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WT-Int. Crude - $25.63
WTIC Posted - $22.25

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND

April 8-9, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 293
48 Pages 75¢

Home Of Katie Perales

Brick Company loan finalized...

Plant coming on line

Fifteen people will be hired immediately for construction work at Snyder Brick and Tile following the closing of a $3.5 million loan Friday for updating the facility.

Financing is being provided by OMNIBANK of Houston in conjunction with the USDA/Rural Development Loan Guarantee.

General manager Mitchell Goodger said 60 people would be employed at the plant when production is in full swing.

"We'll start talking to people beginning Wednesday for the first 15 positions," said Goodger. "Those interested in going to work for us can call the construction office at 573-1572 on that date."

Goodger said the construction office is located in the former Wilson Motors used car office on East Highway.

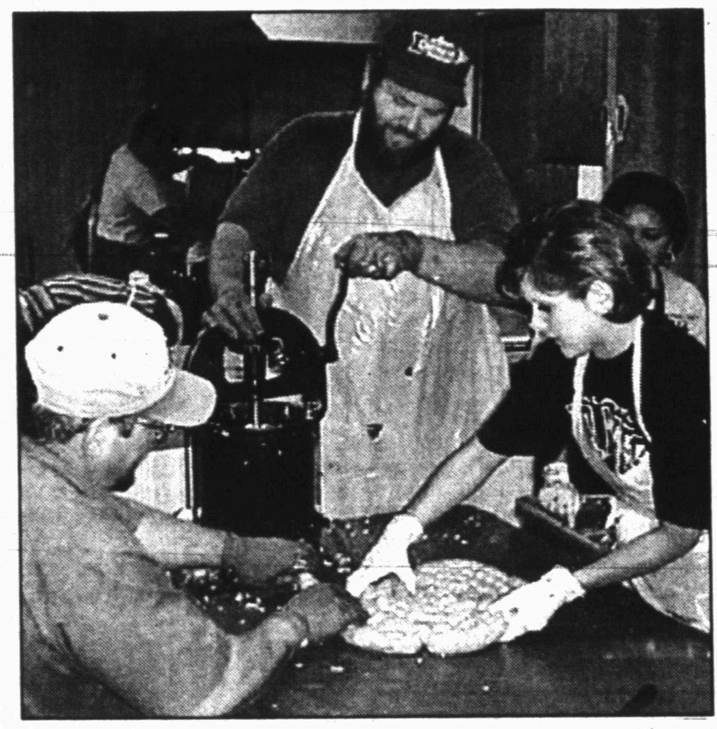
Production at the renovated plant is expected to be underway by late June, added Goodger.

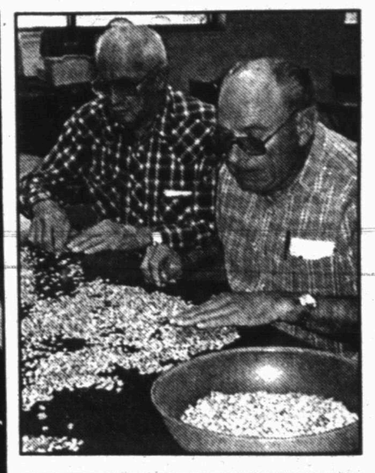
The original brick plant at the site was Southwestern Brick Co., founded in 1952 by Ray Martin.

At one time, the local plant and five other brick plants utilized clay that runs in a formation from north of Snyder to south of Coleman.

All six eventually closed due to economic factors, new environmental laws, and some could not be upgraded to modern manufacturing systems. An analysis by investors with the local plant determined that only the Snyder plant should be restarted.

Charles T. Terrell Sr. is the chairman of the board of the brick company, while Wilson Thomas serves as the chief executive officer and marketing director.





Time for lunch

YOUR CHOICE — St. Elizabeth Catholic Church will have its annual sausage festival Sunday from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. In the left photo, workers from left are John Bane, Glenn Clarady and Lisa Cain. Esther Clarady is in back. In the right photo, Bill Cooper, Golden K Kiwanis president, and Bernhard Bartels help prepare pinto beans to cook for the club's fish fry Sunday. The fundraiser will be from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center.

Dr. Kathleen Weaver...

Local orthopedic surgeon expresses dissatisfaction with funding of hospital

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Funds for doctor recruitment have routinely been budgeted at Cogdell Memorial Hospital, but lack of funding to retain physicians could result in the loss of two local surgeons.

There are few rural communities in the United States that could not use at least one more doctor or other medical personnel in their town.

It's not hard to see what physician recruitment means to a hospital as the addition of just one general practice physician to the staff of Cogdell Memorial Hospital could mean an increase of gross revenue for the facility of over $1 million, said Jeff Reecer, the hospital's chief executive officer.

Physician recruitment, and recruiting other medical personnel, is a tough business.

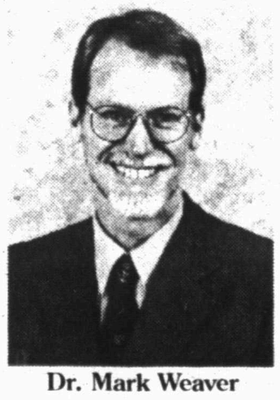
For instance, last Sunday's edition of The Dallas Morning News had eight pages of want ads for medical personnel.

In light of efforts to recruit more physicians to Snyder to practice at Cogdell Hospital – and there are currently two who are seriously considering relocating here and have a contract in hand for consideration — the community is also in danger of losing one — or perhaps two surgeons.

Rumors have been circulating that Drs. Mark and Kathleen Weaver are moving from Snyder ever since Mark Weaver resigned from the hospital board.

The rumors were further fueled by petitions circulating in the community urging the doctors to stay here.

"I'm aware of the petitions and the rumors," Dr. Kathleen Weaver said. "But I feel the petitions do not need to be directed to us. "I think they should be aimed at the courthouse."



Dr. Mark Weaver

The orthopedic surgeon feels that the commissioners' court short-changed the hospital in funding this year. She feels the lack of funds has caused the hospital to cut its nursing staff, which in turn has created a situation in which care for her patients might be compromised.

Dr. Kathleen Weaver

Dr. Kathleen, as she is affectionately referred to by her patients, says the budgetary cuts have severely affected her goal of providing top-notch orthopedic care.

"I was informed several weeks ago that some cuts in personnel had to be made at the hospital. I feel strongly that these cuts are a result of less money the county provided to the hospital this year.

"When Mark and I came to Snyder six years ago, we made a commitment to provide the best medical service we possibly could."I think that goal is being compromised with the latest cuts in personnel because of lack of funds," said Dr. Kathleen.

"I cannot compromise when it comes to the operating room."

The two surgeons have averaged over 400 operations yearly since moving here.

Dr. Kathleen says she is being forced to interview for other positions because budgetary restraints at Cogdell are not allowing her to continue to do the quality of work she wants to do.

"I hate to do it. I hate to see six hard years of work be treated so lightly. I cannot, and will not, put my patients at risk. I am the responsible party when I am in the operating room with a patient."

Dr. Weaver said the thing necessary to keep her in Snyder is consistent financial support from the county to the hospital without the volatility she has seen this year."I really don't know if the county can fund a top-rate hospital. It has to take a commitment from citizens to foot the tax bill," she said.

"If there is a commitment from the community toward the hospital, I would much rather stay here," she added.

