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President issues statement...

Capitol shooting stuns nation, local residents

From wire and staff reports

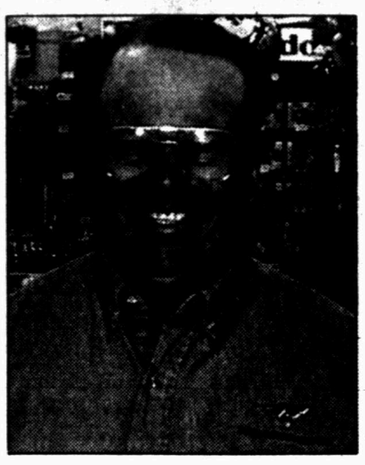
WASHINGTON (AP) — On a day of tears and prayers, the wounded suspect in a deadly shooting rampage at the Capitol was given a 50-50 chance of surviving. President Clinton called the firefight "a moment of savagery."

With a tear running down his right cheek, House Speaker Newt Gingrich bowed his head in prayer during the Republicans' weekly radio address. "Please help this country learn to live with its freedom," he said. "Please help those who are troubled learn to live peacefully with their problems."

The suspect, identified as Russell E. Weston Jr., 41, of rural Rimini, Mont., was arrested Saturday and charged with killing a federal officer while the officer was performing official duties. He is scheduled to be arraigned in absentia in Washington. Additional charges are pending.

Dr. Paul Oriaifo said Weston was in critical condition at D.C. General Hospital. Asked about the gunman's chances for survival, Oriaifo said, "At this point, we'd say about 50-50."

Doctors are "still concerned that he will have problems with his heart and lungs in the coming days and weeks," Dr. Norma Smalls added.



David Sharp

Investigators are trying to learn how and why the gunman stormed the Capitol building filled with lawmakers and tourists, and opened fire before being shot and captured. A tourist was wounded in the fire fight.

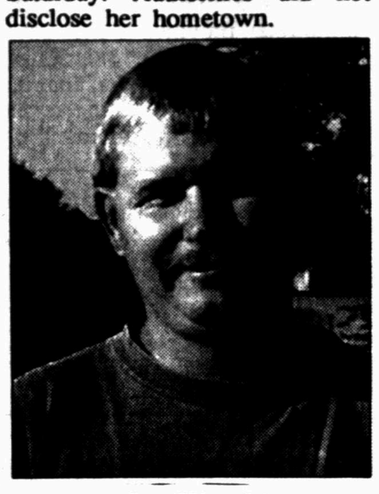
Killed were Jacob Chestnut, 58, and John Gibson, 42, both 18-year veterans of the Capitol police force. Each was married with three children and colleagues said Chestnut, an Air Force veteran, planned to retire soon.

The shooting left mixed reactions with some Snyder residents.

David Sharp said he thinks someone was not taking care of their responsibilities.

"Someone really blew it because that is supposed to be a secure place. I know people who have been there and it was secure," he said. "Somebody fouled up."

The wounded tourist was identified as Angela Dickerson, 24. George Washington University Hospital spokeswoman Lisa Saisselin said Dickerson's condition had been upgraded from serious to stable and she may be released Saturday. Authorities did not disclose her hometown.



Jay Kincaid

"A tragic event" is how Gregory Gonzales of Snyder considers it.

"He added, "It is sad in respect that we lost two officers. The further implication is our freedom becomes more limited because of these violent acts that occur."

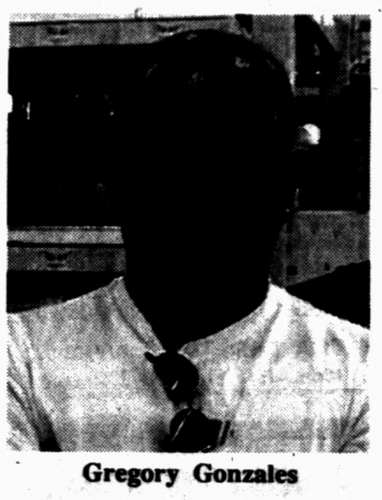
"We must keep it a place where people can freely and proudly walk the halls of our government," Clinton said.

Snyder resident Jay Kincaid felt along the same lines.

"Personally, I think it is a tragedy, but things happen," he said. "They were talking about shutting the capitol down to the public, but if they do that I think it will go against our constitutional rights."

Kincaid added, "I hate what happened to those men, and I think the security could be better, especially with all the high technology we have."

The shootings occurred at 3:40 p.m. Friday with the House still meeting and the Senate having just recessed for the week. They were the Capitol's first since 1954, when four Puerto Rican nationalists in the visitors' gallery of the House opened fire on lawmakers.



Gregory Gonzales

INSIDE
Cadet Convicted Of Murder 5A
US Boop Team Wins Gold 7A
US Troops Vulnerable 10A
Obituaries 12A
Wee Buddies Reunited 1B
WT-Int. Crude - $13.88

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND

July 25-26, 1998
Vol. 50 No. 72
38 Pages 75¢

Home Of Colten Clark

121 early ballots cast in school bond election

A total of 121 early votes have been cast in the Snyder ISD bond election scheduled for Aug. 8.

Early voting got underway Wednesday as 52 ballots were cast at the school administration building.

Citizens who reside in the school district may cast early ballots at the administration building through Aug. 4 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

The bond proposal totals $20.45 million.

The proposal calls for major renovations on all the district's campuses except Central Elementary. The 50-year-old structure is slated to be closed if the bond issue passes.

If the bond issue is passed, renovation and construction of the district's aging facilities could begin as early as next spring. It is estimated that the work could take two to three years to complete.

The renovations include replacement of heating and air-conditioning systems, upgrading electrical and communication systems and computer networks, repainting interiors and exteriors and installing fire alarms.

The plans also calls for replacement of portable buildings at Stanfield and Northeast.

Jury called Monday in property dispute

Starting Monday, a 132nd District Court jury will be asked to settle a civil dispute over ownership of property taken from a rental storage unit in Snyder.

Some 110 prospective jurors have been called to report at 9 a.m. Monday in Judge Ernie Armstrong's court.

James Burl Penn, a former Snyder resident now living in Destrehan, La., has filed suit against two Odessa residents, Marcus Dale Harless and Ronnie Morgan Gunter.

In June, 1997, Penn claims in court documents that the defendants took possession of property valued in excess of $5,000 that was stored at U-Rent Storage located at U.S. 84 and F.M. 1611.

Attorney for the plaintiff is Isaac Castro and attorney for the two defendants is Marc R. May of Odessa.

Kids' breakfast run nets 911 call from mom

A 911 call from a frantic mother around 8:20 Saturday morning that her two children were missing from their residence had a quick and happy ending, thanks to the alertness of the Snyder Police Department.

Dispatcher Jeanette Claxton broadcast the message that the two children, ages 5 and 7, were missing from their rooms when their mother went to check on them in their residence in the 2300 block of 30th Street.

Officer Mike Duddleston immediately replied that he had just stopped and talked to two children who were about that age.

"They said they were walking to McDonald's for breakfast," Duddleston told the dispatcher.

Duddleston then confirmed their description and went to McDonald's. He located the children and transported them home.

Variety show performances set Saturday and Sunday

The annual Ritz Variety Show continues over the weekend with performances set for 8 p.m. Saturday and 2:30 p.m. Sunday.

The variety show features a wide variety of family entertainment, including Texas Sand.

The group, consisting of Jackie Greene, Valerie Greene, Wendell Sollis and Vince Moss, will play several old favorites.

Donna Fowler and Cindy Nix will display their singing talents with their renditions of "Tumbling Tumbleweeds," "Cool, Clear Water," and several other tunes.

Judy's Dancers will be doing their Riverdance routine as the group were crowd-pleasers during two productions in the spring.

Members of the troupe are Whitney Graham, Emily Vinson, Sarah Pilgrim, Jack Hedges, Joey Steakley, Valery Haines, Mac McCraw and Judy Haines.

Heart 'n Soul will perform their own special style of gospel music with such favorites as "Amazing Grace" and "People Be Ready."

Members of the group are Paul Glover, Johnna Babb, Robin Robers, Robert Essery and Glenna Glover.

This year's variety show is directed by Valerie Greene and choreography is by Judy Haines.

Stage manager for the production is Sonya Vinson and Andrew Vinson is handling curtain chores.

The set was designed by students in the summer work program along with Frank Miller, Ellie Dryden, Sammie Jarrell and Donna Browning.

Lights and sound are under the direction of Jarrell, Browning and Buddy Whittenburg.

Publicity is being handled by Jarrell and Dryden while Tim Dea, Mike Thornton, Doris Spikes, Jo Sterling and Monette O'Day are handling the tickets and reservations.

July 31 — Aug. 2

Ritz Theatre to present rock-opera next week

The Ritz Community Theatre will present the rock-opera **Godspell** in four performances next weekend, July 31-Aug. 2.

The presentation is an interpretation of the Gospel according to St. Matthew using guitars, sequins and pizazz.

A group of ten college students from Texas and Louisiana will perform in the play.

Showtimes are Friday, July 31 at 8 p.m., Saturday, Aug. 1 at 2:30 and 8 p.m., and Sunday, Aug. 2 at 2:30 p.m.

Reservations or ticket purchases can be made at the Ritz box office beginning Monday and continuing through Friday from 2 until 5 p.m. Reservations can be made by calling 573-8880.

Tickets are $7, or season memberships can be used.

17-year-old handed probated sentence

Seventeen-year-old Marcus Lee Rocha was sentenced Friday afternoon to five years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, probated five years, for his part in a drive-by shooting in December.

Rocha, who had no previous felony convictions, had been in jail since his arrest in January after being indicted by a Scurry County grand jury on charges of aggravated assault.

After hearing closing arguments and then taking a lunch break, the jury deliberated some 45 minutes, returning the verdict at 2:30 p.m. Friday. The jury had deliberated over two hours Friday evening before finding Rocha guilty.

Rocha is the second of three people tried in the shooting incident in which shots were fired on Dec. 18 at John Christopher Hernandez while in the 600 block of 26th Street.

Rocha, along with Fedencio Ramon, 21, and Solatina Maria Flores, 19, were indicted in January for firing a handgun at Hernandez. Hernandez was not injured.

In June, a 132nd District Court jury found Ramon guilty and the court sentenced him to 10 years and a day in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. Charges against Flores are pending.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong presided at the trial and the state's case was presented by District Attorney Dana Cooley. The defendant's attorney was Pete Greene of Snyder.

Registration set for new SHS students

Students who are new to the district and will be attending Snyder High School for the first time this school year will register Monday at the high school. Registration times are from 9 a.m. until noon, and from 1-3 p.m.

Ninth grade orientation is set for Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in Worsham Auditorium.

The SDN Column

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "If you're not in on it — or at least up on it — you're likely to be down on it."

Snyder's Vernon Rannefeld, retired businessman and former city councilman, said he ran across this old newspaper clipping and thought it was worth repeating.

"What Really Matters:

"It is not what we eat, but what we digest that makes us strong; not what we gain, but what we save that makes us rich.

"It is not what we read, but what we remember that makes us learned; and not what we profess, but what we practice."

Thanks!

We came across some other motivational thoughts, these from a 1993 speech by Army Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf to the Charlotte Foreign Policy Forum.

Five principles of leadership:

1. Your organization will never get better unless you admit something is wrong.

2. Establish clear and simple goals which are understandable by everyone.

3. Set high standards and let people know what they are.

4. Be prepared to make mistakes.

5. Great leaders never tell their people how to do their jobs.

Two most important actions taken by leaders:

1. When placed in command take charge!

2. Do what's right!

And Charles Swindol says it all depends on "attitude." He said:

"The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life.

"Attitude is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures, than successes, than what other people think, say or do.

"Attitude is more important than appearance, giftedness or skill. Attitude will make or break a company, a church, or a home.

"We have a choice everyday regarding the attitude that we will embrace for that day.

"We cannot change our past. We cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable.

"The only thing we can do is play on the one thing we have, and that is our attitude.

"Life is 10 percent what happens to me and 90 percent how I react to it. We are in charge of our attitudes."

ASK US

Q—How much does Cogdell Hospital pay per month for the CT scanner it purchased last year?

A—$17,000 per month. It was previously leasing a scanner for around $25,000 per month.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Friday, 101 degrees; low, 76; 7 a.m. Saturday, 76; no precipitation; total for 1998, 5.75 inches.

Area Forecast: Saturday night, fair. Low 75-80. S wind 5-15 mph. Sunday, partly cloudy. High around 102. S wind 10-20 mph.



Omar Herrera
Partly cloudy

Sunset:
8:44 p.m.
Sunrise:
6:56 a.m.
Of 205 days in 1998, the sun has shone 203 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

I am enough of an artist to draw freely upon my imagination. Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world.

Albert Einstein

Remote area linked to outside world

VANIMO, Papua New Guinea (AP) — Along Papua New Guinea's ravaged northeastern coast, Brother Leo Ahanotu trudges through thick swamp mud to celebrate Mass with survivors. Meanwhile, pilot Don Harvey lands his small plane loaded with emergency supplies on a dirt airstrip hacked from the jungle.

The two men belong to a missionary network that has been crucial to the massive aid effort. But with its citizen's band radios, unreliable phone lines and light aircraft, that network served the remote region long before the disaster and will be here well after the emergency ends.

For thousands of years, the island's hundreds of tribes have maintained primitive rituals and customs, screened from the outside world by mountainous terrain and impenetrable jungle.

About 80 percent of Papua New Guinea's 4 million residents live in remote villages, many sitting atop mountains that plunge thousands of feet into deep river valleys. The next day's village may be a day's walk away.

Into this inhospitable terrain come the missionaries and their support staff, like Tom Hans, who told The Associated Press he was inspired by the tales of Christians working in the jungles of Africa and South America.

"The terrain is amazing," Hans, a retired U.S. Army helicopter pilot from Worthington, Ind., said Friday.

"Most of the airstrips are 500 feet long with a 10-degree gradient, so you land uphill and take off downhill. They are like ski jumps; you can't see over the edge and you just go."

Hans, a Korean war veteran who retired with the rank of major after serving in the military for 20 years, is a pilot in the nearby Indonesian province of Irian Jaya. He works for the Missionary Aviation Fellowship, an international Christian organization that flies in remote regions around the world.

It was Harvey, also an MAF pilot, who first flew over the Sissano Lagoon after four villages were swept away by three tsunami on July 18, killing at least 1,500. About 2,000 people are missing and thousands are homeless.

The organization responded quickly.

"I flew down there and could see the complete destruction. I went and got special dispensation — because we are not allowed to fly on Sundays — then we flew all day Sunday. We brought back a lot of broken people," said Drew Sumner, the organization's regional manager.

For three days, the missionaries and their airplanes were central to the relief and rescue effort: organizing food and medical treatment, transporting hundreds of injured people to the hospital.

The government declared a state of emergency on Tuesday, and the police and military soon took control of the relief operation.

The MAF and its missionary pilots have started returning to their normal work: delivering children to school, evacuating the ill from other villages, transporting priests to small villages.

Lessons From Jericho
INTEGRITY SERIES
Where Do I Look For Guidance?
TCA Cable TV - Channel #2
Mon., July 27, 1998, 7:00 p.m.



MUSEUM CONSERVATOR — Mary Frederickson of Canyon was in Snyder last week to evaluate the collections at Scurry County Museum. She is shown inspecting a sun dial. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Museum gets second CAP grant assessment

A roving conservator with the National Park Service 's southeast region spent two days at the Scurry County Museum last week, assessing collections, evaluating storage techniques, pinpointing problem areas and offering suggestions for feasible future projects.

Mary Frederickson of Canyon's suggestions were laid out in a "planning guide" which she presented to Charlene Ackers, museum director.

In it, she evaluated the condition of the museum's collection as well as detailed long, short and medium range plans for improvements.

Since smaller museums do not have the resources of their larger counterparts, Frederickson said it is very important for them to "work on feasible projects."

"In a perfect world, all museums would have everything, just right, but that's not going to happen," she said. "My job is to help museum staffers by providing fresh ideas and feasible ways to improve what needs attention."

She also spells out what will happen to the collection if storage conditions are not improved. For instance, if photos are stored at a low temperature and 10 percent humidity, their life span increases exponentially.

Some grants are available for the purpose of restoring objects. However, Frederickson said, to qualify, museums must show that the restored objects will not be allowed to deterioriate again.

She noted that the local museum's small staff is very enthusiastic, but could use some help.

Some of her recommendations included more cabinets to store collections as opposed to the wooden shelves which hold many of the historical pieces.

She also noted that the darkroom is being used for storage purposes only. The trend today, Frederickson said, is for museums to document all collections with a photo and assessment record of each object.

Ideally, this would be done through digitalized photos and stored on a computer system. But lacking that option, she said it is very important to come up with another way to achieve the same thing.

She said museums are the "heart throb" in communities which help perpetuate the history of the area. It's an ongoing project and everyone needs to get involved.

Frederickson's visit was made possible through a CAP (Conservative Assessment Program) grant which the museum had received a few months ago.

This is the local museum's second CAP evaluation.

Frederickson, who manages an art care business, really enjoys her job which usually takes her to a different museum every month. "I get to travel to neat places and get to touch things no one else gets to touch."

She has spent the past 25 years on museum conservation work, usually visiting a different one about once a month. For 18 years, she has also taught at the Winedale Museum through the Texas Historical Commission.

Author's home burns

ASHEVILLE, N.C. (AP) — Thomas Wolfe's boyhood home, the setting for his classic novel "Look Homeward, Angel," was heavily damaged by fire that shot flames through the roof.

The blaze destroyed most of the roof and burned one side of the house Friday before dawn.

Cancer returns

SINGAPORE (AP) — Singapore's President Ong Teng Cheong began chemotherapy Friday following a recurrence of lymphoma, a cancer of lymphoid cells, according to the prime minister's office.

The cancer was discovered in 1992 when Ong was serving as a deputy prime minister. Ong, 61, was elected to the presidency, largely a ceremonial post, in 1993.

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NEW PRIEST – is the new associ Catholic Churc

Our L gets a

One of Snyde dents is Fr. Josep ciate pastor in r Lady of Guad Church.

Ouseph, who this month, share with his mentor, am, whom Lu Bishop Placido tly named pastor

Fr. Leatham w to serve as pasto in Snyder and Hermleigh.

Ouseph, origi has been in th since Dec. 28 appointments a and since he is country and Diocese, Ouseph acquainted throu several Catholic ing Lubbock, Muleshoe.

He has also learning the Spa

Ouseph's fir Muleshoe when months. He had priest earlier a association le Lubbock diocese

In February, weeks in San A studied the Spa the Mexican-A Center.

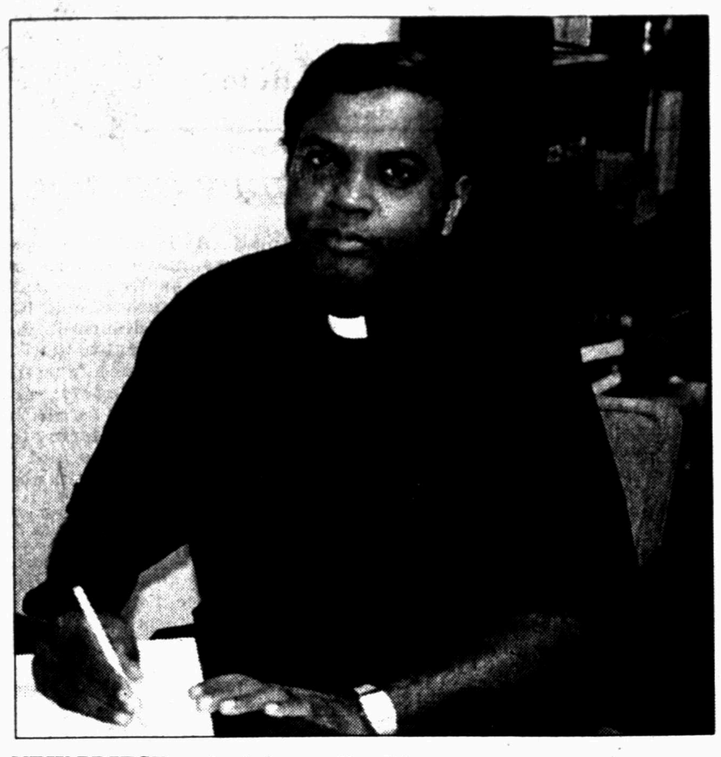
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NEW PRIEST — Arriving earlier this month, Fr. Joseph Ouseph is the new associate pastor in residence at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Our Lady of Guadalupe gets associate pastor

One of Snyder's newest residents is Fr. Joseph Ouseph, associate pastor in residence at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church.

Ouseph, who arrived earlier this month, shares pastor's duties with his mentor, Fr. Gerald Leatham, whom Lubbock Diocese Bishop Placido Rodriguez recently named pastor of the church.

Fr. Leatham will also continue to serve as pastor of St. Elizabeth in Snyder and St. John in Hermleigh.

Ouseph, originally from India, has been in the United States since Dec. 28, 1997. Since appointments are made in July and since he is still new to this country and the Lubbock Diocese, Ouseph has been getting acquainted through brief stays at several Catholic parishes including Lubbock, Idalou and Muleshoe.

He has also spent six weeks learning the Spanish language.

Ouseph's first visit was in Muleshoe where he spent 1½ months. He had met that parish priest earlier and through that association learned of the Lubbock diocese.

In February, he spent three weeks in San Antonio where he studied the Spanish language at the Mexican-American Cultural Center.

He spent four weeks at Our Lady of Grace in Lubbock.

Ouseph then spent three weeks in Guadalajara, Mexico where he studied both the language and the customs.

Though he hasn't been in Snyder long, he noted that the "people are good here."

A Pallotine priest, Ouseph was ordained on Oct. 10, 1979. He chose to work abroad.

Judge approves tobacco deal

AUSTIN (AP) — A federal judge has given final approval to a $17.3 billion settlement of the state's lawsuit against the tobacco industry, the largest in litigation history.

A broad settlement was reached in January on the eve of a trial in the case, but there was a delay in finalizing it because of disagreements over payments to counties and fees to private lawyers.

"The agreement represents a tremendous victory for the state and an unprecedented opportunity to promote the public health in our state, particularly the health of our kids," Texas Attorney General Dan Morales said Friday.

Next month, nearly $400 million in initial payments will be deposited in the state treasury, Morales said. Texas will get a total of $1.279 billion this year and annual payments thereafter.

The dispute over the amount of fees paid to private attorneys who assisted the state will be considered later by an arbitration panel. The original state contract called for the attorneys to get $2.3 billion, or 15 percent of the total, but Gov. George W. Bush and seven lawmakers objected.

The settlement total is larger than the $15.3 billion agreed to last January because it includes $2.275 billion that will go to counties and hospital districts for costs associated with providing health care to indigent people.

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As heat wave continues, Fort Worth fixes water main break

DALLAS (AP) — Weather forecasters are predicting no relief soon from the heat wave that has claimed 92 lives so far.

The National Weather Service forecasts more hot weather, with highs soaring past 100 in North and Central Texas both Saturday and Sunday.

The outlook means more bad news for tinder-dry Texas. The weather has sparked more than 6,000 wildfires and is blamed for $1.5 billion in agriculture damage, according to officials.

Officials at the Del Rio sector of the U.S. Border Patrol on Friday confirmed that three more immigrants died this week, bringing to 50 the number of people who have died trying to cross the border from Mexico into the United States.

The men died in Maverick, Kenny and Webb counties, spokeswoman Patti Mancha said.

State prison officials said Friday they have begun safety measures to protect inmates and employees following the apparent heat stroke deaths of two prisoners from the Houston area earlier this summer.

Archie White, 48, died June 29 at the Hendricks Medical Center in Abilene after riding for about two hours on a prison bus without air conditioning, officials said. He was serving a 28-year sentence for burglary and drug possession in Brazoria County.

Alfred Wilder, 27, died May 29 at the Crosbyton Clinic Hospital after he collapsed on an outdoor prison recreation yard where he had been playing basketball, officials said. Wilder was sentenced to 15 years on burglary and drug-related offenses in Waller County.

The director of a prisoner rights organization said the prison system's efforts are inadequate.

"Ventilation (at some prison facilities) is not good, so people are really roasting," Linda Marin, executive director of the Texas chapter of Citizens United for the Rehabilitation of Errants, told the Houston Chronicle. "It's absolutely miserable. People with continuing medical problems are suffering."

In Fort Worth, workers Friday repaired a 36-inch water main that burst, leaving downtown short of water and air conditioning for more than six hours.

Water was knocked out at two hospitals, and many office buildings were deserted Friday as workers stayed home in droves.

The city water department is still asking residents to stop outdoor watering until further notice — at least through the weekend.

Even though the broken line was repaired, officials said a pumping station is still not working, reducing the ability to get water to some homes and businesses.

Overheated hospital workers in Fort Worth bought fans at local stores to help patients stay cool without air conditioning.

"It's miserable," said Dan Golden, an X-ray technician at Harris Methodist Fort Worth hospital.

Firefighters from surrounding towns filled tankers with water, drove to downtown Fort Worth and pumped thousands of gallons into water-cooled ventilation systems at Harris, Cook Children's Medical Center and the Southwestern Bell building on Throckmorton Street to keep air-conditioning systems working.

"I said, 'I hope we have no fires,' " fire Capt. Larry Smith told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram as he supervised the tanker operation outside Cook Children's.

In Dallas, officials are waiting for the county's $2 million share of federal heat aid to help residents pay electricity bills that have skyrocketed as air conditioners hum around the clock.

The money is part of a $100 million package authorized Thursday by President Clinton for 11 states hit by the unusually hot summer weather. Texas will get $32.7 million, officials said.

TCC director to move back to Texas

TUCSON, Ariz. (AP) — The man credited for saving the money-losing Tucson Convention Center resigned from his $80,000-a-year post.

TCC Director Daniel Huerta, 38, said he plans to return to Dallas to become the city's assistant general manager of Fair Park. His resignation is effective August 21.

Huerta said his decision was based on the fact that much of his family are in Dallas, including two daughters, ages 13 and 11, and his sister, who has breast cancer.

"I have mixed emotions," he said. "In the whole scheme of things, family comes first. I may have to put my career in reverse a little but it will all work out."

Huerta is credited with bringing more shows to the center as well as making structural and maintenance improvements and creating an in-house marketing division. He took slumped revenues of $1.7 million for 1993-94 to $2.87 million this year.

City Manager Luis Guitierrez said Huerta would be missed. He did not say how or when a replacement would be found.



Rev. Jim Wright

Wright receives Lutheran degree

Rev. Jim Wright, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, has received the Doctor of Ministry Degree from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn.

Wright, who is also the chaplain at the Federal Correctional Institute in Big Spring, was a member of the U.S. Air Force from July 1968-Nov. 1981.

He graduated from Wayland Baptist College in 1980. He is an 11-year veteran of the Bureau of Prisons and has been in Big Spring since 1994.

Wright graduated from Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, Calif. in 1990, and was ordained that same year with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

Togo head sworn in

LOME, Togo (AP) — President Gnassigbe Eyadema, who has ruled Togo since a bloody coup 31 years ago, was sworn in Friday for his second presidential term following a disputed election victory.

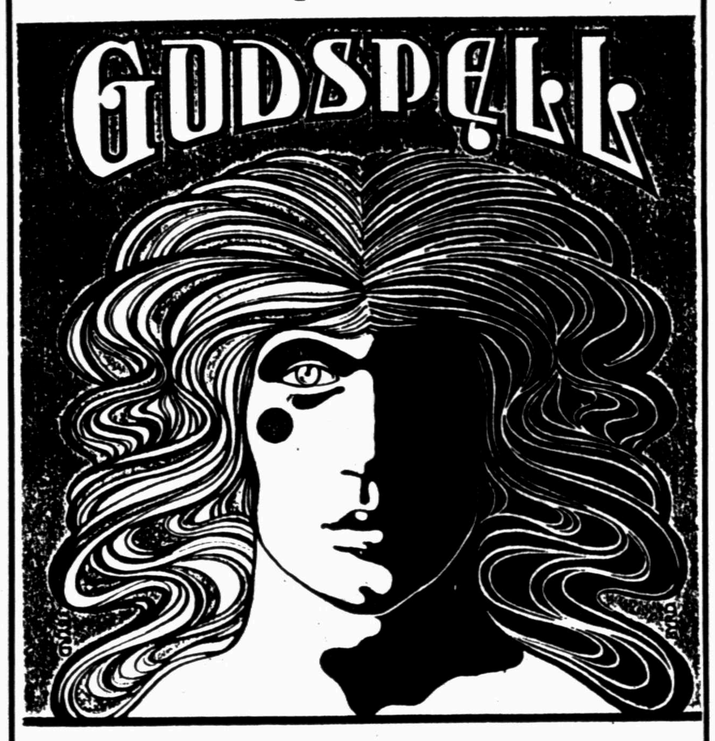
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Berry's World



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Resident of the Month



Mrs. Laura Greenfield

Mrs Laura Greenfield was selected as resident of the month by her peers at Snyder Healthcare Center. Mrs. Greenfield passed away this month, but was selected as resident of the month prior to passing away. She passed away as the result of a lengthy illness, but was greatly loved and respected by her fellow residents. She enjoyed participating in many diversional activities with her peers and always conducted herself with the utmost dignity. She never failed to have a kind word for her peers and the staff that worked with her. She will always be remembered fondly by the staff and residents of Snyder Healthcare Center. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family in their time of grief.

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Industrial hemp is becoming popular, mainstream choice

WOLF CREEK, Ore. (AP) — In the Oregon woods, where camouflaged deputies beat the brush each fall for hidden marijuana farms, Kevyn Woven strings his loom with the straight cousin of the pot plant: industrial hemp.

Using hemp fiber and yarn imported from Poland, Romania, and China, where the cultivation and sale of industrial hemp is legal, Woven creates rich, nubby fabrics that wind up as chic boutique clothing and upholstery on custom-made furniture.

"It is my passion," Woven says.

Once sold primarily at hippie fairs and through ads in magazines with an environmental bent, goods made from industrial hemp are moving into the mainstream. Adidas used it in a shoe, the Body Shop features a line of hemp products and European car makers use it in interiors. There's even a beer made with it.

"I feel the industrial hemp crop could very easily be the soybean crop of the new millennium," said Jeffrey Gain, a former farm lobbyist who now is chairman of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Alternative Agricultural Research and Commercialization Corp.

Like soybeans, hemp produces an oil from its seeds that can be turned into cooking oil, cosmetics and plastics. Hemp fiber can be used to make paper, cloth and even structural panels stronger than plywood. The seed can be ground for flour and livestock feed.

Industrial hemp is the same species as marijuana, but it is a different variety which only contains a very small amount of tetrahydrocannabinol, or THC, the stuff that makes pot smokers high.

Even that small amount, less than 1 percent, is enough to make it an outlaw in the eyes of Gen. Barry McCaffrey, the U.S. drug czar who heads the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy.

"A serious law enforcement concern is that a potential byproduct of legalizing hemp production would be de facto legalization of marijuana cultivation," McCaffrey's office said in a statement. "The seedlings are the same and in many instances the mature plants look the same."

Hogwash, say hemp advocates, pointing to the 29 countries that allow farmers to grow hemp, including Canada, France, Germany and England.

Indeed, hemp was significant part of American agriculture until a few decades ago. "Old Ironsides," the USS Constitution, went into battle with sails, rigging and caulking made from it. Founding fathers George Washington and Thomas Jefferson grew it. The Declaration of Independence was drafted on paper made from it. Farmers could pay their taxes with it.

But cotton soon emerged as the world's dominant fiber. Hemp suffered another setback with the Marijuana Tax Act of 1937, which prevented farmers from shipping hemp to processing plants because a few leaves that might contain THC were left on the stalks, said John Roulac, author of Hemp Horizons and founder of HEMPTECH, a hemp information network.

By the end of 1938, every hemp factory in the Midwest was shut down, except one with a contract to supply rope to the Navy.

While the Drug Enforcement Agency argues that hemp is much more expensive than other fibers, hemp advocates point out that difference would drop immediately if hemp didn't have to be imported. Canada decided to let farmers begin planting 5,000 acres this year.

"As long as McCaffrey is there it's probably not going to happen," in the United States, said Gain, who is also on the board of the North American Industrial Hemp Association.

The Kentucky Hemp Growers Cooperative, the Hemp Company of America and six would-be hemp farmers sued the DEA and the Justice Department last May. They contend Congress never intended to make industrial hemp illegal when it outlawed marijuana.

Faced with growing uncertainty for the future of tobacco farmers because of federal efforts to wipe out smoking, the University of Kentucky's Center for Business and Economic Research looked into the prospects of growing hemp, once one of the state's biggest crops.

The study found that hemp could earn farmers between $220 and $600 an acre. That would make it the second most profitable cash crop in the state after tobacco, which brings in $1,000 to $1,500 per acre.

Med Byrd, director of applied research at North Carolina State University, thinks hemp could shed its reputation as a "boutique" product.

"If enough fringe people buy those products, and enough people work on processes to get the price down and enough farmers are allowed to grow it, all that can change," she said.

Anti-alcohol advocate goes after Abercrombie catalog

NEW YORK (AP) — The latest catalog from Abercrombie & Fitch has a lot more than the latest back-to-school fashions.

There are also drinking games and recipes for hard-core cocktails like the "Woo-Woo" and the "Brain Hemorrhage."

The head of Mothers Against Drunk Driving bashed the trendy clothier for encouraging behavior that many of its customers aren't even old enough to do.

"This catalog is an abomination," MADD President Karolyn Nunnallee said Friday. "They are a company that is in a position to influence, and whether or not they are making a profit they have a responsibility and that responsibility is not to promote unsafe behavior."

About a million copies of the catalog, touted as part magazine, were distributed about two weeks ago in the company's 165 stores and by subscription.

The retailer admits it went too far in an A&F Quarterly story titled "Drinking 101."

"In retrospect, the company feels that it should have initially provided balance in that story," said Lonnie Fogel, a company spokesman at its Reynoldsburg, Ohio, headquarters.

The two-page story gives directions for "creative drinking" that students can substitute for the "standard beer binge." Drink recipes include the "Woo-Woo," a mix of vodka, peach schnapps and cranberry juice, and the "Brain Hemorrhage," a combination of strawberry or peach schnapps, Bailey's Irish Cream and grenadine.

An accompanying circular chart has photos of the 10 drinks in shot glasses and can be used as a spinner for drinking games, the story said.

The catalog features photos of muscled, sometimes shirtless men with fresh-faced women — all in Abercrombie fashions. It also includes stories on travel, book and film reviews, advice for heading back to school and an article on campus streaking.

Nunnallee wants Abercrombie to discontinue distribution of the 215-page catalog, issue a letter of apology to everyone who received it and devote at least one page in the next four issues to underage drinking and drinking and driving.

For now, she'll have to settle for warning stickers affixed to catalogs not yet distributed and postcards to subscribers with the same message, which also appeared on the company's Web site.

The stickers say, in part: "We don't want to lose anybody to thoughtlessness and stupidity. For some, part of college life includes partying and drinking — be smart and be responsible."

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Nice guys go unnoticed, by women harping on men

DEAR ABBY: Recently you published several letters from women who harped on the worthlessness of men. Occasionally the women mentioned moments of loneliness, but on the whole considered themselves to be better off without their husband — or any man, for that matter. The general message seemed to be that men are, for the most part, worthless and cause only trouble.

Male-bashing has become so common, most people accept it as normal. However, I am bothered by it. This may in part be because I am male, but it is more than that.

Recently, at an after-work get-together, a group of women huddled in the kitchen and complained, "There aren't any good men out there." There were several good ones at that very gathering — at least a dozen — all single with graduate degrees, decent jobs and a bright future. I knew several of them, and know they treat women with respect. Not that any of the women clustered in the kitchen would have given these men the time of day.

A friend told me that men who treat women with respect have many women friends, but no dates. I fear she is right. I see many "nice guys" passed by in favor of losers who are nothing but trouble. So the nice guys remain single and the women end up miserable and, sometimes, hating all men. It's really sad.

I'd like to think that decent men and women do find each other, but for those in the post-college age bracket, I cannot say that I see it happen very often. However, I am convinced that "looking" is near the heart of the problem. Perhaps we would do better *listening*. Our eyes have not served us well in the realm of romance. We don't seem to be able to "see" with our hearts very well.

NO LONGER LOOKING IN UPSTATE NEW YORK

DEAR NO LONGER LOOKING: If you were a woman writing with this problem, rather than saying that good men get passed by, you would be stating that all men want women who appear physically perfect. This situation is as old as the battle of the sexes. Please do not despair. Decent women still want decent men, and vice versa. It will be a banner day when these stereotypes die a natural death.

***

DEAR ABBY: I enjoyed the story you printed about the Easter egg hunt where the children were so generous to the girl who was blind. For the past three years, I have been privileged to participate in an Easter egg hunt for blind children sponsored by the Blind Babies Foundation in Fresno. It's called a "beeper egg hunt," because the plastic eggs have small beepers in them to guide the children.

Many times the children receive assistance from sighted companions, but the children locate the eggs by sound.

Sighted children help prepare for this special egg hunt by painting large plywood eggs and gluing pictures of the children with sight impairment to pictures of the Easter Bunny. These souvenirs are presented to the parents of the special students.

During the preparation for the hunt, sighted students are introduced to some of the problems those without sight face, and they react very sympathetically. Therefore, this program benefits both those with sight and those without.

DICK HERBOLDSHIMER, FRESNO, CALIF.

DEAR DICK: Beeper eggs — what a great idea! I understand there are many kinds of beeper products to aid people without sight to participate in sports and other activities. Hooray for the technology that allows them to enjoy some of the things most of us take for granted.

***

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

DEAR ABBY: A member of our family recently graduated from college — finally! This woman is in her late 40s. For the past four years, she has spent all her free time and money on studies when she should have been spending more time with her husband, children, grandchildren and ailing parents.

She stopped socializing with friends and occasionally missed family parties because she had "work" to do. She often visited with callers at her door or on the porch because she put her studies before housekeeping and, boy, was it ever obvious! Her house was an unholy mess. It's a good thing her husband is a patient man — otherwise, he would have booted her out and found a real wife.

During her last year of school, she lost her 4.0 average when a family member became ill. She actually cried over it, even though her grades are never going to matter to anyone.

Now that she's a college graduate, she seems hurt that no one has made any fuss about it. When she offered tickets to her graduation ceremony, there was a dead silence. Her own kids didn't even want to attend. I can understand making a fuss when young people graduate because they are at the beginning of their careers, but a degree in "the classics" won't help this woman with the job she's held for 25 years. She's now nearing retirement age, so she doesn't need a new career. Abby, do you think we should have made a big deal out of what was no big deal? Sign this ...

ALICE (NOT MY REAL NAME)

DEAR ALICE: Yes, you should have, and shame on you for not doing so. My congratulations to your relative, who had the courage and determination to reach an admirable goal to enhance and enrich her life with knowledge. Furthermore, her accomplishment is all the more admirable considering the difficult obstacles she had to overcome, among them a non-supportive family.

