tried to grow a Venus flytrap as a child. Now they bring their kids, and you can see it in their eyes."

And the kids can bring their own bugs.

Armed with a pair of tweezers, volunteer John Rizzi scoured the greenhouse floor for a sacrificial earwig.

"You're getting eaten now. This is your big moment," said Rizzi as he snatched a wiggling bug.

Slowly, he lowered the bug between the jaws of a flytrap. The insects' twitching triggers the sensitive hairs inside the plants. Suddenly, Rizzi's bug disappeared with a snap!

Maertz and D'Amato are the only employees of the store that opened in 1990. Last year, they recorded some $70,000 in sales.

There is a premium placed on educating the public about conservation, but it's really the voracious appetite of the stock that keeps customers coming back.

Sam Rose, a cancer researcher from Oakland, came to buy several plants. He said the plants might pique the interest of his grandson, but he enjoys them, too.

KINDERGARTEN CERTIFICATES — East kindergarten students who received certificates at the end of the 1996-1997 school year include, top row, from left, Kaylie Kahlich, Ashley Swigert, Charley Stewart, Sarah Atwell, Lareshia Carey, Maxine Jaramillo, Clay Hirt, Adrian Alvarez, Daniel Essery; next row, Teryn Sullenger, Kalyn Hildreth, Jonathan Wallace, Christopher Whitte, Dana Stanley, Tony Perales, Raven Gist, Robert Villa, Bobby Gutierrez, Mrs. Patsy Massey; next row, Mrs. Nell Henry, Tanner Price, Will Stewart, Clint McFatridge, Fabian Gutierrez, Zoe Briseno, Brittany Scott, Nicholas Lentz, Jayme Tomlinson, Jonathan Burns, Khristopher Alarcon, Jarred Rascon; bottom row, Andrew Lam, Kira Bilano, Paige Tovar. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Economy easing federal deficits early

WASHINGTON (AP) — Even as Congress prepares to vote this week on legislation aimed at balancing the budget by 2002, growing numbers of financial analysts say the nation's hardy economy will erase federal deficits even sooner.

A minority of these experts, the most optimistic, predict the government will run surpluses by the end of this decade — even without budget-balancing legislation. The last federal surplus was in 1969.

Such projections assume no recession in the next few years, of which nobody can be certain. Even if the predictions come true, all agree that deficits will balloon anew when the huge baby boomers begin retiring in 2008 and drive up Social Security and Medicare costs.

Nonetheless, a surge in federal revenue collections that has confounded the experts has improved the government's short-term fiscal health dramatically. Riding this tide, this year's deficit is expected to be $67 billion or less, the fifth consecutive decline since it peaked at $290 billion in 1992.

The government's two official fiscal analysts — the Congressional Budget Office and the White House Office of Management and Budget — envision budget gaps rising again next year. But in a measure of the widespread belief that inexplicably high revenue collections will continue, those foreseeing an unexpectedly early end to deficits are no longer considered crazy by their colleagues who disagree with them.

"It's certainly a possibility," said the more cautious John Youngdahl, an analyst at Goldman, Sachs & Co. "It's not a wild possibility."

In an ironic twist of timing, the deficit picture is brightening almost by the month just as lawmakers face a politically painful series of votes on implementing the budget deal between President Clinton and congressional leaders.

Many Democrats oppose slicing projected spending on Medicare and other programs as deeply as the bills propose, while many Republicans are troubled that companion legislation does not cut taxes deeply enough.

Improving budgetary prospects have already made it easier for lawmakers to cram this year's budget-balancing effort with tax cuts plus spending increases for children's health and other programs. And although there are no signs that the budget agreement might be collapsing, looming deficits that begin to look smaller can only encourage legislators to demand extra spending and tax reductions.

White House and congressional budget analysts will update their budget forecasts this summer. Neither envisions projecting vanished deficits before 2002.

"I really haven't heard that, even from optimists," said Director June O'Neill of the Congressional Budget Office. And Office of Management and Budget spokesman Lawrence Haas said his agency will use "appropriately cautious assumptions" in making its calculations.

The financial world, however, is dotted with advisers who say federal surpluses are coming sooner than expected:

—Two weeks ago, the investment bank Lehman Brothers sent clients a newsletter that said: "Even without the recent budget agreement, the U.S. federal government is likely to record budget surpluses by the end of the decade."

Declining crime helps slow prison population

WASHINGTON (AP) — A decline in crime since 1990 has helped to slow the growth of America's adult prison population during the last two years.

After a 10-year surge that more than doubled the number of inmates, the number of state and federal prison inmates rose by only 5 percent in 1996, the Justice Department reported Sunday.

The 55,876 additional inmates pushed the total prison population to a record 1,182,169 last Dec. 31.

Between 1985 and 1996, the average annual increase had been 8.1 percent, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics. This was the second straight year of slower growth; 1995 saw a 6.8 percent increase.

The record absolute increase, 84,000 inmates, had come the previous year, 1994.

The slowing partly reflected the decline in major crimes over the last five years, given a delay for criminal cases to get through the court system.

"We've seen some impact on prison population as a result of the half-percent decline in arrests for serious crimes" since 1990, said statistician Allen J. Beck, coauthor of the bureau's study, "Prisoners in 1996."

Although admissions are still rising, Beck noted, "fewer are coming directly from court convictions and more are returning as parole violators from unsuccessful community supervision."

As of June 30, 1996, an additional 518,492 people were held in local jails, which are used primarily for sentences of less than one year and for defendants awaiting trial or on trial.

Counting both the prison and jail inmates, more than 1.6 million adults were behind bars as of last June 30. That is an incarceration rate of 615 inmates for every 100,000 U.S. residents.

That rate of imprisonment put the United States second only to Russia, which had a rate of 690 inmates per 100,000 residents in 1995, the last available figure. The two countries imprison a far higher proportion of their citizens than any other country in the world.

The number of state and federal prison inmates grew from 502,507 at the end of 1985 to 1,128,293 at the end of 1995. But the statistics bureau attributed the huge growth in state prisoners more to a decline in early releases than to the highly publicized increase in longer sentences by state courts.

The report said prison inmates are indeed serving more time.

El Nino to cause weather trouble

CHULLIYACHI, Peru (AP) — All that's left is a ghost town of crumbling houses and sand, its residents having fled a lashing storm that turned Chulliyachi's streets into raging rivers swirling down into the Pacific.

The traumatized villagers never came back. They moved one mile inland and founded Nuevo Chulliyachi.

The 1983 storm that killed Chulliyachi was brought by El Nino, a mass of warm water the size of the United States that periodically settles off Peru's coast, changing weather patterns and causing havoc around the world. It is so potent it can affect development of hurricanes in the Caribbean.

El Nino is back, and some experts say it may be a strong one, leading Peruvians to fear a return of the flooding and drought that devastated their country during the harsh El Nino of 1982-83.

Although Peru has suffered the most from El Nino's visits, the warm waters that return every two to seven years also are causing concern in neighboring South American countries that have experienced heavy economic damage in past years.

The water off Peru's northern coast has heated 5 to 9 degrees above normal and is still rising, says Ena Jaimes, chief meteorologist at Peru's national weather service. In the 1982-1983 El Nino, water temperatures peaked at 14 degrees above normal.

"We are in the preliminary stages of an El Nino phenomenon, but we still don't know if it will be strong, moderate or weak," she said.

Scientists will know El Nino's strength in September and its effects will start to be felt in December — the reason the phenomenon is known by the Spanish name for the baby Jesus.

Jose Guadalupe, 58, remembers the 20-foot waves that wiped out three blocks of Chulliyachi in 1983, washing away the town church and forcing rescue workers to fly its 1,500 residents to safety.

Every morning on his way to his fishing boat, Guadalupe walks through the ruined town 530 miles northwest of Lima and looks at his childhood house, now filled with sand.

"Water filled the houses almost to their ceilings, and even the streets farthest away from the ocean were rivers. I'd never seen anything like it," he said.

Local fishermen still cross themselves when they sail over the point where they believe the town church lies submerged.

The effects of the 1982-83 El Nino on the region were devastating.

"It was one of the most destructive natural phenomena ever recorded in Peru," said Pablo Lagos, an oceanographer at Peru's Geophysical Institute who has studied El Ninos for more than 15 years.

Flooding and mud slides in the north, a drought in the south and the disappearance of traditional fish stocks caused Peru's economy to plummet by 12 percent in 1983.

In the city of Piura, near Chulliyachi, 60 times more rain than normal fell, turning its streets into rivers. Food had to be flown in for residents trapped on high ground.

That El Nino did $6 billion in damage to Peru, Ecuador, Chile, Bolivia and Colombia.

Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Baytech has completed the No. 1-66 O.T. Richardson in the Mirage field, three miles east of Dunn. The venture was finaled to produce 43 barrels of oil and no water. Perforations were from 7,323-732 feet, and location is in Section 66, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Primrose Operating will drill the No. 169 Fuller Dorward unit in the Dorward field, nine miles southeast of Justiceburg. Planned for a depth of 4,000 feet, location is in Section 691, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Mitchell County

Parker and Parsley Development will drill the No. 7 Etta Holt Brown in the Iatan East Howard field, nine miles southwest of Westbrook. Planned for a depth of 3,450 feet, drill site is in Section 11, Block 29, T1S, T&P survey.

Garza County

Shenandoah Petroleum Corp. will drill the No. 4-18 Macy Lott in the Lazy JL field, 10 miles south of Post. The venture will be drilled to 6,150 feet, and location is in Section 18, Block 1, Jasper Hays survey.

Wheeler Operating Corp. will drill the No. 1-WA Connell in the Arlene field, seven miles east of Post. Planned depth is 5,000 feet, and location is in Section 65, Block 5, GH&H survey.

HAT Oil and Gas has completed the No. 2 Crooked Stick, a wildcat located four miles southwest of Justiceburg. The well was finaled to produce 148 barrels of oil and 17 barrels of water. Perforations were from 8,048-054 feet, and location is in Section 30, Block 6, H&GN survey.

Kent County

Knox Industries Inc. will drill the No. 167 B. Morrison, a 7,800-foot wildcat located 12 miles northwest of Clairemont. Location is in Section 67, Block 1, H&GN survey.

Apache Corp will drill the No. 1119 Cogdell Canyon reef unit, an 8,000-foot wildcat located 13 miles southwest of Clairemont. Location is in Section 772, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Fisher County

Walsh and Watts Inc. will drill the No. 1 Hill in the Judy Gail field, four miles northwest of Hamlin. The re-entry project is planned for 4,675 feet, and location is in Section 189, Block 1, BBB&C survey.

Walsh and Watts will drill the No. 2 Cooper in the Judy Gail field, four miles northwest of Hamlin. Contracted for 4,800 feet, location is in Section 192, Block 1, BBB&C survey.

Walsh and Watts will drill the No. 9 York in the Judy Gail field, four miles northwest of Hamlin. Planned depth is 4,800 feet, and drill site is in Section 190, Block 1, BBB&C survey.

Nolan County

Oryx Energy Co. will drill the No. 2423 Southwest Nena Lucia field unit, 10 miles southwest of Maryneal. Planned for a dpeth of 7,500 feet, location is in Section 92, Block 1-A, H&TC survey.