Dr. Kathleen suggested a hospital district might have to be formed in order to fund the hospital properly.

"I think the operation of the hospital is now at the whim of county government and outside hospital administration," she added.

Cogdell Hospital operates under a management agreement with Covenant Health Systems of Lubbock, and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Reecer is an employee of Covenant.

Dr. Kathleen says Covenant management and the local hospital board have told her that Cogdell Hospital's operating room is "adequate."

"I don't even find what Covenant does in Lubbock in their own operating rooms to be adequate," said Dr. Weaver.

Dr. Kathleen is currently performing surgical procedures twice a month at Rolling Plains Hospital in Sweetwater.

"They're willing to hand me $100,000 worth of equipment just to be over there twice a month," she noted.

"They have the money

See Weavers, Page 11A.

SISD employees considering early retirement offer

Qualifying employees of the Snyder Independent School District Monday may begin applying for an early retirement incentive program.

Signup will continue through Wednesday.

School trustees voted 5-2 earlier this year to implement the plan that could affect up to a maximum of 30 district employees.

Supt. Gayle Lomax said he expects 10 to 15 employees to apply for the plan that could mean up to $21,500 for each early retiree.

The money for the plan will come from the district's reserves, and the savings will be a result of the district absorbing at least half of the retiring positions, Lomax said.

The plan provides each early retiree with a dollar amount equal to 50 percent of the employee's 1999-2000 contracted salary, or $20,000 - whichever is less. The plan provides for an additional payment for unused sick leave.

While 30 employees will be able to take advantage of the program, 51 employees currently meet the criteria for early retirement.

Any employee who accepts the benefits of the early retirement program is not eligible for employment in the district as a full-time or part-time professional employee. But the retiree will be eligible to serve as a substitute teacher, an aide or in other support staff positions.

When the incentive plan was approved, trustees Janet Stribling and Mike Levens voted against it without comment.

Rep. Counts hosts forum

State Rep. David Counts will host a forum Monday at the Scurry County Museum to discuss upcoming legislative issues with area public school administrators.

Counts has invited representatives from the Texas House public education committee, the Texas Education Agency and the Teacher Retirement System to attend the meeting that gets underway at 10 a.m. on the Western Texas College campus. The session concludes at 1:30 p.m..

Ed Flathouse, the Texas Education Agency associate commissioner for finance and operations, will be the principal speaker.

Flathouse is a former teacher, superintendent, university professor, school board member and the executive director of an education service center.

Representatives from a number of area school districts are expected to attend, including representatives from Snyder, Borden County, Roby, Rotan, Post, Southland, Big Spring, Coahoma, Forsan, Anson and Hamlin.

Also, representatives are expected from Hawley, Lueders-Avoca, Stamford, Jayton-Girard, Guthrie, Goree, Knox City-O'Brien, Munday, Benjamin, O'Donnell, Tahoka, New Home and Wilson.

Others will be coming from Roscoe, Sweetwater, Blackwell, Highland, Hermleigh, Ira and Aspermont.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "One way to beat high gasoline prices is to attach a sail to your vehicle. There's plenty of wind in West Texas – and it's cheap."

If you were born in West Texas, more than likely the wind was blowing during that special occasion.

Chicago may be the Windy City, but West Texas is the Windy Republic.

There are a few things to be learned from the wind. A north wind is cold, a south wind is warm, a west wind is dusty and a wind from the east means at least a chance of rain.

Long-time weather watchers have also learned that after a good rain, like last month's 5 to 7-inch soaking, that a sandstorm will occur the following day. And the day after a duster, the air will be perfectly clear.

It was Mark Twain who wrote that "Everybody talks about the weather, but nobody does anything about it."

We don't necessarily agree with ole Mark. Luckily, somebody invented air conditioning, one of our most cherished devices during the coming months.

And back during the oil boom, when Yankees moved into the Permian Basin, they built huge homes in Midland and even bigger fences.

The idea was to erect tall fences around those pricey homes in the foolish belief that they could keep the blowing sand out.

There's little – not even a tall fence – that will keep blowing dirt out of the house. No matter how high the fences, how close you plant the trees or how tight the construction – the sand will still grace the windowsills of both modest and expensive homes.

And there's the emotional trauma associated with a West Texas sandstorm. Only those with true grit can survive.

Legend has it that a full moon causes strange human conduct, but persistent blowing wind and dust can inflict lasting damage, too.

Author Larry King, when he was a beat reporter for the Odessa American, recalls a Midland psychiatrist telling him that female patients cried more and drank heavier because of sandstorms than anything else.

Judges and prosecutors in West Texas, in the 1950s, believed that more violence occurred during extended wind and dirt storms.

King also recalls the drought of the early 1950s when dry weather, heat and wind eliminated all the grass that cattle grazed on.

President Dwight Eisenhower sent Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson to the Midland-Odessa airport where those who generally bad-mouthed federal aid gathered to request that their cattle be flown – at government expense – to feed lots in Kansas City or to greener pastures elsewhere.

The only thing stronger that day than a West Texas wind was the ag secretary who stiffly blew off the cattlemen's request.

ASK US

Q—What is the cost of a resident fishing license in Texas?
A—$19.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Friday, 85 degrees; low, 44; 7 a.m. Saturday, 44; no precipitation; total for 2000, 7.64 inches.

Area Forecast: Saturday night partly cloudy, low in lower 40s. SE wind 5-15 mph. Sunday, mostly cloudy, breezy. High, mid 70s. S wind 15-25 mph.

Rebecca Morin
Breezy

Sunset:
8:08 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:23 a.m.
Of 98 days in 2000, the sun has shone 95 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Nothing is so difficult that it cannot be accomplished by diligence.

—Terence

APPROVED 2000

Judge rules in favor of striking janitors

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Hundreds of red-shirted, striking janitors jammed the city's streets, turning up the heat in their demands for a $1-an-hour raise.

Meanwhile, their counterparts in San Diego said they would join the walkout on Sunday.

As the janitors marched Friday, a judge denied a request for a restraining order seeking to prevent them from blocking the entrance to office buildings.

Superior Court Judge Dzintra Janavs rejected the request filed by the city's biggest employer of janitors, American Building Maintenance. The company contended strikers had harassed and assaulted supervisors and temporary workers trying to enter. The order would also have limited the number of pickets to five per building.

Employers, meanwhile, put supervisors and temporary hires to work cleaning buildings. Neither side appeared ready to resume the negotiations that broke down March 31.

On Friday, the Rev. Jesse Jackson and state and local politicians walked side-by-side with the janitors. Union officials estimated the marchers' numbers at about 3,000.

"These workers deserve a pay raise and management can afford it. It should happen," Jackson said.