***

DEAR ABBY: I'm in the process of writing my autobiography, which probably will be distributed to my family after my death. I'm wondering how much I should include and whether confession serves any purpose now, except my own need to confess.

I am respected and loved by my children, even though they probably know I wasn't an angel in my younger years.

During my marriage, I had an affair. I believe if I hadn't had the affair, I probably would have gotten a divorce. The man with whom I had the affair gave me the friendship, communication and understanding I didn't receive from my husband, but we didn't hurt anyone.

I know God has forgiven me and I have grown spiritually in many ways since that time. I would hope that by revealing this, I might pass on my belief that no matter how rotten we are, if we repent, God will forgive us and we can be a worthwhile person.

Should I reveal my past or not?

INDECISIVE

DEAR INDECISIVE: With apologies to the author of "The Bridges of Madison County," I can see very little good that could come from disclosing to your children that you were an unfaithful wife whose husband behaved in a way that made her feel friendless, misunderstood and alone. If God has forgiven you, and you have forgiven yourself, keep your lips sealed, your pen capped, and take the secret with you to heaven.

***

Abby shares more of her favorite, easy-to-prepare recipes. To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, More Favorite Recipes, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Vegetarian consumer says he was deceived by menu

SYRACUSE, N.Y. (AP) — Vegetarian Patrick Fish doesn't expect meat eaters to comprehend his outrage.

But Fish feels he was deceived by Wendy's restaurants and tricked into eating something made from animal tissue. He likened his experience to someone unwittingly eating human remains.

"It's hard for non-vegetarians to understand. You feel like you've been tainted," said Fish, 31, a Utica computer programming consultant who says ethics don't allow him to justify killing animals for food.

In a $30 million lawsuit filed July 15 in U.S. District Court in Syracuse, Fish accused Wendy's fast-food chain of misrepresenting its veggie pitas as vegetarian fare.

He is suing the Dublin, Ohio-based company for false advertising in its nutritional guides and for violating his First Amendment rights by infringing on his moral conviction of not eating meat.

The lawsuit may be the first of many against Wendy's, said Lige Weill, president of the Washington-based Vegetarians Awareness Network, a consumer group which is considering filing a class-action lawsuit.

Fish touched off a nationwide furor against Wendy's among vegetarians last summer after he discovered the dressing in the vegetable pita included gelatin. Gelatin is made from animal tissues, including hides, and is often used to thicken low-fat foods.

Fish said Friday that he bought the veggie pita on April 16, 1997, only after he received assurances from workers at a Wendy's in Utica that it contained no meat or animal byproducts.

Denny Lynch, a Wendy's spokesman, said the company had not seen the lawsuit and could not comment on it.

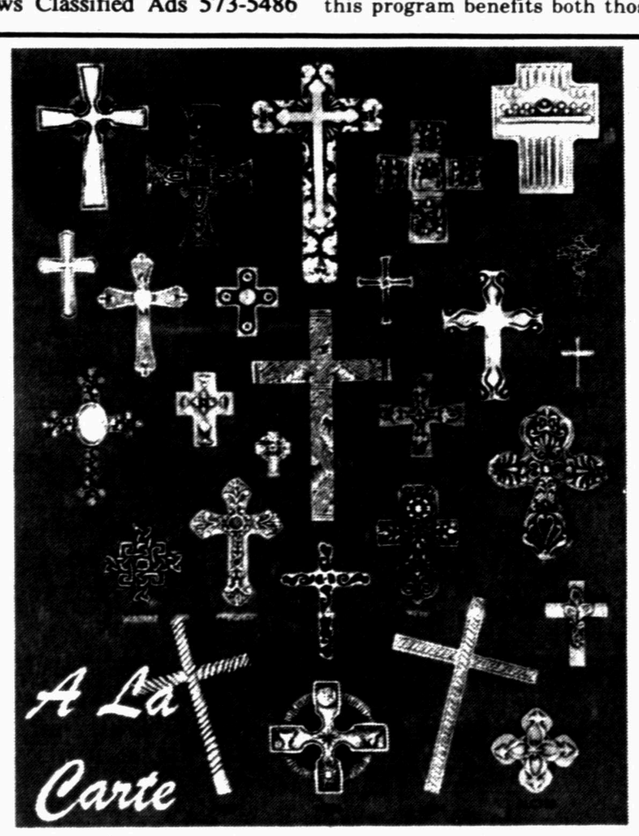
The restaurant chain, which has nearly 5,200 stores worldwide, took gelatin out of the dressing recipe after complaints from vegetarian groups, he said. Thousands of nutritional guides were recalled.

Classified Ads 573-5486

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Former cadet convicted of capital murder

NEW BRAUNFELS (AP) — Just like his ex-fiancee before him, former Air Force Academy cadet David Graham blamed his former lover for committing the vengeful killing of a 16-year-old girl.

He wound up with the same result.

Graham was convicted Friday of capital murder for the December 1995 shooting death of Adrianne Jones. He now faces life in prison and shares the same fate as his former sweetheart, ex-Naval Academy midshipman Diane Zamora, found guilty of the same charge in February.

"This is finally over for the Jones family. We've got Diane done, now David," said prosecutor Mike Parrish said. "Now they begin a little more healing, they turn another page and they move on."

Prosecutors accused Graham, 20, of shooting Miss Jones twice in the head to placate an enraged Miss Zamora, who mistakenly believed Graham and Miss Jones once had an affair.

Graham's lawyer denied his client killed Miss Jones. But his defense belied his own written confession, in which he said, "I just pointed and shot."

The jury foreman said the confession convinced the panel of Graham's guilt.

"Without a confession it would have been a whole different deliberation," said William Wright, a retired Marine Corps colonel. "It became a key piece of evidence."

Jurors deliberated more than eight hours over two days before returning the verdict.

Standing up straight, Graham appeared to swallow hard but showed no other emotion as the decision was read.

"He's spending 40 calendar years in a cage somewhere. He's not a real happy camper. Neither am I," said defense lawyer Dan Cogdell.

In contrast, Miss Jones' tearful family spoke in court after the verdict, thanking the jury and addressing Graham.

"David, every evening I remember my daughter," said the victim's mother, Linda Jones. "She's still among us, watching us. I remember her eyes with joy."

The victim's brother, Justin Jones, told Graham he didn't hate him because "I can't hate an animal, for they are ignorant, dumb and blind."

A second brother, Scott Jones, his voice breaking with emotion, said of Graham: "He ruined so many lives, so many families, and unlike my brother I can hate an animal and I can hate David Graham."

Several jurors wiped away tears when they listened to statements from the victim's family.

Defense attorneys had wanted to call Miss Zamora, 20. as a witness, but in a brief court appearance she invoked to Fifth Amendment protection against self-incrimination and refused to answer any questions.

Miss Zamora's lawyer, John Linebarger, said Friday his client will seek a new trial based on testimony from Graham's trial that Graham and Miss Jones never had a sexual encounter. Prosecutors had made that claim in Miss Zamora's trial.

Meanwhile, the once intense love that burned between Zamora and Graham has cooled considerably.

"I can assure you the bloom has fallen from the rose," Linebarger said. "They haven't written each other in over a year. There's been no communication between them."

Proposed smoking ban draws questions

WASHINGTON (AP) — With smoking banned on flights within U.S. borders, the Senate is now trying to prohibit it on international flights, upsetting foreign airlines.

"This is good politics in the United States because there is a strong anti-smoking lobby," Wanda Potrykus, spokeswoman for the Montreal-based International Air Transport Association, said Friday. "However, there is an equally virulent pro-smoking lobby in Asia and France."

In a late-night voice vote Thursday, the Senate added an amendment to a $47.1 billion transportation spending bill that would ban smoking on international flights arriving and departing at U.S. airports. The amendment's sponsor, Sen. Richard J. Durbin, D-Ill., was 14 when his chain-smoking father died of lung cancer.

Durbin said he was reacting to complaints from airline passengers who had embraced the domestic ban and were wondering why they had to tolerate smoky cabin air on lengthier overseas flights.

Smoking, under attack in the United States, remains an integral part of cultures in Europe, the Middle East and Asia. Durbin said he expected a challenge from foreign carriers and tobacco groups when differences are resolved between the Senate bill and a House measure still under consideration.

"We have an authority to establish safety standards for flights taking off and landing in the United States," the senator said in an interview. "We think it includes health issues as well."

Potrykus' association, which represents foreign air carriers, said that while the United States has the power to institute such a ban, it risks triggering an international confrontation.

"If the U.S. starts requiring this, France could turn around and say all carriers flying into France must have smoking flights for their passengers," she said.

"We're the flag carrier of Italy," Alitalia spokeswoman Marta Lotti said. "I was under the impression that the laws governing us were the ones of the Italian transport offices."

Foreign carriers have mixed policies on the issue. British Airways banned smoking on its worldwide route system March 29. Lotti said Alitalia offers a smoke-free flight between Rome and New York and another on which smoking is allowed. Flights to Rome from Boston, Chicago and Miami have smoking sections, she said.

In 1987, Durbin, then a member of the House, successfully lobbied Congress to pass a law banning smoking on U.S. domestic flights of two hours or less. In 1989, the ban was extended to all domestic flights and trips to Alaska or Hawaii lasting six hours or less.

In response, most airlines simply banned smoking on all U.S. flights. Many U.S. carriers do the same on their international flights.

Durbin's latest measure would give the transportation secretary four months to require all air carriers to ban smoking on flights "between a place in the United States and a place outside the United States."

If a foreign carrier believes that is an illegal extension of U.S. law, the measure would authorize the transportation secretary to negotiate a waiver and enforce "an alternative smoking prohibition."

Durbin said he thinks carriers will be reluctant to seek waivers because some of their competitors are bound to accept the law.

"When we started establishing the standard of smoke-free flights, people found that if they didn't go smoke-free, people would go somewhere else," he said.

Mike Stanton, a banker from Chicago, recalled his surprise when he boarded a Royal Jordanian Airlines flight from Chicago to Amsterdam two years ago and was assigned a seat immediately ahead of the smoking section.

Datebook

July 25, 1998

Today is the 35th day of 1998 and the 206th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1866, Ulysses S. Grant was named General of the Army. He was the first officer to hold that rank.

On this day in 1871, William Schneider of Davenport, Iowa, invented the merry-go-round.

On this day in 1965, Bob Dylan was booed at the Newport Folk Festival when he played an electric guitar.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Thomas Eakins (1844-1916), artist; Maxfield Parrish (1870-1966), artist; Walter Brennan (1894-1974), actor; Jack Gilford (1907-1990), actor; Estelle Getty (1924-), actress, is 74; Nate Thurmond (1941-), basketball great, is 57; Walter Payton (1954-), football great, is 44; Steve Podborski (1957-), skier, is 41; Thurston Moore (1958-), musician, is 39.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1908, Forrest Smithson won the 110-meter hurdle race at the London Olympics.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "There never were, in the world, two opinions alike, no more than two hairs, or two grains; the most universal quality is diversity." — Montaigne

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1956, the Andrea Doria collided with the Stockholm and sank off the coast of Massachusetts; 52 people died.

SOURCE: 1998 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (July 23) and first quarter (July 31).

July 26, 1998

Today is the 36th day of 1998 and the 207th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1775, Benjamin Franklin became the first Postmaster General of the United States.

On this day in 1947, President Harry S. Truman signed the National Security Act, which created the Department of Defense, the National Security Council and the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

On this day in 1964, Teamsters President Jimmy Hoffa and six others were convicted of fraud and conspiracy in the handling of a union pension fund.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: George Catlin (1796-1872), artist; George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950), playwright-critic; Carl Jung (1875-1961), psychiatrist; Aldous Huxley (1894-1963), writer; Gracie Allen (1906-1964), comedian-actress; Blake Edwards (1922-), director, is 76; Jason Robards (1922-), actor, is 76; Stanley Kubrick (1928-), director, is 70; Mick Jagger (1943-), singer, is 55; Dorothy Hamill (1956-), figure skater, is 42.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1952, Bob Mathias won his second Olympic decathlon championship.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Imagination is the beginning of creation. You imagine what you desire, you will what you imagine and at last you create what you will." — George Bernard Shaw

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1873, a tornado destroyed two spans on a railroad bridge in Maine, resulting in one death when an engine and tender plunged into the river after nightfall.

SOURCE: 1998 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (July 23) and first quarter (July 31).

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Thank You...

Landowners in Fisher and Scurry County are grateful for the dedication of area fire departments in containing a large brush fire in the Rough Canyon area.

Fire Departments responded from Roby, Rotan and from Snyder and were assisted by the Interagency Task Force of the Forest Service.

We also want to say a special thanks to the Ladies Auxiliary of Rotan Volunteer Fire Department for providing food and drink for the firefighters.

Landowners are appreciative of your hard work, and we want to publicly thank you. We also ask everyone to join us in praying for much-needed rain.

Sincerely,
Buster Welch
Fisher County

SPORTS

At NFL training camps...

Dallas defense gets chopped; Broncos' Davis inks contract

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys have brought out an ancient oriental weapon to try to help their meek pass rush.

They have brought in a martial arts instructor who has a black belt in karate to help them find a way to neutralize the hands of grabby offensive linemen.

Defensive tackle Chad Hennings likes it a lot.

"We're so much farther ahead in training camp then we've ever been and one of the reasons is our consultant, Joe Kim," Hennings said. "He shows us different techniques on how to fight off hands. We needed something to combat the way offensive linemen get away with holding. ".

Hennings said there was some skepticism at first although martial arts knowledge had helped former Cowboys like Randy White and Jim Jeffcoat. It was defensive line coach Jim Bates who gave an OK to the idea.

"Hands are the key to stopping a pass rush," Hennings said. "If you can get rid of the hands then you can rush the passer."

"I try to speak to players in football terms," Kim said. "If they can learn the proper techniques it should help them keep hands off."

Coach Chan Gailey said the martial arts consultant could help.

"I was a little skeptical at first, but I've seen what he has been teaching and I like it," Gailey said.

Hennings said there are several reasons he expects the Dallas defense to be solid this year. A lack of a pass rush led to only seven interceptions last year, lowest in the NFL.

"We've got Leon Lett back for the full season and that's going to make a tremendous difference," Hennings said. "Leon is a load and will help us both stopping the run and rushing the passer."

Lett missed most of last year because of an NFL-mandated drug suspension.

Hennings said an improved offense this year also will help the defense.

"We were on the field a lot last year and I think this offense is going to keep us off the field," Hennings said. "That really means a lot when the offense keeps the ball."

There is some worry about the Cowboys two green defensive ends, rookie Greg Ellis and Kavika Pittman.

"The ends need a lot of work to show progress," Hennings said. "But we have a long preseason to work on all of that."

Hennings said the new coaching staff under Chan Gailey is doing a good job of instilling discipline.

"I've had to run one penalty lap and I don't want to run another," he said. "That's a good deterrent to mental mistakes for sure."

Hennings, who came out of the Air Force as a pilot during the Gulf War, took one of his days off to visit nearby Shepperd Air Force Base.

"That brought back a lot of memories," he said. "I remember how stressful flight training was."

Hennings flew during the war but was never in combat.

Asked if he might like to be a commercial pilot again some day, the 6-foot-6, 270-pound Hennings grinned.

"I was almost too big for the Air Force," he said. "I'm not sure that would work. Maybe some day I might be interested."

For now, Hennings has some karate to learn.

Bills

Chris Spielman is skipping the season to help his wife fight breast cancer.

"I've always been a husband and a father first and a football player second," the Buffalo Bills linebacker said Friday from his home in Upper Arlington, Ohio. "It was a very easy decision to make for me."

He said forgoing his 11th NFL season had nothing to do with surgery he underwent last year to fuse two vertebrae in his neck.

"My neck is fine," he said.

Stephanie Spielman, 31, was diagnosed 10 days ago after noticing a lump following a miscarriage. She had surgery at James Hospital at Ohio State University and faces several months of chemotherapy, beginning next week.

"I told her that I want to be the one to take her to treatments," Spielman said. "I want to be the one to hold her hand. I want to be the one to be with my kids when she can't."

Earlier this month, Atlanta quarterback Mark Rypien decided to remain home because his son and wife are seriously ill.

Broncos

In Greeley, Colo., Terrell Davis signed a nine-year contract reportedly worth $56.1 million that makes him the NFL's highest-paid running back.

"The contract makes me a Bronco for the remainder of my career and that's really what I've been looking forward to," the Super Bowl MVP said.

Davis, 25, a sixth-round draft pick out of Georgia in 1995, led the AFC in rushing the last two seasons, gaining 1,538 yards in 1996 and 1,750 last season. He rushed for 157 yards and three touchdowns in the Broncos' 31-24 Super Bowl victory over Green Bay.

Panthers

Sam Mills, the linebacker who started every game in Carolina's first three seasons, will become the first player enshrined in the team's Hall of Honor.

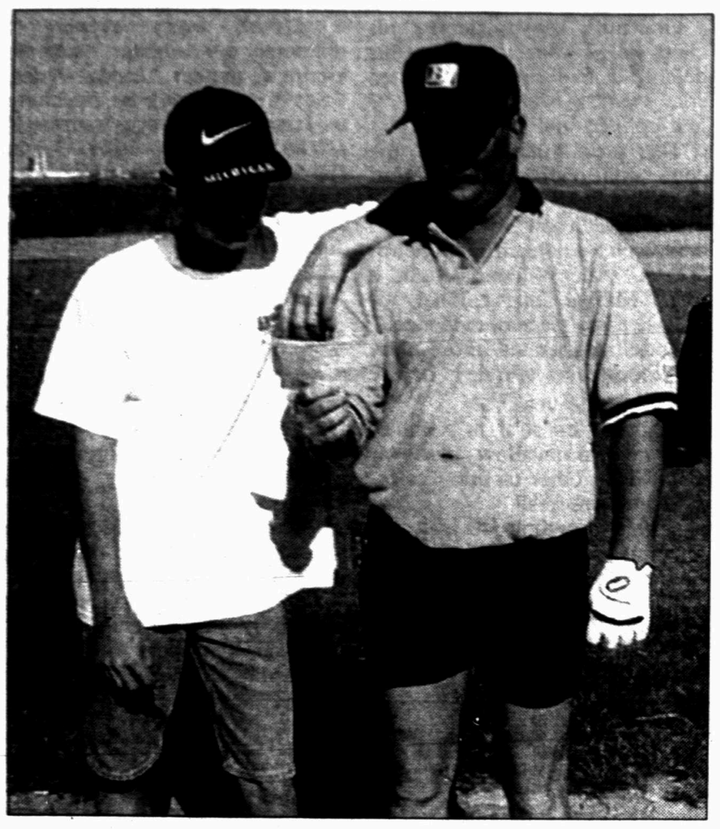
"Sam Mills has meant a great deal to this organization and has set a high standard for our players," team owner Jerry Richardson said Friday as the Panthers opened training camp at Wofford College. "It is only fitting that he is recognized with the Carolina Panthers' highest honor."

Mills, 39, retired after last season and currently works as a scout and assistant coach for the Panthers.

Lions

Although he still wants his contract renegotiated, receiver Herman Moore appeared for Detroit's first practice session at Saginaw Valley State.

"I honestly believed I needed to be here for the first practice," Moore said. "Conscience, as well as logic, took over. I need to be here, I love being here. I think it would have strained our relationship if it were a situation where I was not here."



HOW'S IT LOOK? — Snyder's John Hunter (right) and his son Tyler pause to check their scorecard Saturday morning during the Parent-Child Golf Tournament at Snyder Country Club. (SDN Staff Photo)

Weaver and Neff nab jr. golf crowns

Daysha Weaver decided to add one more title to her name, before heading off for college.

Weaver, a spring golf signee with the University of North Texas, fired a 76 Friday, winning the title of girls Junior Club Champion at Snyder Country Club.

Stan Neff carded an 87 in afternoon action to claim the boys junior club crown.

In other age groups, Paige Smith posted a 50 to win the 12-year-old girls division, while Hailey Putnam finished with a 49 to hold off Kamie Drain's 51 in the 13-year-old group.

In the boys 10-year-old division, Syd Wiggins and Jay Weaver both fired a 52, forcing a sudden-death playoff. Wiggins won the title on the first extra hole.

Wyl Wiggins took the top spot in 11-year-old action with a 60.

In the 13-year-old division, it was Vaughn Wiggins nabbing top honors with a 91, while Brady Reed took second with a 97 and Logan Hill was third with a 102.

Rangers stumble in Minnesota

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Rick Aguilera needed the ball, he needed a chance, he needed to forget.

He didn't have to wait long.

Atoning for Thursday's ninth-inning disaster against the Anaheim Angels, Aguilera pitched a near-perfect ninth to save the Minnesota Twins' 5-3 victory over the intimidating Texas Rangers on Friday night.

It was his 23rd save of the season and 253rd of his career, and it took away the heartache of the eighth blown save of what has been a roller-coaster season for one of the game's most respected closers.

"I think most people would like a chance to put something behind them as quick as they can," Aguilera said. "I was happy to be able to put it behind me the next night. It doesn't take away what happened, but it's just good to get that over with."

Closing out close games has been a struggle for the Twins all season, the biggest reason first-place Cleveland is only a speck on the horizon in the AL Central. Minnesota has blown 16 saves and has lost 18 one-run games, including Thursday's 6-5 loss to Anaheim in the 10th after Aguilera failed to protect a 5-2 lead an inning earlier.

If the Twins had pulled out even half of those one-run losses they would be just 2½ games behind the Indians instead of 11½. A race the Twins have all but conceded would still be up for grabs.

That's part of what has made 1998 so frustrating for Aguilera, but his teammates continue to show confidence in him.

"With Aggie, 99.9 percent of the time he's going to be on," said rookie starter Dan Serafini. "And that one-tenth of one percent of the time, he's human and things happen. I'd put Aggie behind me any day of the week, without a doubt."

Aguilera's save put a nice finish on an impressive night for Serafini. After going more than a month without a win, Serafini (4-3) held the high-scoring Rangers to two runs on nine hits in six innings.

He allowed only Rusty Greer's RBI single in the fifth and Mike Simms' solo homer in the sixth. Greer added an RBI double off Mike Trombley in the seventh.

Juan Gonzalez, who leads the majors with 114 RBIs, went 0-for-3 to end a 13-game hitting streak and a torrid five-game stretch in which he had hit four homers and driven in 13 runs. He missed a chance to tie the game at 4-4 when he flied out to left field to end the seventh with Greer at second.

Esteban Loaiza (0-1) allowed four runs and 10 hits in 5 2-3 innings in his second start for Texas.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
NewYork	72	25	.742	-
Boston	58	43	.574	16
Baltimore	52	51	.505	23
Toronto	52	52	.500	23½
TampaBay	38	62	.380	35½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	58	44	.569	-
Minnesota	46	55	.455	11½
KansasCity	45	56	.446	12½
Chicago	44	58	.431	14
Detroit	43	58	.426	14½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	56	46	.549	-
Anaheim	55	46	.545	½
Oakland	46	55	.455	9½
Seattle	46	56	.451	10

Friday's Games

Toronto 10, Boston 6
Cleveland 2, Detroit 1, 11 innings
Tampa Bay 6, Oakland 0
Baltimore 7, Seattle 4
N.Y. Yankees 5, Chicago White Sox 4
Kansas City 4, Anaheim 3
Minnesota 5, Texas 3

Saturday's Games

Detroit (Greisinger 1-4) at Cleveland (Colon 10-5), 1:05 p.m.
Seattle (Fassero 9-6) at Baltimore (Rodriguez 1-3), 1:15 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Sirotka 9-9) at N.Y. Yankees (Irabu 9-3), 4:05 p.m.
Toronto (Williams 9-4) at Boston (Saberhagen 10-5), 5:05 p.m.
Oakland (Rogers 10-3) at Tampa Bay (Santana 2-2), 6:35 p.m.
Anaheim (Washburn 5-2) at Kansas City (Belcher 9-8), 8:05 p.m.
Texas (Burkett 6-10) at Minnesota (Rodriguez 0-0), 8:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Toronto (Hentgen 9-7) at Boston (P.Martinez 13-3), 1:05 p.m.
Detroit (Moehler 10-7) at Cleveland (Gooden 3-5), 1:05 p.m.
Oakland (Candiotti 5-11) at Tampa Bay (Rekar 0-2), 1:35 p.m.
Seattle (Moyer 7-7) at Baltimore (Erickson 11-7), 1:35 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Navarro 8-11) at N.Y. Yankees (Wells 11-2), 1:35 p.m.
Anaheim (Olivarez 5-6) at Kansas City (Rosado 4-8), 2:05 p.m.
Texas (Helling 13-5) at Minnesota (Hawkins 6-9), 2:05 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	68	35	.660	-
NewYork	54	46	.540	12½
Philadelphia	53	48	.525	14
Montreal	40	63	.388	28
Florida	37	66	.359	31

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	61	41	.598	-
Chicago	57	46	.553	4½
Milwaukee	51	52	.495	10¼
St.Louis	48	54	.471	13
Pittsburgh	48	55	.466	13½
Cincinnati	45	58	.437	16¼

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
SanDiego	67	36	.650	-
SanFrancisco	55	48	.534	12
LosAngeles	53	50	.515	14
Colorado	45	58	.437	22
Arizona	36	66	.353	30½

Friday's Games

N.Y. Mets 5, Chicago Cubs 0, 1st game
N.Y. Mets 7, Chicago Cubs 3, 2nd game
Philadelphia 6, Florida 4, 12 innings, 1st game
Philadelphia 7, Florida 6, 12 innings, 2nd game
Milwaukee 10, Montreal 7, 1st game
Montreal 11, Milwaukee 2, 2nd game
Atlanta 3, Pittsburgh 0
Colorado 12, St. Louis 3
Los Angeles 3, Arizona 1
Houston 2, San Diego 1
San Francisco 12, Cincinnati 2

Saturday's Games

Florida (Hernandez 7-7) at Philadelphia (Schilling 10-9), 1:15 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Yoshii 4-6) at Chicago Cubs (Tapani 11-6), 1:15 p.m.
Cincinnati (Parris 1-1) at San Francisco (Ortiz 0-0), 4:05 p.m.
Houston (Reynolds 12-5) at San Diego (Langston 3-3), 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Morris 1-0) at Colorado (Wright 5-9), 4:15 p.m.
Atlanta (Neagle 10-8) at Pittsburgh (Cordova 8-8), 7:05 p.m.
Montreal (Perez 7-10) at Milwaukee (Karl 8-4), 8:05 p.m.
Arizona (Daal 3-5) at Los Angeles (Dreifort 6-8), 10:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Florida (Sanchez 4-6) at Philadelphia (Portugal 6-2), 1:35 p.m.
Atlanta (Maddux 13-4) at Pittsburgh (Schmidt 8-7), 1:35 p.m.
Montreal (Pavano 3-4) at Milwaukee (Eldred 4-8), 2:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Reed 11-6) at Chicago Cubs (Wood 9-5), 2:20 p.m.
Houston (Hampton 8-5) at San Diego (Brown 12-3), 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Tomko 9-7) at San Francisco (Hershiser 8-8), 4:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Mercker 5-8) at Colorado (Thomson 5-6), 8:05 p.m.
Arizona (Benes 7-10) at Los Angeles (Valdes 8-9), 8:05 p.m.

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SPORTS

U.S. athletes rack up gold medals

UNIONDALE, N.Y. (AP) — It was a day of surprises for U.S. athletes at the Goodwill Games.

From diving to basketball to beach volleyball, they did the unexpected — they won and racked up medals.

Mark Ruiz thought he was in water over his head against the dominating Chinese divers. He fell short in the 1-meter springboard, but not by nearly as much as he expected.

Ruiz, already the best U.S. platform diver at 19, made his first big splash off the springboard winning the bronze medal behind a pair of Chinese men and ahead of an onrushing German.

And there was no bigger surprise than at Madison Square Garden, where the young U.S. basketball team also won a medal is wasn't supposed to — the gold.

The squad of college undergraduates beat Australia 93-85 in overtime.

It was the first major international men's basketball title for a team of U.S. amateurs since a college all-star team won the world championship in 1986.

"It's unbelievable, to win a gold medal for the USA. It's the highlight of my life," said Wally Szczerbiak of Miami-Ohio, who grew up in suburban Long Island and used to come to the Garden to cheer on the Knicks. "It was great to win it here in my hometown."

Ruiz, who moved to Orlando, Fla., from Puerto Rico six years ago, was in third place after all six rounds, but he said he no clue of his standing.

"I don't ever look at the scoreboard," he said. "I thought I was fourth. All I do is concentrate on my own dives."

If Ruiz had been paying attention, he would have seen Andreas Wels of Germany scoring 72.00 and 73.47 points on his last two dives with a string of 8.0 and 8.5 scores, putting the pressure on Ruiz.

But Ruiz nailed his last dive, a reverse 2½ somersault with a half-twist, scoring 74.40 points to finish with 395.52, just 2.28 ahead of Wels.

Zhou Yilin of China was first after each of the first five dives, but a superb final dive gave world champion Yu Zhoucheng the gold with 426.24 points, just ahead of Zhou's 421.86.

Ruiz was first in this year's national championships and first in the World Championships trials in platform last year before finishing sixth in the world meet. He didn't qualify for either the 1- or 3-meter springboard events.

"I wasn't really a serious springboard diver until this year," he said. "Over the past year, I've done so much better in the springboard, so that now I'm diving consistently. I plan to continue training in all three events."

America's other teen-age diving hope, Troy Dumais of Ventura, Calif., was fifth after three dives before scores of 31.62 and 31.50 in the fourth and fifth rounds. Dumais, 18, second in the 1-meter at this year's world championships, fell to 10th in the 12-man field.

"I didn't have the confidence in myself to do the dives I normally do," Dumais said. "I was thinking stupid thoughts, thinking too much, second-guessing myself."

Dumais said Ruiz was not really far behind the two Chinese men.

"They're dominant because they're consistent," he said. "They believe they're the best. They are so mentally sound. But if Mark had hit two dives that he had 6.5s on, he would've won. He was only 25 or 30 points behind."

Brian Gillooly of Kissimmee, Fla., was fifth with 367.77 points.

Lithuania, which lost to the United States in the semifinals, beat Puerto Rico 119-75 for the basketball bronze medal.

Karch Kiraly and Adam Johnson of the United States will play for a Goodwill Games beach volleyball medal. They narrowly beat the No. 2 U.S. team of Sinjin Smith and Ricci Luyties 16-14 to finish their preliminary group 2-1. Johnson had 24 kills, while Luyties had seven blocks

The world's top-rated men's team, Guilherme Marques and Para Ferreira of Brazil, rallied from a 6-0 deficit to finish the preliminary rounds unbeaten with a 15-11 victory over Canada's John Child and Mark Heese Friday. Ferreira had seven blocks.

"After 6-0, we still keep our minds concentrating," Marques said. "We changed our game. I did some jump serves and para made some good blocks. After 6-0, if you lose your mind, you will lose 15-0."

Marques and Ferreira won their first two matches by a combined score of 30-5.

Also advancing to Saturday's semifinals were Julien Prosser and Leo Zahner of Australia, who beat Martin Conde and Esteban Martinez of Argentina 15-7. A 9-point run gave the Australians a 12-4 lead. It was the first loss in three matches for the Argentines, and they reached the semifinals when defending champions Jan Kvalheim and Bjorn Maaseide of Norway lost to Martin and Paul Laciga of Switzerland 16-14.

Rhythmic gymnast Alina Kabayeva of Russia became the games' first quadruple-gold medalist, adding titles in the ribbon, clubs and hoop to her all-around gold. She also took silver in the rope.

The figure skating competition doesn't start for another five days, but it lost a big name Friday when former U.S. national champion Nicole Bobek withdrew. Bobek said she neeed more time to recuperate from a nagging injury and to get reacquainted with coach Richard Callaghan.

Houston 2, S.D. 1...

Astros slip past Padres

SAN DIEGO (AP) - Pete Schourek pitched seven strong innings to match his longest stint of the season and the Houston Astros defeated the San Diego Padres 2-1 Friday night in a meeting of NL division leaders.

Schourek (6-6) gave up one run and five hits, walking none and striking out six. He exceeded his victory total of 1997, when he went 5-8 for Cincinnati in a season riddled by elbow problems.

Mike Magnante pitched the ninth for his second save.

The loss snapped a three-game winning streak for the Padres, who had also won 10 of their previous 12 games. The Central-leading Astros are 5-2 against the NL West-leading counterparts.

Sterling Hitchcock (4-4) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings. In his previous three starts, he was 0-2 and gave up 18 runs in 16 innings.

Jeff Bagwell hit a leadoff double and stole second to set up the run that gave a 1-0 lead in the second. He scored when Alou followed with a sacrifice fly for his 24th RBI in the last 22 games.

The Astros took a 2-0 lead in the sixth. Moises Alou led off with a double and scored on Sean Berry's single.

Ruben Rivera hit a solo homer to narrow the deficit for the Padres in the seventh.

The Padres' Tony Gwynn doubled and singled to tie Zack Wheat for 29th place on the career hit list with 2,884.

Hitchcock escaped a bases-loaded jam with one out in the fifth when he struck out both Derek Bell and Bagwell.

Oilers sign top picks

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — The Tennessee Oilers finally reached deals with their top two draft picks Friday as players spent the day unpacking for the start of training camp.

General manager Floyd Reese announced Friday afternoon that he had agreed to terms with No. 1 pick Kevin Dyson, a wide receiver from Utah, and second-round choice Samari Rolle, a cornerback from Florida State.

The first receiver taken in the draft with the 16th overall pick, Dyson received a five-year contract for $6 million with a $3.4 million signing bonus. Terms of Rolle's deal were not disclosed.

Dyson, only the second wide receiver drafted by the Oilers in the first round, had been in Nashville the past two weeks waiting for camp to open.

"I want to play. That's the bottom line. I just want to play football," said Dyson. "Any money they give me is a lot of money."

Reese said he and Dyson's agent, Gary Wichard, had been close to reaching a deal the past two weeks but final details delayed the agreement until about noon Friday. They were close enough that Dyson and Rolle went ahead and moved into their rooms at Tennessee State University.

Dyson is expected to compete with veteran Chris Sanders for the other starting spot alongside Yancey Thigpen.

The 6-foot-1, 199-pounder caught at least 50 passes in his last three years with the Utes, with a high of 60 catches last season. He was timed between 4.35 and 4.37 seconds in the 40-yard dash in predraft workouts and impressed coaches during minicamps with acrobatic catches.

The 6-0 Rolle played 38 straight games at Florida and had 12 interceptions. Known for his cover skills, he is expected to play this year.

With the deals, coach Jeff Fisher will have everyone in camp for the first practice Saturday. Last year, Pro Bowl safety Blaine Bishop held out for all of camp while negotiating a new deal. Bishop was the only veteran who needed directions Friday in finding his room since he missed the Oilers' first training camp in Tennessee last year.

Fisher said familiarity will be a big boost for a team that moved from Houston straight into training camp in Nashville last year.

"We're no longer a young team fighting distractions, doing all those things," said Fisher, who hasn't had a winning record in three seasons of rebuilding.

NBA, players union set meeting

NEW YORK (AP) — They finally have a date to talk. And when the NBA and the players' union resume negotiations Aug. 6 to end the lockout, training camp will be two months away.

The lockout is more than 3 weeks old and these will be the first formal discussions between NBA commissioner David Stern and union director Billy Hunter since June 22.

Stern and Hunter spoke by phone Thursday night, a few hours after the union filed an unfair labor complaint with the National Labor Relations Board, the government agency that helped end the baseball strike in 1995.

The NLRB also was involved in the 1995 NBA lockout when the players voted to accept a new labor agreement rather than decertify their union.

When the NBA and union last met, talks broke off after 30 minutes. Players said they saw no need to listen to any new proposals that included any weakening of the Larry Bird rule, which allows teams to exceed the salary cap to re-sign their own free agents.

The stalemate is now being fought on several fronts. Aside from the upcoming talks and the NLRB filing, the dispute is in federal court and before arbitrator John Feerick.

The union filed a grievance with Feerick on behalf of some 200 players with guaranteed contracts who are not being paid during the lockout.

Sports Briefs

Raggedy Ann & Andy

The Raggedy Ann & Andy Couples Golf Tournament will be held at Snyder Country Club next Saturday and Sunday. Format will be a scramble. Teams will be divided by handicap into two divisions, then flighted after the first round.

Entry fee is $200 per team. Shotgun starts will be at 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. both days.

For more information, contact the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Tennis camp

The five-day Competitive Edge Tennis Camp will be held beginning Monday. Sessions will run from 8 a.m. until 4 p.m. each day. Cost is $125.

For more information, call Chad Redwine at 573-9064.

Ragball tourney

Ira senior class is sponsoring a co-ed ragball tournament beginning Friday. Entry fee is $10 per person and deadline for registration is Wednesday.

For more information, contact Chesta Schneider at 573-8694 or Toby Goodwin at 573-3196.

SCC scramble and MGA

A members' scramble is held each Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. at Snyder Country Club. At 5:30 p.m. each Thursday, the Men's Golf Association has a 9-hole event. The Thursday format varies.

Fast pitch clinic

A softball pitching clinic is held each Wednesday at Cates Field at 5:30.

Ages 8 & up are eligible to register. For more information, call Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Hunting permits

Applications for hunting permits on the O.H. Ivie Reservoir WMA are being accepted through Aug. 15. For more information, contact the Colorado River Municipal Water District at (915) 267-6341.

Kiwanis tournament

The Kiwanis Golf Tournament, benefitting the Hubert and Mary Cargile Scholarship Fund, will be Aug. 8 at Western Texas College.

Format will be a four-person scramble with cash prizes awarded to the top four teams. Entry fee is $30 per person and the field is limited to 24 teams.

There will be closest to the hole and longest drive contests, as well as a $10,000 prize for a hole-in-one.

For more information, contact Russell Fisk at 573-3438 or 573-3267, or call Melanie or Linda at 573-4041.

WGA play day

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will hold its Tuesday play day beginning at 9 a.m. Format will be play the pro.

There will be no couples play Friday.

SNYDER SLOWPITCH SOFTBALL

Women's League

FINAL STANDINGS

Team	W	L
Outcast	14	1
12 Gauge	11	4
Outsiders	5	10
Gliders	0	15

July 13 results: Outcast 16, 12 Gauge 15
July 14 results: Outcast 11, Outsiders 0; 12 Gauge 7, Gliders 0

Men's League

Team	W	L
Snyder Iron & Metal	13	1
Martinez Plumbing	11	3
Velasquez Plumbing	11	3
Earnest Upholstery	7	7
Westbrook Well Service	5	9
The Team	5	9
Pennzoil	2	12
Patterson's Used Cars	2	12

July 13 results: Velasquez Plumbing 23, Westbrook Well Service 5; Martinez Plumbing 13, Pennzoil 2
July 14 results: Earnest Upholstery 14, Pennzoil 13

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Charlotte	14	5	.737	-
NewYork	11	9	.550	3¼
Cleveland	9	8	.529	4
Detroit	10	9	.526	4
Washington	2	16	.111	11½
WESTERN CONFERENCE	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Houston	17	1	.944	-
Phoenix	12	6	.667	5
LosAngeles	6	11	.353	10½
Utah	6	12	.333	11
Sacramento	4	14	.222	13

Friday's Games
New York 76, Sacramento 54
Saturday's Games
Los Angeles at Detroit, 2 p.m.
Utah at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Houston at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Detroit at New York, 4 p.m.
Sacramento at Washington, 4 p.m.