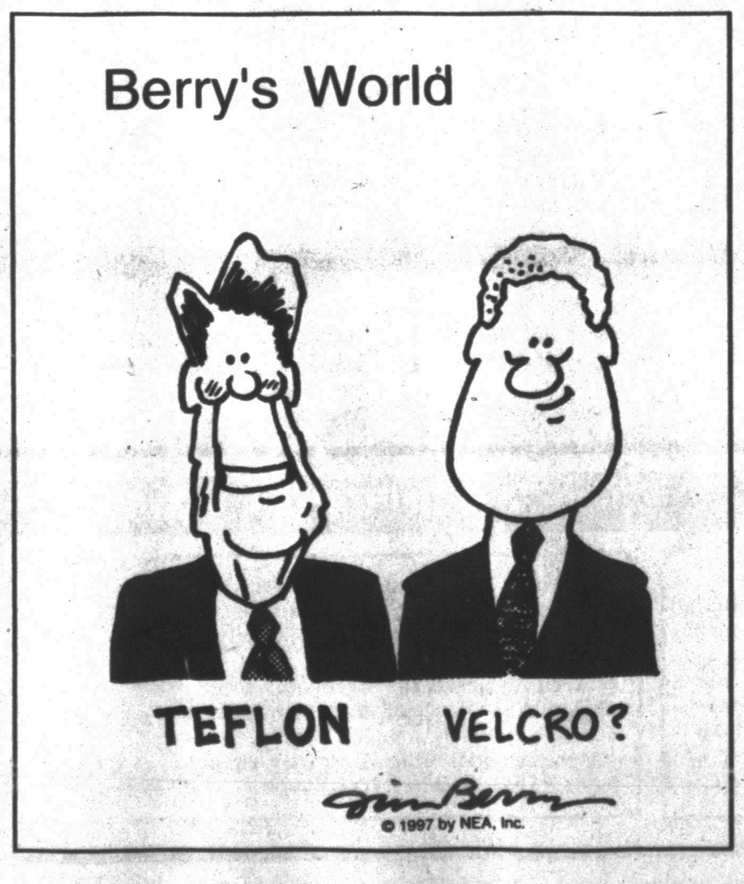
Brothers Operating Co. Inc. will drill the No. 107 Lake Trammel field unit, six miles southwest of Sweetwater. Planned for a depth of 5,00 feet, location is in Section 80, Block 22, T&P survey.

Pioneer Exploration will drill the No. 33-A Billie Hanks in the Hylton northwest field, six miles south of Nolan. Planned depth is 6,300 feet, and location is in Section 28, Block Z, T&P survey.

Oryx Energy has completed the No. 3831 Southwest Nena Lucia field unit, 13 miles southwest of Maryneal. The venture was finaled to produce 45 barrels of 44.6 gravity oil and 313 barrels of water. Perfortions were from 6,976-296 feet, and location is in Section 88, Block 1-A, H&TC survey.

Hallwood Petroleum will drill the No. 1 Morrow in the Dora north field, six miles northeast of Nolan. Planned for a depth of 6,000 feet, location is in Section 68, Block 5, T&P survey.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486



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Community Calendar

MONDAY

Scurry County Museum's hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Storytime for 4- and 5-year-olds; Scurry County Library; 10 a.m.

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-9458, 573-8626 or 573-8929; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

American Cancer Society; important planning session in board room of Cogdell Memorial Hospital; 5 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

Dialogue, cancer support group; board room of Cogdell Memorial Hospital; 7 to 8 p.m.

ACBL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-1141 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956, 573-2101,573-1141 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Martha Ann Woman's Game Day/Luncheon; lunch is served at 11:30 and games of choice will follow throughout the afternoon; those wanting lunch only are welcome, reservations must be made by calling 573-3427 before 5 Monday.

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

LLL Club; fellowship hall of First Baptist Church; 9:30 a.m.; for more information, call 573-6534.

Al-Anon meeting (smoke free), noon to 1 p.m., brown bag. Park Club in Winston Park. For information call 573-4203 or 573-5525.

TOPS TX56, (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information call Peggy Eubank at 573-6509.

Scurry Charter Chapter ABWA; MAWC; 7 p.m.

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; American Legion; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

Free blood pressure clinics; Senior Citizens Center, 9:30 to 11 a.m.

Blood pressures will be taken at Cogdell Hospital Home Health Services, 1800 Cogdell Blvd. Suite B; 1-2 p.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 1:30 p.m.

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointments; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

NA Anonymous; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-3667, 573-1579 or 573-0949; 6 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 573-8929; 8 p.m., open meeting (last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting, pot luck at 7 p.m.).

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome; 3 p.m.

People Without Partners; Inadale Community Center; games of 42 and dominos; 6:30 p.m.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 06-23-97
♠ J 8 7
♥ K 8 4
♦ 6 5
♣ A J 7 6 5

West
♠ 5 4 3
♥ J 10 2
♦ Q 7 4 2
♣ 9 4 2

East
♠ 9 6 2
♥ Q 9 7
♦ A K J 10 8
♣ 10 8

South
♠ A K Q 10
♥ A 6 5 3
♦ 9 3
♣ K Q 3

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ 2

Who is that?

By Phillip Alder

An article by Barbara Travis in the April issue of Australian Bridge ended with this paragraph: "Congratulations must also go to the organizers; the Festival must be an enormous workload. I'd also like to mention a caddy called James for doing a wonderful job." James? Why highlight James?

Travis was referring to the Summer Festival of Bridge, held each January in Canberra. The premier event is the National Open Teams. Travis and her three teammates reached the final, losing to four Indonesians by 40 international matchpoints (IMPs).

This deal was a triumph for the Australians. At the other table, the Indonesian South opened one club. North responded with a debatable one no-trump, and South raised to game. Five diamond tricks later, the contract was one down. Next time, maybe North will raise clubs. Note that five clubs is unbeatable.

In this auction, the inventive Michael Courtney opened one spade, calling that suit five cards long. After North's two-spade raise, South was always going to game, but rebid three hearts in case North had length there. North (Peter Gill, who is Barbara Travis' brother) jumped to four spades, as he was maximum for his initial response.

The defenders took two diamond tricks, but Courtney had no trouble winning the rest for plus 450. Along with the 50 at the other table, this gave a net plus of 500, which converted to 11 IMPs.

Be willing to treat very strong four-card suits like five-carders.

Who is James? I thought it was going to be Barbara's son, but he is only six and not yet a caddy. This James is 17 and was apparently the best caddy at the festival.

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Americans debate free speech meaning

By NANCY BENAC
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — You can burn a flag, but you had better think twice before insulting an onion. You can write a novel that inspires violence like the Oklahoma City bombing, but you cannot run ads hawking cigarettes just anyplace.

Free speech in the land of the free is not as free as you might think.

In a debate as old as the republic, Americans are weighing once again when it is proper to place limits on the First Amendment's protections of unbridled speech.

—In Washington, yet another effort is under way to have Congress pass a constitutional amendment outlawing desecration of the American flag. This marks the third such attempt since the Supreme Court ruled in 1989 that burning a U.S. flag is protected expression.

—The tobacco industry and anti-smoking forces negotiated a deal that would set sharp limits on cigarette ads, dooming Joe Camel and the Marlboro Man along with marketing of cigarettes on the Internet and billboards. The deal would have to be approved by

Washington Today

Congress and could result in strict federal regulation of tobacco advertising. The Supreme Court already has let stand Baltimore's ban on billboard ads for cigarettes and alcoholic beverages, and other cities are trying out the concept.

—In a new trend, more than a dozen states have enacted "veggie libel" laws that forbid spreading disparaging false information about food products. Texas cattlemen are using their state's "agricultural disparagement" law to sue Oprah Winfrey for airing a show on mad cow disease in which she exclaimed: "It has just stopped me from eating another burger!"

—Human rights advocates last year protested republication of a racist underground novel, "The Turner Diaries," that prosecutors claimed was Timothy McVeigh's blueprint for the Oklahoma City bombing. The publisher countered that distribution of the novel would help shed light on the "sick minds" of supremacist groups.

Free-speech lawyer Floyd Abrams finds it "disheartening that so many attacks on First Amendment values are proceeding at once."

Disheartening, but not necessarily surprising.

"First Amendment issues are always unpopular," Abrams said. "That's why we need a First Amendment."

He called the perennial flag-burning debate a glaring example of some people's willingness to infringe on free speech and said "veggie libel" laws are ripe to be found unconstitutional.

A voluntary agreement to curb tobacco ads would be appropriate, Abrams said, but not federal regulations that interfere with free-speech rights. As for whether a novel incited McVeigh to violence, he said: "There's no reason to think 'The Turner Diaries' had no impact, but we don't ban books."

So how free is free speech?

Oliver Wendell Holmes articulated the practical limits in 1919 with his dictum that "the most stringent protection of free speech would not protect a man in falsely shouting fire in a theater and causing a panic."

It is up to the courts to determine when speech crosses that fuzzy line where the harm it would inflict is too great to be tolerated.

Americans are quick to think the line has been crossed.

On issues from flags to food, "It is occurring to people that speech can cause injury, and in their zeal to curtail injury they are anxious to curtail speech," said Barry Friedman, a law professor at Vanderbilt University.

That is why free-speech advocates are happy these decisions usually end up being made in court.

"We cherish free speech, we like the idea of it, but when certain kinds of viewpoints or attitudes are expressed and are then protected by the First Amendment, we suddenly become critical," said Emory University law professor David Bederman.

Editor's Note: Nancy Benac covers national affairs for The Associated Press.

Texas doctor first woman to head AMA

CHICAGO (AP) — The first woman chosen to preside over the 150-year-old American Medical Association is a Texas doctor who was once told she could not pursue medicine if she wanted to get married and raise a family.

"I could be a physician if I wanted to, but I probably couldn't be a physician, wife and mother," Dr. Nancy W. Dickey said she was told by a counselor in high school.

Dickey did all three, and on Sunday was elected without opposition as president of the nation's largest organization of doctors. Her term begins in June 1998 and runs for a year.

She saw her selection as evidence women are making greater headway in the field of medicine.

"Anytime we find these firsts occurring, it opens more doors," Dickey said. "But we really haven't achieved everything we want until we've lost count of the numbers."

The AMA's policies have no legal effect, but the group's lobbying, teaching and publishing activities can have significant influence on medical opinion, public policy and health.

Dickey, 46, a family practitioner from College Station, Texas, heads the AMA board of trustees, a more powerful role than the presidency but a less visible one in the 292,000-member group.

As chairman of the AMA's Council on Ethical and Judicial Affairs, she supported its 1984 opinion that it was ethical to withdraw nutrients from terminally ill patients if they or an appropriate proxy agreed.

Dickey grew up on a farm in South Dakota and moved to Texas as a teen. She is married with three children, ages 21, 18 and 15.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Is Alzheimer's linked to blockage?

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 60-year-old husband was told several years ago that he has severe coronary blockages that caused his heart to contract at only 10 percent of normal. He was not a candidate for surgery because of a number of health problems, including Alzheimer's disease. His behavior recently became unmanageable, and I had to put him in a nursing home. Could the heart problem have caused the Alzheimer's because of deficient oxygen to the brain?

DEAR READER: This is an intriguing possibility, because no one knows the cause of Alzheimer's disease, a progressive form of dementia that typically affects patients in their 60s and 70s. While it's possible that your husband's mental problems have been the consequence of diminished circulation to the brain, I suspect that he has at least two diseases: coronary artery blockage and Alzheimer's, both of which have gravely affected his health.

I say this because many Alzheimer's victims have sound vascular systems, and many patients with arteriosclerotic heart disease do not suffer from dementia. Therefore, I believe that your husband is the recipient of an unfortunate "double whammy."

Furthermore, medical studies have suggested that Alzheimer's disease probably begins decades before symptoms become apparent and that the dementia is caused by a loss of brain cells — possibly from a genetic factor — that is unrelated to poor circulation.

To give you more information, I am sending you copies of my Health Reports "Alzheimer's Disease" and "Understanding Heart Disease." Other readers who would like copies should send $2 for each report 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(s).

DEAR DR. GOTT: During a recent wellness-screening program, I had blood tests showing an extremely high concentration of iron. Is this a problem?

DEAR READER: It could be. Iron overload (hemochromatosis) is a genetic disease marked by the body's inability to metabolize excess iron. As a result, the mineral builds up in vital organs, leading to heart damage and liver scarring.

The diagnosis is suspected by a blood test for iron levels, and is confirmed by liver biopsy. Ordinarily, the disease is not recognized until organ damage such as jaundice draws attention to it, because doctors do not routinely perform blood tests for iron.