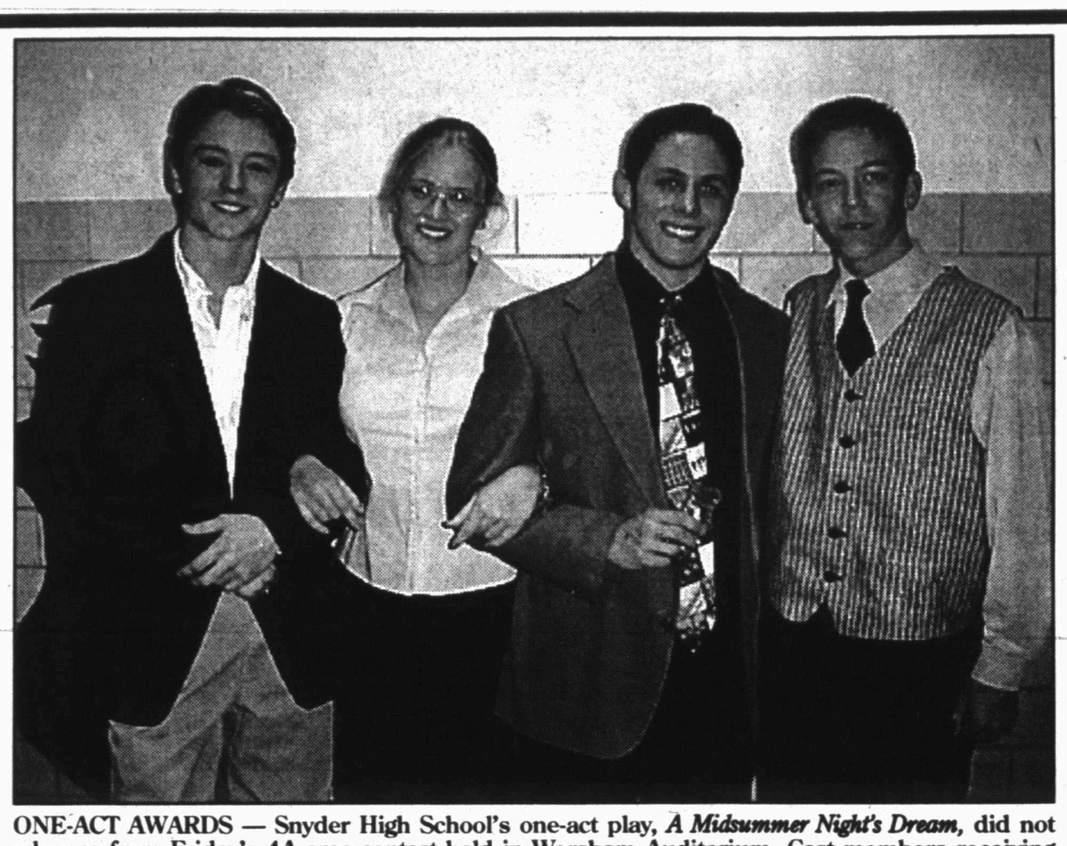
The marchers, clad in red T-shirts emblazoned with the words "On Strike," prompted police to shut down portions of the busy thoroughfare and force thousands of motorists onto other streets.

Company officials were "doing their best to meet their customers' needs with supervisors and replacement workers," said Harry Stang, an attorney for American Building Maintenance.

Meanwhile, in San Diego, Mary Grillo, executive director of the union that represents most janitors there, said talks with management broke off Friday afternoon.

Some 275 janitors will walk off the job in downtown San Diego on Sunday, she said.

The same management company that represents office building owners in Los Angeles has offered janitors in San Diego a 55-cent raise over the next three years, compared to the $1.50 the janitors are seeking, Grillo said.



ONE-ACT AWARDS — Snyder High School's one-act play, ***A Midsummer Night's Dream,*** did not advance from Friday's 4A area contest held in Worsham Auditorium. Cast members receiving awards were Zach Allred, honorable mention all star cast; Liz Brown, all star cast; Michael Gibson, honorable mention all star cast; Austin Haire, all star cast. (Contributed Photo)

SHS gets alternate play nod

Snyder High School's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* was named alternate play at Friday's 4-A area one-act play contest held at Worsham Auditorium.

Students winning acting awards were Austin Haire and Liz Brown, all star cast; and Zach Allred and Michael Gibson, honorable mention all star cast.

Austin portrayed two roles, Flute and Thisby. Liz was Hermia. Michael Gibson played Bottom and Pyramus. Zach Allred was Lysander.

"Obviously we were disappointed in the decision, but the students have bounced back and are quite busy today with running and stage managing the 5-A contest which is taking place. They have had a wonderful time with the production of *Midsummer Night's Dream.* An extended and more complex version of the play will be presented later in the season for public performance," said Jerry Worsham, director.

The two advancing plays were Big Spring High School's *And They Dance Real Slow in Jackson,* and Canyon High School's *Taming of the Shrew.*

Lubbock man charged with killing co-worker still in jail

LUBBOCK (AP) — A Lubbock man has been charged with murdering a co-worker whose body was found during February in a rural New Mexico gravel pit.

Michael W. Miles, 36, is accused of killing Mark Alexander on Jan. 17. Alexander's body, wrapped in a tarp and chains, was found more than a month later floating in a water-filled pit north of Hobbs, N.M.

Miles remained Friday night in the Lubbock County Jail in lieu of $100,000 bond, the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal reported.

Alexander, 38, was last seen in the city on Jan. 17. His truck was later found parked at a Lubbock nightclub. New Mexico authorities discovered his body Feb. 25.

Deputy Criminal District Attorney Matt Powell said Friday that he could not discuss the case.

Alexander's wife, Kay, declined to comment on Miles' arrest. But earlier this week, she said the family wants the case solved quickly.

"We want to see justice; it's only fair," she said. "It's very difficult to lose someone, but to lose someone under the circumstances that we lost someone is even more difficult."

Police reports filed with Miles' murder warrant indicate Alexander's slaying may have involved a drug deal. Several of Alexander's acquaintance's told police Alexander was involved in a cocaine operation with a co-worker, according to court records.

Both men worked as repair technicians for Preferred Services, a restaurant equipment repair company.

Key To The Kingdom
The Church as Part of Biblical History
Historical Christian Evidences
Lesson 7
Cox Cable TV Channel 2,
April 10, 7:00 pm

Two killed, one hurt in shooting

SLEEPY HOLLOW, N.Y. (AP) — A bakery employee and a bystander were shot to death and the suspected gunman died later of a gunshot wound.

Relying on tips, police officers found Janeiro Feliz, 33, of Tarrytown, at 6:30 p.m. Friday, less than 11 hours after he allegedly entered the Andes Bakery and shot a man behind the counter, Westchester District Attorney Janine Pirro said.

She said it was unclear whether any of the officers fired at Feliz, or if he shot himself. She said she was waiting for the results of ballistics tests.

"The only thing we know for sure is that Feliz is dead, that he was in possession of a handgun and a shotgun," she said.

Pirro said Feliz's shotgun appeared to be the same one used in the bakery shootings.

A third person was injured and was taken to Westchester County Medical Center, where an administrator declined to specify that victim's condition.

Investigators had not established a motive for the shootings but said a dispute may have started over a woman who had dated Feliz.

Cold War history piece given museum

EUREKA, Ill. (AP) — A piece of Cold War history has been placed on the lawn of Eureka College, the alma mater of Cold War warrior Ronald Reagan.

On Thursday, workers hoisted a box containing a 5-foot-by-4-foot section of the Berlin Wall onto the lawn at the college that graduated Reagan in 1932.

The section, which weighs more than a ton, will be placed in the Ronald Reagan Peace Garden, to be dedicated May 9. A plaque will be installed with Reagan's now famous declaration: "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall."

Reagan made the statement in Germany in 1987 to then-leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev.

The wall "will be a reminder of what really did transpire — in which not an invisible wall, but an actual barrier came down at the

Early voting results given

The Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace runoff race on the Republican ticket drew the most attention during early voting this past week.

The race, in which Deborah Boyd and Ben Smith are vying, brought 252 voters to the polls.