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Effective Aug. 15, 1998, accounts 30 or more days past due will be disconnected until the account is paid in full. The reconnection fee will remain at the current price of $25. All accounts must be paid in full each month thereafter.
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010 LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Apache Corporation, 2000 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 100, Houston, Texas 77056-4400 has applied to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Penn Reef formation in the T.J. Good-A-Well Number #18 in Jo-Mill (Sprayberry) Field.

The proposed injection wells are located 30 miles Southwest of Gail, Texas in Borden County.

Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 8000' to 8300' feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

NOTICE: Scurry County/Cogdell Memorial Hospital will be accepting proposals for its Group Health Care Program until Noon on Friday, August 21, 1998. For information contact Jeff Reecer, Cogdell Memorial Hospital, 1700 Cogdell Blvd. Snyder, Texas 79549.



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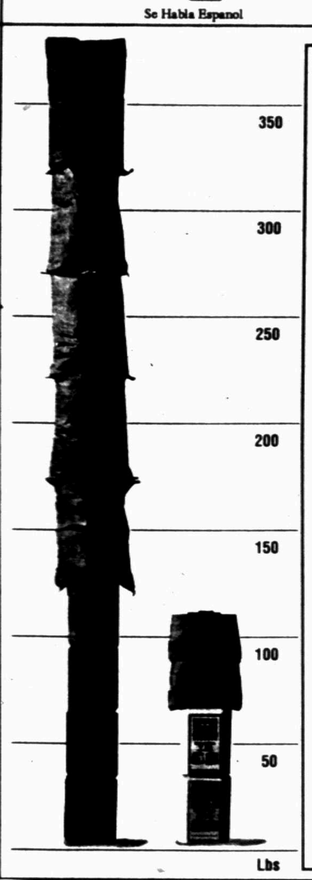
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3007 41st 3-1-2cp Red $45T
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Missile test shows vulnerability of U.S. troops

WASHINGTON (AP) — Eight months ago, U.S. intelligence estimated Iran was a decade away from developing a medium-range missile capable of reaching Israel.

Iran tested such a missile this week, pointing to the vulnerability of U.S. troops in the Middle East and to the fragility of intelligence estimates.

Clinton administration officials, while saying they anticipated the Iranian test, now offer no solid estimates on how soon Iran may field a force of medium-range missiles now that it has tested one. Nor could the Pentagon state whether or when it will be able to reliably defend U.S. troops against such a missile. And an exhaustive study on ballistic missiles says the ability of U.S. intelligence to warn against new emerging threats is waning.

The Shahab-3 missile tested is capable of reaching Israel as well as the thousands of U.S. troops stationed in Saudi Arabia. The missile test came as unequivocally bad news in official Washington. A Pentagon paper in February on Iranian missile programs said a fielded medium-range missile by mid-1999 would be the "worst-case scenario" and warned that with current missile defense systems, there is "window of vulnerability" for U.S. forces in the region.

U.S. intelligence, still smarting from its failure to predict India's nuclear weapons tests in May, says it stayed on top of developments in Iran.

Indeed, a variety of intelligence publications reported the likelihood of a test beforehand, said a U.S. intelligence official who spoke Friday on condition of anonymity.

Elsewhere, however, close followers of intelligence matters were less willing to give the CIA high marks.

"For more than six months Israel warned the United States that Iran was moving closer to this missile capability and the United States did not take the Israeli assessments seriously," said Gerald Steinberg, an Israeli defense expert who specializes in missiles.

The United States should brace for more surprises as countries such as Iran, Iraq, Libya and North Korea continue to develop and improve their arsenals, according to a congressionally mandated study of missile threat issues headed up by former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld.

"The Intelligence Community's ability to provide timely and accurate estimates of ballistic missile threats to the U.S. is eroding," the Rumsfeld commission reported earlier this month. Under some scenarios, the report found, "The U.S. might well have little or no warning before operational deployment." Meanwhile, it said, "Iran has acquired and is seeking major, advanced missile components that can be combined to produce ballistic missiles with sufficient range to strike the United States."

Rep. Curt Weldon, R-Pa., a major GOP proponent of expanded national and regional missile defenses, said of the CIA and the Clinton administration, "They have understated, denied and downplayed — consistently — the threats that are emerging."

Throughout 1997, the U.S. intelligence community estimated Iran would need up to 10 years to develop a medium-range missile capability, always with the caveat that Iran could simply buy the capability from a willing seller, such as North Korea. But the estimates apparently rated that development unlikely. All that changed early this year.

The CIA began to pick up clear intelligence showing that Iran was getting substantial missile technology from Russia, and some from China. And the economic strife in North Korea made it more likely that Pyongyang would try to sell Iran or other countries its No Dong missiles, on which the Shabab-3 is based.

On Jan. 28, CIA Director George Tenet told the Senate Intelligence Committee that this information "means that (Iran) could have a medium-range missile much sooner than I assumed last year."

That word apparently wasn't accepted throughout the Clinton administration.

Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre, the Pentagon's No. 2 official, sent an assessment to Capitol Hill in February that found "there is no consensus within the intelligence community on timing for fielding of an Iranian (medium-range) capability." If it takes Iran a few years, giving the Pentagon more time to improve its missile defenses, "this greatly reduces the window of vulnerability," the assessment concluded. But planners were focusing on "the worst-case scenario — a capability in mid-1999."

Moore starts new duties at Colonial Hill Baptist

This will be Bob Moore's first Sunday in Colonial Hill Baptist Church as minister of education and administration.



Bob Moore

Coming from Easthaven Baptist Church in Houston, he did make it in time to participate in the church's vacation Bible school last week.

Before entering the ministry in 1995 in Houston, he served churches in Dallas, Washington, D.C. and Petersburg, Pa.

He earned his master's degree in religious education at Southwestern Theological Seminary.

Dr. Tommy Culwell, pastor of the church, Sunday school superintendent Rick Howard and Moore attended National Sunday School Week at Glorieta June 22-26.

"My vision for Colonial Hill is to go forward — to minister for Christ effectively in Snyder and Scurry County and grow as a community of faith in service to our Lord," Moore said.

Moore and his wife, Patsy, have a son Kevin of Austin, and a daughter, Rachel, who is a senior at Southwest Texas State in San Marcos.

Hospital Report

ADMISSIONS: None.

DISMISSALS: Frank Adams, Kenneth Panter, Briana Torres, Geraldine Wright.

CENSUS: 30 (Med., Surg.-4, OB-1, Nursery-1).

Four arrested

Public intoxication and an assault charge led to the arrest of four subjects Friday and early Saturday morning.

Officers arrested a 25-year-old male at 4:02 p.m. in the 1000 block of 28th Street in for Class C assault.

Two subjects were taken into custody by officers in the 100 block of Peach Saturday morning.

A 19-year-old male was arrested at 1:19 a.m. for public intoxication and a 17-year-old male was arrested at 1:23 a.m. for public intoxication and consumption of alcohol by a minor.

At 4:08 a.m. Saturday, officers took a 17-year-old male into custody for public intoxication in the 2900 block of Avenue G.

In other activity Friday, Stella Zuniga requested an officer at her residence at 10:34 p.m. in reference to the theft of her wallet from her vehicle while it was parked at Lawrence IGA #400. An offense report for burglary of a vehicle was submitted.

At 2:22 a.m. Saturday, an officer advised that a subject was running from Snyder Electronics. The officer was unable to locate the person, however. An offense report for burglary was submitted.

A man requested an officer at 5:16 a.m. Saturday in reference to his 16-year-old son running away. An offense report was filed.

Astro-graph



By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Sunday, July 26, 1998

Your financial picture looks strong for the year ahead, but there could still be periods where extravagance gains the upper hand and causes you to spend more than you generate.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Budget your expenditures with care today, and try to establish a policy of not assuming new obligations until the old ones are taken care of. Leo, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Today you might be too assertive for your own good. This could be counterproductive, especially if you have to deal with someone who matches your abrasiveness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) You may have to contend with conditions that keep you from making your own choices today. Drift with the tide — bucking it could make matters worse.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Commercial proposals brought to you by people you're unfamiliar with should not be taken at face value. Examine everything in depth before committing yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You might be sitting on a rather tender branch where your image is concerned today. Be mindful of your behavior — thoughtless actions could saw off that fragile support.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Be sure to give adequate acknowledgment to the ideas and deeds of others today. If you do, they'll do the same for you, but if not, it'll be every man for himself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Commercial dealings could be more complicated than they appear at first glance today. Watch out.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Companions may make heavy demands on your time and talents today, yet there's a possibility they might not be as cooperative in return.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Authority figures will watch you carefully today, so don't do anything that could reflect poorly on your image. Maintain high standards.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) It could be a wise policy today to avoid interactions comprised of chancy elements, since your impulsiveness may urge you to take unnecessary risks.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) It could seem like everyone in your household has a chip on his/her shoulder today, including you. Strive to be a peacemaker.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) If you have to think critically today, don't let your focus shift all over the place. A lack of concentration could pave the way for a serious mistake.

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Your Birthday

Monday, July 27, 1998

Reinforcing and expanding your financial base will be of major importance to you in the year ahead. Success is likely, due to the aid of newfound allies.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Lessons you learn today could be of value; you'll realize you can produce desirable results just like other people. Major changes are ahead for Leo in the coming year. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A relationship that's lost some of its luster can be resurrected today, if you're willing to polish it up a bit.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Several critical objectives can be achieved if you exercise initiative and courage today. Don't be afraid to try something you've never attempted before.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Your ideas are likely to be bold and imaginative today. You'll be more successful executing them with a group than doing so independently.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Acquisition of material gains could be uppermost in your mind today. Your ability to add to your resources will be closely interwoven with people you've been involved with previously.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) In order to fulfill ambitious objectives today, rely on yourself rather than others, especially where critical assignments are concerned.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) In a collective endeavor today, leadership and initiative will be in the hands of others. Go out of your way to cooperate.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You've attracted an enthusiastic booster to your cause today. You may be dubious about his/her abilities, but this person can definitely generate positive developments for you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today you can do what's required of you, provided no one attempts to engineer your every move. Under pressure, you could balk.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A friend may talk to you about an interesting idea s/he doesn't know how to develop today. You'll see possibilities s/he is overlooking.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Focus your attention on material affairs today. You'll be most effective building a material base to enhance your feeling of self-sufficiency.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Someone you're closely involved with may give you something they think is worthless today. Fortunately, you'll recognize its potential and know how to give it meaning.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Are leaky valves significant?

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: On a recent cardiac ultrasound, my doctor discovered that I have two leaky valves. He told me not to worry and gave me no medication. Should I follow this up with a cardiologist?

DEAR READER: Leaky cardiac valves may occur with age as the heart tends to stretch. Whether the leaks are significant depends on your age, your symptoms and the degree of leakage.

Called "regurgitation," these valvular leaks may be trivial. However, the greater the regurgitation, the harder the heart must work to pump blood. Therefore, if you have significant valvular regurgitation, you should certainly be examined by a cardiologist. Moderate regurgitation may require drugs to reduce the work of the heart. Severe degrees of regurgitation require surgery to replace or repair the damaged valves.

You're probably all right. However, a cardiology consultation surely wouldn't hurt.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am 75 years old, have a blood pressure of 140/78 and was found to have a cholesterol level of 119. Our local lab considers this to be abnormal. Why is 119 abnormal?

DEAR READER: Although most authorities recommend that the cholesterol level be kept about 200 milligrams per deciliter or less, age does play a role in determining what cholesterol levels are abnormal.

Many experts now believe that the cholesterol levels in adults over 70 are of little importance. Therefore, I wouldn't worry about your level of 119; for your age, that's pretty good. On the other hand, a child of 10 with a level of 119 would spark interest and probably require therapy.

To give you more information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Cholesterol." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York 10156. Be sure to mention the t

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is newspaper ink dangerous in any way? Each morning, after reading the paper, my hands are soiled with black print. Should I wash? Need I be concerned?

DEAR READER: For the vast majority of people, this ink is harmless and does not need to be washed off after reading the paper. Nonetheless, some patients are violently allergic to newspaper ink and break out in a rash if they touch it. Such individuals must be cautious and wash thoroughly.

Ink will rub off the fingers onto other surfaces. Therefore, in the interest of cleanliness, you might choose to wash the excess off your fingers.

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DEAR DR. GOTT: I was pleased to see the taboo subject of "sex over 70" addressed in your column.

At age 52, I stopped having sex with my husband because I just didn't seem to need it. He died 20 years later and I now find myself in another relationship that is rich in both sex and love. What a miracle! I wasn't as tuckered out as I thought!

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 55-year-old woman who looks at sex as a ritualized, unpleasant act. Occasional sex is OK and my husband performs satisfactorily but I perform only to pacify him.

DEAR DR. GOTT: We older women deserve a break! After decades of submission, it's a relief not to have to perform.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'd rather have an impotent, unselfish, caring husband than a lusty younger partner. I am not the least bit interested in the "stud syndrome."

DEAR DR. GOTT: Except for the function of reproduction, I've always found sex distasteful. I've been twice married and, believe me, it doesn't get any better. I like closeness and hugs, but intercourse is too painful. Our husbands should leave us alone after menopause.

DEAR DR. GOTT: If my husband and I never had sex again, I wouldn't be bothered in the least. The sex act is not a love act. My husband pays no attention to my needs. Men fool themselves into believing that all women love sex. Most of us don't.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Unless a woman is a former prostitute, sex is not fun. For men, it's a daily, weekly, monthly feel-good sport. Personally, I think we ought to mimic other animals and return to spring rut, leaving the rest of the calendar clear!

DEAR DR. GOTT: For years my husband insisted on sex, even when I suffered severe sunburn and, later, the pain of arthritis. I believe that if I died during the sex act, my husband would continue until he satisfied himself. I am 73 and very tired.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been married for 42 years. Despite my husband's medical problems, he still wants a "roll in the hay" a couple of times a week. I'd prefer to do without this and, I'll bet, other women feel as I do.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband is 77. I think he needs to go fishing. At least he can't blame someone else when he don't catch fish. My advice: Forget sex. I have more important things to do than push a rope up a hill!

DEAR READERS: These letters are merely edited samples from the many women who chose to write me their views about sex after 70 (or 60 or 50). The mail ran about 4-to-1 against having sex.

Most men may be surprised at this phenomenon. That's the first problem. The second and third problems are the men's insensitivity and poor technique. Gentlemen, this is a wake-up call. We need to listen to women, respect their wishes, engage in open discussion with them, adapt to their needs and (most important) improve our approach to intimacy.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Where to Find Sex Information." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Not all farmers are facing low-prices crisis

WASHINGTON (AP) — With cries of "Farm Crisis!" reverberating from the halls of Congress to the Oval Office, it's easy to overlook that — barring a weather or pest catastrophe — many farmers figure to make out OK this year.

In Washington, Democrats and Republicans are hustling to bring various forms of election-year aid to farmers in the Upper Midwest, where recurrent bouts of wet weather and disease have wreaked havoc, and for those in Texas and elsewhere broiling in the summer heat wave.

There is no dispute that these farmers are confronted with dire problems. Because prices are down for major crops like corn, soybeans and wheat due to reduced exports and abundant world supplies, farmers with reduced yields are facing an even more severe hit.

"You have some places where you have no price and no crop," President Clinton told farm broadcasters last week.

But unless weather patterns change markedly over the next few weeks, the Corn Belt and many other highly productive U.S. farm areas are on track to produce big corn and soybean crops this year, in some cases record levels. Higher yields per acre mean more crop to sell, which softens the blow of lower prices.

In addition, many farmers are taking advantage of contracts and options offered through futures markets that locked in higher prices long before they were to harvest their crops.

"While these prices are less than those experienced during the past two years, they are, for the most part, substantially higher than the average prices received by producers during the last decade," said Dean Kleckner, president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Indeed, Agriculture Department statistics show the average price farmers are getting this year for a bushel of wheat is between $2.70 and $3.10. Between 1990 and 1994, the average price was $3.11. Corn prices are similar.

There are also $17.2 billion in transition payments since the 1996 "Freedom to Farm" law, created to wean grain, rice and cotton producers off Depression-era subsidies that made up the difference when crop prices dropped.

Because prices were so unusually high in 1996, the transition payments have amounted to $7.5 billion more than farmers would have gotten under the old subsidies, according to USDA figures. Congress is likely to give farmers the option of taking their $5.5 billion in fiscal 1999 payments in early October instead of later in the year to ease the crunch.

"The farm bill is a source of help and not harm for farm income," said Sen. Dick Lugar, R-Ind., chairman of the Senate Agriculture Committee.

Because 1996 was the year Republicans pushed through "Freedom to Farm," it has become fashionable to use that year in comparing farmer incomes. The Commerce Department, for example, this week reported that first-quarter personal farm income dropped 35 percent compared to the corresponding period of 1996.

But that can be misleading.

A USDA analysis calls 1996 "a truly exceptional year" because major crops enjoyed record yields while prices still stayed high, mainly due to fast economic growth and demand in Asia. This, in turn, encouraged more U.S. production that has resulted in price-depressing surpluses now that Asia's tottering economies aren't buying as much.

"If it were not for the Asian crisis, this nation would be well on the road to setting another all-time record for the dollar value of farm exports," Lugar said. "We would have matched and exceeded the $60 billion figure."

The "Freedom to Farm" law also removed government production controls by letting farmers switch to more profitable crops. Most analysts say this provision has triggered planting of record soybean crops the past two years, as they offer better prices than corn or wheat.

Pastor: message not money important thing in verdict

MANNING, S.C. (AP) — In one of the largest awards ever against a hate group, a jury ordered the Ku Klux Klan and other defendants to pay $37.8 million for burning a church with a predominantly black congregation.

Jurors decided Macedonia Baptist Church had proved that the Klan's message of hate motivated four of its members to raze the church in a 1995 fire.

"There are always going to be people who hate," said Morris Dees, the church's lawyer. "Lawsuits like this make it harder for them to operate."

In Friday's ruling, the jury of nine blacks and three whites rejected arguments by the defendant's lawyer, Gary White, that the Klan's speech should be protected by law, no matter what they thought of his client and the Klan.

The civil award — some $10 million more than even the church's own lawyers had requested — was greeted soberly by the Rev. Jonathan Mouzon, the church's minister.

"This wasn't a monetary thing. This was about taking a stand for your rights," Mouzon said. "This brings about some closure, finally."

The church contends the members of two Christian Knights factions in North Carolina and South Carolina conspired to burn the church.

Four members pleaded guilty to burning down Macedonia Baptist and are serving federal prison sentences ranging from 12 to 21½ years. A day before the attack, two of them allegedly torched the Mount Zion AME Church a few miles away.

The burnings came at a time when the nation's attention was focused on a series of church burnings across the South. Although there were scattered reports of Klan links to some of the fires, investigators were unable to find any pattern of organized Klan involvement.

Horace King, South Carolina grand dragon of the Christian Knights of the Ku Klux Klan, sat stoically as the verdict was read. He must pay $15 million himself and refused to comment as he hurried from the courthouse.

"I don't think it makes much difference as far as the economic award," said White, who said King, 65, doesn't have the money. "The only thing it does is take his reputation because he considers himself a law-abiding citizen."

Dees said the plaintiffs would move quickly to gain title to the headquarters of the Christian Knights, a shed on property owned by King in Lexington County. He said all proceeds would go to the congregation.

"You can do a lot of things. But I don't know you can do much worse than burning a church," said Dees, of the Southern Poverty Law Center, which has won other awards against the Klan and other organizations.

Dees said Friday's award was the largest lawyers from the center had ever won prosecuting hate crimes.

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JUL 26 1998

2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

House OKs GOP health plan legislation

WASHINGTON (AP) — Now that the House has pushed through Republican-sponsored legislation, it is the Senate's turn next as Congress tries to respond to Americans' complaints about health plans.

White House advisers have said they would recommend that President Clinton veto the House GOP patient protection bill, approved Friday by a 216-210 vote. Alternative legislation preferred by Clinton and congressional Democrats was rejected, 217-212.

But the president said in a statement, "it is my strong hope that the Senate will move quickly to have a fair and open debate." The Senate and House must agree on any bill before it goes to Clinton's desk.

Health plan legislation supported by Senate Republican leaders is similar to what the House passed Friday.

"Our plan differs from the Democrats' bill in a fundamental respect: It places treatment decisions in the hands of doctors, not lawyers," Sen. Susan Collins, R-Maine said in a statement.

"The purpose of our bill is to solve problems upfront, when care is needed, not months or even years later in a courtroom after the harm has occurred," she said in remarks that were originally prepared for the Republicans' weekly radio address. House Speaker Newt Gingrich instead planned to make the radio speech live to address Friday's shooting at the Capitol.

Obituaries

Donald R. Fisk

1927-1998

Funeral service for Donald Rodman Fisk Sr., 70, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Calvary Baptist Church. The Rev. Larry McAden, pastor, will officiate.

Masonic graveside rites will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Fisk, a longtime Snyder resident and owner of Don's Inspection Service, died Thursday, July 23, in Lubbock's Methodist Hospital.

Born July 30, 1927 in Olney, Ill., to Eugene Paul and Mary Isabell Barden Fisk, he married Patsy Hammit Smith on Oct. 19, 1990 in Lovington, N.M.

He was a 32nd Degree Mason of the O'Donnell Masonic Lodge #1187 and Scurry Lodge #706. Mr. Fisk was a member of the Grand Commandery Knights Templar of Texas, Big Spring Commandery 31 and Grand Council of Lamesa Chapter 462.

He was a member of the Big Spring Antique Car Club, Snyder Wheels Antique Car Club, the American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and a volunteer at the Snyder Senior Center.

He was preceded in death by two sons, Donnie Fisk Jr. and Lonnie Fisk, four brothers and two sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Patsy Fisk of Snyder; two sons, Russell Fisk and Ronnie Fisk of Snyder; five daughters, Rosemary Burton, Tonya Parks, Velma Holmes, Laura Settles and Patricia Hazlewood, all of Snyder; three stepchildren, Jean Hopkins of Altus, Okla., Sue West of Snyder and Ruth Smith; a sister, Hellie Fisk of Evansville, Ill.; a brother, Bob Fisk of Illinois; his in-laws, Mr. and Mrs. D.L. Hammit of Snyder; 35 grandchildren; three step-grandchildren; and 40 great-grandchildren.

Jeanette Lemons

1917-1998

COLORADO CITY — Jeanette Lemons, 81, died Thursday, July 23, in Mitchell County Hospital.

Funeral service for Mrs. Lemons was held Saturday morning in the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Kay Reed officiating.

Burial was to follow in Snyder's Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Born in Parker County, she married Gerald C. Lemons in 1953 in Lovington, N.M., and he preceded her in death.

She had worked as a licensed vocational nurse in Knox City and moved to Colorado City in 1953. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church and the Order of Eastern Star.

Survivors include a son, Bobby Lemons of Colorado City; four sisters, Zenobia Carnley of Houston, Katie Regan and Mozell Chambers, both of Crosbyton, and Gladys Perry of Lubbock; and two grandchildren.

Non-GM parts showdown is brewing over Corvette plant

FLINT, Mich. (AP) — Attempts by General Motors Corp. to find enough replacement parts to restart some of its strike-idled assembly plants may lead to a union showdown in Kentucky early next week.

GM has said it plans to reopen the Chevrolet Corvette plant in Bowling Green, Ky., on Monday, using parts from other sources to replace those it usually gets from a plant being struck here.

The United Auto Workers has said it may strike the plant if GM goes ahead with its plan. When GM restarted its Romulus engine plant last week, workers briefly interrupted production to protest the use of Japanese spark plugs.

"I don't think they'll be any more successful in starting up Bowling Green than they were Romulus," UAW vice president Richard Shoemaker said Friday. "They still aren't getting the cooperation from our membership that they would have gotten had they not created this mess."

Walkouts by 9,200 workers at two Flint plants have all but shut down the North American production of the world's largest automaker, costing it more than $1.2 billion. All but two of GM's 29 major, wholly owned assembly plants are shut down, including the Corvette plant, and nearly 193,000 workers have been idled.

GM contends the strikes violate the national contract it has with the UAW, and spent this week presenting its arguments to arbitrator Thomas L. Roberts.

The arbitration hearing resumed this morning and Roberts said it would finish Saturday, according to Charlotte Grim, a GM spokeswoman. She said both sides had asked Roberts for an expedited ruling, though Roberts gave no indication how long that would take.

The fight in Bowling Green is largely symbolic. The plant is one of the lowest-volume assembly operations in GM's empire, producing a high-performance sports car for a niche market.

But reopening it would send a signal to Wall Street that GM is serious about not giving in to the union. The automaker has said it also plans to reopen its nonunion Silao, Mexico, plant on Monday. That plant builds full-size sport utility vehicles for sale in Mexico and the United States.

Of more importance to GM than resuming assembly of the Corvette is restarting the plants designated to build its redesigned full-size pickup.

The launch of the 1999 Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra pickups have been GM's top priority during the strike, and for good reason. The current model is the big automaker's best-selling vehicle, and among its biggest moneymakers.

GM reportedly is working its Renosa, Mexico, plant at full tilt.

events WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

SHS class of '83 reunion

The Snyder High School class of 1983 is holding a reunion Saturday at Snyder Country Club. A dance will be held from 8:30 p.m. to 1 a.m. and cost is $15 a couple or $7 for individual. The public is invited. For more information call Kirk Herrley at 573-3204.

Elementary school supplies

Pre-ordered school supplies for East and Central Elementaries may be picked up at the school offices beginning Monday. Extra supply packages are available for sale.

Quarterback Club to meet

The Snyder Tigers Quarterback Club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the SHS student center. Anyone interested in helping support the Tiger football team is invited.

Hermleigh VBS

First Baptist Church of Hermleigh will host a week-long Vacation Bible School starting Monday. Times are 7 to 9 p.m. There will be classes for all ages and refreshments will be served. For more information call 863-2484 or 8963-2455.

SHS Mini-Cheer camp

The 10th annual Mini-Cheer Camp will be held from 10 a.m. until noon Monday through Wednesday at the SHS Gym. Cost is $40 and is open for ages 4-13. For more information, call 574-1293.

Bible study tapes airing

Bible study video tapes air weekly on cable TV Channel 2. The next tapes to be shown, "Lessons from Jericho," followed by "Where Do I Look for Guidance?" will be shown at 7 p.m. Monday.

Through the Bible study

A Bible study with Les Feldick and hosted by Harlan and Darlene Amox are held each Tuesday from 7:30 until 9 p.m. Call 573-2699 for additional information.

Children's Day Out

Registration for the fall semester of Children's Day Out at First United Methodist Church will be held Thursday. Classes are for ages 1-4, and are held on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Call 573-4770 for more information.

Scrapbookers meet Thursday

Snyder Scrapbookers will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at Snyder Savings and Loan. All are welcome to bring supplies and work on memory albums. Call 728-5158 for more information.

Computer club to organize

A computer club for residents of Mitchell and Scurry County will be organized at 7 p.m. next Saturday at the Dunn Community Center. No computer knowledge or ownership is necessary. Call 573-1663 for more informaion.

Class of 1978 reunion

The Snyder High School class of 1978 will hold a class reunion next Saturday. There will be a noon luncheon at the Towle Park pavilion with the evening activities at Jack Greene's place. For more information contact Connie Huddleston at 573-8806.

FBC kids programs

First Baptist Church has two programs: King's Kids Preschool on Mondays and Wednesdays and Mother's Day Out on Fridays. Extended care is available. Register now for the 1998-99 school year. For more information, call 573-7401.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
8-9-2
(eight, nine, two)

Texas Million

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Million numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
63-4-80-81
(sixty-three, four, eighty, eighty-one)

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:
20-34-8-22-3
(twenty, thirty-four, eight, twenty-two, three)

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Retired local reunited with war buddy

For more than 50 years, R.B. Duke's foxhole buddy had been "presumed dead."

Earlier this year — Duke a retired concrete contractor in Snyder, received a unexpected telephone call. On the other end was Robert Draper a retired sheriff and county judge in Greenville, Ken.

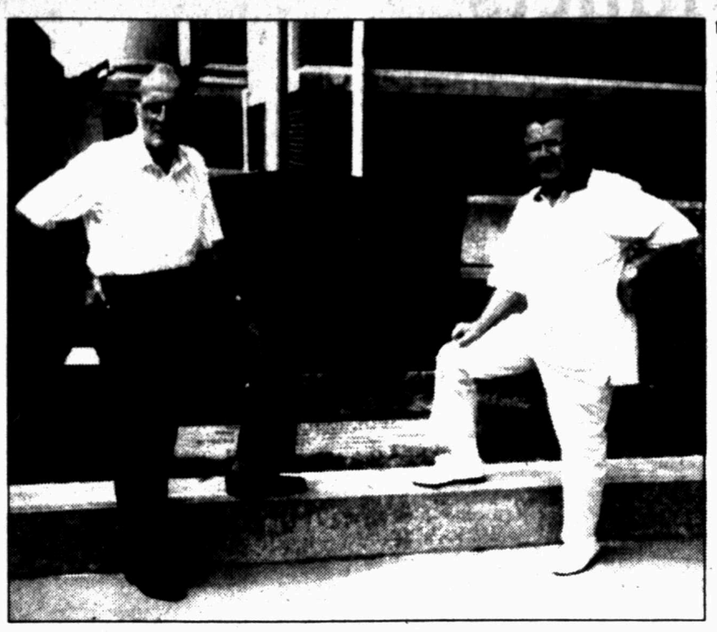
Duke, 72, and Draper, 78, were among the hundreds of U.S. Marines who stormed the beach during a fierce battle of Iwo Jima Island on Feb. 23, 1945.

Duke was wounded and Draper helped tend Duke's wounds and get him to a field hospital. While in the hospital, Duke heard that his buddy had been wounded and later died.

That was 53 years ago.

Draper remembered that Duke had entered the military from Abilene, and on several occasions had tried to find him through telephone information.

Draper was telling his story to some hometown friends when a younger fellow with computer skills sought Duke's full name (Roland Boyce Duke) and offered to see what he could do.



REUNITED — R.B. Duke of Snyder, right, was recently reunited with Judge Robert Draper, a World War II buddy "presumed dead" since the battle of Iwo Jima Island in 1945. (Contributed Photo)

The judge's friend, owner of a barbecue restaurant, used the internet to trace Duke to his home in Snyder. The next morning, the friend handed the judge Duke's telephone number.

With the surprise call came an invitation — to visit in Kentucky. Duke and a friend recently returned from that reunion.

Duke and Draper first met in 1944 in Hilo, Hawaii. Although six years younger, Duke and Draper "seemed about the same age at that time."

During the visit, Duke and Draper were interviewed by the Greenville Leader-News.

"We trained at a base called Camp Tarawa which was near Pearl Harbor. When the training was completed, we knew that we were to be transferred by ship to a forward area in the western Pacific, but we didn't know where.

"We still didn't know where we were headed. There were 1,400 ships in that general area. Smoke screens were put down by Navy planes to cover us from view. In a short time, we were informed that were were headed for Iwo Jima.

"When our ship got underway we were formed into groups and indoctrinated though lectures, movies and still photos.

"On Feb. 19, 1945, we landed and were assigned to the first group that was to capture Mount Suribachi.

"Right off, our Marine group captured the small airport, and part of the the 28th Marines fought their way up the mountain.

"Early on Duke was wounded, hit by shrapnel. Draper saw him go down. A corpsman dressed his wound and several helped remove him to an evacuation point."

Draper remained on the battle field until the end of March, with no way of contacting Duke at the Naval hospital. Draper was soon sent to Okinawa and then back to Hawaii. For all these years, Duke had believed that Draper had died in action.

Duke said he enjoyed the visit and they traded stories about their war days, but both were grateful that they survived.

Duke said he was impressed with the green of Kentucky, but was eager to get "home," even if the landscape is more brown these days.



WAR PHOTO — Veterans of the fight for Mount Suribachi on Iwo Jima during World War II are standing, from left, Robert Draper and R.B. Duke, who lives in Snyder. The other two Marines in this 1945 photo are unidentified. (Contributed Photo)

From once-mighty oak, little saplings growing

AUSTIN (AP) — A bit of the centuries-old Treaty Oak, nearly killed by a vandal nine years ago, could be coming to a yard near you.

Last year, when the oak produced its first batch of acorns since being poisoned, tree specialists at the Native Texas Nursery volunteered to harvest the acorns and grow saplings.

Today, they are small green stalks, less than a foot high, so tiny and delicate that it's hard to imagine each could someday grow into 100-foot-tall trees.

But the Treaty Oak offspring are doing well, and growers hope to soon begin selling them to the public.

Legend has it that the tree, located near downtown Austin, was where Texas pioneer Stephen F. Austin signed a treaty with the Indians, although historians doubt that. Treaty Oak once was deemed the most perfect specimen of a live oak in North America.

More than half the tree died after the herbicide Velpar was poured near its roots. Paul Stedman Cullen was convicted of felony criminal mischief and served three years of a nine-year sentence before being paroled in 1993.

A massive endeavor saved about one-third of the oak, estimated to be 500 years old, in a rescue effort that drew worldwide attention.

With twice-daily waterings and special care, about 250 of the 1,000 acorns survived.

Annual MS 150 bike tour raises $60,922

The West Texas Division of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society raised $60,922 in the 10th annual FINA/7-Eleven Cactus and Crude MS 150 Bike Tour, held last Saturday and Sunday.

The cyclists, both beginners and veterans, rode 75 miles each day, raising money for MS research.

The total pledge of $47,422 averaged $593 per rider, compared to last year's average pledge of $310 per rider. With the sponsorship totaling $13,500, the total was $60,922.

Eight of the riders were in the $1,000 Club which meant they had to raise at least $1,000. In return, they each received a jersey. They include Jerry Farmer, Mike Long, Shawn Melson, Dean Moore, Steven Payson, Pete Schroeder, Gary Smith, Jim Uhelski.

Several of the veteran riders, including those who have ridden in all 10 bike tours, are Lewis Ashby, Larry Casas, Kevin Ferdinand, Joe Lynch.

Another highlight of the bike tour was the games the cyclists participated in such as the balloon launch. The cyclist whose balloon traveled the furthest received a prize.

Rest stops competed for the "most enjoyable" prize which was awarded to Conoco's "Hawaiian Escape" which stocked an assortment of fruits and snacks including homemade chocolates and leis which were presented to the riders.

Monies raised by the bike tour and other events will help facilitate educational programs, a lending library featuring reading materials about MS, and a loaning closet which will allow people with MS to borrow equipment as needed.

On the national scale, 40 percent of the monies raised supports the many research clinics/programs organized by the National MS Society.

Police allege payments were tantamount to kickbacks

EL PASO (AP) — An insurance executive's arrangements with hospitals, which allowed him to recover and keep part of the money he paid on behalf of clients, were tantamount to kickback agreements, police say.

Police have found evidence that Steve Young, who administers the health plans for about 45,000 public employees, was paid at least $3.7 million in "illicit funds" by hospitals, according to affidavits filed in support of a search warrant executed at Young's home this week.

The affidavits obtained by the El Paso Times say Young's actions constitute first-degree felonies for misapplication of fiduciary property and theft, along with the lesser felony offense of commercial bribery.

Young, the owner of Stephen M. Young Insurance Agency, is refusing to comment on the payments.

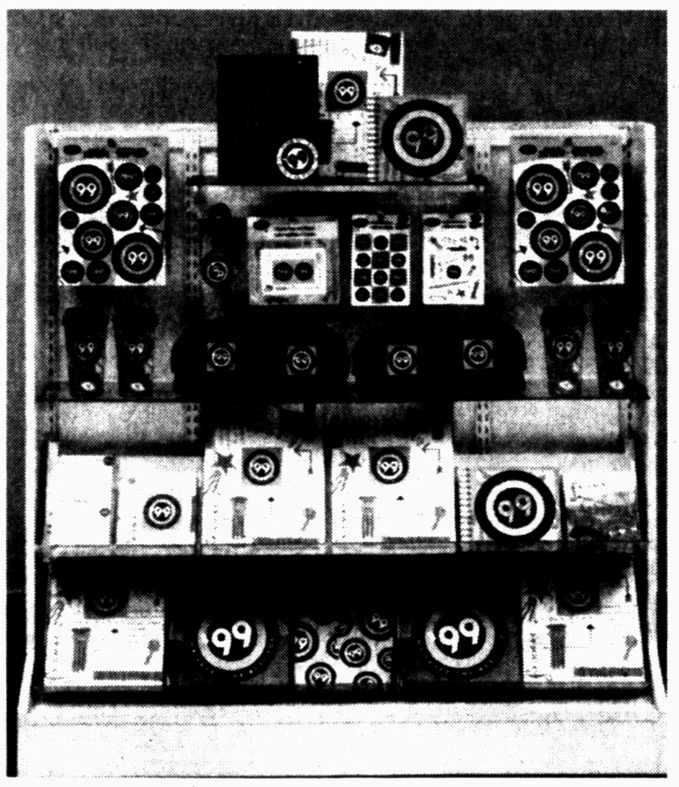
Police have been investigating Young since May, after a Times report on his activities.

Young acts as a third-party administrator for the health plans of the El Paso city and county governments and the Ysleta and El Paso school districts.

The investigation focuses on agreements Young had under which local hospitals rewarded Young for paying bills quickly by returning a percentage of each bill back to him. The affidavits said he received 4 to 10 percent of the value of the bill.

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Brides lean toward freer bouquets

By BARBARA MAYER
For AP Special Edition

Remember those simple wedding bouquets consisting of a few wild flowers? If so, forget them. A few daisies are not what most brides crave when they walk down the aisle.

Within the constraints of budget, time of year, setting and attire, the overriding trend is for a more opulent use of flowers. But the stiff traditional look of the past is giving way to freer designs, both in bouquets carried by the wedding party and in arrangements for tables.

In place of Victorian-style nosegays and cascading bouquets, the so-called clutch style of bouquet is gaining popularity, says George Mitchell, a florist in Orland Park, Ill., and president of the American Institute of Floral Designers.

This arrangement of gathered flowers looks almost, but not quite, as if the flowers had just been gathered from the garden. Flower stems may be wrapped in tulle or satin or sometimes are French braided as a decorative motif.

Attendants' bouquets are much brighter and more colorful than in the past. Old fashioned garden varieties such as roses, larkspur, stock, miniature carnations, statice, iris, sweet peas, tulips, and purple liatris are being used often in lush combinations.

There also is more interest in fragrance than there used to be, according to Mitchell. He is planning a wedding in which fragrance has dictated all the floral selections.

"We will use roses, freesias and gardenias in bouquets, and there will be gardenias in aisle arrangements, which later will be brought to the reception," Mitchell says.