While I am not convinced that you have hemochromatosis, your blood test is suggestive. In my opinion, you should address this issue with your family doctor and obtain the tests that he recommends. If you do have iron overload, the condition can be treated with phlebotomy, the periodic removal of blood (and hence, iron) from your system.

Don't ignore the high iron level; you need further testing.

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Comic Page

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Urchin
4 Moist
8 Male sheep
12 Actress Joanne —
13 Vanities
14 Single entity
15 Bernstein, to friends
16 Musical ending
17 Type of fish
18 Ford flop
20 Old age
22 Elsie, e.g.
23 Map abbr.
25 Alcoholic beverage
27 Large indefinite number
31 Crystal-containing stone
34 — — Clear Day
35 Pork or steak
37 For men only
38 Actor Kruger
40 Winter precipitation
42 Yale student
43 Words to live by
45 Awakens
47 Of the dawn
49 Actor Sparks
50 Hockey's Bobby —
52 Actress Francis
54 Type of Greek column
58 Disencumbers
60 Stitches
62 Medical suffix
63 Jacob's twin
64 Source of power
65 Fleur-de- —
66 — terrier
67 Cover the inside of
68 Cricket positions

DOWN

1 Not working
2 TV horse (2 wds.)
3 Plays on words
4 Speak bombastically
5 Long —
6 Vogue
7 Religious poem
8 Type of liquor
9 Short narratives
10 Spanish artist
11 Pack away
19 Building wing
21 Temp. unit
24 Ballerina's strong points
26 Roman bronze
27 Type of lens
28 Not out of
29 — Saints
30 Zola heroine
32 Cowgirl Evans
33 Protection
36 Ripped
39 Ear (comb. form)
41 Mournful cry (3 wds.)
44 Acorn tree
46 Ginseng plant
48 Twangy
50 Raw minerals
51 Take a chance
53 Abominable Snowman
55 — contendere
56 — — the Mood for Love
57 Mama — Elliott
59 Take to court
61 Was victorious

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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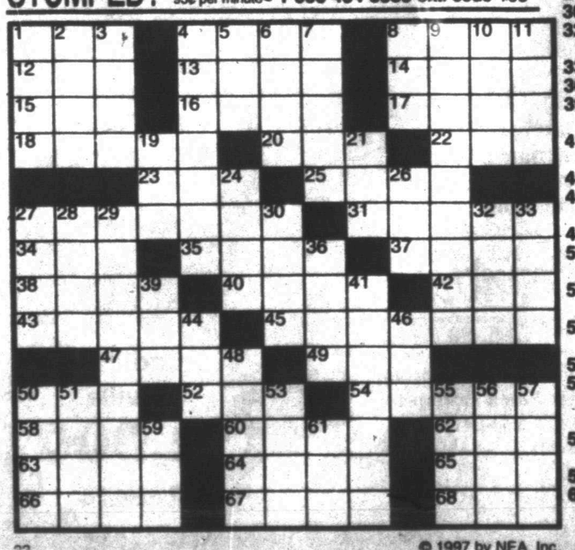

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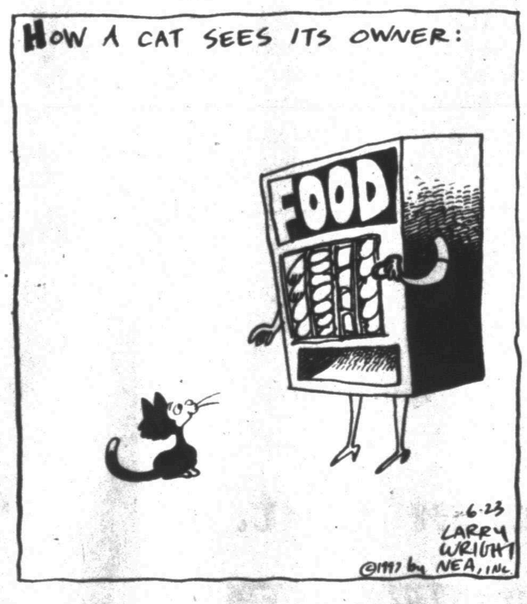

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"I WAS GONNA STAY IN AND CLEAN MY ROOM, BUT IT TURNED OUT TO BE SUCH A NICE DAY!"

SPORTS

Bagwell's homer leads Astros over Cubs, 3-1

HOUSTON (AP) — The Chicago Cubs are going through a bad stretch and Houston Astros pitcher Mike Hampton sure didn't make it any easier for them.

Hampton held the Cubs to five hits in eight innings, his longest outing of the season, in a 3-1 victory Sunday.

"He threw the ball well," Cubs manager Jim Riggleman said of Hampton. "He was using his sinker and his changeup and getting us to reach for the ball."

Cubs starter Kevin Foster (8-5) went six innings and allowed only three runs, two earned, on five hits.

"The key to the game," Foster said, "was that Mike Hampton was able to settle down and get the big outs. I felt good, but I let them have a couple of big hits."

Hampton (3-6) won for the first time since May 8.

"I think I've turned the corner," he said. "There was never anything wrong with my confidence, I knew I'd be all right in time but I was getting frustrated trying to get going and help this team win."

Jeff Bagwell hit his NL-leading 22nd homer, a two-run shot in the first, to tie Glenn Davis for second place on Houston's career list with 166. He now trails only Jimmy Wynn's 223.

With the victory, the Astros completed a three-game sweep of the Cubs. It was Chicago's fourth straight loss and 12th in the last 16 games. Chicago is 17 games under .500, the farthest under the break-even mark since it ended the 1986 season 20 games under .500.

The Cubs were 0-14 at the start of the season. This month, they're 7-13. But the Astros are still not counting them out.

"This was the best overall we've played in a three-game series in some weeks," manager Larry Dierker said. "The Cubs may be struggling right now but they're a good team and we've been in that boat ourselves.

"It's going to take 90 wins to win this division and it doesn't matter whether you get them now or in September, they all count the same."

The Astros took a 2-0 lead in the first. Craig Biggio doubled and, one out later, Bagwell hit a pitch from Foster barely over the right-field wall.

Houston made it 3-0 in the third when Bagwell walked with two outs, moved to second on Luis Gonzalez's single and scored when shortstop Rey Sanchez made an error on Derek Bell's grounder.

Hampton, who had lost three straight decisions since May 8, struck out four and walked three. Bidding for the second shutout of his career, he left after Ryne Sandberg led off the ninth with a double.

Bagwell thought the sweep was no easy feat.

"The Cubs are a dangerous team," he said. "They started 0-14 but they're still in the race as much as any team and like the rest of us, all they need is a hot streak to take charge."

Billy Wagner relieved and Kevin Orie hit an RBI double.

STATE RUNNERS-UP — The Snyder Stars placed second in the 7 & 8-year-old State Pixie Softball Tournament. Members of the Stars are, front row, left to right, Jordan Derryberry, Terann Ragland, Brittani Carnes, Erica Lee and Alayna Alexander. On the second row are Ashlie Lopez, Vanessa Lopez, Audra Hall, Devin Davidson, Kendra Birks, Allison Sharrock and Cassie Hernandez. The coaches are Shawn Ragland, Debra Carnes and David Lee. (Contributed Photo)

Texas swept by Mariners & trail by 5 in AL west

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers lost the season series to Seattle 10-3 last year, but still won the AL West by 44 games over the Mariners.

Seattle swept Texas over the weekend at The Ballpark in Arlington to take a 5-game lead and leave the Rangers wondering if they can recreate the magic of the 1996 season.

The Mariners are 5-1 against Texas this year and have won 12 of the last 14 games between the two clubs. The Rangers are a miserable 5-18 lifetime in their own new ballpark against the Mariners.

It was the only third time in Mariners history that the club had swept a four-game road series.

Seattle scored three runs in the second inning after a critical error by Benji Gil for a gift-wrapped 6-4 victory over the Rangers on Sunday.

"It was a great weekend for us in Texas. Let's enjoy this," Mariner manager Lou Piniella said of the sweep. "We got good pitching, good hitting, and nice plays in the field."

Texas first baseman Will Clark was bitter about the way the team lost.

"It's not like we're playing bad baseball," Clark said. "We make one little error and it leads to three runs. Baseball is a game of luck, and we don't have any right now."

Jeff Fassero (7-3) allowed seven hits and three runs, one earned, in seven innings. John Burkett (5-6), who gave up five runs and 10 hits, took the loss.

"The sweep was important for us because it gives us some breathing room in our division," Fassero said. "We know what we have to do to beat these guys. It puts more pressure on them. Our starting rotation has been solidified and we have tough hitting. Randy Johnson on the first night got us rolling. Everything fed off that."

Burkett pointed out what happened last year when Seattle won the series but lost the division.

"They've whipped up on us the last two years and we still won a division title last year," Burkett said. "I expect this team will respond in a positive way."

Bobby Ayala came on in the eighth inning after Fassero walked the leadoff hitter to get his sixth save with two innings of work.

"Bobby did a good job of holding Texas off," Piniella said. "Texas is a good comeback team. This was a big game. We left here five games in front after winning some hard fought games. They were all competitive games."

Jay Buhner, who knocked in five runs in a 14-8 win Saturday night, had three homers and seven RBIs in the series as first-place Seattle pulled five games ahead of third-place Texas in the AL West.

Senior Little League ends its season with all-star introductions

The Snyder Senior Little League baseball regular season came to a close Saturday night as the Braves scalped the Reds, 10-5.

However, the league title goes to the Buffs who finished their season with 15 victories and only a single defeat. The closing ceremonies were held following the game with the naming of the two all-star teams.

The Braves jumped out to an early, 2-0, lead in the top of the first with hits by R.J. Hernandez and David Wilson. The Reds answered with one run in their half of the inning.

But in the top of the second the Reds committed four errors and the Braves took advantage by scoring four runs on only three hits.

The Braves then added three runs in the fifth and one in the sixth. The Reds scored once in the third and three times in the fourth, thanks to a single by Paddy Vantine and two hit batters.

Hernandez, Wilson and Jerry Jamison paced the Braves with two hits. Vantine and Timothy Earnest also had two hits for the Reds.

Taking the field for the 13-year old all-stars will be Wes Martin, Steven Ortegon, Ryan Braziel, Ralph Ramon, Chris McLeod, Wade Pinson, Brandon McGuire, Tito Alaniz, Shay Franks, Brooks Nunley, Jase Olvera, Michael Pendleton, Zach Rollins and Randy Martinez. The manager is Joel Loper.

The 14- and 15-year old all-star team will field Duane Allred, Josh Ward, Adam Beck, Matthew Grimmett, Jered Hester, Josh Arizmendi, Jerek Brown, Glen Burk, Brian Gordon, Bebos Martinez, Paul Camp, Sonny Cumbie, Randy Green and Justin Rosson. The manager is Frankie Grimmett.

The 13-year-old tournament will be held in Wylie and Abilene Redbud Park July 1-8. Snyder drew a first round bye and will play next Wednesday night at 8:30 in Wylie.

The 14- and 15-year-old stars will play July 1-8 at Moffett Field and Abilene Southwest. Snyder will open the tournament next Tuesday night at 6 against Abilene Senior at Moffett Field.

Els wins Buick Classic and moves past Woods

HARRISON, N.Y. (AP) — The response was so typical of Ernie Els.

Informed that his victory Sunday in the Buick Classic, coupled with last week's U.S. Open championship, had propelled him past Tiger Woods to No. 1 in the world rankings, Els looked puzzled and asked, "No 1?"

Then he shrugged.

If there is one mannerism that seems to symbolize Els' demeanor, it's a shrug of his broad shoulders. Good shot. Bad shot. Bad break.

Els' shrug says, "Don't worry. I'm not going to."

The same unflappable air that allowed him to survive the pressure of the final nine holes of the U.S. Open at Congressional served him well on Sunday at the Buick Classic as he played just steady enough to beat Jeff Maggert by two strokes.

It capped a remarkable week for the South African, who became the first golfer since Hale Irwin in 1990 to win the week after becoming Open champion.

Jumping to the top of the world rankings was merely the exclamation point, one that Els said he probably deserves.