On the Democratic ticket, Cloyce Scarberry and incumbent Ralph Trevey are facing off for the Precinct 1 Commissioner spot.

A total of 121 Democrats cast a ballot, bringing the weeklong total in both runoff elections to 373.

On Monday, 28 Republicans and 25 Democrats turned out while 56 Republicans and 30 Democrats went to the polls on Tuesday.

Forty-nine Republicans cast a ballot Wednesday, compared to 21 Democrats.

Thursday also saw 49 Republicans turn out while only 10 Democrats showed.

Early voting wrapped up Friday with 70 Republicans and 35 Democrats going to the polls.

Election Day is Tuesday with Republicans voting at Snyder City Hall and Democrats voting at the Scurry County Courthouse.

Voters are reminded that they must vote in the same primary in which they voted for the March 14 election.

In other words, if the person voted Republican March 14, he must vote Republican in the runoff. Voters cannot vote both Democratic and Republican.

A person is eligible to vote in the runoff election even if they did not vote in the primary elections.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Patrick Coggins

City Of Snyder
Employee of the Month
April, 2000

Patrick Coggins has been named the first employee of the month for the City of Snyder. Patrick is married to Shawna Coggins and has a son, Patrick Coggins, Jr., 12 years of age. Patrick's parents are James & Elsie Miller of Granbury, Texas. Patrick came to work for the City of Snyder as a patrolman January 27, 1992.

Before coming to Snyder, Patrick was in the United States Air Force from October 1985 to October 1989. He attended Basic Law Enforcement School in San Angelo, Texas. Patrick joined the Winters Police Department in March of 1990 and in August of that same year was appointed the Police Chief of Winters.

Patrick is a member of the Snyder Police Association and the Torch Running Team. His hobbies are woodworking and running.

Patrick's fellow employees stated that they were nominating him for the following reasons: dedication to job and family, willingness to assist others, excellent work ethics, job knowledge, pride in his job and he is an outstanding leader.

I.R.S. or I.R.A.

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

WTC Western Texas College

Continuing Education Division
Workforce Education

American Red Cross Lifeguard Class

When: April 14th - 16th and 28th - 30th (call for times)
Where: Western Texas College pool
Who: Anyone 15 years or older, able to swim 500 yards continuously (skills test held the first night)
Cost: $140.00 (includes certification costs and books)

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED. To pre-register or for further information, please call 573-8511 ext. 390.

Western Texas College is an equal opportunity institution and is in compliance with the ADA. Applications are accepted and considered without regard to race, color, creed, sex, age, national origin, veteran's status or disability

NEW OFFICERS — New executive officers for the Psi Zeta Chapter of Western Texas College's Phi Theta Kappa have been named. Pictured seated from left are Chelsie Birks of Snyder, communication officer; and Renae Hall of Snyder, vice president of scholarship. Standing from left are Thomas Lowery of Snyder, president; Reid Johnson of Snyder, vice president of fellowship; Jason Campbell of Sweetwater, treasurer; and Jeff Ellis of Colorado City, vice president of leadership. Not pictured is Lina Alvarez of Snyder, vice president of service. Advisors are Jennifer Beard and Ava Russell. (SDN Staff Photo)

Government mulls raising Medicare rates of payment

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Health Care Financing Administration proposed raising Medicare payment rates for nursing homes by almost 6 percent and directing more money toward the care of acutely ill seniors who need expensive treatments.

Medicare program administrator Nancy-Ann DeParle said payment rates would increase by 5.8 percent starting Oct. 1 under a proposal that was published for public comment Friday.

HCFA's plan calls for categories of payments that would make more funds available for nursing home residents with multiple serious health problems that require intensive care and treatment.

"These changes, based on extensive research of real world experiences, will ensure that Medicare pays nursing homes fairly and appropriately for caring for those beneficiaries with complex medical needs," DeParle said.

The rate hike would translate to an estimated $15.5 billion for nursing homes in fiscal year 2001, an increase of more $900 million over the current year's allocations.

Medicare would pay more than $700 per day for seniors who require the most expensive care under the proposed changes. That's more than five times the rate for residents who don't require intensive care.

Government auditors and private experts have warned that unless some cuts in Medicare financial support cuts are restored, the sickest senior citizens may be denied the care they need.

Cuts in Medicare spending have led to a shortfall in money to cover care of the most expensive patients. Older Americans with serious illnesses sometimes can't find nursing homes or home health care agencies that will care for them.

Congress restored some Medicare funds as part of the Balanced Budget Refinement Act of 1999. HCFA's proposal would refine the payment system and direct more money toward caring for acutely ill seniors.

Key witness says he was pressured

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The key witness against a man accused of murder says he falsely implicated the suspect under pressure from officers in the city's scandal-plagued Rampart division, the Los Angeles Times reported.

The witness, Evelio "Rudy" Carrillo, said he originally told an anti-gang officer and a homicide detective investigating a fatal drive-by shooting of Wilber Escobar.

CINEMA I & II
1907 Snyder Shopping Center
573-7519

THE ROAD TO — RATED PG
EL DORADO
Fri-7; Sat. 2, 7;
Sun 2; Tue-Wed-Thur. 7

Romeo Must Die — R
Fri-9:00; Sat. 9; Sun 7; Tue-Wed-Thur. 9

R
Fri-7 & 9:15; Sat. 2, 7, 9:15; Sun 2, 7;
Tue-Wed-Thur. 7, 9:15

SNYDER HONOR INITIATE — Mark Cave of Snyder, a student at South Plains College, has been initiated into Kappa Mu chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, international honor society for students in two-year colleges. Cave was recently inducted during SPC's spring installation ceremonies. Initiates must be full-time students who have completed at least 15 semester hours with a minimum 3.25 grade point average. (SPC Photo)

Next ACT test set on June 10

The next ACT assessment will be administered nationwide on June 10. College-bound high school students must register for the college admissions and placement exam by May 5, the deadline for having the registration postmarked.

There is a late registration postmark deadline of May 19, but an extra fee is charged for late registrations.

ACT scores are accepted by virtually all U.S. Colleges and universities, including all Ivy League schools, and are used along with other student information, such as high school grade point average, for admissions decisions and to help place students in appropriate courses for their academic achievement.

The test fee is $22.

Students can register for the ACT by getting information from their high school counselors or online at ACT's website www.act.org. The website also has helpful information, sample tests and the opportunity to order test prep materials including an interactive CD-ROM, ACTive Prep, which contains actual, timed tests and helps students build a study plan.

The ACT Assessment is curriculum-based, designed to measure a student's academic achievement and the appropriate course level for college placement.

There are four sections to the exam: English, reading, math and science reasoning.

Students who have already taken the ACT can take it again and try for a higher score. Juniors can use their scores to examine academic weaknesses, take courses to correct those weaknesses and retake the exam as seniors.

Students who take the exam more than once can report only their highest composite score to prospective colleges if they choose.

Lawmakers push to close campaign finance loophole

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tax-exempt political organizations should be forced to disclose contributors and expenditures, a bipartisan group of lawmakers said.

Without such a requirement, the organizations enjoy one of the "brashest, boldest loopholes" in campaign finance law, critics charged Friday.

"This is another compelling argument for campaign finance reform," said Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz. "Americans should be outraged at this latest manifestation of corruption in Washington."

At issue are tax-exempt groups organized under Section 527 of the tax code.