"Something like 99 of 100 brides will select white or very pale pastel bouquets," said Lynn Lary McLean, a florist in Friendswood, Texas, a suburb of Houston. "The top five flowers for bridal bouquets are white or champagne-colored roses, stephanotis, lily of the valley, white dendrobium (spray) orchids, and gardenias."

Tastes and customs regarding flower usage are becoming more uniform around the country, the florists say. Wedding receptions in the South often used to be low-key affairs with only minimal floral decorations for the church. Now, wedding receptions are growing more elaborate and the use of elaborate floral displays is on the increase, McLean says.

Most brides don't want the same thing on every table.

"Any skilled floral designer is doing each table separately," says Marcy Blum, a wedding coordinator in New York. "The arrangements are in the same color palette but aren't identical."

McLean and Mitchell concur.

"Arrangements are varied in terms of height and flower selection," says McLean. "People are more educated and understand that in a room with a high ceiling, you need taller arrangements. Consumers also know the names of more flowers and often come in with specific requests for style themes and particular materials such as silver, gold or crystal that they want to incorporate in the wedding decor."

Mitchell typically does three or four different designs for reception flowers. "It gives the room a more filled look because you see flowers at several levels."

For something slightly different, brides are ordering table decorations of topiaries of roses or greenery, or a combination of the two. Garlands draped across the table and wrapped around pillars also are popular.

"When my son got married, I did about 300 feet of garlanding for the church aisle, using wild smilax. Then I took the garland to the reception and draped it around the windows to take the place of drapes," says Mitchell.

Elaborate flowers do not come cheap. Prices for substantial decorations for each table can start at $75 per table, especially in big cities. But there are also less expensive alternatives that are creative and unusual. An example — at about $20 and up — is a centerpiece of a candle with greenery and a few flowers.

Flowers are not always essential. Blum recently attended a wedding in which the main table decorations were candles in a great variety of candlesticks, all different, that the bride and groom had been collecting for months from flea markets and yard sales. When the wedding was over, the candle holders were favors for guests to take home.

Bridal Registry

Rachel Wilson
and Kevin McMillan
Shannon Canada
and George Broyles
Elyse Merritt
and Brandon Terry
Misty Clem
and Jack Haley
Somer Dennis
and Mark Love
Jennifer Tovar
and Martin Orosco
Alicia Drum
and Sterling Scott Trevey
Laurie Jones
and Tyson Cromeens
Deana Schwarz
and Rodney White
Micah Brown
and Kelly Franks
Mary Ann Gonzales
and Jonathan Patrick
Jennifer Spence
and Wes Seilhant
Christy (Strong) Nix
and Billy Nix
Maribeth (Dillaha) Cumbie
and Patrick Cumbie
Sarah Fagin
and Joe Cutrona
Jean Turner
and Thomas W. Brown

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Sat. 10:00-4:00

A&M magazines are returned after 70 years

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Three magazines checked out from a university library before the Depression have been returned — almost 70 years late.

Richard Colley, a Corpus Christi architect who attended Texas A&M University and then founded a successful architecture firm, never got around to returning the now vintage periodicals. He died 14 years ago.

But his borrowed 1929 issue of "Architecture" and two issues of "The American Architect," from 1928 and 1931, were recently returned by Madison R. Graham, Architect — the firm that succeeded Colley's business.

Paula Bender, coordinator of learning resources for A&M's Technical Reference Center at the College of Architecture, accepted the magazines that left campus 67 years ago.

"Perhaps Mr. Colley always intended to return them, but we'll never know for sure," Ms. Bender said Wednesday. "It certainly was a nice gesture for the new office to return them."

Ms. Bender said the magazines will be kept in the reference center's special collections case.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

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

Al-Anon, open meetings, Snyder Park Club; noon.

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

Just for Today NA, closed meeting; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-0949. 573-4238 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

Manic Depression (Bipolar) support group; Family Life Community Church, 904 26th Street; 7 p.m.

Scurry County AA; closed meeting; Park Club; for more information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers; Trinity United Methodist Church, 5200 Trinity Blvd.; 5 p.m.

Just for Today NA, closed meeting; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

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

New Horizons 12 & 12, closed meeting; Park Club; 7 p.m.

New Horizons AA; closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56, (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information call Peggy Vernon at 573-3122.

WEDNESDAY

Just for Today NA; open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238, 573-8018; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Al-Anon brown bag, open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.;.

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762; 7 p.m.

Just for Today NA; Park Club; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

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

New Horizons AA; closed meeting; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 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.

Just for Today NA; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238 or 573-8018; 6 p.m.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

Just for Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 10 a.m.

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

Just For Today closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-0949, 573-4238, or 573-8018; 5 p.m.





Mr. and Mrs. Von Edward Reynolds
(Contributed Photos)

Hermleigh couple to repeat vows at anniversary reception

Von Edward and Doris Lee Reynolds will reaffirm their wedding vows of 50 years ago with the couple's son, Dr. Rex L. Reynolds, pastor of the Hermleigh First Baptist Church, officiating.

A reception will follow the ceremony set for 2:30 p.m., Aug. 2 the church. Mr. and Mrs. Reynolds were married on Aug. 2, 1948 in the Immanuel Baptist Church in Paris, Tex. Their other children, Sheryln Timora and Vance Lee Reynolds and their families, all of Hermleigh, will host the event. Assisting will be the couple's five grandchildren and five great-grandchildren.

Mr. Reynolds was born on Sept. 4, 1929 in Hugo, Okla., and his wife was born Doris Lee Casey on Nov. 16, 1930 in Oklahoma City. They met in Oklahoma City at the home of Neal Stone, Von's uncle.

Both are retired. Von, a former member of the Naval Reserve, was a candy-maker for Kuykendall Candy Co., an electrician's helper for B&W Boiler Co. and a truck driver. Doris Lee has worked as a waitress, seamstress and a nurses' aide. They are members of the First Baptist Church in Hermleigh.

Gift that keeps giving

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Trying to find that perfect gift for a young couple's wedding? How about a nice, romantic armful of blood?

Loretta Stewart and Jason Hoover, both 19, are hoping their Aug. 12 wedding will draw a lot of corpuscles from their friends and families.

While the couple have registered for the typical household items at an area store, they've also said they hope their guests will open a vein at the American Red Cross in honor of their nuptials.

"We need stuff to live on, but the most important thing is knowing we've made a difference," Ms. Stewart said Wednesday afternoon before donating blood. "We can always get stuff, but that feeling, you can't buy it."

Lullaby Lane

Prepared Childbirth Classes
Mondays 7-9 p.m.
(Total of Five Classes)
Aug. 3, through Aug. 31, 1998
Classes Will Be Held at Board Room at Cogdell Memorial Hospital;
1700 Cogdell Boulevard
(South Parking Lot)
Instructors:
Bonnie Carroll, RN & Linda Briseno, RN
•Physiology of Pregnancy and Delivery
•Tips to Avoid Complications
•Breathing Techniques
•Newborn Care
•Breast Feeding Techniques
•Tour of Hospital OB Department
•Sibling Class (for future big brothers and sisters - included in final class)

Please wear comfortable clothing; bring a coach, two pillows and a blanket.

Open To Any Expectant Parents
The fee is $40.00 per couple, payable prior to the first class, unless enrolled in the LULLABY LANE program.

Class Size Is Limited
To Reserve 574-7467
Next Class Begins Oct. 12, 1998

For more information, please contact COGDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 915-573-6374 LINDA BRISENO, RN, OB Nurse Manager or WILMA DILLARD, Community/ Patient Relations.

Cogdell Memorial Hospital

Children's Day Out

Discovery School
Ages 1 thru 4

First United Methodist Church
2700 College Ave., Snyder, Texas

Fall Registration: Thursday, July 30, 9-12:30
Classes Tuesday & Thursday

Games • Activities • Science • Music • Social Skills
Bible • Motor Skills • Practical Life • Field Trips • Special Events

To Pre-Register Call Melissa
573-4770

Fall Arrivals
Layaway
Linda's Style Shop
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Sweetwater
1-800-372-1066



NUPTIALS PLANNED — Mr. and Mrs. Jon Louis Derouen of Snyder announce the engagement and the upcoming marriage of their daughter, Michelle Lyn Derouen, to Cody Allen Mauldin. Cody is the son of the late Jim Mauldin and the late Linda Mauldin, both were of Abilene. The wedding is planned for Oct. 24 at the First United Methodist Church in Snyder. Both Michelle and Cody are employed by Camp Olympia in Trinity, Tex. (Contributed Photo)

Magazine reveals top videos

By The Associated Press

Weekly charts for the nation's most popular videos as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission:

VIDEO SALES

Copyright 1998, Billboard Publications Inc.

1. "Spice World," (Columbia TriStar)
2. "As Good As It Gets," (Columbia TriStar)
3. "Austin Powers," (New Line-Warner)
4. "Grease: 20th Anniversary Edition," (Paramount)
5. "Anastasia," (Fox)
6. "South Park," (Rhino-Warner)
7. "Backstreet Boys: All Access Video," (Jive/Zombie) (Platinum)
8. "Flubber," (Disney-Buena Vista)
9. "South Park: Volume 1," (Rhino-Warner)
10. "The Little Mermaid: The Special Edition," (Disney-Buena Vista)

VIDEO RENTALS

Copyright 1998, Billboard Publications Inc.

1. "The Rainmaker," (Paramount)
2. "As Good As It Gets," (Columbia TriStar)
3. "Scream 2," (Dimension-Buena Vista)
4. "L.A. Confidential," (Warner)
5. "Fallen," (Warner)
6. "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil," (Warner)
7. "Wag The Dog," (New Line-Warner)
8. "The Replacement Killers," (Columbia TriStar)
9. "The Jackal," (Universal)
10. "Starship Troopers," (Columbia TriStar)

MUSIC VIDEO SALES

Copyright 1998, Billboard Publications Inc.

1. "All Access Video," Backstreet Boys (Jive-Zomba) (Platinum)
2. "MP Da Last Don," Master P (No Limit-Priority)
3. "Shockumentary," Insane Clown Posse (PolyGram)
4. "Streets Is Watching," Jay-Z (Def Jam)
5. "Girl Power: Live In Istanbul," Spice Girls (Virgin)
6. "One Hour of Girl Power," Spice Girls (Warner)
7. "7 Television Commercials," Radiohead (Capitol)
8. "Ray of Light," Madonna (Warner Reprise)
9. "Tulsa, Tokyo and the Middle of Nowhere," Hanson (PolyGram)
10. "Garth Live From Central Park," Garth Brooks (Orion)

Duplicate Bridge Scoreboard

FRIDAY
July 17

Jane Hinton directed at Snyder Duplicate Bridge Club at the country club.

North-South

1. Ann Davis, Sue Reed.
2. Colleen Duke, Louise Thompson.
3. Nona Morrison, J.O. Morrison.

East-West

1. Charlotte Mitchell, Shirley Stewart.
2. Dora Blakey, Nina Nesbit.
3. Mippy Brownlee, Billie Marie Long.

SUNDAY
July 19

Dot Casey directed.

1. Louise Thompson, Dot Casey.
2. Nona Morrison, Barbara Yorgesen.
3. Dora Blakey, Shirley Stewart.

TUESDAY
July 21

Dot Casey directed.

1. Claudine Atwood, Tizzy Hall.
2. Linda West, Monte West.
3. Debra Hester, Richard Hester.

Thief enjoys sale

RENO, Nev. (AP) — Sometimes a little cheap cologne can save the day. Just ask Billy Gibbs.

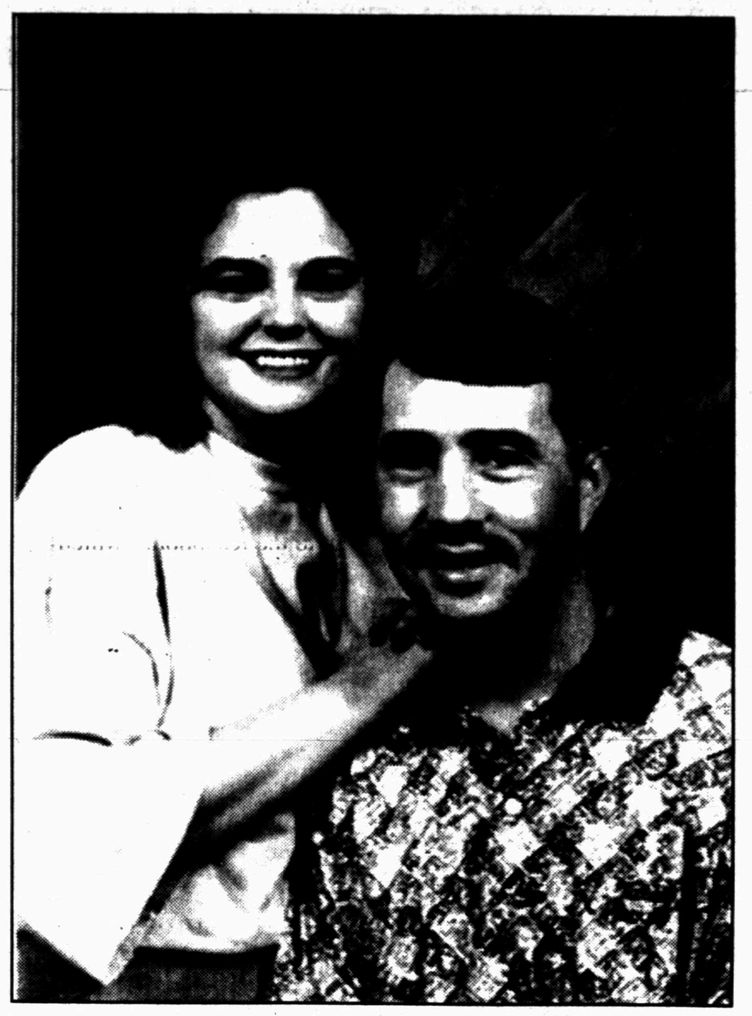
A drug store security guard on Monday grabbed Gibbs for allegedly walking out without paying for a stash of merchandise that included lots of jewelry.

The guard tallied the haul at $254 — bad news for Gibbs. In Nevada, the theft of merchandise worth more than $250 is a felony.

But Gibbs informed the guard that the bottle of cologne he'd allegedly swiped was on sale.

It was. That dropped the total cost of the goods to $248.16.

Gibbs is charged with petty larceny — a misdemeanor.



AUGUST VOWS SET — Mr. and Mrs. Jim Spence of Snyder, along with Mr. and Mrs. Marvin King and J.E. (Buddy) Seilhant, all of McCamey, announce the engagement of their children, Jennifer Kay Spence and James Wesley (Wes) Seilhant. The couple will exchange vows at 10 a.m. on Aug. 8 in the First United Methodist Church in Snyder. (Contributed Photo)

Library reading program comes to an end

A certificate ceremony will be held at 10 a.m. Wednesday. Those who have at least three hours recorded reading time will receive Summer Reading Certificates, presented by Mayor David Holt.

All students who have turned in at least 15 hours reading time will be included in a drawing for a variety of prizes which have been donated by local merchants and the Scurry County Library.

Students who are unable to attend the ceremony are asked to pick up their certificates and prizes as soon as possible. Coupons that are included in prizes have expiration dates and need to be used now.

Summer volunteers are asked to attend the ceremony to receive a certificate. The staff expresses appreciation to all volunteers who helped at the library this summer.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North 07-25-98	
	♠ A Q 9 8 2	
	♥ 10 8 7	
	♦ J 5 3	
	♣ K Q	
West		**East**
♠ K 10 7		♠ J 6 3
♥ J 4 3		♥ A 6
♦ A K 9		♦ 8 7 6 4 2
♣ 9 4 3 2		♣ 10 6 5
	South	
	♠ 5 4	
	♥ K Q 9 5 2	
	♦ Q 10	
	♣ A J 8 7	

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: North

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

Opening lead: ♦ A

A civilized play savages declarer

By Phillip Alder

Helen Rowland, an American journalist, wrote, "There is a vast difference between the savage and the civilized man, but it is never apparent to their wives until after breakfast."

The winning defense in today's deal is elusive. Most of my students, when I suggest the key play to them, ask, "What good's that?" This is understandable because the play does seem to be pointless. You have to take that extra step of mentally placing a critical card in partner's hand. Only then does the reason become apparent — whether before or after breakfast.

How should the play go in four hearts?

North's opening bid is no thing of beauty, but with 12 points and a decent five-card suit, get in there!

West led the diamond ace. East dropped the two, a discouraging signal denying the queen. Having the spade king, West knew there was no future in that suit. So, she cashed the diamond king, then tried a club. After winning with dummy's queen, declarer played a trump to his king. Back to dummy with a club, declarer called for another trump. The ace popped up and the defenders were down.

Did you spot the killing defense? Assuming South has his bids, East will have at most one useful card. If that is the club ace, the contract is surely impregnable, the defenders getting only two diamonds and one club. But if East has the trump ace...

West should start with three rounds of diamonds. Then, when East gets in with the heart ace, she can lead a diamond, which promotes West's heart jack as the defense's fourth trick.

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When you say "according to Hoyle," you are really referring to Edmond Hoyle, an English teacher of whist, who died in 1769.

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Kelli Lockhart & Brad Harmon
Misty Clem & Jack Haley
Amy Hodges & J.J. Vollet
Julie Lang & Brandon Lee
Pamela Kerr & Anthony Stelluti
Mecca McCowen & Chris Dedmon
Maribeth (Dillaha) Cumbie & Patrick Cumbie
Jean Turner & Thomas W. Brown
Somer Dennis & Mark Love
Elyse Merritt & Brandon Terry
Jennifer Tovar & Martin Orosco
Mary Ann Gonzales & Jonathan Patrick
Deana Schwarz & Rodney White
Micha Brown & Kelly Franks
Jennifer Spence & Wes Seilhant
Christy Strong Nix & Billy Nix
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Matamoros market is tradition with shoppers

MATAMOROS, Mexico — American-style supermarkets are now common in this city across the Rio Grande from Brownsville, but there's still a place where locals can find freshly unpacked fruit and vegetables and catch up on the latest gossip.

It's the Trevino-Zapata Market, a cluster of stalls inside a block-long brick structure nestled between Sexta and Septima streets. There, you can see produce trucks from Central Mexico unload their crates at dawn and hear the noise of thousands of feet come and go from daybreak to dusk.

The first thing that strikes you walking into the structure is the smell. In the morning, it can be the sweet smell of fresh greens, tomatoes and bananas. As the day progresses, the stench of meat and stagnant water begins to assail the senses.

But that's no big deal for customers like Maria Lopez, who goes to the market every morning to shop for the ingredients she needs to prepare her family's meals.

"It's the best place to buy anything fresh," Ms. Lopez said while eyeing some carrots and potatoes for a caldo, or soup. "I never buy any meat from the supermarkets. Their meats are frozen or purchased on the other side (the United States). The meat here is fresh and tasty."

Customer Isabel Pena said she used to come to the market with her grandmother. "Now I come with my children so they'll come alone when they are older. It's been a family tradition."

The market has operated in the same spot on and off for at least four decades. It didn't always resemble a crowded warehouse. And whenever politicians are trying to get elected, there is talk about improving the structure.

Santiago Sandoval Paz, who's a treasurer in the cooperative that runs the market, said the site was abandoned when he opened his vegetable stand 28 years ago.

"It was in operation for a few years and then it was deserted. I was one of a few merchants who tried to revive it. It was a slow and tedious process. Now it's alive."

In addition to being a family tradition with customers, the market embodies the entrepreneurial spirit of the merchants.

About 140 merchants own stalls filled with groceries, meats, candies, dry goods, cosmetics, and dairy products.

Sandoval owns two vegetable and fruit stalls. He wakes up at 5 a.m. to make sure he's there to view the variety and get the best price from one of the eight truckers who supply retailers at the market.

"I have to examine the quality of the merchandise and the prices, he said. "Most of the products come from distributors in Monterrey, San Luis Potosi and Guadalajara. I try to pick the product as I were one of my own customers."

SHS graduate named outstanding UIL soloist

Richard Rodriguez, a 1998 Snyder High School graduate, was one of 177 high school musicians selected as Outstanding Performer at the 1998 University Interscholastic League Texas State Solo and Ensemble Contest held May 30 and June 1.

The two-day event was conducted at the University of Texas at Austin and Southwest Texas State University in San Marcos with nearly 18,000 high school musicians from throughout the state in attendance. It is the largest music festival of its kind in the world.

Richard performed "Sento Nel Core," an Italian piece. He selected the song his senior year and had to earn a Class I rating to qualify for state.

Richard Floyd, UIL state director of music, said, "To be recognized as an Outstanding Performer is one of the highest individual musical achievements that a high school student can attain.

"The vocal performance presented by Richard was a credit to his talent, hard work and dedication. This distinctive honor is clearly worthy of the designation 'state champion'."

The contest was judged by music educators, university professors and professional musicains from throughout the United States. The format of the contest provided both a performance evaluation and specialized music instruction for each student musician.

Richard was in choir throughout his high school years, spending three years in the concert choir before being named to the a cappella and varisty choir.

His freshman year, he was named to the all-region, all-area and all-state choirs. As a sophomore and junior he was selected for the all-region choir. Other sophomore honors included the all-area choir.

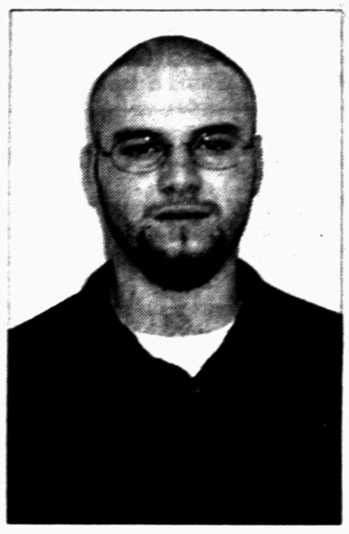
As a freshman and senior, Richard was a member of the contest choir which earned the sweepstakes rating both years.

He competed in the state solo and ensemble contest all four years. He was also named outstanding soloist his freshman year.

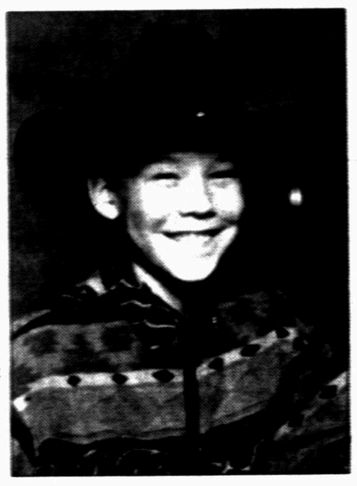
Other high school activities included competing in track his sophomore and senior years. He was also a three-year Spanish Club member, serving as historian his sophomore and junior years and as president his senior year.

Richard enlisted in the U.S. Army in June and will report for basic training on Aug. 24. He will also enroll in Abilene Christian University correspondence courses offered through the Army's College Fund.

Richard is the son of Alfonso and Virginia Rodriguez.



Richard Rodriguez



Joseph Benz

Benz receives Top Award for Home School

Joseph Benz, son of Roy and Anita Benz of Snyder, has received the Top Award for Home School from Marantha Baptist Academy in Big Spring.

He has also attained sixth grade level in the School of Tomorrow Accelerated Christian Education Program, located out of Lewisville.

Joseph's PACE average is 98.03% with a completion of 78 PACEs for 1997-1998, six PACEs above average.

Joseph's other awards include special recognition for excellence and the Christian Character award for perserverance.

He was also named to the Honor Roll for achieving a total PACE average of 95-100% while maintaining academic balance. He also received his fifth perfect attendance recognition. Joseph has not missed a day of school since he began.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

Q&A

What is a blackout?

(In response to a growing concern among parents, educators and other members of the community, Snyder Daily News, in cooperation with Al-Anon support groups and the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, is devoting this column to your questions about the increasing threat of substance abuse. The current series is dedicated to supplying general information to our readers. Getting back to the basics, we are using the ABC's as a structured guideline. Each week, the column is concentrating on such topics as Addiction, Blackouts, Cocaine, etc. Readers may want to cut out the articles and save them as a resource for future reference.)

ABC's of Substance Abuse
(Article 2 of 26)

B ~ BLACKOUT

A blackout is an amnesia-like period that is chemically produced. It is not the same as passing out and it is not psychological repression. When a person experiences a blackout, it is as if the brain's short-term memory secretary is "out-to-lunch." While the person is intoxicated, he or she is not unconscious or even stuporous. Things done and/or said by the intoxicated person are not recorded in his or her short-term memory bank; therefore, he or she will not have a recollection of the events which took place during that period of time.

During a blackout, memory is selectively and seriously impaired by alcohol or when alcohol - just one drink - is combined with other drugs (such as Rohypnol, a strong sedative). Virtually all other spheres of activity, such as cognition, behavior and brain function remain relatively intact during the period of blackout. A pilot, for example, might maneuver a jet during a blackout but may have no memory of take-off, flight or landing. Others observing the pilot may notice no unusual symptoms or differences in his or her behavior.

While blackouts are frequently associated with late-stage alcoholism, they can also occur at any time in anyone who uses alcohol. In fact, research suggests that even a single early episode may indicate predisposition toward alcoholism. Not everyone who uses alcohol, or has an alcohol or other drug problem, experiences blackouts.

Symptoms of a blackout may include, but are not limited by, the following experiences:

- Are surprised to hear about things done while drinking.
- Can not remember entire portions of the night during which drinking took place.
- Have had trouble remembering conversations or activities that took place while drinking.
- Have met people while drinking and could not remember them the next day.
- Have awakened after a night of drinking not knowing where they were or how they got there.

If you have, or know someone who has, experienced more than one of these symptoms or any one of them two or more times, seek an alcohol and/or drug assessment from a qualified professional.

Please send your questions on drugs or addiction to P.O. Box 695, Snyder, Texas 79550. All questions and personal inquires may be submitted anonymously. Twenty-four-hour confidential information is available by calling 573-1141 or 1-800-568-6722. Information on help groups and individual's phone numbers may be found in the SDN Community Calendar.

Daughter joins singer on stage

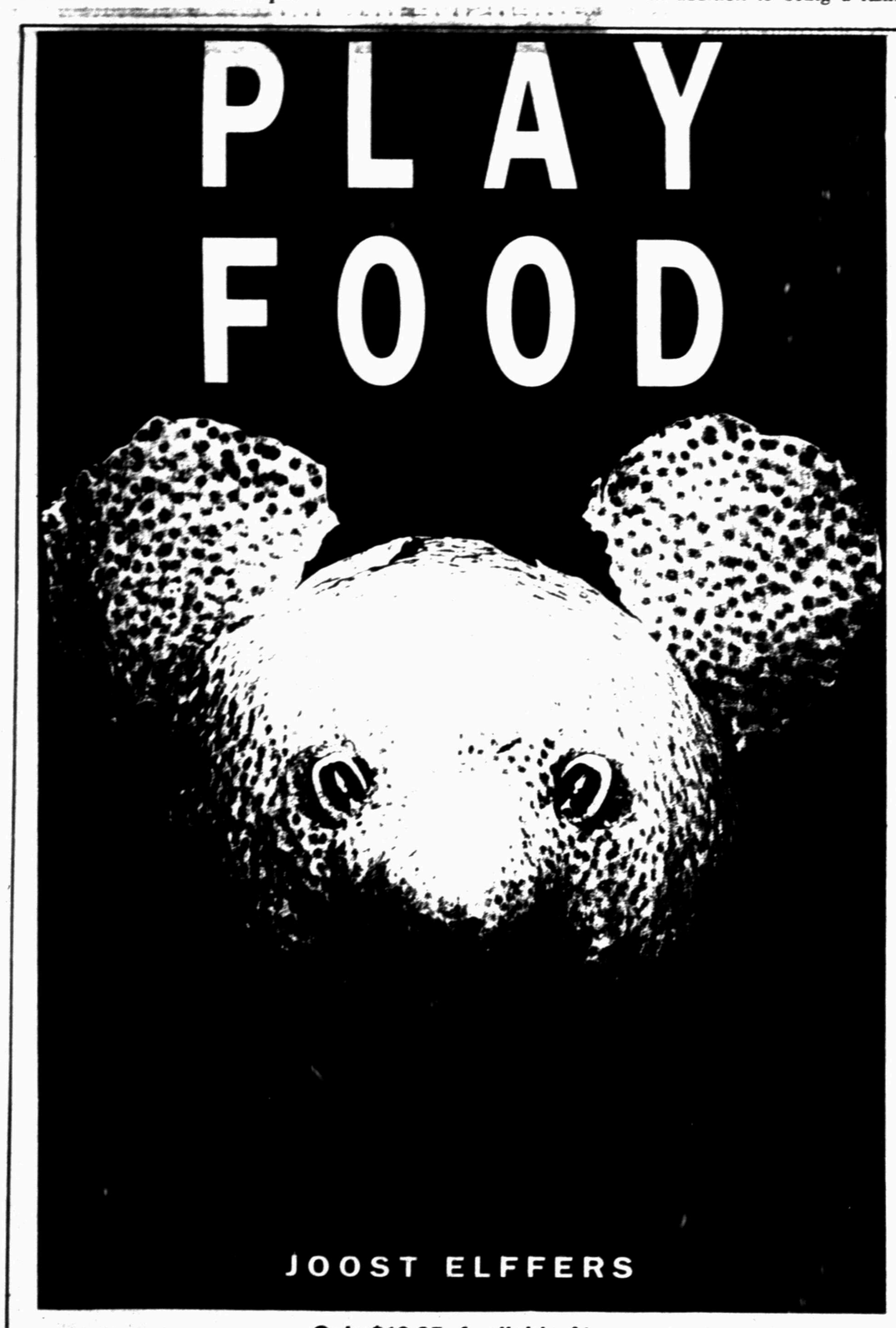
HASTINGS, Neb. (AP) — Country western singer Faith Hill welcomed a special guest during a recent gig: her daughter.

Gracie, 18 months old, joined her during band introductions, drawing oohs and aahs from the crowd. And Hill is expecting another child soon.

"Thanks for being so sweet to welcome an eight and a half — ooh — almost nine-month pregnant woman," Hill told 4,000 fans gathered Wednesday.

Hill performed some of her biggest hits, including "The Hard Way," "Take Me as I Am," "It Matters to Me" and "This Kiss."

Hill left the stage with her arm around her daughter and carrying a sign reading "I'm you're No. 1 fan."



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"Emmaus, A Walk To Where?"
An investigative report about the
"Walk to Emmaus"
Hear from several of our local citizens who have attended a 3-day journey with Jesus. Produced by ZTV Productions
it will be aired during the weekly broadcast of
ZTV on channel 2,
Thursday, July 30 at 6:30 p.m.
and Friday, July 31 at 8:30 a.m.

Minding Your Own Business

By Don Taylor



Knowing your numbers: What's really happening in your business?

(Last of two-part series)

Last week I introduced the topics of accounting and financial management. I concluded that accounting is the language of accountants and that most small-business owners don't care to learn the dialect.

However, if you're going to be successful in business, you must understand the role accounting plays in financial management. Accounting is a process of recording financial transactions and summarizing the members into useful, easy-to-understand statements.

Unfortunately, most small-business owners don't find financial statements easy to understand. Some choose to ignore their statements altogether. Many people are too embarrassed to ask questions about their statements. Numerous others consider financial matters boring and simply focus their efforts on other areas of their businesses.

Problems often surface when the business comes up short on cash and no one can understand why. Panic ensues when someone gets a call. The calling process may begin with an accountant, move quickly to a banker and finally involve a business consultant or turnaround specialist.

Perhaps studying the remainder of this article will help. If you need more guidance, send for the free information offered at the end of this column.

Financial Statements

Every business should generate three financial statements every month. These are a balance sheet, a cash flow statement and an income statement. The balance sheet is a summary of business assets, liabilities and the owner's equity or net worth. The total amount of assets (what the business owns) must equal liabilities (debt of the business) plus the owner's equity. The balance sheet reflects the financial condition of the business at a given point in time.

The cash flow statement measures the changes in the cash position of the firm from one period to the next. The cash flow statement is the easiest statement to produce, but is the least common statement to find in small businesses.

If you were to establish a single business checking account as I advised in part one, and if you completed every business transaction through that account, you would have everything you need to produce a cash flow statement. Start with your beginning balance, add in cash receipts (deposits) and subtract cash disbursements (checks) and you create the ending cash balance.

The last statement is the income statement, also commonly called the "profit and loss" statement. The income statement measures sales (revenues), expenses and the resulting earnings (loss) for a period.

The income statement has five main categories: sales, cost of sales, gross profit, operating expenses and net income. This is one statement I want to see each month. Small changes in income statement performance can make big differences on the bottom line.

Three good tools

Common string. This tool converts the dollar amounts of your income statements and balance sheets to percentages. You use one element from the statement as a base value and compare all other elements to it.

Trend analysis. This tool lets you spread your numbers (lay them out side by side in columnar format) and look for patterns or trends. For example, a three-year analysis of our income statement might indicate that sales are increasing, but gross profit margin is decreasing.

Financial ratios. Ratios compare one number to another. Miles per hour, miles per gallon and cost per square foot are all ratios. Financial ratios compare one factor of your financial statements to another.

As promised, I'll send more information that will help you understand your numbers. Please follow these instructions carefully. To receive our free "Numbers Game" guide, send a 9x13 inch, self-addressed envelope with $1.01 postage attached. Mail your request to: The Numbers Game, P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105. Please allow three weeks for delivery.

Don Taylor is the co-author of "Up Against the Wal-Marts." You may write to him in care of "Minding Your Own Business," P.O. Box 67, Amarillo, TX, 79105.

Scaffold collapses at band camp

BLUFFTON, Ohio (AP) — A scaffold collapsed Friday at a high school marching band camp, injuring 11 people.

The one-story-high platform fell on members of the Vandalia Butler High School band as they practiced on a soccer field at Bluffton College, emergency workers at the scene told The Lima News.

At least three people were on top of the scaffold, from which band directors conduct performances.

One of the injured, Vandalia Butler band director Don Donnette, was flown to a Dayton-area hospital, said Steve Martin, the school district's director of human resources. He had no details. Ten other people were taken by ambulance to other hospitals.

Vandalia Butler High School is in suburban Dayton.

Officials at Bluffton College, about 60 miles south of Toledo, did not have any further information. The marching band camp uses the campus but is not affiliated with the college.

In 1967, motorists in Sweden began driving on the right-hand side of the road, instead of the left.

Queen Wilhelmina abdicated the Dutch throne in 1948 for health reasons.

Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

Angie Martinez, 1998 Dodge pickup from Snyder Chrysler.

Charles E. Roberts Jr., 1998 Chevrolet van from Big Country Autoland.

Joe and Susan Hall, 1998 Chevrolet van from Big Country Autoland.

Cousins Leasing Trust, 1999 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Jimmy Thomas, 1998 Pontiac from Big Country Autoland.

Richard McWhinney, 1999 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Rachel Massingill, 1998 Ford from Wilson Motors.

Edward L. Elliott Jr., 1999 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

The First National Bank, 1998 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Basin Testers of Big Spring, 1998 Buick from Big Country Autoland.

James M. Carpenter, 1998 Chevrolet from Big Country Autoland.

Patricia Ann Buchanan, 1999 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Leonard Tovar, 1997 Chevrolet Blazer from Big Country Autoland.

Laurie and Dewey Grinslade, 1998 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Filed in District Court

Scurry County vs. Jesse C. Dennis Jr., et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Bomar Operating, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Bayridge Texas Corp., et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Beverly B. Beckwith, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. T.W. Cox, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Jerry Davis, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Franklin Kelley, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Scurry County vs. Eula Pearl Corley, et al, delinquent tax suit.

Action in District Court

Maria Bryand vs. American States Insurance and Lester C. Bryce, order of severance and judgment.

In the marriage of Debra Ann Alexander and Michael Lynn Alexander, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Santiago Rio Pineda and Tammera Lynn Pineda, divorce granted.

Xerox Corporation vs. John Lacik and Enserv Inc., judgment for plaintiff.

Deed Records

Charles R.Burns, independent executor of the estate of Lloyd Elmore Burns, to Melinda Dawn Treat and James Michael Merritt, all of Lot 12 in Block 2 of the Glenn Huffman Addition.

Nancy Cass and Robert C. Cass to Greg and Canita Rhodes, 2.228 acres in the I.A. Walker Survey.

Mike T. and Leslie W. Murphy to Herman Lee and Scharel Shrunda Smith, all of Lot 15 in Block 11 of the Park Place Addition.

Jon A. and Patsy J. Kelley to Vance and Kathy Voss, tract one being 1.50 acres out of the southwest one-quarter of Section 160, Block 3, H&GN survey; tract two being 1.85 acres out of the southwest one-quarter of Section 160, Block 3, H&GN survey; tract three being the west 80 acres of the north 240 acres of Section 177, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Michael Lynn Graves, individually and as independent executor of the estate of Lois O. Graves Ballard, and Charles Henry Graves, to Hubert D. and Margie L. McElroy, all of the east 32.5 feet of Lot 32 and the west 36 feet of Lot 33, both in Block 11 of the Replat of the south one-half of Block 7 and all of Blocks 6 and 11 of the Highlands Addition.

Bobby Lane and Judy Lynn Hobbs to Ricky and Sara Fritz, all of the south 100 feet of Lot 2 in Block 21 of the Blankenship Addition.

Tommy J. Contella, attorney-in-fact for Rosie S. Contella, to A.C. and Edna Thompson, all of Lot 8 and 9 in Block 38 of the A.C. Wilmeth's Addition.

Vance Layne and Kathy E. Voss to Michael A. and Carol B. Fleet, tract one being all the north one-half of Section 14, Block 3, H&TC survey; tract two being all of the northeast one-quarter of Section 15, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Thomas Nathan and Johnnie Elta Pyburn to Alvin and Helen Ann Dodson, the west 78 feet of Lot 4 and the east 25 feet of Lot 3 in Block 20 of the Lundy's Addition.

B.W. Haskins, attorney-in-fact for C.O. Haskins, to Richard and Renee Logston, all of Lot 4 in Block 3 of the North Towle Addition.

Russell Jones Jr. to Mr. W. Fireworks Inc., all of Lot 7 in Block 1 of the Andress Heights Addition.

Sara Beth Hanson, Lisa Michelle Goebel and Victor Joseph Goebel to Jeremy Chad and Michelle Kuhl, all of Lot 4 in Block 3 of the Park Place Addition.

Buster Anderson to Ronda Anderson, the north 45 feet of Lot 9 and the south 45 feet of Lot 10 in Block 2 of the Colonial Hill Addition.

Charles William Harrell, independent executor of the estate of Myrtle J. Harrell, to Charles William Harrell, all of Section 101, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Becky Harrell Hale to Charles William Harrell, all of Section 80 in Block 3, H&GN survey.

Orlando Aviles to Orlando and Matilda Aviles, part of Lot 3 in Block 7 of the Lundy's Park Addition.

Thomas and Karin Lee to Lisa Lee, a tract out of Section 483, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Charlcie Roberson to Bryant Baxter Roberson, the south 125 acres out of Section 82, Block 2, H&TC survey.