"I've never said that in my life before, but right now, after the last two weeks, I've got to think that," the 27-year-old said.

But Els said he wants his game to stand the test of time, by continuing to win tournaments and especially Grand Slam events. He has won two U.S. Opens so far, five American tour titles counting Sunday's victory and 17 events around the world.

"You've got to look at it week by week by week and to be on top — you can ask Greg Norman, Faldo, a lot of other guys — it's tough to stay on top," he said.

For Maggert, the struggle to get to the top continues. He was one of the golfers whom Els outlasted at the Open on the final nine holes last weekend, and he made the South African earn the Buick Classic title by shooting a 3-under 68 Sunday in a final round delayed by two hours when a violent thunderstorm swept across the Westchester Country Club.

Trailing by three shots when play started Sunday, Maggert twice got to within one shot of Els. But he could never draw even as Els kept making par in a 2-under final round of 69 and Maggert could not make enough birdies to close the deficit.

Maggert's last chance came on the par-5 18th. Trailing by two, he put his ball about 30 feet away in two and had an eagle putt. But Els was also on the green in two, and both golfers made two-putt birdies.

Els became the first wire-to-wire repeat champion on the PGA tour since Tom Watson won the Tournament of Champions in 1979 and 1980 at La Costa Country Club in Carlsbad, Calif. He also continued his remarkable run of success at the Westchester Country Club, where he has finished second, tied for fourth and won twice since first coming here in 1994.

Jim Furyk and tour rookie Robert Damron lurked within four or five shots of the lead for most of Sunday, but they never made serious challenges. They finished tied at 10-under 274.

SDN Local Sports Briefs

Tennis mini-clinic

A tennis mini-clinic will be held each Friday from 8 to 10 a.m. and from 10 a.m. until noon. The clinic is for junior high and older. Cost is $5 per two-hour session. Class sizes are limited to six. Call Alan Lee at 863-2305.

Raggedy Ann and Andy tourney

The annual Raggedy Ann and Andy golf tournament will be held this Saturday and Sunday at Snyder Country Club. Entry fee is $150 per couple. The tourney will be pre-flighted by total handicap and the format will be six holes of alternate shot, six holes of scramble and six holes of low ball. Call Carolyn Green at 573-5775.

Volleyball Fireworks Classic

A July 4th volleyball classic will be held starting at 9 a.m. The coed division is open to all ages. Play will be double elimination and T-shirts will be awarded to the first and second place team. Deadline to register is July 1 and fee is $10 per person. Late fee is $6. To register call Patty Grimmett at 573-9416.

Coed basketball camp

Coach Rick Archer, SHS girls' cage coach, will hold a coed basketball camp for boys and girls who will be in the 2nd through 8th grades next year. The camp will be July 7-11 at Snyder High School. Cost is $45 per camper if received by June 25, $55 June 26-July 5 and $60 for registering July 7. Brochures are available at any Lawrence IGA. For more information, call Archer at 573-7672.

Snyder volleyball camp

A volleyball camp for girls in the 5th through 9th grades will be held July 14-17 at the high school gym. Sessions will be from 8:30 a.m. until noon. Cost is $40. For more information, call Coach Patty Grimmett at 573-9416.

Athletic physicals

All incoming 7th and 9th graders, and all students new to SISD who plan to participate in athletics must take a physical. Students not participating in sports last year, or who answered yes to questions 1, 4, 5, 6 or 7 on medical history forms, will need a physical.

Anyone needing a physical should schedule an appointment before Aug. 5. The school will pay for exams through Aug. 5 only.

Participating doctors are Drs. Burleson, Cooper, Thompson, Nussey and Pierce. Anyone not needing a physical must return all forms filled out to the athletic department.

All-star tournaments

The all-star tournament for nine- and ten-year-olds will be June 28-July 14 at Logan Field.

The all-star tournament for 11- and 12-year-olds will be June 28-July 12 in Abilene.

Ladies playday Tuesday

The Women's Golf Association at Snyder Country Club will have it's weekly playday starting at 9 a.m. Tuesday. Format will be Bing, Bangle and Bungle.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	48	22	.686	-
NewYork	40	32	.556	9
Toronto	33	36	.478	14½
Detroit	32	38	.457	16
Boston	32	40	.444	17

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	37	32	.536	-
KansasCity	34	35	.493	3
Milwaukee	34	35	.493	3
Chicago	34	37	.479	4
Minnesota	33	39	.458	5½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	42	31	.575	-
Anaheim	38	34	.528	3½
Texas	36	35	.507	5
Oakland	30	45	.400	13

Sunday's Games

Baltimore 5, Toronto 2
Boston 2, Detroit 1
Cleveland 5, N.Y. Yankees 2
Chicago White Sox 2, Minnesota 1
Kansas City 6, Milwaukee 5
Anaheim 7, Oakland 6
Seattle 6, Texas 4

Monday's Games

N.Y. Yankees (Cone 7-3) at Detroit (Lira 4-3), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Radke 7-5) at Cleveland (Ogea 5-7), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Sele 8-5) at Toronto (Williams 2-6), 7:35 p.m.
Baltimore (Key 11-2) at Milwaukee (D'Amico 4-3), 8:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Rosado 7-3) at Chicago White Sox (Drabek 6-4), 8:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Watson 5-4) at Texas (Oliver 3-8), 8:35 p.m.
Oakland (Telgheder 2-3) at Seattle (Lowe 1-2), 10:05 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	47	26	.644	-
Florida	43	29	.597	3½
Montreal	41	31	.569	5½
NewYork	41	32	.562	6
Philadelphia	22	49	.310	24

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	37	37	.500	-
St.Louis	33	39	.458	3
Pittsburgh	33	40	.452	3½
Cincinnati	30	42	.417	6
Chicago	28	45	.384	8½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
SanFrancisco	42	31	.575	-
Colorado	39	35	.527	3½
LosAngeles	36	37	.493	6
SanDiego	31	42	.425	11

Sunday's Games

Florida 2, Montreal 0
Atlanta 12, Philadelphia 5
St. Louis 5, Cincinnati 2
Houston 3, Chicago Cubs 1
N.Y. Mets 12, Pittsburgh 9, 10 innings
San Diego 4, Colorado 2
San Francisco 4, Los Angeles 2

Monday's Games

Cincinnati (Smiley 5-8) at Montreal (Bullinger 4-6), 7:35 p.m.
Florida (Helling 2-4) at Philadelphia (Schilling 8-6), 7:35 p.m.
Atlanta (Smoltz 6-6) at N.Y. Mets (Reed 4-4), 7:40 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Gonzalez 2-1) at St. Louis (Valenzuela 2-9), 8:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Cordova 5-4) at Houston (Garcia 3-4), 8:05 p.m.
Colorado (Ritz 5-6) at Los Angeles (Nomo 6-6), 10:05 p.m.
San Diego (Cunnane 4-2) at San Francisco (Gardner 8-2), 10:05 p.m.

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010 LEGAL NOTICES

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of a new 1997 chassis. This will be used for a watering truck at the City Of Snyder's landfill. The bids will be received until Monday, July 7, at 11:00 a.m. at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

INVITATION TO BID

Noah Project-West, a Non-Profit Tax Exempt Organization: invites all interested bidders to submit bids to build a new office/shelter facility to be located in Snyder, Texas. Plans and Specifications will be available June 18, 1997, after 1:00 p.m. from the Noah Project-West office located at 2707 College Avenue in Snyder, Texas. Sealed bids will be accepted at this location until 5:00 p.m. on June 26, 1997. Bids submitted after 5:00 p.m. on June 26, 1997 will be returned to bidder unopened. The bid opening will take place on June 26, 1997 at 5:30 p.m. Noah Project-West will accept the most advantageous bid and reserves the right to reject any bid.

All bids should be addressed to: Noah Project-West, PO Box 425, Snyder, Texas 79550. Attention: Building Committee. Sealed envelope shall be clearly marked "Shelter Bid".

For further information call (915) 573-1822 between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of a new watering system. This will be mounted on a 1997 chassis. This will be used for a watering truck at the City of Snyder's landfill. The bids will be received until Monday, July 7, at 11:00 a.m. at the City Hall in the Accounting Department. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

NOTICE OF HEARING CITY OF SNYDER PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION

NOTICE is hereby given that a public hearing will be held Monday June 30, 1997 at 5:15 P.M., at the City Hall, 1925 24th Street Snyder, Texas, to review and discuss the following item: Special Use Case SU-030, a request by Donald and Kathy Murdock to operate a Nail Salon under the provisions of the Home Occupancy Permit of the Zoning Ordinance.

After review by the Planning and Zoning Commission, the request will be forwarded to the City Council for their review at the earliest date available.

(s) Vick Chambers
Planning and Zoning Department

020 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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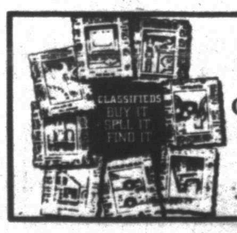
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NEEDED LVN's: 7a-3p and 11p-7a Shifts. Contact Debbie Collier D.O.N. 573-9377 ext. 15.

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4517 GARWOOD 3-2-2 brick, fireplace, fenced yard, nice neighborhood.
160 ACRES 4 payments left on CRP contract.
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3741 Sunset 3-2-cp $45T
2905 36th 4-2-cp $87,500
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1505 39th 3-2 Brick $49T
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3714 Austin 2-2-2cp Own. Fin.
3730 Ave. U 3-1 $28.5T
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2806 34th 3 or 4-2¼-corner
3307 Irving 4-2½-2 shop
New Listing Lg. 3-1-cp $41T
2905 36th 4-2-cp $80's
4502 Galveston 3-2-2-den
Old West 4-3½-2cp Pool
11A S. Hwy. 350 3-2-2cp
Country E 4-2 On 4 Acres
201 Hickory 2-1 $13T
Fluvanna 10 Acres $12T
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ALL GARAGE SALES must be paid in advance.

Armored car driver, chronic complainer, takes $22 million

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Philip Noel Johnson toiled 10 years as an armored car driver, hauling millions of dollars around Florida and Georgia for wages of $7 an hour.

He complained constantly, bitter about a lifetime of lost opportunities — how a crooked spine kept him out of police or military service, how God never gave him a wife, how he couldn't find a good-paying job.

The complaining ceased in late March. Johnson may finally have succeeded at something significant. In one of the biggest heists on record, he is accused of robbing his employer and stealing a van stuffed with $22 million.

Authorities believe that Johnson, 33, painstakingly planned the robbery for years. Some officials suspect he's fled overseas.

Johnson lived alone in a small house he'd bought in a modest neighborhood for $44,000 seven years ago. Inside, after the robbery, police found a spray-painted message scrawled across a wall — "House of Pain."

In the days before the heist, friends and neighbors say, Johnson voiced his frustrations.

"He just couldn't get anywhere in life. He was always talking about his disappointments and his job didn't pay good. It was always negative about things," said neighbor June Glover, who spoke to Johnson just hours before the robbery and has not seen him since.

Mrs. Glover said she and Johnson sometimes talked about God. "He would say, 'I used to believe in God, but I don't now because he never did anything for me. He never got me a wife. I've tried to get all kinds of jobs. He won't let me get a good job.'

"If he really did it, he was smarter than I thought he was," she added.

Richard Ludeman, Johnson's teacher for four years at tiny Lima Christian School in Rochester, N.Y., said his former student was quite intelligent, scoring 1,200 on his Scholastic Aptitude Test.

While still in high school, Johnson began taking classes at Monroe Community College and eventually earned a two-year degree in criminal justice.

"He was real focused on getting out of school as soon as he could," Ludeman said. "He wanted to be a state policeman. It was his goal from the time he was 15 or 16."

His attitude changed when he was turned down for law enforcement jobs in New York, Louisiana and Florida, his teacher said.

"When it became apparent he was never going to reach this lifelong goal, he became very disillusioned and quit the church," Ludeman said. "He was a bright kid. He could have planned the whole thing and gotten away. He might be in South America."