The law is more than 25 years old, but the law has recently been employed by political organizations of every stripe after court decisions and an IRS opinion paved the way. A loophole in the law allows groups organized under Section 527 not to disclose their contributions or spending.

McCain made campaign finance central to his recent losing campaign for the Republican presidential nomination. Sen. Russ Feingold, D-Wis., McCain's partner in the Senate in pushing for extensive change in campaign finance laws, said activities of Section 527 organizations amount to "election advertising dressed up to avoid the election laws."

Section 527 organizations are involved in political causes and campaigns across the political spectrum.

For instance, a group with Republican ties called Shape the Debate is running TV ads critical of Vice President Al Gore in California, New York and Washington. Another called Citizens for Better Medicare, created by drug manufacturers and their allies, plans to spend millions of dollars to attack legislation that would control prescription prices.

The group Common Cause, relying on media accounts, released a report Friday showing a dozen Section 527 groups, including Business Leaders for Sensible Priorities, Citizens for Reform, Saving America's Families Everyday and Republicans for Clean Air, which stirred the presidential campaign with TV ads praising Texas Gov. George W. Bush's environmental record and criticizing then-rival McCain's.

On the Net: Common Cause: http://www.commoncause.org

Man's fall fatal

CONCORD, N.C. (AP) — A Texas man died after falling from bleachers being built at the dirt track at Lowe's Motor Speedway.

Timothy Bruce, 20, of Graham, Texas, died at Carolinas Medical Center in Charlotte after suffering head injuries in the accident Wednesday.

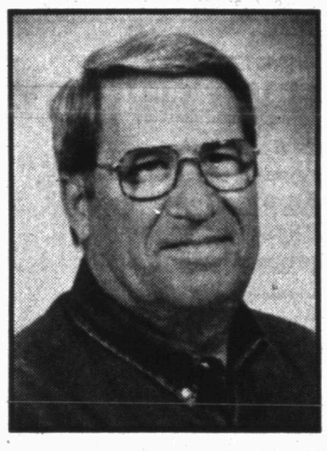
Bruce was carrying aluminum planks for the bleachers at the dirt track being built across from the speedway when he fell about 13 feet onto concrete.

7th Anniversary
CUSTOMER APPRECIATION DAY
Wednesday, April 12

1/2 Price Coupon
All Laundry and Dry Cleaning
Excludes Household Goods, Leather & Alterations
• Coupon must be presented at check in
• Coupon good Wednesday, April 12, 2000
Lone Star Cleaners 3111 College Ave.

LONE STAR CLEANERS
3111 College
573-7376
Snyder, Texas

Do You Think The Following Are Important?
Teamwork
Communication
Cogdell Memorial Hospital
County Roads
Then Vote For
CLOYCE SCARBERRY
Democratic Candidate
Scurry County
Commissioner Precinct 1
Run-Off Election April 11
Pd. Political Adv. By Cloyce Scarberry



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69 HD Brangus, Brangus Cross - heifer heavy-bred with 26 calves at side now
40 HD Black, red and red mod cows 3 to 7 year old heavy bred - 26 calves at side now
30 HD Black, black baldie cows - 1/4 ear-heavy-bred 4 to 5 year olds
40 HD Cross-bred pairs - calves out of Charolais bulls - cows will be 4 to 6 year olds
11 HD Heavy-bred gray Braham heifers-bred to Hereford bull - gentle
30 HD Fancy Brangus cows - 8 year old - short-bred
10 HD Fancy Bragus cows - 8 year old - heavy-bred
20 HD Black & red baldie cows - 1/4 ear - 4 to 5 year olds
11 HD Fancy open Angus heifers - weighing 675 to 725
12 HD Fancy short-bred Brangus heifers weighing 675 to 725
90 HD Heavy-bred cross-bred cows - some calves at side
11 HD Black & black baldie - heavy-bred Brangus type
8 HD Charolais bulls - 16 to 15 months old
8 HD Reg Angus bulls - 16 to 24 months old
2 HD Reg Brangus bulls - 18 to 22 months old
1 HD Brangus bull - No papers - 18 to 22 months old
30 HD Tiger Stripe heifers - heavy-bred - 6 calves at side now - can be Golden Certified - bred to low weight Hereford bulls - never been off ranch

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Snyder Daily News
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APRIL 9, 2000

Jury rules against retaliation charges

LAREDO (AP) — A jury has determined that the U.S. Border Patrol did not retaliate against four members of the agency's elite intelligence unit who filed a same-sex sexual harassment complaint against a superior officer.

The decision ended a week-long trial over whether the four were penalized by the agency for complaining about inappropriate behavior by a supervisor.

The four — Ricardo Campos, Rudolfo Gutierrez, Roel Luna and Ignacio Salazar — claimed that after they filed a federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission complaint in 1991, their top bosses prevented them from getting promotions they deserved.

The supervisor who was the focus of the EEOC complaint, Oscar Martinez, is stationed in Saipan. He was not a defendant in the case.

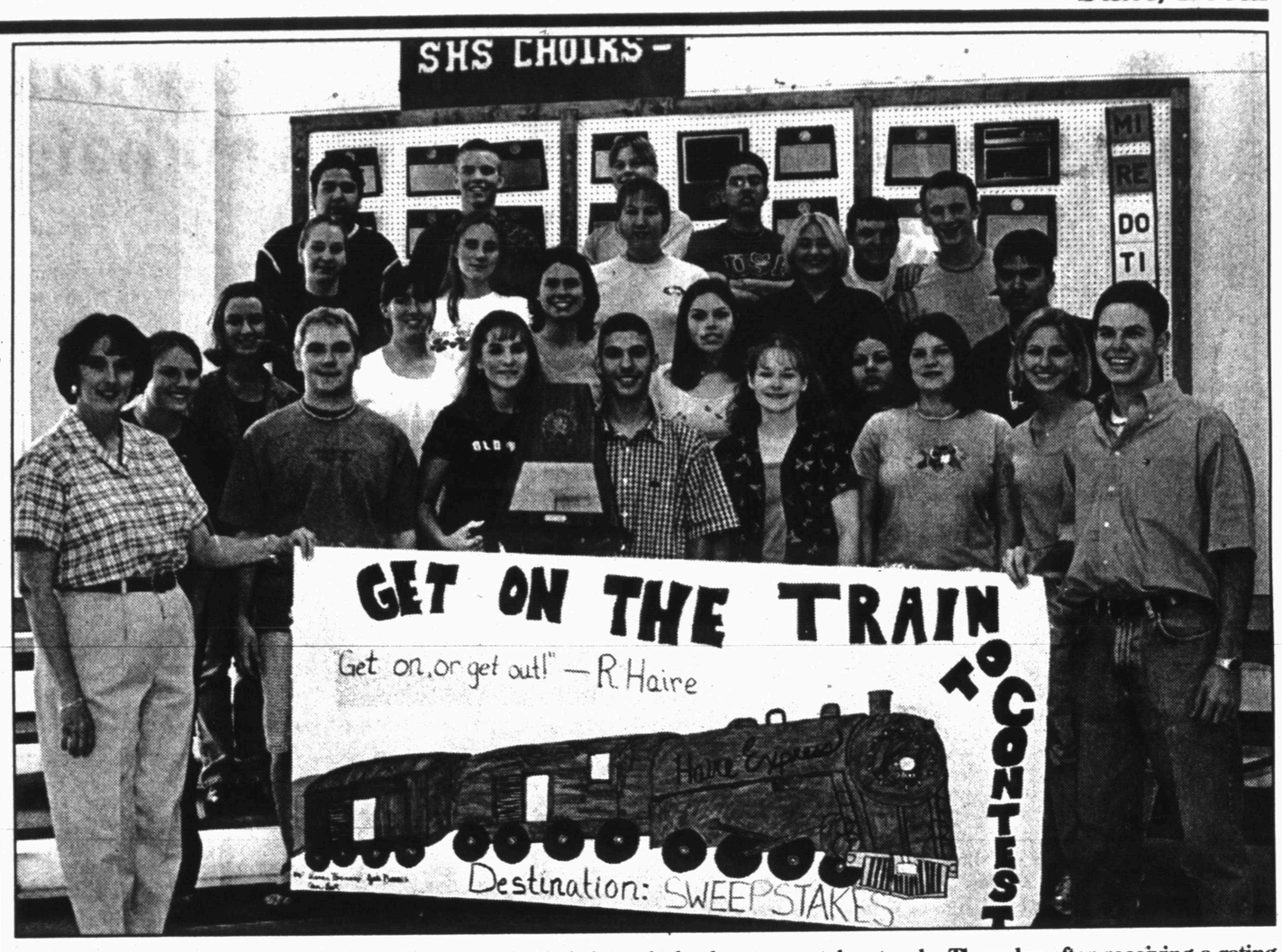
The four were seeking millions of dollars in lost wages and compensation for emotional distress.