Charlcie Roberson to James Robert Roberson, tract one being the north 405.1 acres out of Section 82, Block 2, H&TC survey; tract two being the south 95 acres out of 220 acres out of the southwest part of Section 93, Block 2, H&TC survey; tract three being all of Lot 2 in Block 3 of the Highlands Addition.

Charlcie Roberson to Billy Clyde Roberson, the north 125 acres out of 220 acres of the southwest part of Section 93, Block 2, H&TC survey.

Elizabeth Kim Merritt to Domingo and Becky Moncevias, all of the north 75 feet of the west 30 feet of Lot 1 and the north 75 feet of the east 30 feet of Lot 3 in Block 22 of the Blankenship Addition.

Brady Collier receives $10,000 scholarship

FORT WORTH — Brady K. Collier, son of Tim and Connie Collier, was awarded a four-year, $10,000 Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo FFA scholarship on July 16, in ceremonies at the FFA State Convention.

Brady was one of 60 recipients honored in the festivities. He graduated in the top quarter of his class from Snyder High School. He plans to attend Texas Tech University where he will major in horticulture.

Brady has played an active role in his FFA chapter. He has served as treasurer and historian. He has earned the Lone Star FFA and the Chapter Farmer FFA degrees, and was a delegate to the district convention.

Brady's FFA team participation accomplishments include placing second in district and area in public relations, first in area and 10th in state horticulture and second in district and third in state dairy cattle competitions.

He was co-chairman of the community service committee, served as a tour guide for dairy and greenhouse tours, and participated in the Food for America program and New Mexico Leadership camp.

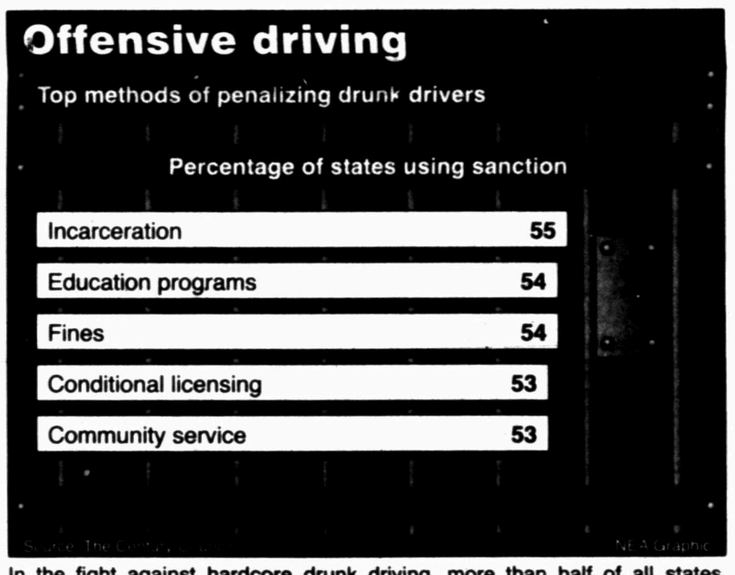
Recipients of the FFA scholarships were selected by members of the State FFA Scholarship Selection Committee, which consists of agricultural science teachers from each FFA area, five representatives of the agricultural industry and two teacher educators appointed by the Texas Education Agency.

The selected students all demonstrated academic excellence and strong leadership skills throughout their high school careers.

All Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo FFA scholarship recipients must pursue a degree in agriculture or life sciences at a Texas college or university.



Brady Collier



In the fight against hardcore drunk driving, more than half of all states employ a combination of tactics to punish the offender, including jail sentences and fines.

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•Sharon Sartor of Snyder

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Did I raise the kids right?



Deanie Francis Mills

Well, you might know, about the time I get my kids pretty much raised, I find out I probably did it wrong.

Back 21 years ago, when I was first starting out in this parenting business, the psychological community was making a name for itself by touting self-esteem as just about the most important thing you could instill in your child. We were told that lack of self-esteem in people had caused just about every social problem in the book, from criminal behavior to underachievement to poverty. Teachers were urged to emphasize self-esteem in the classroom because, it was believed, most kids didn't get enough encouragement in that area at home.

Now they're saying, Ooops, it looks as though we may have gone a wee bit too far.

So much too far, in fact, that recent studies are using words like "dangerous" in reference to contributing to the development of soooo much self-esteem in a kid that he or she becomes "narcisistic" and may even demonstrate "hostility," "violence" and "aggression" because of it — even murder. In a court-ordered evaluation, all three examining psychologists claimed that one of the students who was convicted of one of the recent tragic school shootings, Luke Woodham of Pearl, Miss., was narcisistic and had "unjustified high self-esteem."

In an article entitled, "You're OK, I'm Terrific: 'Self-Esteem' Backfires," Newsweek magazine (in the June 13 issue), explains. It seems that back when they were telling us how important it was to build self-esteem in kids, whether in the home or the classroom, they neglected to mention one key component of the equation: accomplishment

The mistake, apparently, comes when a parent or teacher has the idea that it is a good self-esteem which CAUSES success. "They ladle on the praise indiscriminately, rather than focusing on helping the child achieve something to deserve it," say the shrinks. This causes "inflated" esteem, "the kind that can come not from actual achievement but from teachers and parents drumming into kids how great they are."

The problem comes when the kid, who has this unrealistic opinion of himself or herself, suddenly experiences rejection. In some disturbing experiments involving volunteer college students, researchers discovered that a narcisistic person who experiences rejection then becomes "exceptionally aggressive in the wake of criticism." This can have as powerful an effect on aggression, in fact, as does "being male, drinking and soaking up media violence.

A person who is built up in such a false manner, without having done anything to deserve it, apparently then suffers deep self-doubt. "The unjustified self-esteem needs constant propping up," they're now saying. "When the real world fails to deliver — when the narcisist gets rejected by a girlfriend or made fun of in gym class — he may explode."

Well-meaning parents, according to the article, who "praise to the sky" every little thing the child does, "can raise a generation of kids who cannot tolerate "frustration." And teachers who think that "you can solve problems simply by telling kids they are great," are also making a big mistake.

Well, call me "ignernt," but isn't this all just a matter of common sense? It was obvious to me and to my husband, when our children were growing up, that they benefitted far more from having some accomplishment, no matter how modest, recognized than they did being applauded every time they walked across the room without tripping over their own feet. It has to do with teaching them to set goals for themselves.

There are so many things a child can do to achieve goals, from sports to 4-H, from grades to participating in a school play, from singing in the church choir to raising money for charity, to saving up and working towards a coveted toy. They're never too young. Toddlers can do things like pick up their toys and put them away. Nor do they ever get too big. During the turbulent teen years, even a troubled youngster can be praised for staying out of trouble or improving his attitude around the house, small victories that mean more to him than they would ever dare to let on.

"Giving kids something they can truly be proud of is hard work for everyone," concludes the article. Maybe. But isn't that true of anything worthwhile?

I look at my two kids now, one almost 21 and one just turned 18, both shining bright, both working this summer and saving their money for college in the fall, both full of dreams and goals of their own ... and I say, oh yeah. It's definitely worth it.

U.S. needs better energy policies

By Cloyce Talbott
Member, Independent Petroleum Association of America

It's easy to see the benefits of today's record low oil prices. They have reduced gasoline prices and fueled summer driving. They have lowered production costs for petroleum-based products from prescription pills to pantyhose.

But the superficial contributions to America's prosperity are short-term. Beneath them lie darker long-term problems for our country.

The two-year drop in oil prices — from record highs in 1996 to record lows today — has dramatically reduced revenues for our nation's 8,000 domestic oil producers. Most of these are small businesses noted for highly efficient, low-margin operations that keep America strong by providing almost half of the oil that fuels factories and transportation across the country. These small producers depend on reasonable prices today for the revenue that feeds tomorrow's energy production.

Low oil prices are a drought that has dramatically shrunk that revenue stream.

Oil has always been a boom-or-bust industry. But the depth of the current "bust" is new. Internationally, oil-producing nations did not anticipate the "Asian flu" that has forced previously growing Asian economies to decline. The production that had been intended to fuel Asian growth instead swells surpluses that threaten to drive oil prices in New York below $10 a barrel and oil prices elsewhere in the country as low as $8 to $5 per barrel.

Faced with slowing demand, most other business can use "just in time" computer-based systems to slow production, reduce costs, and prevent the build-up of raw materials and inventory.

Oil is different. Almost all of the capital investments in an oil well takes place before the first drop reaches the surface. And while the industry's huge investment in new technology has paid off with dramatic reductions in lead time, "just in time," in the oil business means developing wells in 18 months. As a consequence, investors are increasingly demanding a higher return on their capital to compensate for the risks they perceive in oil development.

Adding today's low prices to higher capital costs is a blow for many smaller oil producers and a threat to the future of domestic oil production.

If nothing is done to protect America's wells from these low price periods, every American will eventually feel the loss of this vital resource in their pocketbook. Already, our economic security is threatened by importing over half the oil we use, and economists suggest that figure could rise to more than 70 percent by 2015. The resulting negative balance of payments saps long-term economic strength and places increasingly severe constraints on the living standards our children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy.

Domestic oil producers have done their best to build a strong defensive wall against the problems of imports. They have invested in research and dramatically cut costs. And given reasonable public policies, producers would likely be able to carry the industry successfully through this period of falling prices and falling corporate revenues.

Unfortunately, today's Washington policymakers seem determined to create policies that are not only unreasonable but in some cases, clearly hostile to continued domestic oil production. They are inundated with the falsehoods about oil pollution and the industry's contributions to the U.S. economy by so-called environmental advocates. As a result Congress and the administration have put 84 percent of the U.S. Outer Continental Shelf off-limits to production. They have refused to update tax codes in response to technological advances. And they have blurred the line between current and capitalized business expenses filling the federal coffers that all too frequently underwrite per-barrel spending while draining producers ability to invest in the nation's energy future.

A few pioneering members of Congress have been bold enough to confront the policy problems oil producers face. They have encountered false perceptions with the facts about the petroleum industry's outstanding safety and environmental record. They have introduced bills to reverse some of the most damaging tax liabilities. They have intervened against administration efforts to impose new royalty payment systems that would further sap petroleum revenue.

Their efforts are a step in the right direction. But more action is needed.

If domestic petroleum production is to survive this and other low-price cycles, we must increase access to public lands — onshore and offshore — and open them to environmentally responsible exploration and drilling. We must create incentives to protect our marginal wells — the lifeline to America's future energy reserves — and bring back online inactive wells that provide a great contribution to our economy.

Energy is the foundation of the U.S. economy, and half of the foundation is oil. That foundation will crumble if low oil prices and bad energy prices continue causing America to lose access to future energy reserves. Now is the time to use our legislative tools to develop better energy policies that will maintain our standard of living.

Letters

Dear Editor:

Each day we learn of the latest crime to vomit itself onto our society; each act done to and by humanity — more heinous than all those before.

We are still shocked by most of it, but are becoming more desensitized as we watch homo sapiens "gutterball" closer and closer to oblivion.

God's ticked. Natures on the rampage. No one's to be trusted...not a pretty picture.

But read on and take heart, good Snyderians, for angels walk amongst you. I know because I met one yesterday at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop!

His name is Jim Pemberton and looks nothing like any angel I've ever seen depicted on cathedral ceilings or expensive brands of toilet paper.

For those of you who know him, I'm sure the thought alone of Jim's likeness appearing either place is enough to cripple even the heartiest of souls.

But on July 18 (my 43rd birthday), on a return trip from Lubbock to Austin with my wife, daughter and her friend, Jim Pemberton sported wings and a halo to make the Arch Angel Michael twinge with envy.

We'd lost all power in our vehicle. First the radio went dead then the speedometer started going wacko. The power steering, AC, then the power windows...all rendered useless.

I felt like Richard Dreyfuss in Close Encounters about to sustain a severe burn on one side of my face when "Ffffffffttt," we'd become the real thing - ROAD KILL on a Texas Highway, on a Saturday at 5:30 in the blessed p.m.

The odor we sensed was not that of perspiration and stale onion rings; rather, it was that of our gooses beginning to thoroughly cook.

Lo, the miracle began.

After pushing the car no more than 50 yards to a dead stop at Rip Griffin's, and after my obligatory lifting of the hood to determine the problem (as if), we went inside to seek help.

The girl at the counter phoned Jim who asked me to describe the nature of the problem, then said he'd be there in ten minutes, and to have the hood up.

Ten minutes later, I met an angel.

His truck carried every tool one would need to rebuild NASA should it just up and disappear one day.

From the driver, himself the embodiment of a West Texas sunset, came a voice somewhere between apple cobbler, well-worn jeans and steel wool saying, "Well, at least you waited 'till it was cooler."

Like Clement Moore so long ago, I knew in a moment, this must be St. Jim.

I found myself affecting my native Texas accent with even more drawl as I shook his hand, which was like when my mom dumped warm bed sheets, fresh from the dryer onto my brother and me on crisp autumn nights just before our bedtime. That and No. 3 sandpaper. An emotion I've not known in years..."security."

From there, until three hours later when, like a shade tree Michael DeBakey, he'd given my Chevy Lumina a new lease on life, I just listened, and laughed, and learned from Snyder, Texas' own local patron of all hapless travelers in distress — and the knowledge in whose mind would oil a million moving parts.

Thank you, Jim Pemberton, and to you, too, Dub. Surely the life of an enlisted angel under Jim's beck and cell phone call will have its rewards.

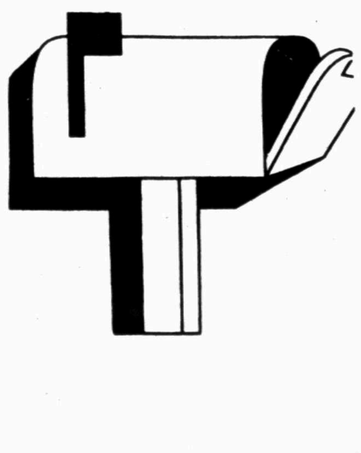
I hope your wrists heal soon, and the Good Lord blesses your parts store with a refrigerated air unit that defies description in just plain 'ole BTU's!

And thank You, God, for allowing my alternator to last 'till just this side of Snyder, where I chanced upon an angel of yours named Jim Pemberton.

And no, I would certainly not wish to be a GM engineer on Judgment Day, knowing we'd finally meet fact to face.

Yours, sincerely
Chas. Bruce Bray
Austin, Texas

P.S. We made it home fine, Jim — about 3:30 Sunday morning. Opened the car door with the keys still in the ignition and the courtesy bell chimed. Maybe Dub's wrists not only healed, but turned into wings like your own. Now! Won't you two just have a time?



Editorial Comment

Selling the Zapruder film

El Paso Times

One of the more gruesome — both physically and morally — moments in United States history is now available on home video for $19.95.

Now everyone can watch — in newly enhanced color and clarity — as the 35th president of the United States, John F. Kennedy, has part of his skull ripped open by an assassin's bullet, all in the comfort of the home.

And, of course, all in the name of history, right? Wrong.

The excuse is poor subterfuge for profit motivation. The 45-minute video ("Image of an Assassination: A New Look at the Zapruder film") is little more than vulgar voyeurism and the commercialization of a president's tragic slaying. The video consists of a 40-minute preamble and six separate showings of President Kennedy's head exploding when hit by a bullet on that fateful day in Dallas' Dealey Plaza.

Releasing the video for public consumption is a constitutional privilege of the Zapruder family. But it's also capitalism at its moral worst. Some things in life, or as in this case, death, should not be treated as grist for profit. Sadder still, though, is the fact that people want their own copy of this famous but graphic murder. ...

Increasing college scholarships

Austin American-Statesman

A proposal to boost spending for college scholarships more than threefold could limit the so-called Hopwood effect at the state's premier universities and expand access to higher education for thousands of Texans.

Last week, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board asked state lawmakers to increase scholarship dollars to nearly $500 million a year. They hope lawmakers will use a portion of a projected multibillion-dollar budget surplus to do so.

If state leaders are to prepare all Texans for the challenges of the new technology-driven workplace, they should ensure that residents have access to higher education. Expanding scholarship dollars is a wise investment in the state's future.

Congress and open government

Houston Chronicle

It was hailed as a breath of fresh air when the reform-minded Republican Congress passed a rule a couple of years ago requiring witnesses testifying before House committees to reveal the amount of federal contracts and/or grants they received. It was widely hailed as the "truth in testimony rule."

The philosophy behind the measure was that witnesses in congressional hearings are often primarily interested in increasing their federal funding, and that the taxpayers and the Congress have a right to know whether a witness has a possible conflict of interest that might shade his or her testimony. Often there is nothing wrong with having such a vested interest, but it should at least be spelled out up front.

The Heritage Foundation has now issued a study giving the House an overall C-plus grade in enforcing the rule. It also points out that some House committees are failing to enforce it at all. Of the 971 witnesses who testified between January and May last year, 743, or 77 percent, filed the required disclosure forms, says the study, which graded nine committees and 28 subcommittees.

The grades range from the A-plus given to the Banking and Financial Services Committee to F's for the Education and Workforce Committee and the Appropriations Subcommittee on the Veterans Administration, Housing and Urban Development and Independent Agencies. The powerful House Ways and Means Committee got an "incomplete" for refusing to release information on compliance.

Obviously, there is room for improvement in compliance and fully informing the public, which is perfectly capable of judging for itself whether testimony in favor of funding crosses the line into conflict of interest.

Or was the Congress merely paying lip service to this open-government reform all along?

Penalties for drunk driving deaths

Denton Record-Chronicle

In Houston this week, a man who brutally killed two teen-agers was sentenced by a jury to four years in prison. He will only serve two of the four years, in all likelihood, before he is paroled and free to continue his life. The jury in this case apparently thought that this man's crimes were not particularly heinous because he was driving drunk when they were committed.

Not too long ago we Texans put Karla Faye Tucker to death and most of us said we thought that was a fit punishment for a woman who brutally took the lives of two human beings. Ms. Tucker was on a marathon drug binge when she committed these murders, but that was not considered a mitigating factor when the jury handed down her death sentence.

So what's different in the case of William Walton Glauser?

Certainly Mr. Glauser, like Ms. Tucker, was under the influence of a drug when he killed two people. Certainly he, like Ms. Tucker, caused indescribable suffering to two innocent human beings. The young man he killed was cut in half as he stood by his car. The young woman was trapped under the dashboard of their car, fully conscious and screaming while horrified bystanders, who tried but could not free her, watched her burn to death.

Certainly Mr. Glauser, like Ms. Tucker, callously handed two innocent families terrible grief and, like Ms. Tucker, put his right to abuse drugs above the rights of his two victims to complete educations, succeed at jobs, bear children and create families of their own to live out the fullness of their lives.

The jury, in giving Mr. Glauser such a light sentence, probably believed he, as a drunk driver, had not intentionally killed his victims. But Mr. Glauser knew that drunk drivers kill people. There is no one in this country who doesn't know that. Then Mr. Glauser deliberately drank until he got drunk. And then he deliberately got in his car and drove it at a speed of nearly 100 mph until he crashed into two helpless, innocent kids.

Those are deliberate acts, not accidents. They are deliberate crimes. When people are killed during the commission of deliberate crimes like burglary and arson, the law requires that the criminals also be charged with murder.

Our laws need to be changed in Texas, as they have been in other states, so that drunk drivers who kill people can be charged with murder. Two years in jail for the horribly brutal taking of two young lives? What a terrible miscarriage of justice.

Corpus Christi honors black military hero

CORPUS CHRISTI — Warren G.H. Crecy fought in two wars for the U.S. Army, received six medals, was wounded seven times and led many men. Some claim his should be a household name. Others say Crecy should have received the Medal of Honor.

But in October 1952, when a mortar shell exploded in his face and he was sent home, black men were rarely recognized as heroes.

He was referred to as "the baddest man" in his World War II unit, the 761st Tank Battalion, by Trezzvant W. Anderson, an author who documented the group's history. But when Crecy came home from war he had to sit in the back of the bus.

"That he fought and fought and sacrificed for this country, was proud to fight for his country and loved the country that had treated him that way, is just incredible to me," Arnold Villarreal said.

On Wednesday, family members and military officials gathered on Crecy Street — named in Crecy's honor in 1980 — in front of the Corpus Christi Army Depot to rededicate the street in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the integration of the Armed Forces.

The racial injustice is what led Villarreal to seek recognition for Crecy, who died in 1976 after countless surgeries and skin grafts to replace the lower portion of his face destroyed during a Korean War battle.

"That I was finally able to get the street named after him is one of the proudest moments of my life," said Villarreal, who worked in civil service for 33 years before retiring as executive assistant at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi's supply department.

Though Villarreal never met Crecy, in the late 1970s he heard of his heroism and leadership from a fellow office worker. Crecy's classmate, James Wagner, said Crecy was a born leader. "If there were 10 men standing around, they were standing around him," Wagner said.

"He wasn't one to feel sorry for himself and, I was told, he actually got mad at people and told others to be glad they were alive and glad they were part of this country." — Arnold Villarreal

Although Crecy weighed only 150 pounds, he was put on the Solomon Coles High School football team as a guard, and performed under incredible pressure, Wagner said.

Then one day after graduating from high school, Crecy disappeared. Later, his friends learned that he had enlisted in the Army.

"Back in those days that was just unimaginable," Wagner said. In March 1941, nine months before Pearl Harbor, 98 black enlisted men reported to the Armored Forces School at Fort Knox, Ky. — the beginning of the first blacks in history to serve in armor units.

The 761st had all white officers in the beginning, but Fort Knox was also training black officers, who eventually replaced white officers through attrition, said John Purde, a spokesman at the Patton Museum of Cavalry and Armor at Fort Knox.

The 761st was commissioned April 1, 1942, but its extensive training didn't get the all-black unit to war. Military officials had a lot of questions on whether they should be allowed to fight because of their race, Purde said.

Eleanor Roosevelt lobbied on the unit's behalf and the group was first sent to England and then went to battle in 1944.

During the long march across Europe, the men of the 761st served 183 days in combat, were awarded 11 Silver Stars, 69 Bronze Stars, three certificates of merit and 296 Purple Hearts. Crecy, who had enlisted as a private, won a battlefield commission, a Silver Star, a Bronze Star and four Purple Hearts in his service in World War II and Korea.

After World War II ended, Crecy remained in Germany, where he was a prison officer during the Nuremberg trials of Nazi leaders accused of crimes against international law.

He came home in 1950 and later shipped out for the Korean War. Three months later, a mortar shell sent him home for good. After returning to the United States, Crecy spent 10 years in and out of military hospitals as doctors rebuilt his chin and jaw.

Many of his friends who saw him after the Korean War didn't recognize him, said his niece, Phyllis Ridgels.

"But he really kept up his spirits," she said. "He had always had so much drive."

Ridgels remembers visiting her uncle in San Francisco.

"He was really big on education and wanted us to go as far as we could," she said. "He was what you would call self-made. He didn't go off to college, per se, but that sure is what he dreamed for us."

That drive led him to counsel others injured in battle at Letterman General Hospital in California.

"He wasn't one who felt sorry for himself and, I was told, he actually got mad at people and told others to be glad they were alive and glad they were part of this country," Villarreal said.

His sacrifices in battle and in the hospital firmed up Villarreal's resolve to get the street to carry his name, he said. "He's done much more for this country than I did — much more than a lot of people," Villarreal said. "He's one of the many unsung heroes, but we die only when people stop thinking of us."

Man worked to honor WWII comrades

IRVING — The story of the 2,221 black volunteers, who helped integrate the armed forces by joining white infantry units during World War II, was be heard nationally Thursday, and perhaps no one is more relieved than J. Cameron Wade.

The black soldiers' role in history might have remained buried in U.S. military archives in St. Louis if Wade had not decided to examine records for his autobiography.

After finding addresses of 1,800 veterans during a four-year search, the Irving man spent another two years tracking them down. Then, he organized the Association of the "2,221" Negro Volunteers, World War II to set the record straight about their ranks and honors.

Thursday in the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon, Wade and four fellow veterans received the Bronze Star medal for their heroic and meritorious service. Three of them, including Wade, also had their ranks restored.

"It's been a long time coming. But like I tell the guys in the association, 'You can't get angry,'" said Wade, 73, whose rank of sergeant is being restored. "I ask them, 'What did you give them or tell them to help show our story.'"

In 1944, Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower called on Negro volunteers to join white units that had suffered losses in Europe. According to documents unearthed by Wade and turned over to the Army Review Board, 2,221 Negro volunteers gave up their noncommissioned officer stripes in all-black units and joined 41 white units as infantry privates.

They fought shoulder-to-shoulder with white troops, paving the way for President Truman's executive order in July 1948 that officially integrated the military.

After their service, the black volunteers were reassigned to noncombat jobs in segregated units and their ranks were not restored. Wade did receive a Purple Heart for injuries received in battle in 1945.

"It took a long time, but we finally got it right," Lt. Col. Guy Shields said. "These soldiers are finally being recognized for the service they performed for their country. It was a significant step. They laid the ground work for the future."

Thursday's ceremony was a prelude to the Army's celebration of the 50th anniversary of the integration order.

Besides Wade, Mate Montgomery of Chapman, Ala., Andrew W. Nix Jr. of Philadelphia, Vincent Malveaux, of Bronx, N.Y., and Marteller Pollock, of Atlanta received Bronze Stars during the ceremony. Mate and Malveaux also will have their ranks restored.

"I have no grief, no great feeling, one way or the other," Malveaux, a former Galveston resident, said Wednesday from a hotel in Arlington, Va. "After 50 years, I got the invitation three weeks ago to come to Washington. It has been forgotten for a long time."

After Wade tracked the veterans down, they had their first reunion in Atlanta in 1995. They will have their third reunion in Virginia during their visit to the Washington area.

Alleged gang members face hearing in lawsuit

AUSTIN (AP) — Seven alleged gang members faced a court hearing Friday in Texas' first civil lawsuit to prevent gang activity.

State District Judge Wilford Flowers issued a temporary order July 10 to prevent the gang from operating in the neighborhood just north of Austin's Mueller Airport.

Flowers was to hear arguments Friday whether to make the order permanent.

Under the civil court order, prosecutors would not have to prove the alleged gang members committed a crime or were conspiring to commit a crime.

Simply appearing in the neighborhood together, using a pager in the neighborhood or violating any other portion of the court order could land them in jail, the attorneys said.

Travis County District Attorney Ronnie Earle has said the seven people named in the order have sold drugs, committed other crimes, threatened neighbors and intimidated witnesses to their crimes in the roughly seven-block area from which they are now barred from even being seen together.

But defense attorneys, including Donna Mulcahy of the American Civil Liberties Union, said Earle and police are violating their clients' civil rights in an attempt to make their jobs easier.

"If the government prevails ... their civil rights will be denied," Ms. Mulcahy said.

Three of the seven alleged gang members, including its only female member, were in police custody on other matters. One other person, Lamar Hill, was removed from the case because he was not involved in the criminal activity, Assistant District Attorney Bryan Case said.

Francis Williams Montenegro, an attorney for defendant Percy Prejean and a member of the alternative National Lawyer's Guild, said the injunction is nothing like a restraining order. He said those orders are issued in criminal cases in which prosecutors have proven that the people restrained from some activity have committed serious crimes.

Montenegro said at least some of the alleged gang members have been convicted of minor crimes like possession of drug paraphernalia.

"They are trying to sneak in a lower burden of proof," Montenegro said of Earle's office. "Are we willing to degrade our civil rights just because we can show a person has possessed drug paraphernalia or committed criminal trespass?"

Prejean said he is on probation for possession of a controlled substance. Montenegro said such a crime is not enough to limit Prejean's rights free speech and freedom of assembly.

Barrett Sundberg, a member of the neighborhood's association, said what is being compromised is residents' rights to liberty and freedom around their homes.

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Senior Center Menu

MONDAY

Spaghetti w/meat sauce, green beans, stewed squash, cucumber/onion salad, apricot cobbler, garlic toast

TUESDAY

Tacos, lettuce/tomato salad, pinto beans, Spanish rice, sopapillas

WEDNESDAY

Barbecue chicken, scalloped potatoes, fried cauliflower, green pea salad, coconut pudding

THURSDAY

Braised ham, sweet potato, broccoli, Waldorf salad, chocolate cake w/frosting

FRIDAY

Fried fish, tater tots, mixed vegetables, creamy coleslaw, bread pudding

Senior Center News

On Monday, bridge begins at 9:30 a.m. and the domino tournament will begin at 10 a.m. Seniors may join the tournament with a partner or staff members will help them find a partner.

Tuesday's activities include 42/88 which begins at 10 a.m. The Local Yokels will be entertaining at 11 a.m. in the dining room. Dance/game night begins at 7 p.m. Bridge and 42 players participate in Game Night and the domino and pool room is available for anyone who enjoys those games.

On Wednesday, the birthday party for seniors born in July will begin at 10 a.m. Seniors are encouraged to join the group for McDonald's birthday cake.

A new craft for nursing home and extended care residents will begin at 9:30 a.m. Thursday.

On Friday, the blood pressure clinic and bridge will both begin at 9:30 a.m. The pool association will be meeting at 10 a.m. in the conference room.

The swimnastics schedule for seniors has been changed to Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. The last day to swim will be July 31. The fall schedule will not be decided until after registration at WTC on Aug. 24.

Daily activities include pool, dominoes, exercise, quilting and walking in the gym.

Successful human hand transplant may be likely

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — After three years of work and two years of animal experiments, researchers have been given permission to attempt the world's first successful hand transplant.

While surgeons have been able to reattach severed limbs following accidents for years, they have never been able to successfully transfer a limb from a donor to a living recipient.

But a research team in Louisville is hoping they can accomplish the feat within the next three to six months.

"Potentially, this procedure could be a breakthrough on par with the first kidney and heart transplants," said Gordon Tobin, a University of Louisville professor of surgery. "It all depends on how successful it proves to be once it is done and perfected."

The University of Louisville School of Medicine Human Studies Committee and Jewish Hospital Institutional Review Board granted approval after researching the idea for more than three years and analyzing the findings of an international symposium on the idea held last November.

An ideal candidate for the surgery would be someone between 18 and 65 who has had part of an arm amputated below the elbow. A donor hand would be sought through existing organizations that coordinate transplants of organs such as hearts, lungs and kidneys.

Researchers said the eight- to 12-hour procedure should not be as tricky as a typical limb reattachment, or replantation, which often involves crushed or mangled bones, tendons and ligaments.

But at least one surgeon expressed concern over the plan.

"It's very, very risky and I think they're pressing the envelope with this," said Matthew Tomaino, chief of microsurgery for the University of Pittsburgh's orthopedic surgery department.

Tomaino cited the risk of death from drugs given to prevent the body from rejecting the limb. The drugs suppress the immune system.

"The risks from taking these drugs, which the recipients will have to take for the rest of their lives, have not warranted the transplant of a non-vital organ," he said Thursday.

Tomaino also said the chances of the recipient ever experiencing much, if any, real feeling in the transplanted hand are minimal.

Members of the team, however, believe that a recipient potentially could experience some motion six to eight weeks after surgery, a wider range of motion after six months and some sensation after a year.

South American doctors attempted a similar procedure in 1964 but the donor hand was rejected in only 14 days.

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Formed lather
7 Unforeseen
13 Infuriate
14 Agnes Moorehead role
15 Spotted wildcat
16 Comedian Sid —
17 Gums
18 Hearing organ
20 Enzyme
21 Singing bird
23 Actress Charlotte —
24 Gets older
25 Group of two
27 Makes amends
29 Gun-owners' grp.
31 WWII area
32 Pouch
33 Drink slowly
34 Nab
37 Uses a chair
40 Folksinger Burl —
41 Snack
43 Macaws
45 Temp. unit
46 Ingrid Bergman's daughter
47 In the past
48 Hawk
51 Like packaged bread
54 Garb
55 Mother —
56 Appeared as if
57 Uses energetically

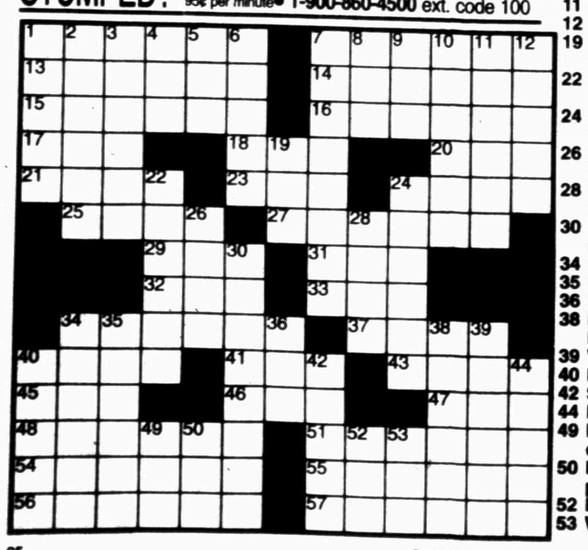
DOWN

1 1988 Olympic Games site
2 Nude
3 Dismal
4 Actor Mineo
5 Psyche part
6 Discourage
7 Hides
8 Actress Merkel
9 Ike's inits.
10 Amount of medicine
11 Rubs out
12 Nostrils
19 Motorists' org.
22 Missouri's neighbor
24 Defective vision
26 Exclamation of annoyance
28 Elevator inventor
30 Widely recognized
34 Slender
35 Make invalid
36 Ball —
38 Inquiry for lost goods
39 Wisest
40 Brainstorms
42 Sample (food)
44 Fizzy drinks
49 Filch, old-style
50 Before, to poets
52 Law, in Latin
53 Wrath

Answer to Previous Puzzle

W	A	Y	L	A	Y		C	A	B	A	N	A	
O	N	E	I	D	A		L	E	A	N	E	D	
K	I	T	T	E	N		O	S	M	O	N	D	
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"The cat went berserk!"



"ISN'T HE GOING INTO *OVERTIME*?"

McCurry's deputy to be next press secretary

WASHINGTON (AP) — Joe Lockhart is no revolutionary. So he could giggle when President Clinton injected a mischievous note of melodrama in announcing his next press secretary.

"The long-awaited coup in the press office is finally taking place," Clinton told reporters Thursday in revealing that Mike McCurry will leave as White House press secretary this fall.

The easygoing but often boldly political Lockhart, 39, will be the third Clinton press secretary. The first, Dee Dee Myers, was the only woman to hold the position. Lockhart has been a McCurry deputy since mid-1997.

A native of Suffern, N.Y., Lockhart is a gifted gabber whose years with presidential campaigns polished his skill at "spinning" the news to put his boss in the best light. He is a veteran of all three losing Democratic presidential campaigns in the 1980s — Jimmy Carter in 1980, Walter Mondale in 1984 and Michael Dukakis in 1988. In between, he worked at various TV news jobs, including CNN, ABC and SKY Television News of London.

A stocky man with salt-and-pepper hair and a ready smile, Lockhart is experienced at explaining others' views. But mostly he has done it in the politically charged arena of an election campaign. That is different from the blend of policy, statesmanship and politics called for when speaking for a president and his administration.

Some reporters who know Lockhart well describe him as highly partisan.

"The question is, can he bring to the job a blend of knowledge and detachment?" offered Bill Plante, the CBS White House correspondent who has worked with presidential press secretaries back to President Reagan's James Brady. "I think the answer is yes."

In an interview Thursday, Lockhart said he relished the thought of being press secretary, a demanding job that can bring middle-of-the-night calls, weekend crises and plenty of notoriety.

"You become, to a lot of people, the voice and the face of the administration," Lockhart said, squeezing in a few final comments before heading off on a 10-day vacation to London — his first, he said, since coming to the White House after the 1996 election.

"Personally, it's a great challenge and one I look forward to tackling, however daunting it is."

Lockhart and his wife, Laura Logan, have a four-year-old daughter, Clare.

In a White House constantly skating on the edge of crisis — from the Monica Lewinsky investigation to campaign finance charges and beyond — Lockhart knows the pitfalls. He also has shown he can use his wit to turn the mildly awkward into the amusing — a skill for which McCurry became known.

In announcing McCurry's fall departure, Clinton described Lockhart as the ideal replacement.

"He is smart. He knows our policies, foreign and domestic," Clinton said.

Speaking to reporters from the podium in the White House briefing room, where Lockhart will preside once McCurry leaves, Clinton offered a heavy dose of his own spin.

"Joe knows that he can only serve my interests well if he takes care of yours also by being your advocate here at the White House," Clinton said with Lockhart smiling at his side.

Ante raised on millennium census methods

By WALTER R. MEARS
AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — In an intensifying campaign over the way to run the millennium census, Vice President Al Gore accuses Republicans of trying to leave black Americans uncounted, Congress threatens to ration funding, and there's a GOP challenge bound for the Supreme Court.

"The census is the most partisan of all issues in goofy Washington," said Secretary of Commerce William M. Daley, the man in charge of running it, on the road seeking support for the administration's way.

The administration would use statistical sampling — in effect, polling techniques — to account for people otherwise missed by the census takers. Republican leaders insist it must be done by face-to-face count, "actual enumeration" in the words of the Constitution.

Besides, they don't trust the Democrats.

That prompted President George Bush and the then-Democratic Congress to have the National Academy of Sciences look at the system. That led to the study that recommended statistical sampling to cover the otherwise uncounted.

When the census was designed that way, politics and science collided. Republicans said sampling failed the constitutional test and would risk rigged numbers. They balked and tried to forbid sampling in 1997 by tying a ban to a disaster-relief bill. President Clinton vetoed it anyhow and forced them to back down.

But that was no settlement. To get census funding approved, the White House agreed to a compromise including an expedited Supreme Court review, along with a new monitoring board to oversee preparations for the count.

That bipartisan panel has met once, reflecting, and not resolving, the political dispute.

The census is the basis for congressional apportionment every decade, determining which states gain and lose seats in the House. It also produces the numbers on which congressional districts are based.

That's behind the political dispute. The people most likely to be uncounted by mail, telephone and doorbell census takers are in minority and lower-income city neighborhoods, which also makes them most likely to be Democratic voters. With sampling to cover up to 10 percent of the count, redrawn congressional districts could be more Democratic.

Clinton said improving the census system shouldn't be partisan.

But it is, and the Democratic side of that issue was evident in the setting for the president's argument on June 2: a predominantly Hispanic neighborhood in [illegible]ston, [illegible]ed, white and blue banner that read "Everyone counts."

So, too, when Gore addressed the NAACP this month. "The Republicans know theirs is the wrong agenda for African-Americans," he said. "They don't even want to count you in the census. ... This nation cannot work for all Americans if they cannot even count all Americans."

Daley said he understands the politics involved, that he heard one congressional opponent of sampling say 20 to 30 House seats hang in the balance in the census dispute. But the commerce secretary told state legislators Wednesday in Las Vegas that they make all the important decisions in shaping congressional districts, and "all I do is count people."

There's money involved, too, $180 billion worth of federal programs allocated on the basis of population. "No state should have to lose resources because of the political self-interest of a few in Washington," Daley said.

It is part of an administration campaign to gain broader support in the sampling dispute, but it is an insiders' argument. "It would be a shame on you if you could help me make this work and you failed to speak up," Daley told the state legislators. But he acknowledged later that he hadn't been able to stir much interest in persuading Congress to accept sampling.

House Republicans want to put half the 1999 census appropriation on hold until next April, for leverage against sampling. That would invite a veto.