Dr. Richard Hollinger, a University of Florida sociology professor who has studied employee theft, said inside jobs such as this are "closely linked to feelings of inequity that employers engender over a long period of time."

At the time of the robbery, Johnson made less than $15,000 a year.

"It sounds like this was pretty well thought out," Hollinger said. "This is one they may never solve."

Loomis, Fargo & Co. will not discuss the robbery. It has offered a $500,000 reward for an arrest and conviction.

This is what occurred Saturday, March 29, according to law enforcement officials:

About 7 p.m., Johnson drove his armored car to the Loomis office about a mile from his home. Fellow guards Dan Smith, 27, and James Brown, 52, were inside, placing money into the vault.

Johnson pulled a gun, handcuffed the guards and slipped bags over their heads, then stuffed a large white van with bags of money from floor to ceiling.

Before leaving, Johnson gathered surveillance videotapes, paperwork from Saturday pickups and his personnel file and sabotaged the vault so it couldn't open when time locks released at 2 p.m. Sunday.

He took Brown to his little house and handcuffed him to a pipe in the bedroom closet. He drove Smith in the stolen van to the mountains near Asheville, N.C.

When Brown and Smith had not come home by Sunday afternoon, relatives called police, who discovered the robbery. About that time, North Carolina authorities found Smith unharmed. He told police where to find Brown.

Police found the van, empty, the next morning in a parking lot in Asheville.

FBI agents believe Johnson took a bus from Asheville to Atlanta and then to Brownsville, Texas, on the Mexican border, according to Capt. Bruce Pike of the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office in Asheville.

Johnson used fake IDs, some of which had been acquired in 1995, to avoid police, and has fake passports he could use to leave the country, the FBI said.

"They know he spent a night or two in Mexico and might have moved from there," Pike said.

Weekend report...

Officers make 3 arrests; respond to various calls

Three people were arrested over the weekend in Snyder, including two as a result of fighting.

Officers were called to the 4400 block of Avenue U at 7:04 p.m. Saturday as a 911 call came into dispatchers reporting two people fighting. Officers arrested a 23-year-old male at the scene for public intoxication.

At 8:56 p.m. Satuday, a person notified dispatchers that a fight was going on in the 1100 block of 14th Street. Officers arrested a 17-year-old male at the address for public intoxication and disorderly conduct/language.

Officers arrested a 26-year-old male at 5:56 a.m. Sunday in the 3800 block of College Avenue for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

An offense report for an overdose was submitted at 5:55 p.m. Sunday in reference to a 19-year-old woman taking an overdose of prescription drugs. The woman was tranported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital where she was admitted for observation.

In other activity over the weekend, officers responded to a report of a cellular telephone and calculator being stolen from a vehicle at 412 29th Street at 10 a.m. Saturday.

An offense report for Class C theft was submitted at 6:03 p.m. Saturday in reference to a person using city-owned codes to wash private vehicles at the Laser Wash.

An offense report for theft was submitted at 7:16 p.m. in reference to two rings being stolen from a residence in the 4500 block of Galveston.

Dispatchers were notified at 12:39 a.m. Sunday that a 71-year-old man who had been reported missing on Friday was located in Del Rio.

An offense report for Class B criminal mischief was submitted at 3:06 a.m. Sunday in reference to a window being broken on a vehicle in the 400 block of 31st Street.

An officer was requested at the Church on the Rock at 10:02 a.m. Sunday in reference to windows at the church being broken. An offense reoprt for Class B criminal mischief was submitted.

Two offense reports for dog bite were filed Saturday morning.

Markets

NEWYORK(AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	96⅝	95⅛	95⅛	+ ⅜
AT&T Corps	37⅞	36¾	36¾	— ⅜
AirTouch	29	28⅝	28⅝	— ⅛
Albertsons	37⅞	37⅛	37⅛	— ⅜
AlldSignal	83⅛	82⅝	82⅝	—1⅛
Alltel	34⅛	33¾	34⅛	+ ⅛
AmerOnline	59⅝	58¾	59	— ⅛
AmStores		49⅞	49⅞	49⅞
Ameritech	70⅝	70⅛	70⅝	— ⅛
Amoco	89⅛	88⅛	89⅛	— ⅜
AndarkPtr	61⅛	61⅛	61⅛	— ⅛
Armcolnc	4⅛	3⅞	4	— ⅛
AtlRichfld s	74⅛	73⅝	73⅝	— ⅛
ATMOS Egy	24⅛	24⅛	24⅛	+ ⅛
Avialll		15	14⅝	14⅝
BakerHughes	38⅛	37⅝	38	+ ⅛
BellAtl	76⅛	75⅛	75⅛	— ⅜
BellSouth	46⅛	45⅞	46⅛	— ⅛
BethSteel	10	15-32	10⅝	10⅝
BritPet s	71⅛	70⅛	70⅝	+ ⅛
BurlNoSFe	91⅞	91	91⅝	+1⅝
Caterpillar	107⅞	106⅝	107⅝	+ ⅜
Caterpillar wi		54	54	54
CenSoWst	20⅛	20⅛	20⅛	— ⅛
Chevron	74⅝	73⅛	74	— ⅛
Chrysler	32⅞	32⅛	32⅛	— ⅛
Coastal	52⅝	52⅝	52⅝	— ⅛
CocaCola	71⅛	70⅞	71	— ⅜
ColgatePalm s	65⅛	64⅝	65⅛	+ ⅛
ComclMetals	30⅞	30⅝	30⅝	+ ⅛
Cooperln		51⅛	51⅛	51⅛
CyprusAmax	25⅛	25	25⅛	— ⅛
DaimlBenz	36⅞	36⅞	36⅞	— ⅛
DeltaAirl	89⅝	87⅞	87⅞	— ⅞
DigitalEq	37	36	36⅞	— ⅞
Dillards Inc	35	34⅝	34⅞	— ⅛
DowChem	88⅛	87⅞	88⅛	+ ⅛
DresserInd		35⅞	35⅛	35⅞
DuPont s	61⅛	60⅝	60⅞	— ⅜
EastmanChem		61⅛	61	61⅛
EstKodak	78⅝	78⅝	78⅝	— ⅛
EDS Corp	42⅞	41⅞	42⅞	+ ⅛
Esserch	22	21⅞	22	— ⅛
Entergy	27⅞	27⅛	27⅞	+ ⅛
Exxon s	63⅝	63⅝	63⅝	— ⅛
FstBkxAm		13⅝	13⅝	13⅝
Flowers s	16⅛	16⅛	16⅛	— ⅛
FordMotor	38⅝	38⅛	38⅝	— ⅜
GTE Cp	45⅛	44⅝	44⅝	— ⅜
GenDynam	77⅞	76⅞	76⅞	— ⅞
GenElecs	67⅞	67⅞	67⅞	— ⅛
GenMills	65	64⅝	64⅝	— ⅜
GenMotors		56	55⅛	55⅛
GaPacif		89⅝	89⅝	89⅝
GlobalMar	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛	— ⅛
Goodrich	46⅛	46	46⅛	— ⅛
Goodyear s	62⅛	62⅛	62⅛	+ ⅛
GtAtlPac	27⅛	26⅞	26⅞	— ⅜
Haliburta	76⅛	75⅛	76	+ ⅜
Hasbro ADS s	25⅛	25⅛	25⅛	— ⅛
HarteHanks	30⅛	30⅛	30⅛	— ⅛
HomeDepot	69⅛	68⅝	68⅝	— ⅛
HomeDepot wi		46	46	46
HoustonInds	22⅛	21⅞	21⅞	— ⅛
IBM s	91⅞	89⅝	91	+1⅛
IntlPaper	50⅛	49⅞	49⅞	— ⅛
JohnsonJn	65⅞	65⅛	65⅝	— ⅛
K mart	12⅛	12⅛	12⅛	— ⅛
Kroger s	28⅝	28	28⅛	— ⅛
Litton	48⅛	48⅛	48⅛	— ⅛
LockhdMart	99⅝	98⅛	99⅛	+1
Lowes Cos		37⅞	37⅞	37⅞
Lubys		20⅛	20⅛	20⅛
LucentTech	73⅛	72⅝	72⅞	— ⅛
MayDeptStrs	49⅛	48⅝	48⅝	— ⅛
Medtronic	83⅝	82	83⅝	+1
Mobil	140⅛	139⅛	140⅛	+ ⅛
Mobilwi	70⅝	70	70⅝	+ ⅛
Monsanto	43⅝	42⅞	42⅞	—1
MorganJP	108⅞	108⅛	108⅛	— ⅜
Motorola	71⅞	71⅛	71⅞	— ⅛
NCR Corp s	29⅝	29⅛	29⅝	+ ⅜
NationsBk s	69⅛	68⅝	68⅝	— ⅛
Navistar	17⅞	17⅛	17⅛	— ⅛
NorsnEngy	15⅝	15⅛	15⅝	— ⅛
Norwest	58⅛	57⅞	57⅞	— ⅛
Nynex	58⅛	57⅞	57⅞	— ⅛

Midday Stocks

OryxEngy	20⅛	19⅞	20⅛	+ ⅛
Penney JC	52⅛	52	52	— ⅛
Pennzoil	83⅛	79⅛	79⅛	+20⅛
PepBoys	35	34⅞	34⅞	— ⅛
PepsiCo	37⅞	37	37⅞	— ⅛
PhelpDodge	87⅛	86	86⅛	+ ⅛
PhilipPet	43⅝	43⅛	43⅝	+ ⅛
PilgrmPrd	11	11	11	— ⅛
Polaroid	51	50⅛	50⅛	— ⅜
Praxair	56⅛	55⅝	55⅞	— ⅜
ProctGamble	140⅞	139⅛	140⅞	+ ⅛
PubSNwMx	17⅞	17⅞	17⅞	+ ⅛
RoyalDutch	209⅞	208⅛	209⅞	+ ⅛
SBC Comm	60⅝	60	60⅛	— ⅛
SaraLee	42⅞	41⅞	42⅞	— ⅜
SearsRoeb	54⅝	54⅛	54⅛	— ⅛
SherwinW s	31⅞	31⅞	31⅞	— ⅛
SmthBc ADS	88⅞	88	88⅞	— ⅛
SouthernCo		21⅞	21⅞	21⅞
SwstAirlines	26⅛	26⅛	26⅛	— ⅛
Sprint	50⅝	50	50⅝	+ ⅛
SunCo	31⅞	30⅞	31⅞	+ ⅜
TNP Ent	23⅝	23⅛	23⅛	— ⅛
Tandy		56⅛	56	56
TempleInland	58⅛	58⅛	58⅛	— ⅜
Tenneco	45⅞	45⅛	45⅛	— ⅛
Texaco	112⅞	111⅛	112⅛	+ ⅜
TexasInds	26	26	26	+ ⅛
TexasInst	87⅛	86⅝	87⅛	+ ⅜
TexUtil	34⅛	34	34⅛	— ⅛
Textron s		65⅝	65⅛	65⅝
Travelers s	65⅞	65⅝	65⅝	— ⅜
TrinityInds	33⅝	33⅛	33⅝	+ ⅛
TritonEngy	45⅝	44⅝	45	+ ⅛
Tyler		2⅛	2	2⅛
US WestCm	37⅞	37⅞	37⅞	— ⅛
USWstMda	21⅞	20⅝	21⅛	— ⅛
USX-Marathn	29⅞	29⅛	29⅞	+ ⅛
USX-USS	34⅝	34⅛	34⅝	+ ⅛
UnCarbde	47⅞	47⅛	47⅞	— ⅜
UnPac s		72	70⅞	71⅞
UnitedTech s	87	86⅛	86⅞	— ⅞
Unocal	40⅛	39⅞	40	+ ⅛
WalMart	33⅝	33⅛	33⅝	— ⅛
WstnGasRs		19⅛	19	19⅛
WestghEl	23	22⅞	22⅞	— ⅛
WinnDixie	40⅛	40⅛	40⅛	— ⅛
Woolworth	25⅞	24⅞	25	— ⅛
Xerox Corp	75⅞	74⅞	75⅞	+ ⅜
ZenithE	12⅞	11⅞	12⅞	+ ⅜

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: June 20-Kassie Upton, 5400 College #1; June 21-Cathy Posey, 349 CR 308; June 22-Chrystal Lindsey, 1609 15th.