All of the men still work in the agency's Laredo Sector, except for Salazar, who left his government job in 1995.

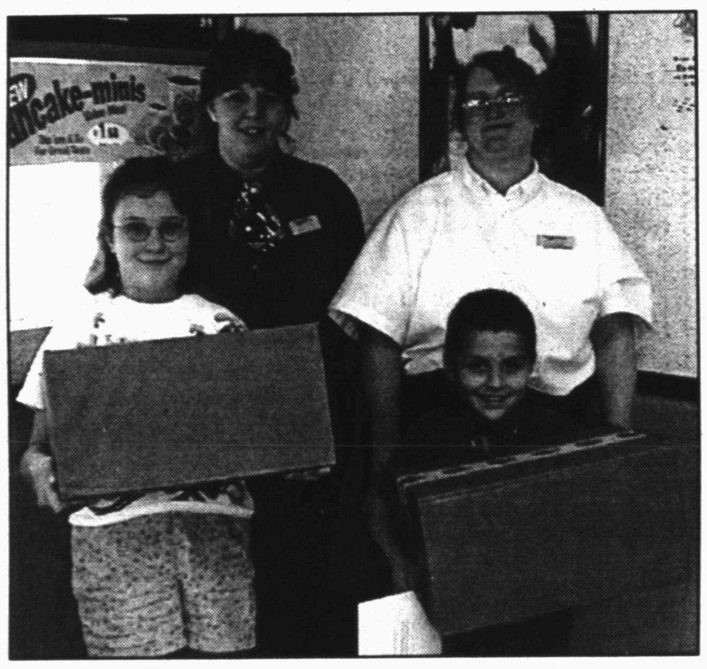
"It's a hard blow for us and for every other Border Patrol agent, male or female, who thought there was hope of getting relief" from either retaliation or sexual harassment, Salazar said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney John Parker declined to comment following the verdict, as did the jurors.

During the trial, U.S. District Judge Keith Ellison frequently questioned the witnesses himself, asking whether they had concrete proof of retaliation.



SWEEPSTAKES — Snyder High School's a cappella choir brought back a sweepstakes trophy Thursday after receiving a rating of I in concert performance and a I in sight reading at the UIL Concert and Sight Reading Contest held at Texas Tech University. Ronda Haire, choir director, and Lance Beaver are holding the poster the students made prior to the contest. From left row one, Kelli Henderson, Michael Compton, Missy Hicks, Tony Arispe, Jenny Mayer, Kim Moore, Jessica Dea; row two, Tara Price, Alesha Miller, Jodi Dennis, Irene Hernandez, Alma Estrada, Carlos Martinez; row three, Leslie English, Cara Best, Lexi Beard, Whitney Webb, Justin Willson; row four, Fernando Candanoza, Lane Whitefield, Derek Rushing, Matt Coronado, Patrick Vantine. Not pictured are Crissida Tyler and Leslye Starnes. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



POKEMON WINNERS — Samantha Daves, 9, (front left) and Armando Monroy, 5, were the winners of the Pokemon sweepstakes drawing at Burger King. Each won 57 game pieces and the Pokemon home movie. Pictured back from left are Rip Griffin's foodcourt manager Darci Cone and Grandy's manager Laura Settles. (SDN Staff Photo)

Officials examine burned church scene

HUNTINGTON (AP) — Officials have not ruled out arson in a pre-dawn fire Friday that destroyed a church serving a black congregation of 23 people.

The small, wood-frame church burned to the ground, prompting investigations by local police, the state fire marshal's office and the FBI.

Most of the members of the Huntington True Light Holiness Church gathered at the scene Friday as news spread of the fire.

One of them who is also a neighbor, Evelyn Hale, said she heard a "tapping" on her window about 2 a.m.

"It scared me when I heard it," she told The Lufkin Daily News. "(Later) I could hear something on the end of the street make a noise. About 30 minutes later, I woke up, and fire was everywhere."

By the time Huntington and Ora volunteer firefighters arrived, the building was completely ablaze, threatening a nearby home and a 100-gallon propane tank.

Later, a dog from the state fire marshal's office sniffed through the rubble left behind as investigators looked for a cause.

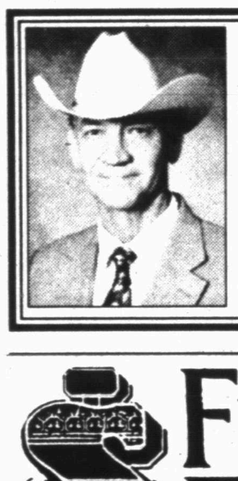
Burned pages of prayer books scattered across a field during a windy Friday afternoon. Investigators, meanwhile, asked church members questions about the facility's doors and locks, wiring, and what they saw and heard in pre-dawn hours Friday.

"It's just a surprise. I'm just blank," said Pastor Evie Siggers of Jasper. "We didn't get a hint or anything. The building is gone but the church is still alive. We'll have to meet and decide where to go from here."

The church lost a new piano in the fire, along with air conditioning and heating units, a drum set, all printed study materials and pews. The last activity held at the church was a Bible study on Wednesday night.

"The loss is there, without a doubt," member Cleo Hale said. "But the faith will go forward."

Huntington is about 115 miles northeast of Houston.