And another round in a dispute that will have to be settled before next spring.

EDITOR'S NOTE — Walter R. Mears, vice president and columnist for The Associated Press, has reported on Washington and national politics for more than 30 years.

AP analysis

No census has succeeded in counting every American in person, not the first and certainly not the last, in 1990, in which an estimated 8 million people were skipped, and half that many were counted twice. It was the first census judged less accurate than the one before it. The numbers were upheld after six years of court challenges.

How to decide who's doing better job among teachers

WASHINGTON (AP) — The notion of paying teachers more for doing a better job is gaining ground because of Republican pressure and a push by the teachers unions.

Already a few states, counties and cities have begun bonus plans tied largely to improved student performance. And in Florida this summer, the 67 school districts along with local unions are scrambling to meet a requirement that part of teachers' salary increase be based on merit in the coming school year.

"We fully believe that some people will do a wonderful job and others will create a sham," and flout the Legislature's intent, said Frank Brogan, a Republican commissioner of education in Florida who is Jeb Bush's running mate for governor.

The GOP has raised the teacher pay issue this election year, along with challenges to tenure and criticism of teacher quality. Some union leaders support changes as a way to keep teachers in the classroom while giving them more professional status.

The notion also has critics who cite past abuses of merit pay and say competition is bad for school morale. Merit pay also costs money. Florida tried it in the early 1980s but gave up when the price tag soared.

Even an advocate like Sen. Alfonse D'Amato, R-N.Y., cosponsor of a bill in Congress, acknowledges the fear that merit pay means only the "principal's pet" will be rewarded.

"You've got to do it in such a way that it is open, that it is based on a fair evaluation," D'Amato said.

Anne S. Froelich, a teacher in Cincinnati, Ohio, remembers all too well how, 17 years ago, one teacher became teacher of the year at her school. "She slept in her class, but she cooked for the principal, and she sewed for her and she drove because the principal didn't drive," said Froelich, a local union officer.

Froelich recently voted against a Cincinnati plan to pay teacher bonuses based on a school's performance. It would have considered student scores on standard tests, dropout and attendance rates, and teachers' attendance.

Tom Mooney, president of the Cincinnati Federation of Teachers, said the rejected plan was "a radical departure from traditional compensation approaches."

Supporters such as Mooney plan to try again. And a group called the Teacher Union Reform Network, made up of union officials and locals from both the National Education Association and American Federation of Teachers, is also working on a broader proposal.

"We don't know exactly how it's going to turn out," said Adam Urbanksi, the group's leader, who heads the AFT local in Rochester, N.Y. "But I'm speculating that it will have something to do with challenging the rigid, customary automatic salary schedule that's prevalent in most districts."

Mooney, the Cincinnati leader, argues that some of the old fears about bonus pay should disappear because it's now easier to measure how schools and students perform. Standardized tests, for example, are fairly routine.

Froelich says many teachers still believe a plan based on tests and attendance is flawed.

Children develop at different rates, she said. "Plus, we have overwhelming problems at some of the schools."

In Florida, some agreements have already been reached. Teachers stand to earn up to $7,000 a year if they become certified as master teachers by a National Board for Professional Teaching Standards and agree to guide other teachers.

Other proposals vary widely by district.

Regulators in 29 states crack down on 'boiler room' investment scams

WASHINGTON (AP) — A 78-year-old investor in Arkansas was persuaded to sell his blue-chip stock holdings and put the money into penny stocks — relatively cheap, high-risk stocks that are thinly traded. He eventually lost more than $440,000.

The man was one of many investors across the country who have lost thousands to a classic con game: "boiler room" operations. These days, the telemarketing scams are being used to sell investments in penny stocks, foreign currencies, gourmet coffee shops and even ostrich farms.

Securities regulators in 29 states are cracking down on the operations, bringing 106 enforcement actions in recent weeks, the North American Securities Administrators Association announced Thursday. The group includes securities regulators from the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, Canada and Mexico.

The recent enforcement actions, ranging from halt-sales orders to fines to criminal indictments, were taken against boiler room operations selling:

—Penny stocks (64 actions against 36 companies).

—Foreign currency investments (27 actions against 27 companies selling to residents of Arizona, California, Idaho, Indiana and South Dakota).

—Other investments (15 actions against 12 companies).

Among the other schemes were those touting interests in gourmet coffee shops, Internet service providers, ostrich farms and TV "infomercials" for bizarre products like water-filled barbells and talking ID tags for dogs (the owner's address and phone number are pre-recorded).

In a high-tech era in which stock fraud schemes often use the Internet, boiler rooms are old-fashioned swindles that continue to thrive. In a typical boiler room operation, dozens of salespeople are packed into a room, sitting at banks of telephones and making hundreds of unsolicited, "cold" calls each day to potential customers.

Cold-calling and using sales scripts are not illegal, but they often become vehicles for telemarketing fraud.

Prime targets of boiler rooms are unsophisticated investors, especially the elderly, who are more likely to be at home when the phone rings and more susceptible to high-pressure telemarketing.

"In this bull market, there's been an explosion of boiler rooms — and many investors are getting burned," said Denise Voigt Crawford, president of NASAA, who also is Texas' securities commissioner.

The message to consumers: Never buy anything over the phone from a stranger without thoroughly checking out the investment and the person and outfit selling it. Do not succumb to pressure to "buy now."

Although thousands of penny stocks are bought and sold legitimately as a vital source of capital for small companies, some have become breeding grounds for fraud. Because they are not listed on major stock exchanges, there is no real pricing competition for penny stocks.

Investors often pay for overvalued stock, only to lose money when trying to sell it — assuming they can sell it at all, regulators say. Market manipulation and stock markups make it unlikely that investors will see a profit.

But the potential payoff for boiler room operators can be huge. In a private stock offering for $12 million, for example, the offering company might only get $3 million — the rest goes to stock promoters and brokers.

Consumers can check out salespeople and their companies by contacting the securities regulator in their state. Addresses and phone numbers are available at NASAA's Web site at www.nasaa.org or by calling 202-737-0900.

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Hawaii mobilizes to prevent invasion of brown tree snakes

HONOLULU (AP) — Brown and sometimes reaching 10 feet long, it has a ruthless appetite for destruction. Birds, rodents and bats are typical victims, but it's also been known to attack infants with nearly fatal results.

Hawaii, with more endangered species than any other U.S. state, is mustering everything it can to prevent an invasion of the brown tree snake. State officials have deployed an elite battalion of beagles to sniff out incoming cargo from Guam, 3,800 miles to the southwest, where the snakes have already decimated native bird populations.

"The brown tree snake is the major enemy alien species threat to the state of Hawaii," said Mike Wilson, director of the state Department of Land and Natural Resources. "Virtually every single bird species we have" would be threatened by the snake, he said.

Brown tree snake experts are gathering here Monday for a three-day symposium to discuss the latest trapping strategies, new kinds of snake baits and the use of snake-detecting dogs.

Since Jack Russell terriers first were used on Guam in 1994 to check outgoing cargo, only one brown tree snake has been confirmed arriving in Hawaii, said Mike Pitzler of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's snake containment program in Hagatna, Guam. That compares with five snakes found in the previous five years.

Still, it takes only one pregnant snake to breach Hawaii's defenses for an invasion to begin, since a female can lay up to 12 eggs at a time.

"A number of snakes we have captured have been females in various stages of pregnancy," Pitzler said.

Every night on Guam, where the brown snake first arrived in the 1940s, the director of the U.S. territory's Agriculture Department goes out to an area near his local airport to hunt for snakes. And each night Mike Kuhlmann finds the slithery critters that have run rampant.

Guam and the federal government have spent millions of dollars trying to repair the damage. About 10,000 snakes a year are captured on Guam, but money can't fix it all: The snake is believed responsible for eliminating nine of the island's 11 native bird species.

Galileo spacecraft systems are up and working again

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The spacecraft Galileo was back up and functioning on Thursday after NASA controllers restored a computer subsystem that turned itself off while passing Jupiter's moon, Europa.

Project engineers on Wednesday night successfully restarted the command and data subsystem — a network of three computers and other hardware — and were trying to restore the system's ability to process scientific data.

NASA said it could take up to a week for the spacecraft to resume sending new science data back to Earth. Currently, it is sending telemetry such as Galileo's position.

The subsystem went into "safe mode" on Monday during a pass within 1,141 miles of Europa's surface. As a result, the spacecraft lost all data collected from its fifth near-pass of Europa on Galileo's two-year extended mission, which targets the moon where scientists suspect there is a hidden ocean that could harbor life.

A backup system remained in operation but sent only basic data.

Jim Erickson, the project manager at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory, said project engineers believe the problem was triggered when debris short-circuited a signal line, causing computer resets.

The Galileo Europa Mission is scheduled to make three more near-passes of Europa, the next one on Sept. 26.

Suspect in Jasper incident didn't tell truth, lawyer says

DALLAS (AP) — A suspect in the killing of a black man in Jasper lied to police about his role in driving the man to a remote spot where he was attacked, his lawyer said Thursday.

Shawn Berry, 23, first told police another suspect commandeered his truck to drive James Byrd Jr. to a rural road, where Byrd was beaten, chained to a pickup truck and dragged to his death on June 7.

On Thursday, Berry's lawyer said that account was one of several lies that the Jasper man told police in the days after Byrd's killing, the Dallas Morning News reported in Friday's editions.

In later statements that were never disclosed by authorities, Berry admitted he drove the truck, even chatting with Byrd and offering him a beer during the ride, said the lawyer, Lum Hawthorn of Beaumont.

Nutrition

By Ed Blonz, PH.D.



What is lactose intolerance?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I recently learned that I am lactose intolerant. The one dairy item I can eat without any problem is yogurt. Even though coconut milk, soy milk and Rice Dream are not dairy products, do they contain lactose? Are there any other food products that I should avoid? — Bloated in L.A.

DEAR BLOATED: Lactose intolerance is an inability to efficiently digest the carbohydrate (lactose) found in dairy products. Because the lactose is not digested and absorbed, it travels down the length of the digestive tract, sometimes attracting water along the way. While in the large intestine, the bacteria normally present feast on the lactose, giving off gas as a metabolic waste product. The production of gas and the presence of fluid create the cramping and digestive distress that are the symptoms of lactose intolerance. Yogurt, although made from milk, is often well-tolerated by people who have lactose intolerance because yogurt bacteria produce their own lactose-digesting enzyme, or lactase.

The only food products you should be wary of are those made with dairy products, as these are the key lactose-containing foods. Research, however, has shown that lactose-intolerant people can often tolerate small amounts of lactose (up to a cup of milk) — especially when taken as part of a mixed meal. Cheese and ice cream are not usually a problem, perhaps because their fat content allows for more mixing and a slower passage through the digestive system. Coconut milk, soy milk and Rice Dream do not contain lactose. Lactose is sometimes used as a sweetener, but it may not be present in sufficient quantities to provoke a response. If you have a strong reaction to lactose, you will have to become an avid label-reader.

There are lactase supplements available that can be taken along with the food to do the digesting for you. You should also be aware that prescription and over-the-counter drugs may contain some lactose as a filler.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am retired. On one of my trips, I stopped for breakfast at a family restaurant and found an ad for bee capsules. The product, advertised on the restaurant place mat, was touted as a rejuvenator, a complete food, and nature's antibiotic. The ad claimed that the capsules contain the B-vitamins, enzymes and amino acids. I purchased a jar hoping it would help me with my golf game. I have noticed an improvement in my hair — it seems to have more body. I am quite active and have plenty of energy. I seem to have even more energy now, and my golf game has improved. May I please have your opinion on the true effects before I purchase a year's supply? Is it my imagination, or are the bee capsules really helpful? — B.H., Beverly Hills, Fla.

DEAR B.H.: The capsules you purchased contain four different bee products: honey, pollen, propolis and royal jelly. There have been a wide range of health claims associated with bee products. Most are classified as anecdotal evidence, an often-used term that refers to stories that lack scientific validation. Without any readily available scientific proof, there remains skepticism about the claims for these products. For example, honey is a sweetener; and although bee pollen does contain small amounts of a variety of essential nutrients, it would only be considered a good nutrition source if you were a drone bee. You can get all that it offers at considerably less cost with food.

There is some preliminary research on propolis, a resin collected by honey bees to fill cracks in their hives. Propolis is being investigated for its anti-microbial activity. It is unclear, though, how it might work in people, and how much would be needed to have a beneficial effect.

Royal jelly, the milky-white secretion produced by worker bees, is responsible for the differential growth that turns a worker bee into the queen. There is no evidence that royal jelly affects growth, development or fertility in animals.

Most of the research on bee products, it turns out, has to do with negative effects, such as allergic reactions following the consumption of such products by an allergic individual. There is, however, some research that appears to portray bee products in a more positive light. I say "appears" because I am unable to examine the research. Most of these studies are in Russian, Czech, Japanese or Chinese, making it difficult to tell whether they're anecdotal reports or actual proof.

As far as Western science is concerned, bee products remain an unknown. I'd hesitate to say that it is all in your imagination, because we are all different in the way we respond. Your golf game improved, your hair has more body — but can one attribute this to the bee products? I am pleased that things are going well for you, but from an objective standpoint, claims that bee products can increase your energy level, help rejuvenate your body, or work as an antibiotic remain speculative and unproven. Ideally, the companies selling these products should fund research to check the veracity of their claims.

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

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is the author of the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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Alleged fugitive hires attorney

PROVO, Utah (AP) — A man accused of shooting a university police officer in the midst of an alleged cross-country crime spree will have a new lawyer for his preliminary hearing.

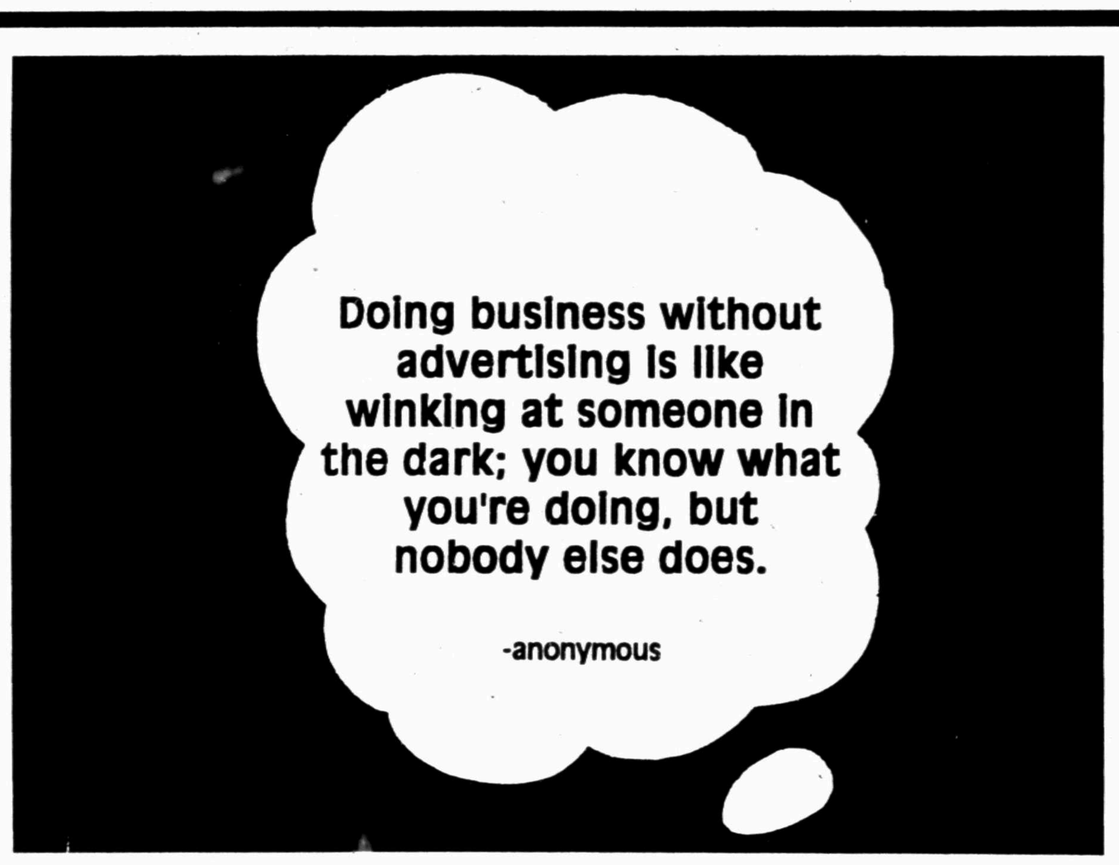
Carl Douglas Consolvo, 38, of Norfolk, Va., has a preliminary hearing set for Aug. 7.

On Thursday a judge also finalized Consolvo's decision to switch lawyers. Consolvo had been represented by Steve Killpack, a public defender, but now will be represented by Salt Lake City attorney James C. Bradshaw.

Killpack said Consolvo's family retained Bradshaw.

Consolvo was arrested in Henderson, Nev., in early June. He was wanted by authorities in four other states and by federal officers on a fugitive warrant and for a string of alleged bank robberies, including two in Provo and one in Orem.





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New Mexico Wildlife

VOL. 43, NO. 2 ■ AUGUST 1998



PHOTO: JERRY MONTGOMERY

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Kids, like Koral Gordon of Eldorado Elementary School, can make a big difference in wildlife conservation.

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8. Swift foxes are the grassland specialists of New Mexico's eastern plains.

10. Boaters and anglers are fighting less, thanks to the Sport Fish Restoration Act.

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Paying for wildlife management is a tough job, and *nobody* wants to do it.

3. natural**law**
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6. ***endangered* species**
The March release of Mexican gray wolves in Arizona has refueled the ancient predator debate.

14. **kidtracks**
Whooping cranes have Wild Friends.

16. watchable**wildlife**
Salman Ranch raises more than just cattle. Everything from the majestic elk to the diminutive swallow can be seen here.

A publication devoted to the enjoyment and appreciation of New Mexico wildlife.

Published by The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

INTERNATIONAL MISSION

Restoring pronghorn in Mexico is a cooperative venture

by Susan Arritt



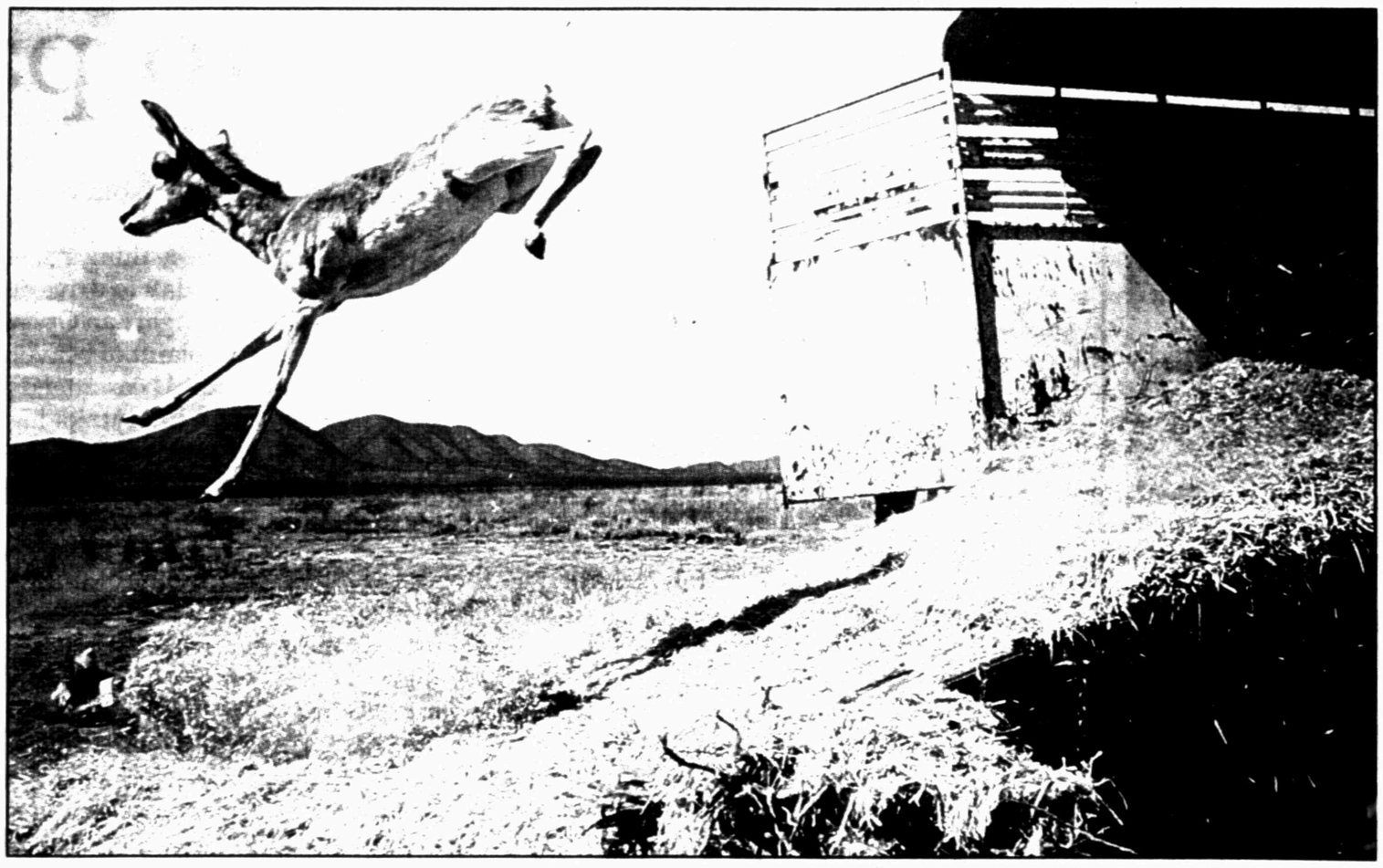
Reagan Smetak and pronghorn emerge from the grinder.

PHOTO: DON MACCARTER

Crouching motionless inside the 4-foot pit, we could've heard a pin drop.

"Don't let them see the whites of your eyes, or the glint of sunlight on your hair," we were warned. "Pronghorn will turn on a dime if they spy anything suspicious."

I was packed like a sardine in the cramped, dirt dugout along with 11 Department of Game and Fish personnel and four representatives from two Mexican conservation organizations. We were hiding alongside a mile-long, fenced corridor on a 14,000-acre private ranch, north of Carrizozo. Within moments, the sound of an approaching helicopter would signal the arrival of a stampeding herd of some 50 pronghorn. My pit-mates and I hunkered down, waiting for the instant when we would spring into action to assist in this unusual wildlife roundup. We were about to take part in a capture and transplant operation that had been five years in the making.



A pronghorn leaps to freedom in Mexico's Valle Colombia.

PHOTO: PATRICIO ROBLES GIL

CONSERVATION CATCHING ON

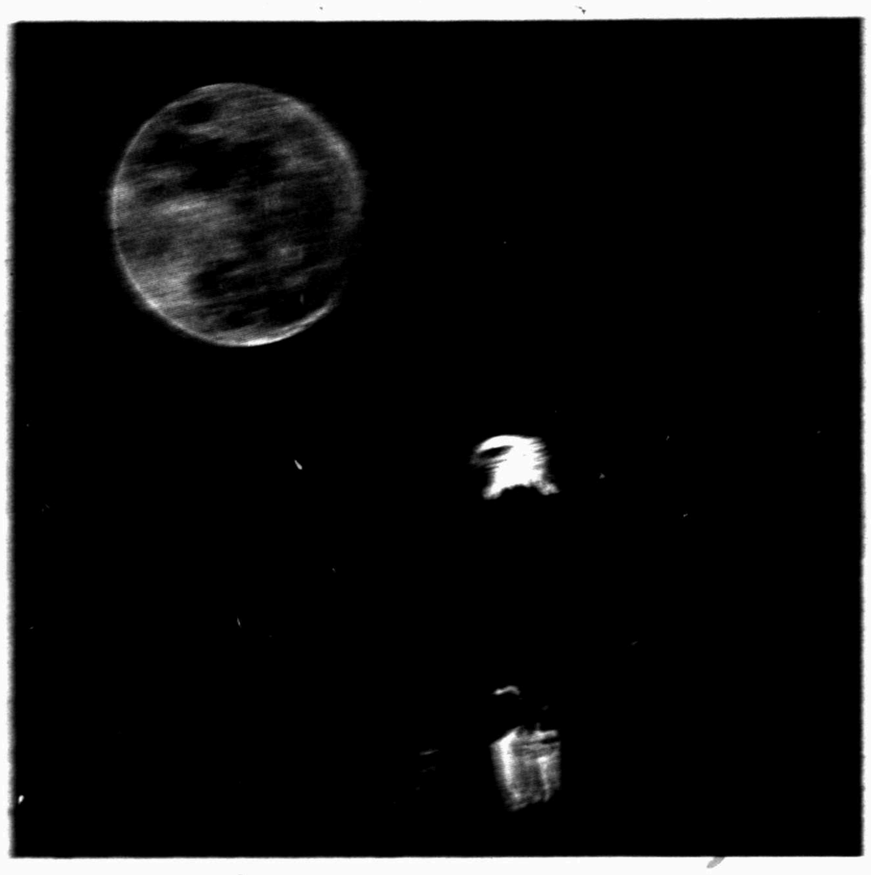
In 1993, newly conceived plans to capture pronghorn in New Mexico and release them in Coahuila, Mexico, set the wheels in motion for a flourishing international relationship between the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and the private Mexican organizations Agrupación Sierra Madre (Sierra Madre) and its offshoot, non-profit group, Unidos para la Conservación (Unidos).

Sierra Madre is a nine-year-old organization which concentrates its efforts on support of fieldwork related to individual species and the ecosystems in which they live. It also promotes public awareness about conservation issues. The group publishes books

...continued on page 4

editor's note...

Everybody wants wildlife...



...unless they have to pay for it

Blue shirts know no holidays

by Martin Frentzel

ELEPHANT BUTTE—It's supposed to be fun: three carefree days of sun and water. But visit this reservoir on a major holiday weekend—Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day—and you might be camping with 80,000 or more of your closest friends.

The constant drone of personal-watercraft engines reverberates through every cove. Volleyball teams compete on courts planted partially in the lake. Tents, trailers, motorhomes and pickup campers jam the beaches. Trucks are buried up to their axles in sand.

"Nobody wearing a blue shirt thinks this is neat," says Lee Duff. "But just think how stressful these people's lives must be if they have to come here to relax."

"I heard him say, 'Now I know why people kill cops like you.'"

Duff is Las Cruces-District supervisor for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Blue shirts are a conservation officers' uniform, and the game wardens patrol Elephant Butte and other fishing spots when everyone else is having fun. They are there to enforce wildlife laws amidst the gang-bangers and squeaky-clean families, those who are there to party, and the occasional serious angler.

It's a job that requires great vigilance.

First on-site murder

Memorial Day Weekend 1998 will forever be remembered for the first murder commited at a New Mexico state park.

"We have had incidents where bodies have been recovered at the lake," said Tommy Mutz, "but it had happened elsewhere, and they were dumped. This is the first murder on-site on any park to my knowledge." Mutz is field operations director for the parks division. The murder was believed to be a gang dispute.

Elephant Butte becomes the state's second largest community on major holidays, Mutz said, and a crowd of 80,000 to 100,000 brings to the park all the social ills of a big city—domestic violence, DWI, fender benders, minors in possession of alcohol.

It also brings out casual sports who think they can get away with a little fishing without a license. Anyone 12 and older needs a license, but often they think no one's watching. The lure is tossed into the water.

Duff has been here observing for 15 Memorial Day Weekends. He watches through binoculars from surrounding hills as plenty of those unlicensed fishers test the weights of their lures against the strength of their lines. He's seen a near-riot crowd dispersed with tear gas. He's literally walked into devil-worship ceremonies while checking for that license.

Murder, however, really gets an officer's attention.

"That kind of stuff always puts everybody on edge," said Duff, who has spent 24 years in a blue shirt. For him, this shooting was particularly eerie. The name of the suspect is someone the game warden has encountered before.

Out of control

"I got into a nose-to-nose with him two years ago on the Dirt Dam," Duff said. The suspect and his gang were fishing when Duff and Dale Bode checked them. "They jumped us, 'Why are we being harassed?' It turns out we were the fifth contact with the law they had had that weekend."

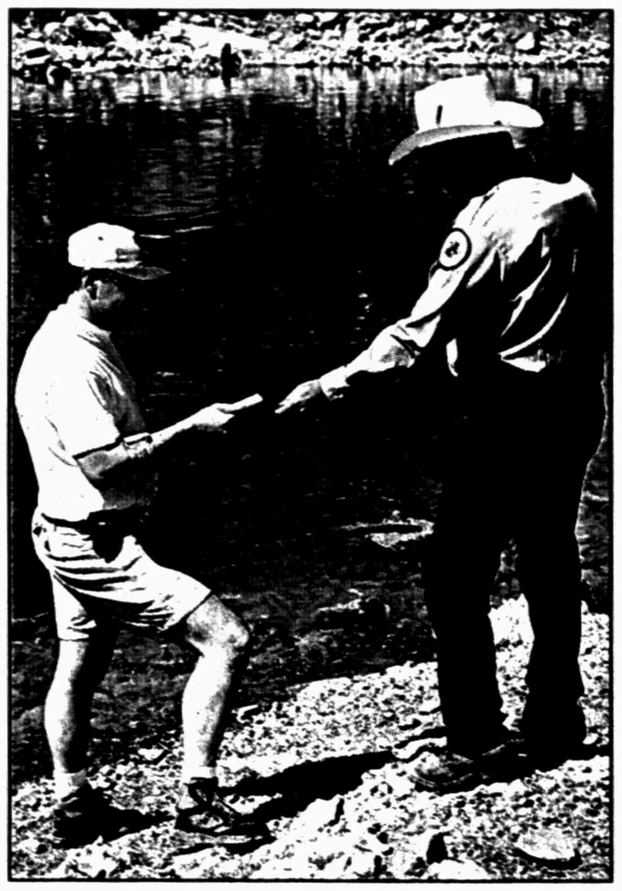
The group had been through a DWI checkpoint and was forced to change drivers; State Police confiscated their Jet Skis for lack of registration, and the State Parks people got after them for not paying camping fees. A potential ticket for fishing without a license pushed the current murder suspect to the breaking point.

"I heard him say, 'Now I know why people kill cops like you,'" Duff recalled. "I said, 'Are you threatening me?'"

The talk revolved around going back to prison and getting three squares a day. The situation was out of control, Duff said. He assumed a defensive posture and prepared to fight the agitated gang members. Then the suspect backed down and said, 'Just write me the damn ticket.'"

Eventually, Duff learned the man had already purchased a license, but he had lost it. To cool off tempers further, the warden offered to drive the man to the store where he had made the purchase. It was during the trip that Duff learned the man had been released from prison about a year earlier, and had been trying to turn around his life. Duff also heard about the difficulties with the State Police and the parks personnel. At the store, they found the receipt in the ticket book, and the man bought a duplicate for $6. Although it would be inaccurate to say they became friends, they did develop some mutual respect.

"I even saw him at the State Fair," Duff said. "I met his wife and his mother. We were shooting the bull a little bit."



Lee Duff, Las Cruces-District supervisor, checks the license of a nonresident angler during a holiday enforcement action at Elephant Butte. Duff has met all kinds of anglers at the popular lake, including murder suspects and devil worshipers

PHOTO: MARTIN FRENTZEL

Can't be too careful

Most of the crowd at the Butte isn't quite so unforgettable. The older women who think they don't need a license if they're fishing from a boat, and the young girls who claim to be 11 even though they were born in 1985, are just ordinary violators of wildlife laws. It's the murder suspects who burn their images in one's gray matter.

Duff has a yellowed poster taped to the roof of his pickup. It's an announcement from a decade or more ago when a man named Claude Dallas escaped from prison. Dallas was recaptured and is still serving time for murdering two Idaho game wardens.

"I have that as a reminder that he might be behind bars, but there are other people who might be just as dangerous to people in our line of work," Duff said.

Ben Hoffacker, State Parks field operations director for law enforcement and boating, said the division hopes to reduce crowding at the Butte by establishing a carrying capacity. Camping areas will be closed after the capacity is reached.

"We're not targeting Las Cruces or El Paso," Hoffacker said. "It's much more convenient for the people in Albuquerque to run up to Navajo Lake, only three hours away." Conchas and Ute lakes are other alternatives, he said.

Regardless of where the crowds go, they will continue to meet men and women in blue shirts asking for those fishing licenses. It's part of a game warden's job, just like being careful. ■

No fishing for deadbeat parents

SANTA FE — Failing to pay your child support could prevent you from fishing this summer, or hunting in the fall.

New Mexico's Parental Responsibility Act denies professional, occupational and even recreational licenses to anyone who fails to support his or her children. That means the elk license you were awarded through the public drawing may be revoked if your name appears on the Human Services Department's certified list of persons who are not in compliance with court-ordered child support.

The Human Services list contains about 17,000 names. About 3,500 of those names also appear on lists of license holders in New Mexico. The law applies to all 17,000 persons, who some day may want to fish or hunt here.

Each month, the two departments will compare their lists. Hunting and fishing license holders will be notified. They will have up to 20 days to request a hearing. If they don't ask for a hearing, the license holders will be notified their privileges have been suspended.

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Mexican adventure restores pronghorn continued from page 1



A helicopter drives pronghorn antelope into the trap

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER

and other promotional materials and sells these and other nature-related products and handcrafted items at Sierra Madre stores in 31 locations across Mexico and abroad. Each purchase supports the wildlife research and management projects sponsored by Unidos. This non-profit sister organization serves as a catalyst to link private enterprises to conservation organizations and the academic sector. As well, it facilitates the donation of running equipment and promotional materials to educational institutions and non-governmental agencies throughout Mexico and collaborates with indigenous communities on projects highlighting the sustainable use of natural resources.

The concept of wildlife conservation is catching on like wildfire across Mexico, according to Santiago Gonzales, chief of the Division of Wildlife and New Mexico's key player in its cooperative ventures with Unidos and Sierra Madre. "Mexicans are excited because they see a potential to be involved in their new conservation movement. Companies are buying land and setting it aside for wildlife-rearing facilities. They're giving money to restore endangered species such as pronghorn, and conservation visionaries are working with people who have the means to fund those visions.

"Wildlife management began in the 1930s here in the United States, but it is only in its infancy in Mexico," said Gonzales. "This is not a big brother-little brother situation that we're involved in. They've asked us for our expertise and techniques, and we've been able to train them. There's a respect between the participants, and a lot of doors have been opened for many people to contribute."

"Back then, they used automobiles and men on horseback to herd the animals."

Of the dozens of conservation projects established by Sierra Madre and Unidos, one of the most popular is the Campaign to Safeguard the Pronghorn, which has engendered significant financial support from individuals and private companies. In Mexico, where all pronghorn subspecies are considered endangered, populations of these sleek animals are small and isolated, and habitat is severely fragmented by roads, fences, and other signs of development.

The cooperative venture between the Department of Game and Fish and the two Mexican organizations was the brainchild of Patricio Robles Gil, chairman of Sierra Madre, and Carlos Manterola, director of Unidos. Following their 1993 overture to establish a working relationship with the department, the first pronghorn transplant, funded primarily by Unidos, took place in 1996. Sixty-six animals were captured near Ancho, and moved to Coahuila's Valle Colombia—a sprawling valley surrounded by mountains.

By law, the Department of Game and Fish is mandated to increase numbers and distribution of endangered state wildlife, such as desert bighorn. But, in the case of pronghorn, there's no shortage of animals in the Land of Enchantment. So, why has the agency long implemented periodic transplants of pronghorn within and outside state borders?

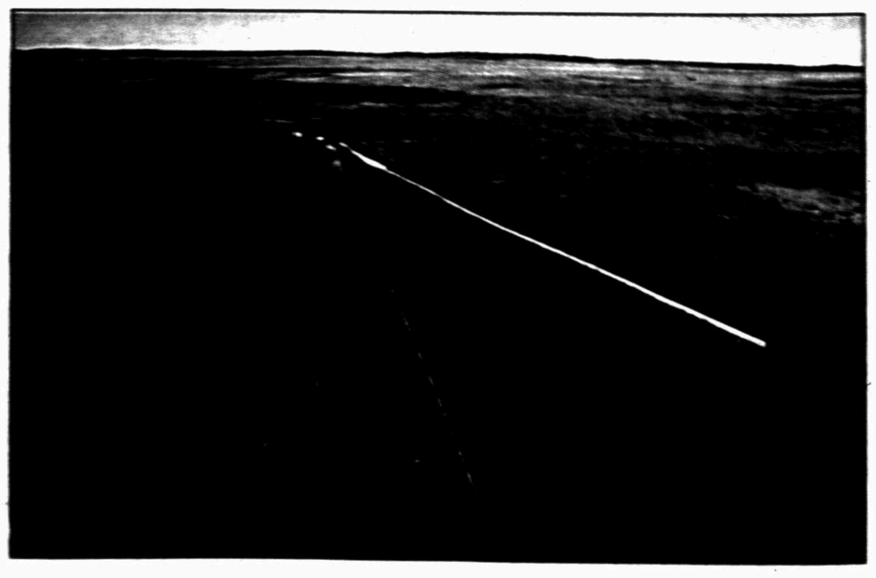
"The purpose of capturing and transferring pronghorn is usually to repopulate an area or to help out a population," said Darrel Weybright, big game project leader in the department's Division of Wildlife. "If a rancher wants pronghorn off his property, he just can't demand it." The agency will work for years on other options with ranchers before actually relocating animals, he stressed. Sometimes increased hunting permits remedy the perceived problem. "But if we do move pronghorn, we generally put them where they can be hunted," he said.

"We most often wait for a trigger request to augment an area. That usually comes from the Bureau of Land Management. Restocking with pronghorn is often a part of that agency's habitat plans," Weybright said. "It's common practice that state wildlife agencies will trap and trade wildlife among each other—that's a part of game management history."

GOOD FENCES, GOOD NEIGHBORS

As a brisk January wind whipped across Marcelino Cordova's ranch in the northeast corner of Socorro County, nine Mexicans from Sierra Madre and Unidos and 25 Game and Fish employees raced to erect two-mile-long, wire-mesh fences on the property before the chill of sunset swept over the plains. Spanning out in a V-shape from a soon-to-be-completed corral, these "wing fences"—made from 44 rolls of wire mesh—served as a gradually narrowing funnel into which pronghorn would be rounded up the next morning. Before nightfall, the international crew attached the fencing with wire and zip ties to about 50[illegible] posts that had been driven into the ground. Sturdy gloves were a must, although some in the group toughed it out and bore blackened palms for days.

Where the fenced corridor connected to the main corral—at the lowest point of a gently sloping hill—other crew members hung massive white tarps from the 10-foot-high netted walls of the structure. The tarps—and the burlap lining the first 500 yards of fencing—would prevent incoming pronghorn from seeing sideline human activity.



The wing trap was invented by the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish in 1937, and has been adopted by other states.