DISMISSALS: June 20-Charles Bransom, Lucille Roa, Ivey Herrley, Ernestina Payne; June 21-Bobbie Marchel; June 22-None.

CENSUS: 43 (Med., Surg.-5, Long-term Care-35, CCU-1, OB-1, Nursery-1).

Births

Robert and Cathey Posey of Snyder announce the birth of their daughter at 7:04 p.m. on June 21 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. She weighed seven pounds, eight ounces.

Explosion, fire rip through Shell plant

DEER PARK (AP) — Investigators are trying to determine the cause of a weekend explosion and fire at Shell Chemical Co.'s Deer Park complex.

No serious injuries were reported, but nearby residents were urged to stay indoors Sunday as the fire fed by toxic chemicals and gasoline raged until it was extinguished at 8:30 p.m. Sunday.

Crews continued to monitor the area as a precaution.

The explosion at the Shell Oil Co. subsidiary occurred about 10 a.m. Sunday in the plant's olefins unit, which manufactures propylene, ethylene and benzene, said Darren Martin, a plant spokesman. The three light hydrocarbons are the building blocks for a variety of chemical products from plastics to pharmaceuticals.

Shell Chemical reported the incident to both the Environmental Protection Agency and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. The two agencies will conduct separate investigations.

Trails of the black chemical smoke — which also included fumes from burning gasoline — could be seen from miles away. Shell officials said the burning mixture posed no health risk to area residents.

"Based on our monitoring data, we have not found high levels of benzene downwind so we've assumed it's being burned up in the fire," Martin said.

The highest benzene count detected so far was recorded at .02 parts per million, well below the exposure limit allowed by OSHA of 1 part per million.

Shell Chemical will continue to monitor the air surrounding the complex to determine if the chemicals present a health hazard, officials said.

About 50 Shell Chemical Co. and contract employees were on duty in the unit at the time of the blast. All were accounted for. One worker was treated at a hospital for chest pains.

Another contract employee assisting with the cleanup Sunday night was treated for a snake bite.

Power went out at the plant about eight hours before the explosion, but Martin said investigators didn't believe the two events were linked. The outage ended and all units were back on line by 7 a.m. Sunday.

Benzene, a known carcinogen, and its vapors can be severely toxic when inhaled. It can cause dizziness, headaches and drowsiness.

"We have quantities way lower than that," said Martin, the plant's health and safety manager.

Nevertheless, police advised residents within a mile of the plant to stay indoors. State Highway 225 near the plant was temporarily closed to keep traffic way from the area. The toll bridge leading into Deer Park — and directly in line with the chemical smoke plumes — was temporarily closed.

"We continue to monitor downwind to make sure there's no impact on the community," Martin said.

Last year, Shell Chemical Co.'s Belpre, Ohio, plant suffered a fire and explosion in a dryer used for Kraton polymers, material used in food packaging and roofing materials.

An explosion and fire on May 27, 1994, at the same Ohio plant killed three workers and closed part of the plant for two years. Hundreds of residents in Ohio and West Virginia were evacuated, and Shell was cited for 53 safety violations and fined $3 million by OSHA.

The last serious incident at the Deer Park complex was a fire in 1995 at the Shell Oil Co. refinery which shares the site with the chemical plant. The chemical plant suffered a fire in the 1980s, but Martin could not provide details on that incident.

Last year, Shell Chemical Co. announced plans for a new phenol plant at its Deer Park facility. Phenol is used to make electronics and adhesives.

Deer Park and Pasadena lie in the heavily industrial area on Houston's southeast side some 15 miles from downtown.

Camp Pendleton backs Marine

SAN DIEGO (AP) — The Marine Corps is standing behind one of its own, a corporal Texas Rangers want to charge in the death of a Texas teen-ager shot and killed in a border incident.

Ezequiel Hernandez, 18, was killed on May 20 when Cpl. Clemente Banuelos fired one shot at the young man after the teen allegedly opened fire on a group of Marines guarding the border near Redford, Texas.

Banuelos reported Hernandez had fired twice and raised his rifle for a third time before Banuelos fired back once.

Texas Rangers' investigators said the Marines' story doesn't add up. According to the Rangers' account, evidence indicates the teen was aiming away from the Marines when he was shot.

Date Book

June 23, 1997

Today is the 174th day of 1997 and the third day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1846, the saxophone was patented by Antoine Joseph Sax.

On this day in 1967, President Johnson and Russian Premier Kosygin met and agreed not to let anything happen that would lead their countries to war.

On this day in 1989, the New Kids on the Block were almost evicted from their hotel for bombing guests with Kool Aid-filled balloons.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Edward VIII (1894-1972), English king-abdicator; Alfred Kinsey (1894-1956), sex researcher; Bob Fosse (1927-1987), director-choreographer; June Carter Cash (1929-), singer, is 68; Wilma Rudolph (1940-1994), track-and-field great; James Levine (1943-), conductor, is 54; Ted Shackelford (1946-), actor, is 51; Clarence Thomas (1948-), Supreme Court justice, is 49.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1963, Jimmy Piersall hit his 100th major league home run.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Never contend with a man who has nothing to lose." — Baltasar Gracian

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1969, over nine inches of rain caused devastating floods in Red Boiling Springs, Tenn.

SOURCE: 1997 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (June 20) and last quarter (June 27).

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Winning the Car Whining War May Make Child Lose His Life

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: I am deeply disturbed by something I see every day on the streets and roads.

Last week I was driving behind a couple in a sports vehicle. A boy who could not have been more than 3 years old was with them, standing in the back seat with his head halfway out the window.

I am a mother and know what it's like to have your child cry and tell you that you're mean because you want the child strapped in a car seat. But believe me, I would much rather hear my child cry and be upset for a few minutes than to lie awake at night asking God to forgive me for causing his death by giving in because he didn't want to be strapped in.

I don't understand how a parent can be so careless, but I see it all the time. I'm not sure what to do about it. Should I try to catch up to them and tell them how dangerous it is? Or should I call the police on my car phone?

I would like to tell every parent in the world to tell the child who is resisting being buckled in, "No, you cannot ride without being buckled in — I love you too much to endanger you!"

Abby, please print my letter. I can't bear the thought of another little life being lost because someone failed to safeguard a child in his or her car.

SHANNON M. BARRETT, AURORA, COLO.

DEAR SHANNON: I'm printing your letter in its entirety. Leaving a small child unsecured in a car, regardless of how well-meaning the adult's motives might be, is child endangerment. It takes only a second for tragedy to happen. So, for the sake of your little ones, please, readers, take Shannon's letter to heart. And while you're at it, buckle up your own seat belt. It sets a good example.

***

DEAR ABBY: I couldn't pass up the chance to respond to "Sadder and Wiser Now," who learned the hard way that it's best to keep quiet about a loved one's drug addiction rather than face being "roasted" by unbelieving parents.

I was one of those parents who denied any drug or alcohol involvement in dealing with my son's abusive and unpredictable behavior. I also had the misconception that drug and alcohol use are a part of "growing up" and that it is only a phase.

Reality hit unexpectedly. My son woke me in the middle of the night begging for help because he was "sick." I found him in a bloody heap looking like 150 pounds of raw hamburger, due to self-inflicted wounds while on a dose of rock cocaine a "friend" had given him. It is a nightmare that will always be a part of me. I almost lost my son, and it could have been me or my daughter he sliced up. My son remembers nothing about the whole ordeal.

Out of this nightmare came the need to educate myself, to understand what had happened to make my son do such a thing to himself. Sharing my pain with other parents who are also at a loss as to what to do with a drug- or alcohol-dependent loved one has helped me cope with the senselessness of what happened. Finding Al-Anon, a 12-step program, helped me to recognize that I couldn't help my son unless he was willing to help himself.

Our children are never too young to start drug and alcohol education, and we as adults are never too old to change our way of thinking. Our future is at stake.

My son has paid dearly for his adolescent mistakes, but God does answer prayers. He is now a married, hardworking father of two.

NELLIE PHIPPS, FILLMORE, CALIF.

DEAR NELLIE PHIPPS: Your experience was harrowing, and it's fortunate that it wasn't more serious — which it easily could have been. Your conclusion is one that I have always emphasized: the importance of opening the lines of communication with children very early, and encouraging honesty and openness, with no topics off-limits.

***

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, June 24, 1997

In the year ahead establish lofty objectives, but don't expect them to be accomplished overnight. Impressive gains can be made, but events might determine the time table.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) In developments today where you are unsure of yourself, don't try to bluff your way through with a brave front and false bravado. They won't cut the mustard. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Today you might have to deal with someone who displeased you in the past. If you try to even the score, it could create serious new problems.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Try to make do with what you have today instead of borrowing things from friends. Above all, don't ask for financial favors from others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If you're going to pattern your tactics after anyone today, be sure to pick a role model who is truly worthy of emulation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) An acquaintance might make some unfriendly comments about you today, but not to worry. Friends will consider the source and be unimpressed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Ask a lot of questions today if you're involved in a situation that requires your financial backing. Be sure the answers satisfy your concerns.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) It could prove unwise today to let associates make your decisions for you. What they're trying to see from your perspective could be confusing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Avoid using irrational reasoning today to justify delaying something that needs your immediate attention. Excuses are your worst enemies.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If you divert your energies to frivolous pursuits today, what could have been a productive day could turn into a train wreck. Stay on track.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) If you don't have total faith in the abilities of your associates today, it's best not to let them figure prominently in your plans.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Assignments that are too complicated or strenuous for you to do alone should be temporarily shelved today until you get competent assistance.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Today you might buy things on impulse that won't measure up to the dollars you spend. Do not let "must have" urges compel you to waste money.

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'Batman & Robin' grabs top spot at weekend box offices

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The weekend debut of "My Best Friend's Wedding" was the best ever for a romantic comedy and for its star, Julia Roberts. But the biggest audience flocked to "Batman and Robin."

The action-packed fourth installment of the "Batman" series with George Clooney as the Caped Crusader earned $43.6 million, according to estimates Sunday from Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc.

"My Best Friend's Wedding," with Roberts playing a woman who decides to sabotage the wedding of a former flame, brought in $21.5 million for second place. Final figures were to be released today.

"We clearly got our target — females. 'Batman' got the men and we certainly delivered the women," said Ed Russell, a spokesman for TriStar, which produced Roberts' film. "We're very happy."

The previous top-grossing romantic comedy debut was "Sleepless in Seattle," which opened with $17.2 million in 1993. Roberts' biggest opening had been 1993's "The Pelican Brief," with $16.8 million.

"Batman & Robin" not only grabbed the weekend's top spot but topped the opening gross of the original "Batman," which opened with $40.5 million in 1989. The other sequels, however, did better — "Batman Forever" opened in 1995 with $52.8 million and "Batman Returns" debuted in 1992 with $45.7 million.

"Con Air," starring Nicolas Cage, was third with $10.2 million.

The dinosaur bonanza, "The Lost World: Jurassic Park," earned $8 million this weekend for fourth, boosting its five-week total to $204.9 million.

Sandra Bullock's latest film, "Speed 2: Cruise Control," dropped to a disappointing fifth with just $7.2 million in its second week — a 55 percent drop in one week.

"Austin Powers, International Man of Mystery" was still groovy with moviegoers after eight weeks. The Mike Meyers comedy earned another $1.4 million over the weekend to near the $50 million mark in becoming the first sleeper hit of the summer.

"Gone Fishin'" was seventh with $1.2 million, followed by "Addicted to Love" and "The Fifth Element" with about $900,000 each.

Rounding out the list was "Buddy" with $825,000. Disney's new animated movie, "Hercules," earned $806,000 on two screens.