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Berry's World

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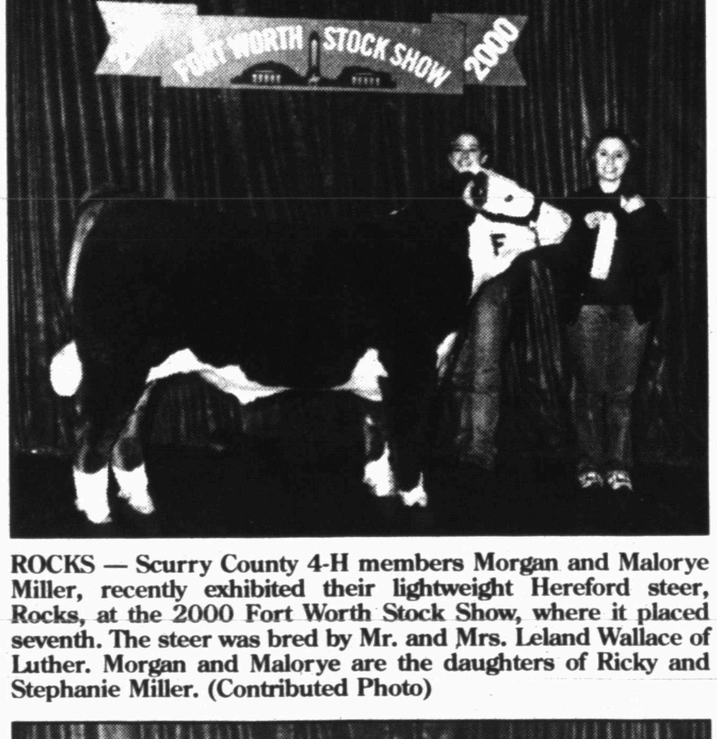

ROCKS — Scurry County 4-H members Morgan and Malorye Miller, recently exhibited their lightweight Hereford steer, Rocks, at the 2000 Fort Worth Stock Show, where it placed seventh. The steer was bred by Mr. and Mrs. Leland Wallace of Luther. Morgan and Malorye are the daughters of Ricky and Stephanie Miller. (Contributed Photo)

Financial Focus

In the blazing stock market of the 1990s, bonds were often the forgotten stepchild of the financial world. And yet, bonds have always offered some major advantages to investors. There's the regular income stream provided by the interest payments, of course. And bonds also can help reduce the investment risk in a portfolio dominated by stocks.

How can you buy bonds? The two most popular options are purchasing them individually or investing in a bond-based mutual fund. Each choice has distinct advantages:

* Individual bonds offer more stability of principal. When you buy a bond, and you hold it until maturity, you'll get the full face value back, provided the user does not default. But when you buy a bond fund, your shares will fluctuate in value – which means they could be down when you want to sell them.

* Individual bonds give you fixed-interest payments. You'll know how much you can expect from the interest payments you receive from individual bonds. But bond fund dividends are variable.

* Bond funds offer more diversification. When you buy a bond fund, you get instant diversification, because the fund can be composed of many different types of bonds: corporate, municipal, long-term, etc.

* Bond funds offer professional management. Like other mutual funds, b nd funds are professionally managed. You won't get this benefit from individual bonds.

Apart from these factors, you will have to weigh in investment cost. Bond funds, like all other mutual funds, have management fees, marketing costs and other expenses. You may have to pay a commission when you buy individual bonds, but, beyond that, you shouldn't incur other costs.

The type of bonds you're interested in also will affect your decision. If you want the safety offered by Treasury securities or AAA-rated bonds, you may be better off buying individual bonds. You can purchase Treasury bonds through a government program called Treasury direct, which has basically no investment costs associated with it, but Treasury Direct bonds do not enjoy the liquidity of a secondary market unless they are transferred to a broker.

If you'd rather purchase corporate bonds than Treasuries, you'll have other considerations. It's expensive to build a diversified portfolio of individual corporate bonds, which generally have face values of $1,000 or $5,000. In fact, to achieve a substantial level of diversification in your corporate bonds, you may have to invest $50,000 or more. But if you have that amount of money to invest, then you may be able to save money by purchasing individual corporate issues. And the same holds true for municipal bonds, whose earnings are typically free from federal income taxes.

Finally, if you're buying lower-quality "high-yield" bonds, you will probably benefit from the diversification and professional management of bond funds.

Of course, there's no rule that says you have to choose only bonds or only bond funds. You may decide to invest in both. However you do it, getting bonds in your portfolio is often a good idea – so start exploring the possibilities today.

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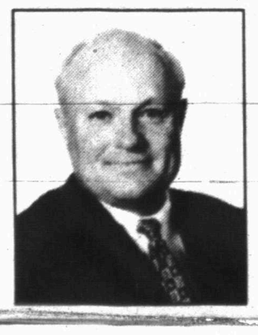
*Annual Percentage Yield (APY) - Interest cannot remain on deposit; periodic payout of interest is required. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Names of current issuers are available on request. Effective 4/7/2000.



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MIDNIGHT — Scurry County 4-H member Morgan Miller recently exhibited her medium-weight European cross steer, Midnight at the 2000 Fort Worth Stock Show, where it placed seventh. The steer was bred by Jay Bird of Post. Morgan is the daughter of Ricky and Stephanie Miller. (Contributed Photo)

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by Shirley A. Go

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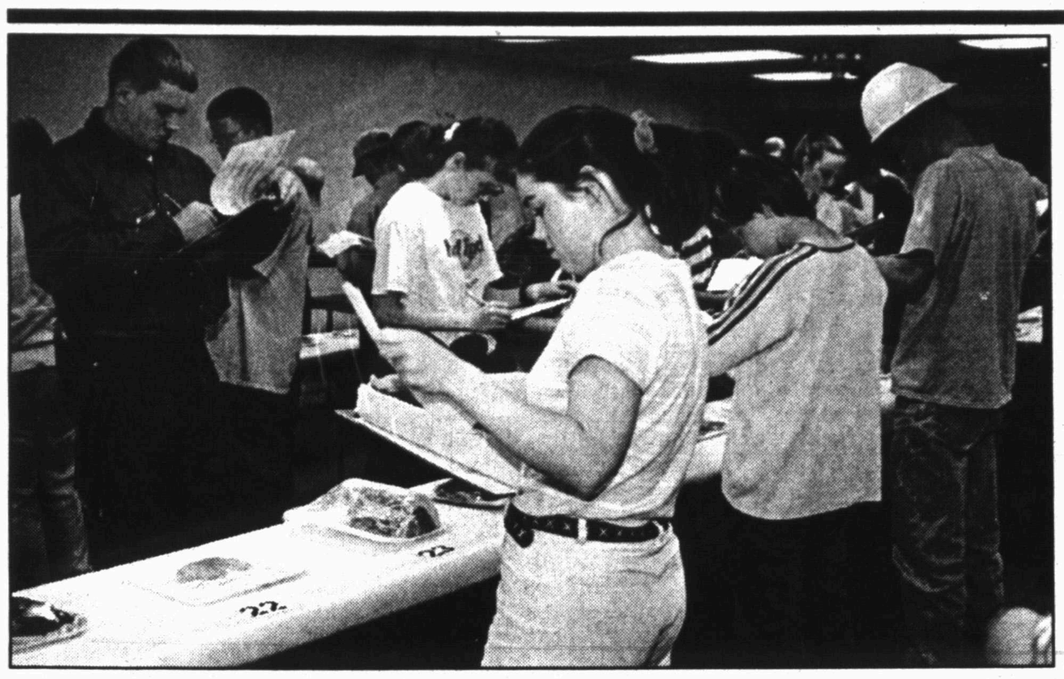

WTC HOSTS JUDGING CONTEST — Western Texas College hosted a high school meats judging contest Tuesday. Sweetwater High School was the top team with 1,686 points. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

BRICK PLANT FINANCING FINALIZED — Among those present at the closing of the Snyder Brick and Tile financing by OMNIBANK of Houston were from left Charles Terrell, chairman of the board of Snyder Brick and Tile; Wilson Thomas, CEO; Virginia Cazeault, senior vice president of OMNIBANK; and Larry Clements, community development specialist with the Rural Development branch of the USDA. (SDN Staff Photo)

Sweetwater top judging team at local college meet

Western Texas College hosted its annual meats judging contest for high school students Tuesday.