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER

"In 1937, the department developed this corral trap design and the method for maneuvering the animals into it," said Game and Fish pilot Tom Sansom, who served as trap leader for this year's capture and others in the past. "Back then, they used automobiles and men on horseback to herd the animals."

In 1939, while using New Mexico's trapping procedure, Texas became the first state to move antelope using airplanes. New Mexico followed suit in 1942, thus beginning the era of aircraft use in this state's game management programs.

"When New Mexico discontinued trapping in 1943, for the duration of World War II, it had transplanted more than 1,500 antelope to various localities in the state; and 38 to game preserves in Oklahoma in exchange for an equal number of elk," wrote wildlife biologist T. Paul Russell, author of *Antelope of New Mexico*, published by Game and Fish in 1964. "Trapping following the war increased the number of antelope transplanted to near 4,400 by 1956; and by that time, Texas, Montana, Wyoming, Colorado, Arizona and other states had used New Mexico's basic trap design in transplanting impressive numbers." A longtime Game and Fish employee, Russell is credited with devising the pronghorn trap technique.

These days, pronghorn captures in New Mexico utilize helicopters, which enable pilots to round up the animals with more finesse than with fixed-wing planes.

ROUND'EM UP

At daybreak, the crews arrived to put finishing touches on the fence lines, corral, and the "grinder"—the wholly enclosed final portion of the trap, where animals are ultimately retrieved one-by-one. When all was ready to go, helicopter pilot Don Ambabo flew out to distant regions of the ranch in search of pronghorn. Those of us on foot walked outside the corridor to the far end of the mile-long wing fences. Those on the south expanse piled into one pit, while our counterparts tucked out of sight in the pit to the north. For half an hour, we waited in suspense while sharing whispered chatter about pronghorn—los berrendos—in a curious mingling of Spanish and English.

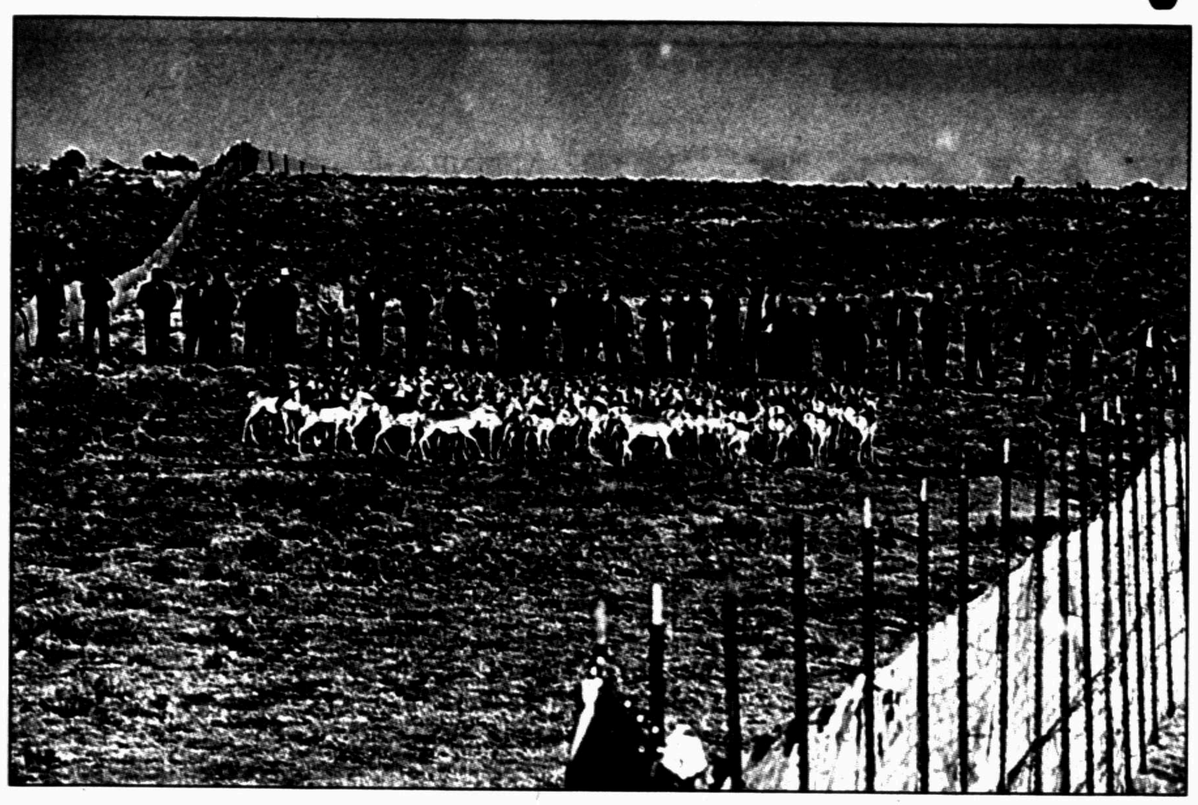
Suddenly, the light-footed herd streaked past, the helicopter close on its heels. A split second later, men with two-way radios gave the signal, and we scrambled out of the hole and over the fence. Spreading perpendicularly across the fenced corridor, we joined the crew from the other pit to form a human chain from one wing fence to the other. Now over a hill and out of sight, the animals could not escape with ease.

As Game and Fish personnel work swiftly behind us to erect a barrier fence at funnel's end, the herd came charging back toward us. Rhythmically, we waved them away by shaking a long rope sporting bright orange feed sacks. Around and around the pronghorn swirled. Fastest of all North American ungulates, they mesmerized me with their dizzying patterns at lightning speed. In no time, the barrier was up behind us, then we slowly maneuvered our chain of widespread arms down the ever-narrowing funnel corridor, pushing the herd closer and closer toward the corral. Time and again, the pronghorn circled and headed back toward us en masse. Stay calm, stoop low, and don't leave a hole in the chain, we'd been ordered, or the animals might spot a weak link and make a dash for it.

RITES OF PASSAGE

Half an hour later we had successfully moved the pronghorn to the corral, where a mighty gate closed abruptly behind them. Game and Fish personnel then went into new modes of action. Seven worked inside the corral, crowding the animals toward the grinder opening with a bright green plastic-coated tarp. Between two and eight pronghorn at a time made it into the grinder, darkened from top to bottom with tarps. A rubber mat on the ground kept the dust at bay. Two-by-two, Game and Fish employees would enter the grinder's outside gate, and grab the first animal within reach. As one person supported the pronghorn's head and chest, and the other its backside, the team emerged from the grinder and carried the loudly bleating animal to one of two veterinary stations.

There, the otherworldly cries of the pronghorn were met with a quick health check, penicillin injections, oral de-worming medicine, and a drug to reduce capture myopathy. Dalia Conde of Unidos, took ear cartilage and hair samples from random animals for DNA analysis. The data she gleans from her graduate studies should help determine the genetic relationship between New Mexico's pronghorn subspecies and those in Mexico.



The trap crew pushes the animals the last few yards into the corral.

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER

"This is a dream," said Manterola, of Unidos, which funded the operation. "I think this second time transplanting the animals is more important than the first, in 1996. Then, we didn't know whether the animals would take to their new habitat. We released 67, and now there are about 100 down there."

From the veterinary station, the animals were placed in sectioned-off trailers according to gender and age. "Typically, they'll jump to any light source," Weybright said. "We have to enclose the trailers so as not to allow in any large areas of light —or else we install dropped ceiling nets to prevent injuries to jumping animals."

JOURNEY TO A NEW HOMELAND

Following the helicopter roundup of another 60 or so animals, and completion of processing all 107, a string of vehicles—including three Game and Fish trucks towing trailers—departed at 5 p.m. for Mexico. After the 16-hour drive to the border, what should've been a hassle-free exchange of documentation with Mexican authorities turned into an interminable six-hour delay. When finally allowed to proceed, the group then traveled non-stop until 10 o'clock the following night—a total of 29 hours from the trap area to the Valle Colombia release site.

Since it was dark when the party arrived, the decision was made to wait to release the animals during daylight. "They're daytime animals and we were at a totally unknown area with fences," said Weybright. "I wanted those buggers to end up as a herd. At nighttime, they tend not to stay together as a herd, but rather splinter off into small groups."

Five animals died during the capture, and another 13 died of stress during the grueling trip. Since the January operation, Unidos has conducted regular monitoring of the new population, and reports that all animals that survived the journey are faring well.

Despite the risks to individual animals, Weybright and many others believe wholeheartedly in the mission of providing pronghorn to areas of Mexico where the animals have all but disappeared. "To me, the whole restoration program is a wonderful thing, although there are a lot of naysayers," he said. "I have great admiration for the officials who agreed to this—whether they're from New Mexico Game and Fish, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or Mexico."

"If you could've seen the people's faces when we arrived in Valle Colombia. Some of the ranchers were waiting for us until 10 o'clock at night," recalled Weybright. "One man said he'd last seen pronghorn there in the valley 60 years ago. And, in one of the nearby houses there was an unforgettable photograph of Charles Lindbergh with an antelope on the wing."

SUSAN ARRITT is a free-lance writer and editor based in Santa Fe. She is editor of New Mexico Partners Conserving Endangered Species, a free quarterly publication of the Department's Conservation Services Division.

WOLF WATCH

Arizona's new predator brings old fears to the surface

by Martin Frentzel

ALPINE, Ariz.—Predators may be the most difficult wildlife to manage. They are not only covert, elusive animals which are hard to see and census, they often are viewed as human competitors.

The release of 11 endangered Mexican gray wolves (*Canus lupus baileyi*) near here in March, has stirred the ancient fears some *Homo sapiens* still carry toward the beasts that make their livings via fang and claw.

"We have enough predators already," says Kaye Diamond, a rancher from Beaverhead, N.M. Her family supplements its income by outfitting hunters. "We don't need another predator. We know that those wolves are going to eat those elk calves, and that's where our future is."

"Everybody thinks it sucks," is how Keith Gillentine of Quemado describes the attitude of local citizens toward wolf restoration. Gillentine commutes to Springerville, Ariz., to work in the sporting goods department of Western Drug. Displayed on the wall above the gun cases and pharmacy counter are hunting trophies: cape buffalo, gazelle and wildebeest from Africa; elk, caribou, cougar and bison from North America. There's a jackalope, and someone has collected enough snakes to fashion a U.S. Marine Corps insignia from their rattles.

"I haven't heard anybody come in here and say anything good about the wolves being turned loose," Gillentine says. "People are proud of the wildlife situation the way it is now."



Elk should be the bulk of the wolves' prey.

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER



Mexican gray wolves were released in Arizona in late March.

PHOTO:
GEORGE ANDREJKO

Instincts intact

Elk are abundant here among the ponderosa pine and emerald parks of the primary zone of the Blue Range Wolf Recovery Area. The zone is in eastern Arizona, but the bulk of the recovery area is the Gila National Forest in New Mexico. Here in Arizona, mule deer numbers are somewhat depressed by drought, but fawn surveys in the southern end of the state indicate the El Nino fall and winter of 1997-98 should boost their numbers.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates the target population of 100 wolves will reduce hunter success some 15 years in the future, although hunting permits should not decrease. Arizona's harvest should drop a maximum of 70 elk, and New Mexico's hunters should harvest 130 fewer elk. At most, New Mexico's deer hunters are expected to kill 380 fewer deer, and hunters should take 180 fewer in Arizona.

Hawks Nest, a five-member pack released this year, were the first captive-bred Mexican wolves to make a documented kill of a cow elk.

"They ate everything but the toenails," says Alan Armistead. Armistead, who participated in a New Mexico Department of Game and Fish cougar study back in the mid-1970s, works for Wildlife Services, U.S. Department of Agriculture. "I'm a trapper," he explains. It's his job to investigate any depredation made by the wolves on livestock in the Alpine area.

During his 24-year career with Wildlife Services, he has worked with every kind of predator except wolves. Now, he finds the newly released animals impressive.

"These animals have been captive for generations, but all those instincts are still there working," he says. "They travel and scrape, establish territories and are making signs just like a wild animal would."

As such, their impacts will be more far-reaching than simply killing deer and elk. "In Minnesota, where you find wolves you don't find any coyotes," says Dan Groebner, a nongame/endangered species biologist for the Arizona Department of Game and Fish. "The wolves and coyotes seem to be too close of competitors. The wolves will actually kill coyotes, and the coyotes will smell wolf scat and wolf urine, and they'll take up shop somewhere else. There's a shuffling of the predator suite out there."

At Yellowstone National Park, where wolves were reintroduced in 1995, coyotes have suffered tremendous losses. Dr. Robert Crabtree, who runs the nonprofit Yellowstone Ecosystems Studies, reports that wolves killed 50 percent of the pre-wolf population of coyotes in his study areas where both exist. By reducing the coyotes, the wolves have helped foxes, hawks, owls, eagles, badgers and pine martens.

"Wolves are causing an explosion in species diversity," Crabtree says. Even meadow grasses have benefited, because the presence of wolves has made elk stay to higher ground where they can keep a more watchful eye on the long-legged predators. Cougars fall victim to wolves in Glacier National Park.

Natural acts

That shuffling of the predator suite, however, has caused some problems for resident humans. A blue heeler cattle dog belonging to Dr. Sam Luce of Alpine was killed May 16 by a wolf or wolf-dog hybrid.

"It was a guard dog," Groebner says. "If a bear came by or a lion came by, that would be the first dog out there to go try and scare it away. Those are usually the animals that get killed by the wolves in Minnesota and other places. A dog that submits, that tucks their tail, actually crouches down and exposes their belly or genital area, those dogs a lot of times are spared."

Barbara Marks, a rancher on Arizona's Blue River, says she attended every public meeting preceding the wolf release. She wanted to change the rules governing what people could do to protect their property from the Mexican gray wolves.

"The Fish and Wildlife rule dealt with livestock only, and we wanted to change it to domestic animals," she says. She knew there would be conflicts between the wolves and domestic dogs, as there have been in other states.

"Cow dogs are part of our family," Marks says. "People don't realize they can't throw a rock at the wolf to chase it away from their pets. That's something we have a problem with." A camper killed one of the released wolves after it reportedly attacked his dog. He was not prosecuted.

Three female wolves dispersed from their initial packs. One ranged to the north traveling about 150 miles and attacked a miniature horse. Another female became a fixture in the town of Alpine before both were captured and returned to the Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge. A third female briefly crossed into New Mexico before returning to Arizona.

"The wolves have a knack for picking out the trouble spots," says Wendy Brown, a wolf biologist for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. "There's a lot of ways wolves could have dispersed, and because they chose to disperse through communities it's caused a lot of issues.

"On the other hand, I don't think it's all bad. One of the things we've learned is that the community's really willing to work with us. Everybody's just got to have a little patience about all this. This is not unusual in wolf recovery at all."

The animals' interest in humans was the surprise of the wolf release. Even Diane Boyd-Heger, a 22-year veteran of wolf recovery now working for Arizona Game and Fish, was somewhat surprised by the Mexican wolves' behavior.

"Most wolves will avoid people," she says. "But whether they are native born or captive raised, they are curious animals. That's how we domesticated the dog."

Dave Parsons, leader of the Mexican Wolf Recovery Team, hopes to develop better methods for conditioning the wolves to avoid human contact before more are released next winter. Hard releases, with wolves being deposited in the woods without the benefit of pens and carrion, are being considered.



Wendy Brown and Paul Morey triangulate a wolf den on an area map.

PHOTO: MARTIN FRENTZEL

Road to recovery

As Brown says, however, the wolves' propensity for civilization wasn't all bad. The animals and biologists gained some supporters.

"I do have real mixed feelings about the wolves," says Billie Wilkerson, owner of the Alpine Country Store. She fears the presence of wolves may keep away some campers, and hurt her business. "But I don't blame the wolves," she says. "I feel sorry for the animals; they didn't ask to come here."

Wilkerson sells groceries, camping supplies and crafts at the store. Her husband is a hunting guide. Billie also sells T-shirts with wolves stenciled on them, and some local residents gave her a hard time about it. The shirts are made by her parents, and they're just "trying to make a living," Wilkerson explains.

"Mexican wolf recovery is going to take some time," says Brown. "It's going to take some time to get animals who have figured out how to make it out there in a way that doesn't conflict with human activities and exhibit the kind of really wild behavior that we want."

The best hope for the kind of wild wolf Brown wants will be the ones born in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. The Campbell Blue pack denned this spring, and biologists believe they are tending the Southwest's first generation of wild wolves in decades.

"If we get one successful breeding pair this year, then we're doing well," Brown says. "If those pups reach adulthood, we're definitely on the road to recovery."

Many roadblocks, however, remain. The New Mexico Cattle Growers filed suit against the Fish and Wildlife Service, hoping to end future releases and force the service to pick up the animals now on the loose.

"We don't think they're real wolves," said Caren Cowan, executive director for the Cattle Growers. "We don't think the Fish and Wildlife Service did its homework, their science isn't adequate." The group is concerned that dogs have diluted the genetic purity of this population.

Cowan also said she feels sorry for the released animals. "They don't know how to survive out there."

Wolf... or coyote?

How does one tell the difference between a coyote and an endangered Mexican gray wolf?

True Mexican wolves have neck manes, short muzzles, blocky heads and their ears are relatively shorter and more rounded than coyotes.

Wolves weigh two to three times as much as coyotes, and may appear about the size of an average to large domestic German shepherd.

Wolves have larger heads and feet in proportion to their bodies. The tails of coyotes and wolves often are straight out or hang down. They may curl slightly above the horizontal position, but not like a Husky. Wolves can wag their tails above the horizontal. They sometimes run with their tails straight out, but coyotes often tuck their tails down or under their bodies.

Hair colors vary widely in wolves, but it's often brindled, mottled or grizzled, ranging in shades of gray and black to brown, buff or red. ■

Habitat is the key to populations

Attitudes toward predators have made a wide swing during this century: The vermin of 1917 is today the embodiment of wilderness in some minds. Wildlife groups once called for their elimination, but today demand their restoration and husbandry.

Wolves, bears, and mountain lions are among the most stealthy of species. Typically reclusive, these animals are virtually invisible when compared to ungulates like deer and elk. New Mexico's black bears and mountain lions survived that period of intensive control that eliminated the wolf and the grizzly bear from the Southwest. They are survivors.

Frequently, predator control gains support as a means for increasing deer or elk herds. Coyotes are known to prey on deer fawns, and predation on young fawns is suspected to have increased since use of the predicide 1080 was banned in 1972, says Wally Haussamen, statewide depredation coordinator for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. Haussamen spent 16 years studying the state's deer.

Predators can have a big impact on deer herds, but usually there are additional problems. But they aren't the only deer killers. Legal sport hunting accounts for 13,000 to 14,000 deer each year. The state's estimated 136,000 does, of which 85 percent are of breeding age, drop approximately 141,000 fawns each year, and between predators, disease and poor nutrition, only about 63,000 fawns survive their first year.

What is not fully understood is whether predation is simply reducing deer numbers in marginal habitats, bringing them back in line with available resources, or truly suppressing deer populations, Haussamen said.

Biologists are hesitant to step back to the days of wholesale predator control unless it's for very specific programs. Since the late 1930s, scientists repeatedly found the quality of available habitat is the biggest factor determining population size.

"People want to go back in history and repeat what we've done that worked before," says Haussamen. "Conventional wisdom says there is some validity to that, but the situation isn't the same. Conventional wisdom won't work again."

Predator control worked early this century, he says, because there were very low deer numbers at that time. By killing lions and wolves, *and* enforcing regulations against market and subsistence hunting, deer were allowed to explode to the point they filled, perhaps even overfilled, the available habitat. "It all depends on whether or not deer are at carrying capacity," Haussamen says.

Mountain lions are having a big impact on the success of New Mexico's efforts to restore bighorn sheep populations. Both desert and Rocky Mountain bighorn sheep are, from time to time, captured within the state and moved to historic, unpopulated or lightly populated areas. After being moved, they are unfamiliar with their new habitats and subject to predation. Of 28 known sheep mortalities, 27 were killed by cougars, says Bill Dunn, bighorn sheep program coordinator.

"We've had substantial mortality, usually within the first year," Dunn says. "Previously, we didn't have this much lion mortality." But as deer herds increased in response to moist weather conditions, lion numbers subsequently grew. "Then the deer herd dropped, and boom, the lions have got to go find something to eat.

"But if we put them in large areas of good habitat with lots of escape terrain, the sheep will be OK," Dunn says.

Swift Fox

by Greg Schmitt

WHAT'S OUT THERE

THE PREDATOR-CONTROL PROGRAMS conducted during settlement of this country, and well into the middle of this century, had many victims. Traps and poisons, intended for wolves and coyotes, killed foxes, too.

The swift fox (*Vulpes velox*), a small resident of the Great Plains, was one of the casualties. This species experienced a decline in range and numbers throughout vast areas of the plains states and the prairie provinces of Canada.

In some places, swift foxes died by the thousands after eating bait laced with strychnine. It's believed the destruction of native prairie habitats and prairie dog control also played major roles in the decline of this species.

Grassland specialists, these foxes reach their southern limits in eastern New Mexico. In 1992, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service received a petition requesting the swift fox be listed as an endangered species in Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska--possibly throughout its entire range.

In response, state wildlife management agencies in the 10 states where the foxes occur recognized they needed to know more about the species. To develop a conservation assessment and strategy, the states and interested cooperators formed the Swift Fox Conservation Team. The members hoped the assessment and strategy would be a possible alternative to federal listing as threatened or endangered.

Each of the 10 cooperating agencies initiated or completed surveys to determine the distribution of swift foxes in its respective state; the Fish and Wildlife Service, however, issued a "warranted but precluded" finding, meaning that other species were higher priorities for listing.

In 1994, there was virtually no current information on the status of the swift fox in New Mexico. In response, the Department of Game and Fish started examining the range of the species in the state.

Dr. Robert L. Harrison, Department of Biology at the University of New Mexico, along with department biologist Kerry Mower and myself, completed a range-wide survey for the foxes in the state. These investigations were funded in part by the department and the Natural Resources Division of the U. S. Geological Survey. The investigations documented the occurance of swift foxes throughout their historic range in New Mexico; however, they were not found in agricultural croplands in Curry or eastern Roosevelt Counties. Surveys of southeastern Quay County similarly found no swift foxes.

Currently, Dr. Jerry W. Dragoo, Department of Biology at the University of New Mexico, is investigating the taxonomic relationships between the swift fox and kit fox (*Vulpes macrotis*), a close relative found to the west. Dragoo's efforts will focus on state-of-the-art molecular genetics involving use of microsatellite data. This investigation is being funded by the Department of Game and Fish with Endangered Species Act Section 6 Funds from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Beginning in the fall of 1998, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, through Section 6 funds, will initiate a three-year study of the swift fox to determine the population status, population viability, and aspects of their use of habitats in portions of eastern New Mexico. Additional objectives of these studies will be to determine the most appropriate method to conduct population surveys for swift foxes, investigate their births, deaths, and determine sex ratios in natural populations. This study also will examine whether or not, and under what circumstances, swift foxes will use cropland habitats. Other issues to be examined are population densities, home-range sizes, diets and characteristics of den sites.

Keith Kintigh, a student at New Mexico State University, is doing a general ecology study of the swift fox for the U.S. Forest Service on the Kiowa National Grasslands of northeastern New Mexico. He has caught seven foxes and placed radio collars on six. He's actually been dealing with only six individuals, he believes, because one escaped.



Swift foxes, like these pups, are the most den-dependent canids in North America.

PHOTO: DON MACCARTER

GOING TO GROUND

The kit fox and swift fox are the smallest canids in North America. An adult male stands approximately 12 to12 1/2 inches at the shoulder, and is about 30 inches in total length. Males average about 5 pounds, while females tend to be slightly smaller.

In winter, the swift fox has dark buffy gray coloration across the back that extends into a yellowish-tan across the sides, legs, and lower surface of the tail. The pelage on the back may appear grizzled due to conspicuous black-and-white guard hairs. The throat, chest and belly are pale yellow to whitish. Their summer pelage is similar; however, it is shorter and may be somewhat more rufous. Characteristic field marks include a black spot on each side of the snout and a black-tipped tail.

Habitat types used by swift foxes vary throughout their extensive range; however, they generally occupy shortgrass and midgrass prairies characterized by level to gently rolling topography. The foxes are seen here most often in grasslands characterized by stands of blue grama and other shortgrass-prairie species.



Far left:

Keith's research has shown that coyote predation is the number one cause of death for swift foxes.

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER

RECORDS RARE, TOO

The first report of swift foxes in New Mexico came in March 1879 at Cabra Spring, San Miguel County. The second record of this species was reportedly taken sometime between October 1893 to February 1894 near Clayton. Only a few swift fox specimens came from New Mexico between 1880-1950.

Surprisingly, Vernon Bailey's work on mammals of New Mexico did not include records of this species in spite of the Biological Survey's significant coverage of the state during 1889-1924. The swift fox was not reported by J. Stokley Ligon in his accounts of a statewide survey either. It appears possible that this species was rare in New Mexico prior to 1950.

Gray foxes (*Urocyon cinereargenteus*) and red foxes (*Vulpes vulpes*) also occur within the range of the swift fox in New Mexico. To the west, the swift fox is replaced by the similar kit fox. Adult swift foxes are significantly smaller than adult gray foxes and red foxes.

The gray fox is easily distinguished from the swift fox by its conspicuous black line down the dorsal surface of its long and bushy tail; red foxes have a conspicuously white-tipped tail.

Distinguishing swift foxes from kit foxes is considerably more difficult. They are very similar in pelage characteristics and there is some degree of overlap in body measurements; however, swift foxes have smaller ears than kit foxes.

Given the similarity of swift and kit foxes, there is some question whether they represent one species or two. Previous investigations have led biologists to conclude that these two foxes consist of a single species characterized by some degree of hybridization along the zone where the two forms meet in eastern New Mexico. Other investigators have concluded they are the same species consisting of several subspecies.

Methods of investigating and understanding molecular genetics have recently undergone significant changes. These new approaches will provide insights into taxonomic relationships among populations of animals. This information is needed to solve this puzzle more accurately.

TRAPPED INCIDENTALLY

Kintigh said his research indicates predation by coyotes is the primary cause of mortality for the swift fox. The best documented mortality, however, is related to direct human activities: trapping, poisoning, shooting, and roadkills inflicted by automobiles. Loss of habitat, due to conversion of grasslands to agricultural cultivation, likely has had at least an indirect impact on this species; however, the repercussions of this are poorly understood.

Other possible predators of the swift fox include badgers, golden eagles, and bobcats. In natural conditions, predation is not considered a significant source of mortality on swift foxes.

In the United States, the level of protection for the swift fox varies among the 10 states where it occurs. Although the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service has classified the swift fox as a candidate species for possible listing as threatened or endangered, it's only classified as an endangered species in Nebraska, and a threatened species in South Dakota. It's a protected furbearer in Montana, North Dakota, Wyoming, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Texas, and New Mexico. Trapping seasons are closed in all states except Kansas, Texas, and New Mexico.

Swift foxes are rarely a target species for trappers, but are taken incidentally. But when trapping pressure goes up for other species of foxes, swift foxes will become victims.

Like other species of furbearers in New Mexico, trapping seasons on swift foxes are subject to periodic review and change of annual furbearer regulations. Between the 1980-81 and 1995-96 trapping seasons, approximately 1,200 swift foxes were taken by sport trappers in portions of Colfax, Union, Harding, Quay, Curry, and Roosevelt counties. The annual harvest and projected trapping effort during the latter eight years of this period has declined significantly.

THE FUTURE

There is very little known about the behavior of this species. They are primarily nocturnal and their daytime activities have been associated with sunning themselves and otherwise tending to young around den sites.

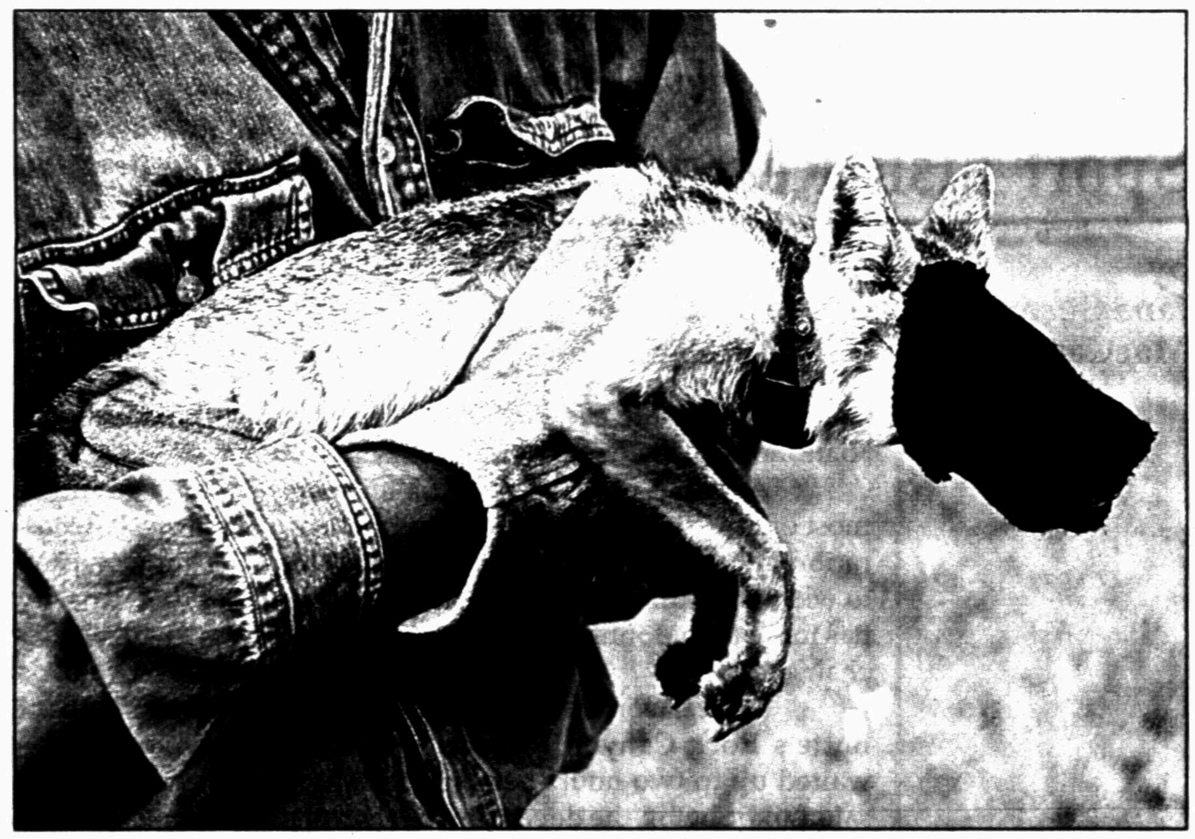
There have been few studies of the vocalizations of swift foxes, but appear rather similar to those made by the kit fox. "Lonesome" calls are given when adults are separated or young stray from adults and consist of a high-pitched "whar-whar-whar-whar" call. Other recorded vocalizations have been described as barks, growls, snarls, chirps, and a high-pitched yap.

It's hoped that with additional study and more protective management, the lonesome calls, chirps and barks of the swift fox will be heard on the eastern plains of New Mexico for centuries to come. ■

Below:

Keith Kintigh blindfolds a swift fox in order to place a telemetry collar on her.

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER



DIET OF THE SWIFT FOX



MAMMALS
(66 percent of the diet)
- Black-tailed jackrabbits
- cottontails
- black-tailed prairie dogs
- deer mice
- hispid pocket mice
- thirteen-lined ground squirrels
- northern grasshopper mice
- western harvest mice
- northern pocket gophers, and
- shrews

BIRDS
(4 percent)
- Horned larks
- lark buntings
- red-winged blackbirds
- mourning doves
- meadowlarks, and
- chestnut-collared longspurs.

INSECTS may make up as much as 27 percent of the diet of the swift fox.

MONEY GROUND

There are fewer fights at the boat ramps and more fish in the water thanks to the Sport Fish Restoration Act.

by
Jane Susan
MacCarter

THE FAINT SCENT OF CAMPFIRE SMOKE drifts through the long green needles of the ponderosa pine forest. Children squeal with delight as they bring to shore a silver thunderbolt of rainbow trout. A mallard hen leads her downy ducklings to a patch of cattails, away from a float-tube angler trolling for browns.

Close to Albuquerque, Fenton Lake in the Jemez Mountains is a popular getaway for thousands of campers, anglers and nature-watchers. It's also a fine example of the immense benefit New Mexicans receive from Sport Fish Restoration funds.

Modern boat ramps, wheel-chair-accessible grills and picnic tables, and hatchery renovations all are part of this program.

"I like to call it 'Money on the Ground,'" explained Roberta Salazar-Henry, federal aid coordinator for the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish. In many cases, it's more like "Money in the Water." The cash comes from a federal excise tax on the equipment anglers use. It's collected by the Treasury Department, turned over to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and redistributed to the states.

"We spend it right here in New Mexico, for things anglers can see, use, and enjoy," Salazar-Henry said. "Things like new boat ramps or parking spaces at fishing areas. This is money we wouldn't otherwise have, if not for the Sport Fish Restoration Act."

THE LAKES

Many state lakes have been improved with the roughly $5 million the state receives annually from this source.

At Santa Rosa, where irrigation draw downs often left most of the original boat ramp high and dry, a Sport Fish Restoration grant from Game and Fish enabled the State Park Division to widen the full length of the ramp to 64 feet. Parking capacity has more than doubled, too, and the restroom was made wheelchair accessible.

Before work was completed on the ramp at Elephant Butte's Rock Canyon Recreation Area, "boaters sometimes waited up to two hours before launching on busy weekends," said Luke Shelby, the department's chief of public affairs. "Now they can launch in as little as 20 minutes." A total of 180 more parking spaces were added as well.

Improvements at the Butte's old Hot Springs Marina are helping keep the peace, said Bob Findling of the State Park Division. "Before we more than tripled the parking capacity there, fist fights used to break out—literally!—over parking places on holidays. We also added another approach lane to the main boat ramp and widened it. This really reduces the waiting time for boat launching. "

Although Game and Fish administers and directs the use of these funds, State Park and Recreation Division does the actual construction under a cooperative agreement. The park division also provides the state's share of the matching funds—25 percent—required to participate in Sport Fish Restoration projects.

In the past few years, the Cove boat ramp at Conchas Lake was resurfaced; the Pine River Recreation Area at Navajo Lake received an additional 95 parking spaces and other improvements; a low-water ramp was built at Caballo Lake, and sweet-smelling toilets were installed at Eagle Nest, Charette, McAllister and others.

The list could go on and on, but no where was more achieved than at Fenton in the northwest and Lake Roberts in the southwest.



Melissa Dyroff, 3, is among the anglers who benefit from the Sport Fish Restoration Act which taxes fishing equipment and boating fuel.
PHOTO: BILL DYROFF

HIGH HAZARD

The original dam at Fenton was built in 1942. Through the years, silt clogged the lake, reducing the space available to trout. Seepage also developed along the north side of the dam. As the erosion increased, the office of the State Engineer classified the dam at Fenton as "high hazard." It was not in danger of imminent disintegration, but if something *should* happen, the downstream loss of life and property would be potentially devastating.

During 1993-1994, however, the dam was fixed from the bottom up, using Sport Fish Restoration money. The crest of the structure was raised, and the spillway capacity increased to meet the specs of the State Engineer. New riprap (rocks interlaced with wire) and reinforced concrete walls were constructed to prevent erosion on the dam and its outlet. The boat ramp was widened and paved. Large concrete barriers were installed to provide better angler access to the water's edge. These improvements increased the lake's elevation by 2 vertical feet.

"One improvement anglers really notice, and appreciate the most, is how easily accessible that one area of shoreline is where the concrete barriers are," said Shelby. "Seniors and physically challenged anglers get a lot of use out of that shoreline."

Lake Roberts, near Silver City, is similar to Fenton. It's in the pines, and a cool place to beat the desert heat. It also traps tremendous amounts of silt.

The department created this lake in 1963 by damming the waters of Sapello Creek. Although Lake Roberts is situated in a national forest, much of the surrounding terrain is sparsely vegetated. Loose deposits of sand, gravel, cobbles, and boulders eventually make their way into the lake.

Originally, this reservoir had a surface area of 69.3 acres, and a storage capacity of 1,009 acre feet. By 1988, the lake had shrunk to 56 acres with a storage capacity of 826 acre feet. Its surface area had been reduced by 20 percent, equivalent to nearly 300,000 cubic yards of sediment.

Lake Roberts needed help, and Sport Fish Restoration funds gave Game and Fish the means to provide it.

During 1993-1994, the department installed two new courtesy docks, five new restrooms, bear-proof trash cans, and built a big new turn-around and boat-launch area. Most importantly, working with a private contractor and using Gila National Forest experts, the department arranged for the excavation of 250,000 cubic yards of accumulated silt from the lake.

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Unfortunately, a 100-year-flood pushed much of that silt back into the lake just a few years later. Then, when Game and Fish employees had to open the dam's outlet valve, it broke and could not be closed, said Bruce Morrison, assistant chief of habitat for the department. The force of the lake draining through the broken outlet caused water to start leaking around the pipe itself, threatening the integrity of the dam, Morrison said.

The office of the State Engineer then instructed Game and Fish to drain the lake again. Subsequently, a new outlet was built, using Sport Fish Restoration money, and the project should be done by midsummer. With a few good rains, Lake Roberts will be full again and anglers should be back in action by this fall.

"In the future, if the outlet breaks, we will not have to drain the lake to fix it," Morrison said.

FISH, TOO

Of course, Sport Fish Restoration money can be used on fish. The program paid for improvements at three of New Mexico's trout hatcheries.

Lisboa Springs, near Pecos, was established in 1924 on a series of springs beside the Upper Pecos River. Sport Fish Restoration dollars recently provided Lisboa Springs with a low-head oxygen-saturation unit.

"Our main purpose here is salmonid (trout family) propagation, the majority being rainbow trout," said Roddy Gallegos. "Natural reproduction just can't keep up with the fishing pressure we have in northern New Mexico."

The unit removes nitrogen and small amounts of other gases from the water and replaces it with pure oxygen. "And a low-head oxygen saturation system doesn't rely on a separate power source to function, like a high-head unit," he said. "It does it all by itself."

Raceway capacity was increased by the oxygen-saturation unit, tripling capacity at the hatchery. Hatchery waters must have at least 7 ppm of dissolved oxygen to give tiny fry plenty of O_2 molecules to ingest. In order to average it out at 7 ppm, Gallegos must first boost it to 9 or 10 ppm, because 40,000 tiny trout in the raceway will consume 2 ppm of oxygen, right off the bat through normal respiration.

Parkview Hatchery in Los Ojos, north of Tierra Amarilla, is the only New Mexico hatchery to boast historic buildings. Parkview's main hatchery building was constructed during the Depression under the WPA (Works Progress Administration) program.

The classic lines of Parkview's old hatchery headquarters show the WPA knew how to build 'em back then. The two-story building stands today, handsomer than ever, constructed from fieldstone taken from the site. Today, it's flanked by newer outbuildings, nestled at the foot of a ridge where underground springs well to the surface.