The top films from Friday through Sunday:

1. "Batman & Robin," $43.6 million.
2. "My Best Friend's Wedding," $21.5 million.
3. "Con Air," $10.2 million.
4. "The Lost World: Jurassic Park," $8 million.
5. "Speed 2: Cruise Control," $7.2 million.
6. "Austin Powers, International Man of Mystery," $1.4 million.
7. "Gone Fishin'," $1.2 million.
8. "Addicted to Love," $900,000 (tie).
8. "The Fifth Element," $900,000 (tie).
10. "Buddy," $820,000.

The state flower of Arizona is the saguaro cactus.

PRAIRIE NIGHTS TO NEON LIGHTS

The Story Of Country Music In West Texas

by Joe Carr & Alan Munde

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Poultry farmers face deadly epidemic of flu

STRASBURG, Pa. (AP) — Thirteen years ago, in an outbreak of avian influenza that wiped out 17 million birds in three states, Don Brubaker's parents were forced to destroy every chicken on their farm.

Now, as Brubaker and his wife, Luann, toil to expand Beaver Creek Farm, a new avian flu epidemic threatens them and Pennsylvania's $563 million poultry industry.

The flu, harmless to humans but potentially devastating to chickens, turkeys and other fowl, has already infected seven flocks in the heart of Amish country.

Since May 2, more than 836,000 birds have been destroyed in eastern Pennsylvania's Lancaster County to try to halt the disease. Tests reveal no new infections in the last two weeks, and officials believe the disease has been confined to the 75-square-mile quarantine area imposed May 16.

"For the farmers involved, this is not just an economic loss, it's a heart-wrenching personal loss," Gov. Tom Ridge said last week as he signed a $5 million appropriation to partially reimburse farmers for their losses.

Brubaker, a contract grower who raises 90,000 broiler chickens at a time for the Pennfield Corp., hopes the state's early, aggressive action will halt the epidemic.

"We have to make it go away this time," he said. "We can't wait for it to go away — it would eat us alive."

All commercial flocks in the area are being tested. All birds in infected flocks are destroyed and disposed of on farm property. Those farms must then be disinfected and sit idle for 30 days.

State police maintain 24-hour patrols, and any trucker hauling eggs or chickens from a farm in the quarantine region must have paperwork showing that farm is free of the virus.

The disease first appeared in Italy more than 100 years ago. It was called "fowl plague" until identified as avian influenza in 1955, said John Schwartz, the Lancaster County extension director.

The 1983-84 epidemic also infected flocks in Maryland and New Jersey. It cost $65 million to eradicate and sent poultry prices soaring.

The recent outbreak seems confined to one Pennsylvania county, but officials on the Delmarva Peninsula, comprising Delaware and parts of Maryland and Virginia, have warned their poultry farmers to take special precautions with trucks or cars coming from Lancaster County.

Avian flu can be carried by vehicles, humans or even wild fowl that touch down on farms. One gram of contaminated chicken manure can infect 1 million chickens, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

"Once it's in the chicken house, it just spreads to them all," Brubaker said.

Pennsylvania officials have tentatively traced the outbreak to poultry trucks and crates from New York City, where routine USDA inspections turned up the same viral strain in live birds. Some 200,000 to 300,000 live fowl pass through the New York market each week; the rapid movement makes it less likely the disease will take hold than in giant chicken houses where birds are confined for weeks at a time.

Brubaker and others in the industry see similarities between the present situation and the summer months leading to the 1983-84 epidemic. Then as now, they say, the virus appeared under control.

But the infection spread swiftly once cold weather set in and farmers heated the chicken houses, reducing the cleansing flow of fresh air.

In summer, Brubaker said, "you're constantly moving air through those houses."

Officials hope the early quarantine and the disposal of infected carcasses on site will lessen the prospect of a recurrence. In 1983, no quarantine was ordered until late in the year, and the contaminated remains were trucked past other farms to distant landfills.

Brubaker, 35, bought the farm from his parents in 1993. He and his wife sell vegetables and beef from a roadside stand at the end of their driveway.

The chickens he raises for Pennfield, still the farm's central enterprise, are delivered to him as newly hatched chicks and shipped to a slaughterhouse in Lebanon County after six or seven weeks. His cut of the business works out to 3 to 4 cents a pound.

TV Guide names best 100 programs

NEW YORK (AP) — TV Guide loves Lucy — but it loves Mary just a little more.

The best television show ever, the magazine has decided, was the 1975 episode of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show" where the WJM-TV newsroom gang mourns the death of Chuckles the Clown.

It came in just ahead of Lucille Ball's tipsy turn as the Vitameatavegamin Girl.

Moore figures in four of TV Guide's picks as top 100 episodes, two as star of her eponymous 1970s series and two as Laura Petrie in "The Dick Van Dyke Show."

Choosing the top episodes involved "lots of arguing, which we're still doing," among the weekly magazine's editors and the staffers from cable's Nick at Nite who were called in to help, said Steven Reddicliffe, TV Guide's editor in chief. The list appears in this week's issue.

Not only was Chuckles' demise the high point of one of television's best shows, it managed the delicate trick of getting laughs from a funeral, he said.

"It still makes you laugh and laugh uproariously," he said. "And it really opened the door for comedies to look at subject matters that they hadn't before."

Ball's 1952 "I Love Lucy" episode where she gets drunk on a health elixir designed to make "happy, peppy people" shows her talent for physical comedy "at its most vibrant and resourceful," the magazine said.

Episodes from today's two most popular shows were third and fourth on the list.

No. 3, the top drama, was a particularly hectic 1995 day on "ER" when Anthony Edwards' character misdiagnosed a pregnant woman.

In fourth place was a 1992 "Seinfeld" with former baseball star Keith Hernandez. TV Guide editors snubbed another episode, "The Contest," where Jerry and the gang try to prove who's master of their domain.

"It was the one that got the most attention, but we didn't feel it was the best one," senior editor Jill Rachlin said.

Ten series showed up twice each on the list, including three still in production: "The X-Files," "The Simpsons" and "Seinfeld."

The Vitameatavegamin Girl episode was the oldest show picked. "Ellen's" coming-out episode, ranked No. 35, was the most recent.

Editors sifted through about 750 nominees. Their arguments included one fight on whether to choose "The Brady Bunch" episode where Marcia dates former Monkee Davy Jones or the one where she gets hit in the face with a football. Davy won.

Shows that didn't make the cut included "Dallas," "Maude," "Designing Women," "The Rockford Files" and "Golden Girls."

Among those that did make the grade were some that were easy to miss, such as "On the Air," which was on the air for only three episodes in 1992.

The final tally suggests the golden age of television may be right now.

"People will argue that the '50s were," Reddicliffe said. "For this kind of list, there were a surprising number of contemporary shows — 'Seinfeld,' 'Frasier,' 'The X-Files,' 'The Simpsons.' This is a great time to be watching television. I don't think there's ever been as many great shows on."

Study reveals anti-cholesterol benefits

CHICAGO (AP) — Drugs that help prevent heart attacks by lowering cholesterol also may prevent the most common type of stroke by cleaning and protecting arteries, researchers reported today.

Drugs such as Zocor and Pravachol reduced the risk of stroke by about 27 percent, said researchers who analyzed a dozen studies involving 19,500 people with high cholesterol.

Researchers say the drugs, known as reductase inhibitors, may help prevent strokes by forestalling heart attacks or by cleaning arteries and preventing their deterioration. The thick-walled network of vessels carry blood away from the heart.

The study, headed by researchers at the Bowman Gray School of Medicine in Winston Salem, N.C., was reported in today's issue of the Archives of Internal Medicine.

Strokes, a disruption of blood flowing to the brain, can cause paralysis and death. The primary cause of long-term disability in the United States, strokes kill 150,000 Americans each year, behind only heart disease and cancer in deadliness.

The most common strokes are caused by blood clots in the brain.

Among people taking the drugs, the researchers found a 27 percent reduction in strokes — a 15 percent drop among participants who had not had heart attacks and a 31 percent drop in strokes among heart attack survivors.

Experts have said reductase inhibitors can reduce a person's LDL, the so-called bad cholesterol, by up to 40 percent. Other drugs reduce LDL by 10 percent to 12 percent.

Lowering LDL is now believed to be the most important way to modify cholesterol levels and prevent disease.

It has long been known that arteries clogged with cholesterol can lead to heart attacks.

Business and Industrial News

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Movie planned about Otis Redding

NEW YORK (AP) — Val Kilmer has already been there, done that as the silver-screen version of moody rocker Jim Morrison. Now movie producers may bring back other musical giants from the days of Flower Power.

Cuba Gooding Jr. of "Jerry Maguire" fame is negotiating to star in "Blaze of Glory," the story of soul singer Otis Redding, Entertainment Weekly reported in its June 27 issue.

Kilmer played Morrison in "The Doors" in 1991. The magazine said the story of Jimi Hendrix, the psychedelic guitarist whose "Star Spangled Banner" made for a memorable Woodstock, is now the subject of a film being developed by the makers of "Dead Presidents."

McLaughlin weds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Issue One! John McLaughlin's nuptials. Will taking a bride soften up the crusty Washington talk show host?

The 70-year-old host of "The McLaughlin Group" married Cristina Vidal, a 36-year-old business executive, before some 300 guests at Holy Trinity Church on Sunday.

McLaughlin, whose previous marriage ended in divorce, met Ms. Vidal at a bookstore in 1990. She is a vice president at Oliver Productions Inc., the company that produces "The McLaughlin Group."

McLaughlin also appears on the interview program "John McLaughlin's One on One." He is a former Roman Catholic priest, and served on the Nixon White House staff.

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Trains collide near Devine, three dead

DEVINE (AP) — Three people died and another was in critical condition today following a late-night, head-on collision between two Union Pacific freight trains, a spokesman for the railroad said.

Union Pacific spokesman Mark Davis said two company workers were killed in the crash and the third person was likely a bystander when the trains crashed around 11 p.m. Sunday. No names were released.

Each train — one headed from Laredo to near Baton Rouge, La., the other traveling from Chicago to Mexico — was carrying two employees. Davis could not say on which train the injured or killed workers were traveling. However, Justice of the Peace Marion Taylor said the two dead had been on the northbound train to Louisiana.

Davis also was trying to confirm reports of a vehicle being trapped between the trains.

Two employees were injured. One was in critical condition at Brooke Army Medical Center suffering from burns and trauma. The other was treated and released.

The wreck caused 29 cars to derail, triggering an explosion and the burning of 15,000 gallons of diesel fuel being carried by the trains' five engines. The wreckage formed a ball of metal; the train cars were so mangled they barely resembled cars. The fire was extinguished by this morning, but was still smoldering.

No hazardous material was believed to be aboard the trains, although the surrounding area was briefly evacuated immediately after the crash.

Davis said investigators did not know the cause of the crash or how fast the trains were traveling. They were looking for equipment similar to an airplane's black box that may provide some information about what led up to the accident, he added.

The collision occurred near Texas 132 on a street overpass near the center of this South Texas town about 30 miles southwest of San Antonio. The accident was on a single-track stretch of rail in "dark territory," meaning it is without signals and must be controlled by dispatchers in Omaha, Neb., Davis said.

Davis said 11 cars — three locomotives, three cars of rock and five empty ones — derailed on the 86-car train headed for Livonia, 23 miles west of Baton Rouge. On the 62-car train headed for Mexico, 18 cars — three locomotives and 15 cars of automobile parts — went off the tracks.

Cayetano Guerrero said he was driving with his wife and three children on Interstate 35, which runs near Devine, when he saw the explosion.

"It looked like an explosion like in the movies," Guerrero said by telephone from his room at the Country Corner Motel in Devine. "It looked like the sunset coming up. That's how bright it was. We kept driving and we saw a bunch of fire and some smoke."

Martin Vasquez, a manager at the nearby Super S supermarket, said the collision brought down a railroad bridge.