Hatchery Manager George Galvan explained that Parkview has no oxygen problem like Lisboa Springs.

"We use no river water here. Our constant springs—2,500 gallons per minute at 48 degrees Fahrenheit—are slightly colder than Lisboa's. We have no problems with dissolved oxygen here because of the angle of our elevation. Our waters descend, from box to box to box where screens riffle the water naturally, because of the sharp angle of the ridge. The motion of the riffled, falling water strips it of nitrogen, and picks up more oxygen, all on its own."

Despite its historic status, however, after some 60 years, Parkview Hatchery was in desperate need of an overhaul. Sport Fish Restoration funds came to the rescue and turned Parkview's "wish list" into a shopping list.

"It took three years of having everything torn up, but now it's done, and it's great!" Galvan said.

Sport Fish Restoration funds paid for 36 new production ponds, 20 brood ponds, 32 fiberglass hatchery troughs with automatic feeders, a new show pond and visitors center, 364 incubation trays, and a new spawning facility for rainbow trout.

As at the other trout hatcheries, Parkview also gets trout eggs from around the world, sometimes as far away as Australia. Trout eggs are fertilized at Parkview October through March, hatching out in 20 to 30 days. After tiny trout grow to fingerling size, they're transferred to outdoor raceways for another couple months.

TROUT-GROWING 'RASCAL'

The Red River Hatchery, southwest of Questa, enjoys more visitors year-round than any other hatchery in the state, about 12,000 annually. Tourists and residents from nearby Red River, Angel Fire, and Questa stop frequently at the hatchery. There, they hand feed "trout chow" to big lunkers at the show pond, take self-guided tours of the raceways, enjoy picnics and overnight camping. There's even a pond where anglers who are 12 and under, 65 or older, or physically challenged may fish.

Hatchery Manager Victor Trujillo puts it this way: "Our old facility was too outdated to be really effective for fish propagation anymore. Sport Fish Restoration money helped us replace it, from the ground up, with a whole new one."

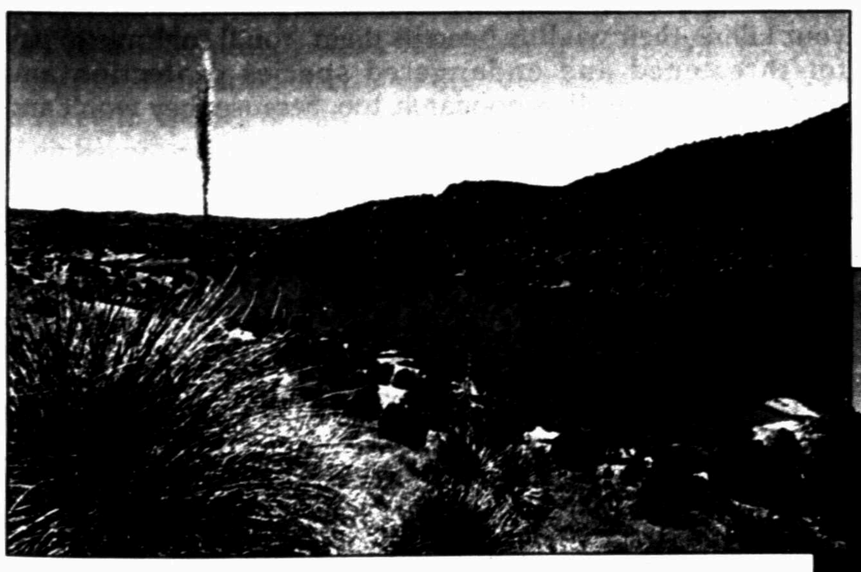
The renovation included building 42 new raceways — 12 for rearing small fish, 12 for mid-sized, 16 for large ones, and two for production/demonstration rearing units.

"We're now a functional, efficient, 'rascal' of a trout-growing plant!" Trujillo said.

The Red River Hatchery produces 370,000 9-inch stockers that are planted into waters in the Questa, Red River, Taos, Raton, Cimarron and Las Vegas areas. Smaller fry also are hatched at Red River and stocked in area lakes where they grow to good sizes.

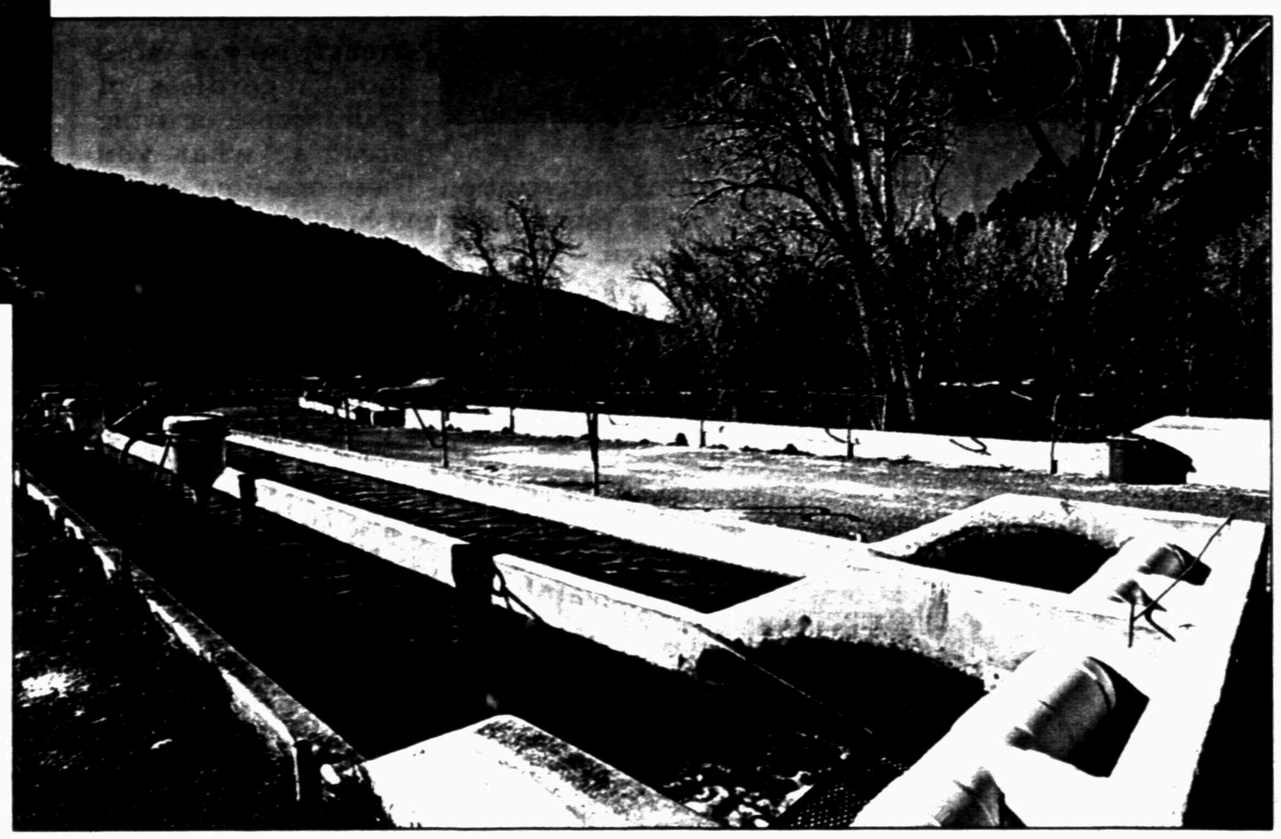
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During the last fiscal year (FY 97-98), because of taxes collected, New Mexico received approximately $5.1 million to fund on-going and new sport-fishing projects statewide.



Bear Canyon is a Sport Fish Restoration project.

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER



Red River Hatchery is a trout-growing rascal thanks to Sport Fish Restoration Act money.

PHOTO:
DON MACCARTER

Money on the Ground, cont'd. from page 11

Two other species that benefit are the world-famous trout of the San Juan River and the relatively rare Rio Grande cutthroat.

STUDIES, STOCKINGS AND RESTORATION

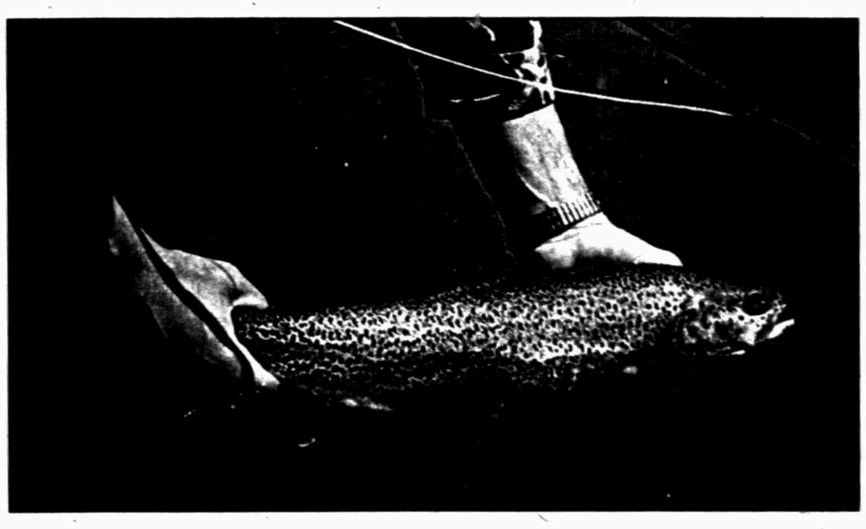
Other projects financed through Sport Fish Restoration Act money include the stocking of the fast-growing Florida-strain largemouth bass in Brantley Reservoir. Biologists will watch to see if they can grow a state record.

Kokanee salmon are popular sport fish at several lakes in the northern half of the state, but voracious lake trout appear to be eating them at Heron Lake as fast as the anglers are catching them. To provide more fish for stocking, biologists are developing a spawning run on the Rio Chama above El Vado Lake, which could help the department of Game and Fish stock more salmon in the future.

The world-famous trout of the San Juan River and the relatively rare Rio Grande cutthroat are two other species benefiting from Sport Fish Restoration. Biologists have tracked the big rainbows of the San Juan and monitored their environment during recent tests of various flow regimes on New Mexico's one true gold-medal fishery.

But perhaps most important of all is the work that's been done toward returning the state fish, the Rio Grande cutthroat, to the high-mountain streams where it once was dominant. For a decade, biologists have identified pure populations of the trout, and established barriers to keep out exotic browns and rainbows. Studies of their genetic composition continue, and this native cutthroat has been restored to approximately 40 miles of stream, much of it in the wilderness.

So call it "Money on the Ground," or "Money in the Water," the Sport Fish Restoration Program does a lot to benefit New Mexico's lakes, fish and anglers. It's a program that stretches our limited aquatic resources, and our limited funds, a very long way. ■



The money to keep rainbow trout in the San Juan River comes from the Sport Fish Restoration Program.

PHOTO: JACK KELLY

Nobody wants to pay for wildlife, con't. from page 2

You should now see that we're bare bones. We don't have enough game wardens to operate shifts around the state for each 24 hours. There is not enough money to fly the intensive aerial game surveys we would like. We don't have a biologist for each game species, let alone all species of wildlife in New Mexico. If you want us to trap and relocate deer, or get into intensive predator-population management, some other activities or programs will have to be cut. And in less than five years we will have to begin cutting back on patrol time, survey time, hatchery production, or any of our other costly field programs because inflation will have caught up with and surpassed our income.



A pronghorn antelope should be worth more than $36.

PHOTO: DON MACCARTER

THE PRICE OF RECREATION

So what do you pay for recreation? A tank of gas costs $25. Take your spouse and two kids to a movie, get them soft drinks and popcorn, and you'll spend $40. Go play a round of golf, $15 to $34? How much are your lift tickets at ski areas? Take a close look, regardless of your income, or living area, at what you spend on other forms of recreation. These one-time events usually cost big bucks. Your fishing and hunting licenses are good for as long as a year.

A fishing license, good anywhere in the state, costs only $23.50. If you are a senior between 65 and 70, your license is $5. If you are younger than 12 or older than 70, it's free. Yes, there are many seniors living on fixed incomes, but there are just as many, maybe more, who have good retirement incomes. And yet at every legislative session there is a demand to reduce the free-license age to 65. This costs us hundreds of thousands of dollars in lost revenue, not to mention lost resources. A deer license is $23, a bull elk $66, antelope $36, bear or lion $30, turkey $15. Come on people, is that all these magnificent animals are worth to you?

You may buy a general hunting and fishing license that allows you to fish all year, hunt small game, birds, and deer, all for the measly sum of $37.50. I can hear the response, "When I have to pay those prices for my kids, too, it adds up quickly." Yeah, it does, but you're willing to pay for all other forms of recreation aren't you? If you don't pay, don't play!

Think about this: If you want to add a few dollars to the cost of a hunting license in order to pay, say, for coyote control, we sell only about 130,000 hunting licenses. At $2 per license that brings in only $260,000. That might be enough for four people for a year of work. To raise just $1 million in additional revenues, hunting licenses need to go up $7.50. To raise a million dollars in fishing-license revenue, each fishing license would have to go up at least $5 (there's about 240,000 resident anglers). What we really need is an additional $20 million or more in order for us to bring you the diversity, quality and quantity of wildlife this state deserves.

WILDLIFE PROTECTION, KNOWLEDGE

Wildlife-based recreation contributes more than $700 million to the state's economy. Yet the agency charged with taking care of that resource gets only $23 million. And I maintain that you, the license buyer, will continue to be the only ones who will pay for wildlife. If you don't, those who don't want you to hunt or fish will take away your privilege because they can't see how your killing their wildlife benefits them. You'll continue to pay for threatened and endangered species protection and management as well as nongame, too, because they won't and still believe their taxes already do.

I think that you and the other New Mexico citizens expect the state agency responsible for wildlife management to provide two major services: wildlife protection and species population knowledge (what we've got, where they're at, and how many there are). To do that up to your level of expectation, we need at least 60 more district officers and that many more biologists. I think your fishing license should cost at least $50, deer should be $75, and elk $150. In other words, all licenses should be at least two and half times as much as they are today. But I'm not going to be the one who asks the Legislature for any fee increases. If it's important enough to you, you'll ask them because you are the only ones they will hear.

It's been more than 400 years since the Europeans first came to this country. It has been more than 125 years since there might have been enough wildlife to feed those who wanted it when they needed it. Those days are gone. That attitude needs to die also. There's not enough wildlife for everybody to live off of or even harvest occasionally. And you are going to have to pay to keep what we have. Your fellow resident hunters in all the other states also do not pay enough for the value of wildlife recreation. Colorado hunters just rejected a request for a fee increase. Wake up sportsmen, if you're going to play you're going to have to pay. I want to continue to hunt and fish when I leave this profession. Help me out. Help yourselves, ante up. Think about it. There are only two items I can think of whose costs doesn't go up each and every year. That's hunting and fishing licenses and State Park access and use fees. Shame on us! ■

Wetlands and Wildlife

Room With a View: Habitat project gives landowner a glance at nature's intentions

by Jenni Jeffers



Kimberly deCastro, Jenna deCastro and Dennis Bufalry planted more than 1,000 trees and shrubs on their land.

PHOTO: JENNI JEFFERS

The most serious problem facing wildlife today is loss of habitat. This occurs through many avenues, including conversion of native habitat to other uses and subsequent loss of vegetation.

A way to minimize impact is to develop a land-use plan that addresses development, planting native vegetation, water development, travel corridors and open space.

Many landowners want to make a difference. They're willing to plant native seed mixes to feed songbirds. On large land areas they'll plant berry- and seed-producing shrubs for turkey and quail, or reseed meadows for elk and deer. Cottonwood trees are planted to provide shade for streams and boulders are "stocked" to create hiding places for fish.

Sometimes a landowner will make an exceptional contribution to wildlife. Kimberly deCastro received the 1998 National Wetlands Award for Land Stewardship for her habitat-improvement project. The honor came from the Environmental Law Institute in Washington, D.C.

NATURE'S INTENTIONS

Judging from the 14 years I've spent improving wildlife habitat in New Mexico, if you can only do one enhancement project on your land, a pond will draw more wildlife than any other single improvement. Kimberly deCastro constructed two ponds on her property at San Juan, north of Santa Fe, and she was excited about the results.

With the assistance of the Department of Game and Fish, the National Resource Conservation Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, deCastro did many things to improve her 50 acres. She battled soil erosion with native ground cover, and anchored bales of straw to provide sediment traps and reduce wind and water erosion. She planted cottonwood and willow poles to provide cover for birds and shade to cool the water for fish. "I wanted a front-row seat to view nature's intentions," she said. "I did it because I knew I could make a difference, and because it makes a difference in me. I like seeing the magic and the miracle."

Her place was once part of the Flying Diamond Ranch. Wind and water erosion was cutting deep arroyos because ground cover was inadequate. Fire suppression allowed encroachment of pinyon and juniper trees, which limited the grass/shrub/forb component. To reduce erosion, a mix of eight species of native range grasses was planted — including Indian ricegrass, blue and sideoats grama, and little bluestem. More than eight species of native trees and shrubs were chosen for their berry-, seed- and forage-producing capabilities. Kimberly deCastro planted more than 1,000 trees and shrubs, including a native olive tree, Apache plume, four-wing saltbush, skunkbush sumac, and chokecherry.

Her main objective was to attract waterfowl, so a pond was the only solution. The site selected once had been an earthen tank. Moist soils and a seed source for aquatic and emergent plants were available. The entire project took a year to complete, and today the largest pond is about 3 acres. It attracts great blue herons, Canada geese, mallards, pintails and other ducks.

Twenty different species of songbirds visit the water. "The sounds are amazing," deCastro said. "On a busy day in the wetlands, it really gets pretty noisy out there."

HANGING ON, AND LETTING GO

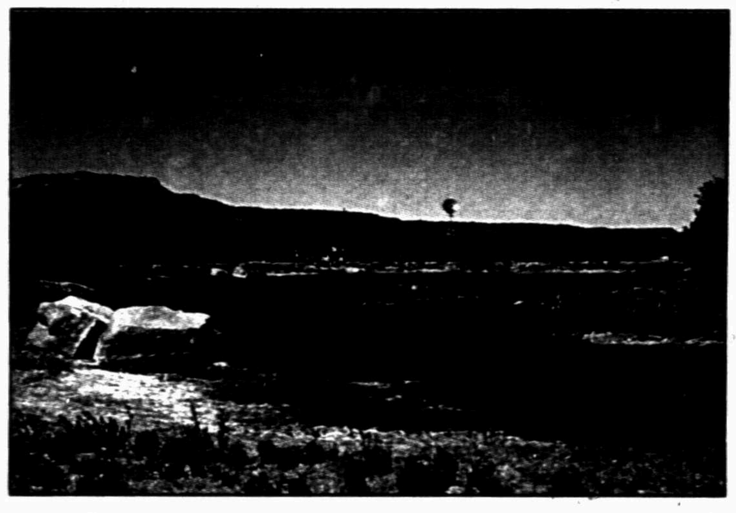
Kimberly deCastro also wants to use her private wildlife refuge to educate her 6-year-old daughter, Jenna.

"This teaches us how to be in the world," Kimberly said, "how to hang on and how to let go all at the same time."

Jenna's entire first grade class visited the ponds on June 1. *(See Jenna's story on Page 14.)* Eddie Bennett, the Project Wild coordinator for the Department of Game and Fish, and I served as instructors, showing the children the intricate web of life that has developed on the property.

"I know in their minds there never will be a dilemma about taking care of the very thing that is taking care of us," deCastro said.

MONEY FOR PROJECTS



A pond will attract more wildlife than any other habitat improvement you can make.

PHOTO: JERRY MONTGOMERY

There are many similar success stories. During my work as habitat specialist, we have created water catchments from Nike missile tubes, enhanced aquatic habitat through stream-bank stabilization, and installed lay-down fence panels to facilitate elk, deer and pronghorn movements.

Although I develop land-use plans and seeding recommendations, Game and Fish does not provide funding for the projects. Partners for Wildlife, a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service program, provided most of the funding for deCastro's work. Partners' Project Coordinator Chuck Mullins nominated her for the award. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Stewardship Incentive Program furnished additional assistance.

"Ms. deCastro's intense, personal, hands-on management resulted in a wildlife habitat greatly exceeding the expectations of all participating agencies," Mullins said. "Her plantings' success rate was 90 percent, an almost unheard of rate."

The government programs approve up to 75 percent of the financing, and landowners are expected to pay or give in-kind labor for the rest. Kimberly deCastro displayed her intense dedication by providing more than half of the funding for the project. Working with inspired, dedicated landowners, like Kimberly deCastro, really makes my job rewarding. ■

The New Mexico Department of Game and Fish has several programs benefitting landowners. Landowner-Wildlife Habitat Specialist Jenni Jeffers wrote this story. For more information you may contact Jenni at 827-7885 in Santa Fe.

RULES MUST BE FOLLOWED WHEN POSTING PRIVATE PROPERTY

Trespassing is a recurring headache for many property owners, but to help yourself you need to follow the rules when you post signs telling tresspassers to stay off your land.

The methods for posting vary between fenced and unfenced property. If your land is fenced, position a sign at each roadway and gate entering your property. Unfenced land requires a sign be posted at every roadway, and one must be positioned every 500 feet along the boundary.

Signs must be fairly large, at least 12 inches square, and be labeled in English. If possible, state applicable prohibitions (e.g., "No Hunting", "No Fishing", "No Wood Cutting"). The name and address of the person under whose authority the land is posted must be on the sign. That gives citizens the opportunity to ask for permission to use the land. That permission must be given in writing, and the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish Landowner-Sportsman Cooperative program provides Courtesy Cards for this purpose.

Criminal trespass is a misdemeanor, but the State Game Commission can revoke violators' hunting and fishing license privileges for three years. Failure to follow the laws pertaining to posting private property also is a misdemeanor.

For a free brochure or more information about criminal trespass and posting of private property, call Dale Hall, Landowner-Sportsman coordinator, 505-827-7975.

New Mexico Whooping Crane Day

Thanks to the State Legislature, and a group of young wildlife advocates, New Mexico will celebrate Whooping Crane Day on Oct. 21.

Wild Friends, a youth group sponsored by the Center for Wildlife Law, wrote the bill honoring these rare birds. Speaker of the House Ray Sanchez and Sen. Ben Altamirano were sponsors of joint memorials recognizing these white, winter residents. Students had the chance to testify in both houses, although Sen. Altamirano eventually tabled his bill. Sanchez's bill was passed by the legislature and signed by Gov. Gary Johnson.

The October date is the day four whooping crane chicks, led by ultralight pilot Kent Clegg, completed a migration from Idaho to the Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge south of Socorro. Ultralight/crane migration is an experiment attempting to find a means of creating a new migratory flock of whooping cranes in North America.



New Mexico Whooping Crane Day will be Oct. 21. The whooping crane is white, and the gray birds are sandhill cranes.

PHOTO: DON MACCARTER

Only two whooping cranes remain from an earlier attempt to establish a migratory flock in the Rocky Mountains using sandhill cranes as foster parents.

There are 181 birds in the existing flock that flies from Canada to the Texas coast each fall, and returns in the spring. Only 15 whoopers made the journey in 1941.

Previously, Wild Friends lobbied for a poaching bill which required tougher penalties, and even jail time, for repeat offenders. You can find Wild Friends on the Web: http://wwwipl.unm.edu/cwl/wf/wfriends.htm

Pond Magic

Jenna deCastro was 4 years old when her mother started developing the wildlife habitat on their property near San Juan.

"I love seeing it all through her eyes," said Kimberly deCastro, whose award-winning 50-acre project is the habitat feature of this *New Mexico Wildlife*.

"I did my best to explain to her in 4-year-old words what it all meant. And when I told her we were going to be able to take care of the animals, she said, 'Mom, does that mean we can have Free Willy in our pond?'

"I knew that she got it! She knew that we were going to take care of something special, and that it was BIG!"

It was big. Kimberly deCastro's wetlands project won a Land Stewardship award from the Environmental Law Institute in April.

Most importantly, Kimberly has been able to watch her daughter's interest in nature grow.

"She likes to take people on tour," mom said. "She sometimes dresses up in a pink fairy princess dress complete with yellow mud boots. Quite a combination of fantasy meeting reality. It's muddy out there!"



Project Wild Coordinator Eddie Bennett shows children the life in Jenna deCastro's pond.

PHOTO: JERRY MONTGOMERY

Jenni Jeffers, Department of Game and Fish habitat specialist, provided technical assistance for Kimberly deCastro's wetlands project. Chuck Mullins, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, arranged for funding for the work.

Jeffers said a pond will attract more wildlife than any other habitat improvement. Judging from the deCastros' experience, a pond may be the best route to grow nature princesses and princes, too.

Young Anglers To Fish Wales

TAOS, N.M.—The San Juan River is New Mexico's world-class fishery, and Nick Streit of Taos and Norman Maktima of Glorieta are the state's world-class anglers.

Maktima and Streit, both 17, are members of the USA Youth Fly-Fishing Team. Only six kids will represent the United States in August when young anglers from at least 10 countries will compete on the River Dee in Wales. Grayling, brown and rainbow trout are the species being sought. The nations sending teams include: Australia, Belgium, Canada, the Czech Republic, Norway, Ireland, England, Wales, Scotland and Poland.

"I think the parents are more excited than the kids," said Duane Maktima, Norman's father. "We've put a lot of effort into seeing them on the right track, and it's paying off now."

Duane is a Native American artist who travels quite a bit. Part Hopi, he grew up in northern Arizona and fished a lot at Lee's Ferry.

"Norman and I have fished the Yellowstone, the Bighorn River, the Green River, and the San Juan, of course," Duane said. They also fish the Pecos frequently, and Norman is a bowhunter.

Nick Streit is the son of Taos fishing guide Taylor Streit.

"There's a great little human-interest story here," Taylor said. "When Nick was about 4, 5, maybe 6, we went to the Rio Grande and there was a little kid who was just casting like a pro. I told Nick, 'See, you CAN do it.'

"That made him so mad he really started working at it."

That other child was none other than Norman Maktima.

Qualifying wasn't too difficult, said Nick Streit . "They call around different fly shops and fly-fishing businesses asking for the names of kids from their areas. I just happened to pick up the phone when they called my dad. I said, 'I'd be perfect for ya.'"

Then Nick had to obtain references and letters of recommendation. "And I had to write some stuff on myself. They also look at grade-point averages." Nick's is a 3.3.

The team got together on the White River in Arkansas, and he was impressed. "They're just like me," Nick said. "They all like to fish and we all share the same interests."

Arkansas is sending two team members, and Colorado and Wisconsin each placed one on the team.

The young anglers need to raise at least $60,000 to cover expenses, and $100,000 would be better. If you can help out, call Terry Looper, 501-474-7222.

Classifieds

WRITERS NEEDED: Need to pass your art class? Want an A in journalism? *New Mexico Wildlife* wants to publish stories, photos and artwork by creative young people. Material must pertain to wildlife issues, and must be created by persons between the ages of 5 and 18. Send submissions to Marty Frentzel, Editor; New Mexico Wildlife, P.O. Box 25112; Santa Fe, N.M. 87504.

"24 Hours at Salman Ranch"

Salman Ranch

Watchable Wildlife Site 13

[see New Mexico Wildlife Viewing Guide, pg. 33]

by Jane Susan MacCarter

24 hours at Salman Ranch
Article begins on page 16

11:10 a.m.—A coyote lopes across an adjacent field. But we can't stop to watch. It's almost time. The folks from The Wildlife Center are due to arrive at any moment with the bobcats.

BOBCATS THREE

11:45 a.m.—The troops arrive—Dr. Kathleen Ramsay (wildlife veterinarian and founder of The Wildlife Center), Lynn Phipps (the center's cat lady), Clyde Gossert (the center's executive director), and volunteers, as well as Salman family members and friends—with their precious bobcat cargo. Time for the release.

11:55 a.m.—Four vehicles set off for Coyote Mesa on the ranch, the bobcat release site. The mesa looms ahead. There's water nearby in a small wetlands and plenty of food—a prairie dog colony, plus resident mice and voles. The cats should do just fine.

12:06 p.m.—Three animal crates are deposited at the staging area. The bobcats are as ready as they'll ever be for release into the wild: Two females, one male. The male and one of the females are siblings—orphans rescued together from a well-house near Alamogordo—while the remaining female, although the same age (11 months), is from a different litter. Kathleen and Lynn cared for them since they were found as 2-to-3-week-old kittens in May 1997. The bobcats remained at The Wildlife Center until they matured, put on weight, learned to hunt for themselves—and could finally live on their own.

12:07 p.m.—As the crates are lifted from the vehicles, suddenly there's the sound of lawnmowers—three engines revving at once. It's the bobcats vocalizing in tones surprisingly deep and irascible, given their modest 40-pound size. Baritone voices: GrrrrRRRRRRrrrrrrRRRRR—they don't stop to take a breath.

12:08 p.m.—Kathleen, Lynn, and the volunteers arrange the crates so the three doors face the uphill slope. Wearing heavy gauntlet gloves, Kathleen and Lynn carefully open the three doors simultaneously and prop them open. The rest of us form two V-shaped 'wings' on either side of the crates to urge the cats uphill and away.

12:09 p.m.—The doors are opened and—nothing. Loathe to leave the safety of the crate for the vast unknown, the cats won't budge. Kathleen and Lynn carefully tip the crates at an angle, hoping to tumble the cats out. No way.

12:10 p.m.—Taking her slip-noose capture device, Kathleen carefully encircles Female One's head and one leg with the noose, pulling her gently but inexorably out of the crate. A tug-of-war ensues. At last, a slender, long-legged, furry creature emerges, snarling and roaring in fear. With a prod from Kathleen, Female One bounds silently up the hill and into the underbrush.

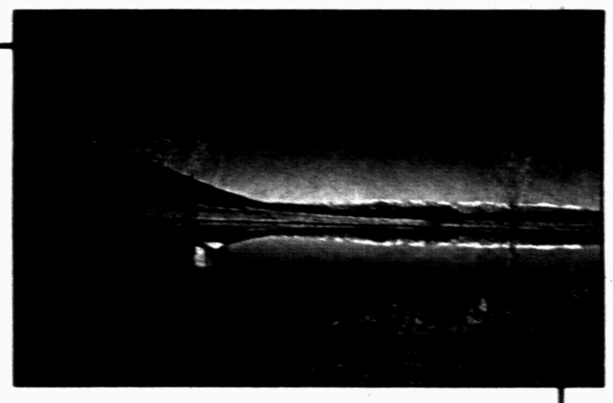
12:14 p.m.—Crate No. 2—same story. Kathleen tilts the cage, but the young male hangs on, tooth and claw, bracing himself inside. Finally Kathleen nooses him out, but he eludes her and slips into Crate No. 3 with the remaining female—two furred faces with crystal-blue-green eyes blaze from within.

12:16 p.m.—Kathleen unclips the top of the crate from the bottom section and carefully lifts it off. The two bobcats blink at the sun, stupefied for a moment, but not too discomfited to stop growling. We carefully urge them toward the uphill slope and freedom. The male finally bounds away.

12:18 p.m.—The remaining female refuses to flee. She faces us, stepping carefully, poised and ready to spring—somewhere. Her deep growling is continuous. Again, Kathleen nooses the animal gently but firmly to turn her in the direction of freedom, but the cat won't go. Then suddenly she leaps into the air and silently away—each cat taking a different track but all within 100 yards of one another.

The release has taken a total of 12 minutes.

"These three will most likely find one another—via calls and scent tracking—within an hour," Kathleen assures us. "They'll get together and start hunting as a cooperative team. Next year when they mature, the females will breed with different males, while the male of the troika will set out for new territory. These females will eventually have a range of about seven to eight miles while the male will range far and wide before he settles down." ■



SALMAN RANCH is private property. However, public access is available for wildlife watchers starting at La Cueva, off N.M. 442, on a private dirt road which loops for nine miles and eventually rejoins N.M. 442. Before entering the ranch, first sign in at Salman Ranch Store at La Cueva. To reach the ranch, travel north of Las Vegas on N.M. 518 for 25 miles. Turn right onto N.M. 442 at La Cueva and continue 200 yards to the Ranch Cafe and Store. About 100 yards beyond it, turn right at the cluster of small pine trees. Follow the dirt road to the three forks and take the left fork. The road provides viewing access to several of the ponds and beyond. Keep taking left forks along the route, and it will eventually take you back to the highway. For more information, call (505) 387-2900.

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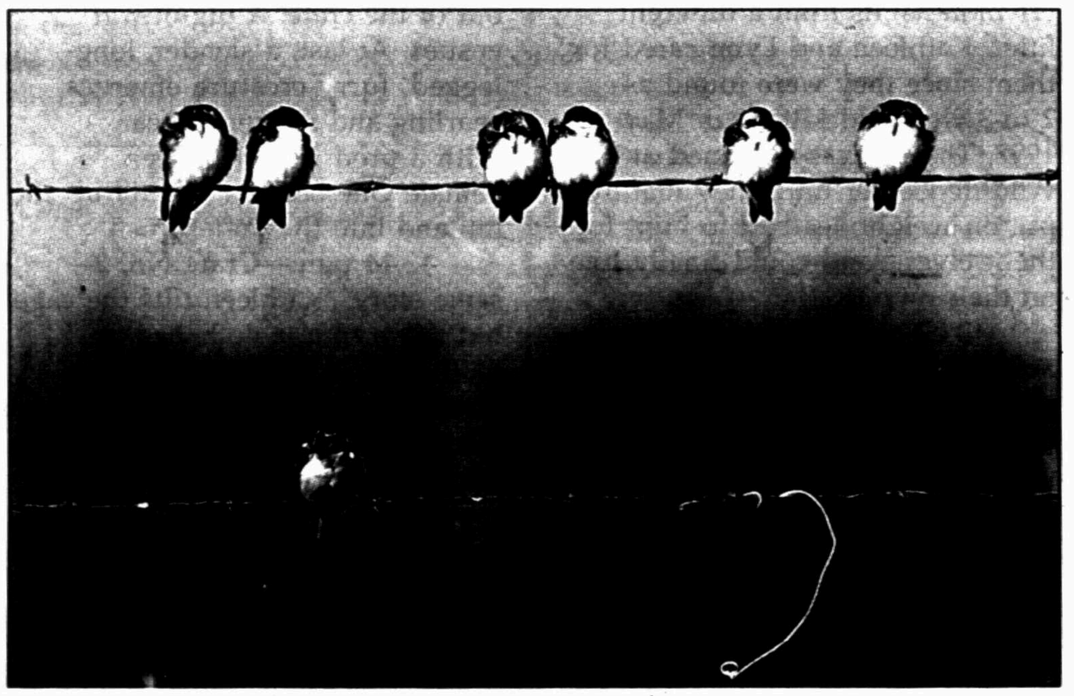
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24 hours at Salman Ranch



Bobcats are hard to see anywhere, but this one and two others were released at Salman Ranch.

PHOTO: DON MACCARTER



A lone barn swallow keeps company with a fence line full of violet-green swallows.

PHOTO: DON MACCARTER

Salman Ranch's quiet beauty,

that includes five lakes and many ponds, wetlands,

and three creeks, draws a variety of wildlife. This is where ranch owner David Salman grew up from childhood after his father purchased the property in 1943. David and his wife, Marilyn, now operate the ranch from their historic, lòvely home near La Cueva Lake.

Conservationist Salman, who incidentally also happens to be a rancher, strongly believes that one does not preclude the other. As a member of the New Mexico State Game Commission during 1992-1996, Salman helped create the Conservation Services Division—the habitat and nongame conservation arm of the Department of Game and Fish.

SATURDAY PHOTO SAFARI

On April 18-19, my husband, Don, and I spent 24 hours at the ranch to take part in the release of three bobcats into the wild. The day before the bobcats arrived, Don and I embarked on a Salman Ranch photo safari to see what wildlife a casual visitor might expect to see.

1:10 p.m.—There, on our right, by Red Lake . . . A female osprey sits on a fence post, feeding on a carp. The fish is still alive, tail flapping futility, while the head is already gory and eviscerated

1:45 p.m.—Snow begins to fly. The wind rises. A Canada goose huddles on her nest, situated on a tiny island of reeds and matted grasses.

2:07 p.m.—We creep up (figuratively speaking) on a beautiful golden eagle, perched atop a power pole along the road. From its large size, we judge it to be a female. She seems impervious to the weather, her impressive profile and sharply curved beak immobile in the strong wind.

2:45 p.m.—A break in the clouds. The wind roars on, unabated. Dots pepper a far hillside. Our binoculars bring them close: Elk. At least 350—mostly cows and a few bulls (although the latter are hard to spot, since some have dropped their old antlers and have not yet sprouted new ones). Still too early for calves. The handsome animals graze, amble, recline, amble, and graze again. Their peaceful demeanor is deceptive: They know we're watching them.

Later Salman tells us, "The first elk I ever saw at the ranch was in 1976. I remember it specifically. He started feeding on the winter wheat and barley I had planted to feed migrating geese. Other elk joined him, and over time they proliferated. Now there are about 700 on the ranch and some 2,800 in the surrounding vicinity. That means more and more elk eating the grain, fewer and fewer geese stopping over, but the National Wildlife Refuges at Maxwell and Las Vegas provide protection for migrating geese."

3:10 p.m.—At a small pond, a flock of widgeon take flight at our arrival. Wings beating furiously, they head west and scold us with their nasal, buzzing calls.

4:05 p.m.—We stop along a fence line that bisects Coyote Creek. On one side, cattle graze. There the stream banks have sparse vegetation and more weeds. On the other side, cattle have been fenced out for five years. The banks are thick with bush willow, grass, and returning cottonwoods and willow trees—a lush ribbon of green in summer. "I've fenced off three sections of Coyote Creek to keep the cattle out," David tells us later, "and intend to do a lot more. In the fenced-off sections, even the brown trout are coming back."

4:20 p.m.—At a shallow wetland, two white-faced ibis keep company with mallards, shovelers, cinnamon teal, lesser scaups, and Canada geese. David tells us later that about 30 of them spent the summer there each year.

5:12 p.m.—Whirling snow is back with a vengeance. A large porcupine huddles in a fork of the tree, motionless against the wind. He (or she) is balled against the cold, front end indistinguishable from the rear. The weather fights us and wins. Time to head back to the ranch house.

SUNDAY SUNSHINE

7 a.m.—Up before dawn. No clouds, no wind, full sun. Mist rises from the ponds, the mountains shine pink and glittery white in the distance. Beautiful!

7:45 a.m.—Row upon row of violet-green swallows—dark backs with white underparts—perched, cheek to jowl, along the fence-line. They're rounded and fluffed-up against the cold. A single blue-and-rust barn swallow stands out vividly in their midst.

9:15 a.m.—More elk—about 35—graze in the sunshine. Not far away, a Swainson's hawk soars on the air currents.

10:42 a.m.—Cattle and yellow-headed blackbirds "graze" together in a field. The birds' bright, mustard-colored heads are gorgeous accents against the dun-colored scene.

10:55 a.m.—A large, beautiful, mostly white ferruginous hawk stares down at us from a power pole.

...continued on page 15