Teens who hopped freight train attacked

FLINT, Mich. (AP) — Six people were being held today in an attack on three suburban teenagers who jumped off a freight train in a crime-ridden area. All three victims were shot, one fatally.

Four men and two teen-age boys, ages 16 to 23, were arrested Sunday and today after police got a tip, Lt. Paul McIntyre said. They could be charged later this afternoon or Tuesday, McIntyre said, adding that he expects no further arrests.

The mother of the dead boy, 14-year-old Michael Carter of Highland Township, said he may have been too trusting of people he met while looking for a telephone.

"He had a good heart and he would've been their friend," said Joan Boyce.

"In fact, I think when they met up with him, he thought that he had made some new friends," she told WDIV-TV on Sunday. "These kids that did this are just mean and evil."

Michael and two friends — a boy and girl — jumped a slow-moving freight train to ride 10 miles to a friend's house.

But they went too far and got off in a rough area dotted with junkyards and bars in a city devastated over the years by auto industry layoffs.

"There's hookers, drugs, toughs along in here," said Russ Clark, 25. "It's no place to be after dark."

Looking for a pay phone Wednesday night, the three were met by several young men or teenagers who promised to help. Police say they were taken to an unlighted park and shot, and that the girl was sexually assaulted by more than one suspect.

McIntyre said police did not believe the attackers were part of a formal gang.

Dustin Kaiser, 15, and the half-naked 14-year-old girl fled their dead friend, trying to flag down a car for help. Dozens of motorists passed the bleeding teens before one pulled over early Thursday.

Kaiser was in stable condition Sunday with a gunshot wound to the head. The girl, shot in the face, was released Friday.

A police officer saw the three on top of the train Wednesday night and said he reported the sighting so the train could be stopped. Also, Michael's father called 911 once he found out his son had hopped the train. The train was never halted, and CSX Transportation officials have said they never received a call to stop the train.

"I don't think (Michael) knew what kind of a problem situation he was in," said a family friend, Tom Harrison. "He looked for a friend in everyone."

Obituaries

Joe D. Rhodes

1933-1997

Scurry County native Joe D. Rhodes, 64, of San Antonio died Thursday, June 19, in San Antonio.

Graveside service is set for 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Snyder Cemetery. Dr. Marty Akins, pastor of Snyder's First Baptist Church, will officiate.

A service was held today in Trinity Baptist Church in San Antonio with the Rev. Tommy Lyons officiating, under the direction of Porter Loring Funeral Home.

He was the son-in-law of Frankie Wall of Snyder and the late Walter Wall.

Born on June 16, 1933 in Scurry County, his family moved to Big Spring during his teens. He was the son of the late Cecil and Alma Rhodes.

Employed by the U.S. government for 25 years, Mr. Rhodes retired from the Department of Housing and Urban Development in November, 1990. He was a deacon and worked in the children's ministry at Trinity Baptist Church.

Other survivors include his wife, Deborah L. Rhodes of San Antonio; two daughters, Janna Powell of Tulsa, Okla., and Jeana Acton of San Antonio; a stepson, James Roberts of Wisconsin; two brothers, Morris Rhodes of Big Spring and Anthony Rhodes of Amarillo; and three grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Gideons International, P.O. Box 5801, San Antonio, 78201.

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Cartel's U.S. chief testifies against his former cohorts

MIAMI (AP) — Harold Ackerman was already living the good life in Miami in 1990 when fellow Colombians visited his Dadeland Mall dress shop and suggested he could be making more money than he'd ever imagined possible.

Ackerman made plenty in his new venture — more than $3 million in two years — but the new riches carried heavy risks.

Last week, Ackerman made his debut as the star prosecution witness in the government's case against U.S. lawyers and assorted Latin Americans accused of smuggling for the Cali cartel, the most efficient cocaine-smuggling organization the world has known.

Ackerman's arrest at his $470,000 home in North Miami Beach five years ago hit the drug-smuggling world like an earthquake. Even in the highly compartmentalized cartel, Ackerman knew almost everybody and everything. The aftershocks eventually closed the cartel's Florida routes and pushed Mexico to the forefront of cocaine smuggling.

After Ackerman was sentenced to six life prison terms in 1993 for his role as the cartel's top North American manager, he decided to talk. And he hasn't stopped.

Over four years, he has helped federal agents decode his extensive financial books and computer disks, explained the cartel's smuggling strategies and identified cartel colleagues.

A particularly damaging blow came when he told prosecutors the cartel used U.S. lawyers to prepare false affidavits, pay hush money, relay threats from the cartel chiefs and monitor court cases of cartel members. The legal activity had one prime aim, prosecutors say — to shield the cartel chiefs in Colombia, brothers Miguel and Gilberto Rodriguez-Orejuela, from the developing U.S. investigation.

The government indictments filed in June 1995 went after not only dozens of smugglers accused of bringing more than 250 tons of cocaine into the United States but also named six lawyers. By attacking the cartel's legal life support, prosecutors dramatically raised the stakes and made this quite a different drug trial from any held before.

Four lawyers have pleaded to lesser charges, but two are on trial here for racketeering and conspiracy — William Moran, 58, of Miami and Michael Abbell, 56, of Washington, once a Justice Department extradition expert. Moran and Abbell adamantly deny the charges and say they were merely defending their clients aggressively.

Also on trial are four accused smugglers. Some 30 of the 59 people indicted have pleaded and are cooperating; those not on trial are fugitives.

The racketeering trial is five weeks old and may last two more months.

While the government has many important witnesses in this, its biggest drug case in five years, Ackerman provided the road map that led to the arrests of the lawyers and other cartel managers.

Ackerman's first four days of testimony focused mostly on details of the cartel's smuggling.

Jurors still being picked

Jurors were still being questioned at noon today in 132nd District Court to hear two cases this week.

One jury will be selected to try a 19-year-old Snyder man charged with indecency with a child. This trial was postponed two weeks ago. The other will hear a competency case.

The competency case is scheduled to be heard this afternoon. Jurors will rule on the competency of Donny Carroll McClain, 37, who in 1990 was charged with aggravated assault after he allegedly hit his father with an iron pipe. McClain was committeed to the Vernon State Hospital in 1991. His case is reviewed and a competency hearing held annually.

In the second case, expected to begin Tuesday, David Leon Wagner of 2101 Ave. I is charged with indecency with a girl less than 17 years of age. The alleged offense occurred Oct. 27, 1996 and the high school senior was indicted by a Scurry County grand jury in December. He has been free on a $10,000 bond.

Wagner is represented by Donald McPhail of Abilene. District Attorney Dana Cooley will prosecute and District Judge Ernie Armstrong will preside.

What's Up?

G-20 to help museum

G-20 Club members will paint street numbers on curbs beginning today. Donations will be given to the Scurry County Museum. If you are not contacted and wish to have the painting done, call 573-6107 from 8-5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Bible study series

Bible study video tapes are airing on TCA Cable Channel 2. They are followed by a series of tapes titled "Archaeology and the Bible." The next tape, "The Conscience," will air at 7 this evening, followed by "The Old Testament."

Genealogical society

The genealogocal society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the county library. The program, "Researching on the Computer," will be presented by Sandra Graves. Visitors are welcome.

Continental Anniversary Tour

The Frontline Continentals' 1997 30th Anniversary Tour is planned for 6:30 p.m. Wednesday at First Baptist Church. Admission is free. A love offering will be taken.

Tribute to veterans

The Senior Center will present a tribute to veterans of the Korean conflict from 10 a.m. to noon Friday. All veterans, their families and the general public are invited.

Vacation Bible School

Avenue D Baptist Church
This week through Friday, 9-11:30 a.m., age 4 years through 6th grade. Theme is "Good News Stampede."

Writing contest

West Texas Poets, Etc. is sponsoring a writing contest through June. There are three catagories: poetry, short stories and children's stories. Adults within a 50-mile radius of Snyder are eligible. For information, call 573-2008, 573-3437 or 573-7369. Entries must be mailed by June 30 to Helene Tutt, 13525 U.S. 180 East, Hermleigh, 79526. Prizes will be awarded July 17.

Class of '87 reunion

Registration forms are being sent out for the SHS 1987 Class Reunion to be held Aug. 2. Anyone not receiving a registration form by mail should call Robyn Fambro Wilson at 915 368-4583. RSVPs due July 1.

Snyder Bowhunters raffle

Snyder Bowhunters are holding a raffle for a new 4-wheel drive Honda four-wheeler to be given away Aug. 3. Tickets are $10 each. To purchase tickets, contact Steve Hand at (915) 556-3313 or 573-0257; Dale Putnam at (915) 634-9589 or 572-2420; or Woody Wooddell at 573-8566.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Saturday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
4-6-8
(Four, six, eight)

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 28-31-34-41-43-47.
Estimated jackpot: $15 million.
Number matching six of six: None.
Matching five of six: 155. Prize: $1,381.
Matching four of six: 7,135. Prize: $108.
Matching three of six: 127,462. Prize: $3.
Next Lotto Texas game: Wednesday night.
Estimated jackpot: $21 million.

Court may have slowed move to privatize government jobs

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a ruling that could hamper efforts to privatize government jobs, the Supreme Court today said guards at privately run prisons do not enjoy the same legal protection as those at state-run facilities.

The court, by a 5-4 vote, ruled that guards at a private prison in Tennessee never are entitled to the immunity against lawsuits state prison guards sometimes enjoy.

The decision, although focusing only on prison guards, could affect private employees engaged in varied tasks — from picking up garbage to providing medical services — in a period when many state and local governments are downsizing and contracting out work.

"Our examination of history and purpose ... reveals nothing special enough about the job or about its organizational structure that would warrant providing these prison guards with a governmental immunity," Justice Stephen G. Breyer wrote for the court.

"It will not change how we treat our prisoners or how we defend lawsuits," said Peggy Wilson Lawrence of Corrections Corporation of America, which runs the private prison in Tennessee. "We're used to being held to a different and somewhat higher standard."

Private prisons have become a booming business in some states. About one-third of the states have such enterprises, often under contracts to exercise all the police powers and traditional public functions exclusively reserved to a state government.

Texas has led the way, with over 30 private prisons.

In 1986, the Tennessee Legislature authorized state prison officials to enter into such contracts. The state's Department of Corrections signed an agreement to have the Nashville-based Corrections Corporation of America run a prison in Clifton, Tenn.

Ronnie Lee McKnight, an inmate at the prison, sued guards Daryll Richardson and John Walker in 1994. McKnight, who weighs over 300 pounds, alleged that the guards violated his rights by subjecting him to bodily restraints that were excessively tight while he was taken to Clifton from Nashville.

McKnight, a convicted rapist serving a 24-year sentence, contended in his civil rights lawsuit that the restraints required hospital treatment for extreme pain and swelling.

Jones' lawyer quits, raising questions about her veracity

WASHINGTON (AP) — The resignation of Paula Jones' first lawyer and other developments could be used to challenge her credibility in a sexual harassment lawsuit against President Clinton, the Legal Times reports.

The attorney, Daniel Traylor, told the newspaper in an interview published today that he doesn't recall Jones ever telling him of key details she later provided about her alleged meeting with Clinton in a Little Rock, Ark., hotel room on May 8, 1991.

Specifically, Traylor said he doesn't recall her ever mentioning "distinguishing characteristics in Clinton's genital area that were obvious to Jones." That detail was included in Jones' May 6, 1994, complaint, three years after the alleged incident.

Asked if he still believed Jones' account, Traylor said, "There's only two people that really know what went on." Asked why he was resigning from the case, Traylor said, "It's just time to move on. This is painful to everybody. I wish them well."

Traylor said he had called Jones last week to tell her he will seek permission from the judge overseeing the harassment suit to resign as her lawyer.

The Legal Times also said that Carol Phillips, a former receptionist in then-Gov. Clinton's office, said Jones came by the office the day after the alleged sexual episode and told her "she went up to meet the governor and they met in a room and they just talked."

Phillips said that Jones spoke in "a happy and excited manner" and Phillips concluded that Jones' meeting with Clinton had been "totally innocent."