The top five team awards were presented to Sweetwater, first place with 1,686 points; Wall, second place, 1,676; Plainview No. 1, third place, 1,670; Lubbock Monterey, fourth place, 1,650; Spur, fifth place, 1,637 points.

Those receiving the top 10 individual awards were Briannie Hoffman of Wall, first with 577 points; Jessica Williams of Sweetwater, second place, 575 points; Stephanie Drennan of Spur, third place, 572; Justin Derrington of Plainview, fourth place, 571; Tamala Shields of Anson, fifth place, 570.

Others include Jimmy Hendrix of Sweetwater, sixth place, 567; Angie Grun of Jim Ned, seventh place, 560; Derrick Nichols of Wylie, eighth place, 559; Julie Robinson, Lubbock Monterey, ninth place, 557; Mark Kellermeier of Wall, 10th place, 555.

The top five individual awards in placings were presented to Briannie Hoffman of Wall, first place, 300 points; Stephanie Drennan of Spur, second place, 300; Kristin Wanke of Hartley, third place, 298; Kelsey Yantis of Amherst, fourth place, 298; Danika Robertson of Spur, fifth place, 298.

The top five individuals in retail I.D. were Jimmy Hendrix of Sweetwater, first place, 240 points; Ashley Miles of Sweetwater, second place, 235; Tamala Shields of Anson, third place, 234; Jessica Williams of Sweetwater, fourth place, 234 points; Briannie Hoffman of Wall, fifth, 232 points.

Berry pleads innocent of leaving scene of accident

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Through her lawyer, actress Halle Berry pleaded innocent Friday to a misdemeanor charge of leaving the scene of an accident.

The actress, free on her own recognizance, wasn't in court. She is due to appear at a pretrial hearing on April 21.

The prosecution claims Berry, 31, was behind the wheel of a rented Chevrolet Blazer that ran a red light and struck another vehicle on Feb. 23 in West Hollywood. The Blazer then left the scene of the crash, authorities said.

The Golden Globe-winning star of the TV movie "Introducing Dorothy Dandridge" was cut on the forehead during the crash and the driver of the other vehicle, which was a total loss, suffered a broken wrist and other injuries.

That motorist, Hetal Raythatha, filed a lawsuit against Berry accusing her of negligence and infliction of emotional distress. The lawsuit, claiming Raythatha was permanently disabled by the crash, seeks unspecified damages.

Raythatha, 27, also said in her lawsuit that she believes Berry was under the influence of alcohol or drugs when the crash occurred.

Gas zone pricing said unfair

WASHINGTON (AP) — Congress should ban the zone pricing tactics of oil distributors because they stifle competition and drive up gas prices for the poor, speakers told the House Judiciary Committee.

Defenders said zone pricing, where distributors charge different wholesale prices to gasoline stations depending on the locale, gives suppliers the flexibility they need to help retailers compete in tough markets.

Cleveland City Councilman Bill Patmon on Friday told the panel of a class-action lawsuit he is involved in against Shell, where residents in east Cleveland, a largely minority and lower-income area, say they are forced to pay higher gas prices than people in neighboring areas.

Shell has denied any wrongdoing, but Patmon cited figures showing where east Cleveland stations had to pay more wholesale for gas than what stations in other areas were charging retail for the same gas.

"Millions of dollars in disposable income are lost to the community," he said.

Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal joined Patmon in urging Congress to take action to ban zone pricing.

"The refining companies map out areas and charge dealers different wholesale prices according to secret formulas based on relative wealth, isolation or other factors," he said. "Zone pricing is invisible and insidious."

He said Mobil has 46 zones in his state and cited a case where the wholesale price in one town with a higher per capita income was six cents higher than the wholesale price in a nearby less affluent town.

Blumenthal said the rich get hit because they are willing to pay more and the poor because they don't have the mobility to shop around for better prices.

R. Timothy Columbus, speaking for the Society of Independent Gasoline Marketers of America, acknowledged abuses in the system, but said it also gave suppliers a means of adjusting prices to help retailers survive in particular market conditions.

He said his group opposed a ban on zone pricing because "most independent marketers' experience indicates that if all prices are to be at a single level, those prices will be at the higher, not the lower, level."

Charging different prices for different locales is not regarded as a legal problem as long as there are variations in costs, taxes or other factors. But it can become an antitrust issue if zone pricing is used to stifle competition, or a violation of civil rights laws if race is proven to be involved.

Because of zone pricing, said Roy Littlefield, a representative of the Service Station Dealers of America, it's not unusual "to see two nearby stations being charged grossly disparate prices by the same supplier."

He said that while there are cases of zone pricing being used to lower a dealer's price to meet competition, "in the overwhelming majority of instances it is used to exact higher prices from dealers and consumers."

Lawyers for dorm fire victims blame the school and city

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — Seton Hall University is to blame for a deadly dorm fire that killed three students because the school failed the hold regular drills and failed to stop a string of false alarms that made students slow to react to a real blaze, lawyers for victims say.

"The conduct of the university was woefully inadequate and borders on wanton and reckless," attorney Raymond Gill Jr., who represents 18-year-old Jeff Nahaczewski, said Friday.

In court papers announcing their intention to sue over the Jan. 19 blaze, the lawyers also blamed South Orange fire officials for inspections that missed hundreds of code violations at the Roman Catholic university.

The lawyers for other victims Frank Caltabilota, John Giunta, Thomas Pugliese and their families said they had not decided whether to sue, or whom to sue, but filed notices of claims against Seton Hall, South Orange, Essex County and state law enforcement officials.

Gill presented diagrams of the Boland Hall freshman dormitory that burned, killing freshmen Caltabilota, Giunta and Aaron Karol and injuring 58 students.

Nahaczewski, 18, didn't get out of bed for five minutes after the fire alarm sounded because there had been so many false alarms, Gill said. Nahaczewski hung by his arms from a window ledge for up to 40 minutes while firefighters watched but were unable to help, Gill said. Students with a ladder eventually saved him and his roommate, Gill said.

Seton Hall spokeswoman Lisa Grider said university officials had posted rewards and threatened students with expulsion for pulling false alarms.

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- has chosen "early landfill" for his or her bedroom decor?
- can easily program a computer or VCR, but can't figure out how to operate a washing machine?
- can remember the words to last year's hit songs but none that you said five minutes ago?
- is allergic to chores, homework, getting up in the morning, and sometimes...you?
- has caused you to turn into your parents?

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Wayne Rice

UNDERSTANDING YOUR TEENAGER will be presented by Wayne Rice, a nationally-known speaker who has worked with teenagers for more than thirty years. He has authored dozens of best-selling books for parents, teens and youth workers, and is the co-founder of Youth Specialties, the nation's top provider of youth ministry resources. Wayne and his wife Marci live in Lakeside, California, and have three grown children.

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SPORTS

Lake View holds off Snyder rally, 6-5

SAN ANGELO — In their last two outings, the Snyder Tigers have played only one bad inning of baseball. But a small lapse in both games has cost the Tigers in the district standings.

Snyder surrendered four runs in the third inning and it wound up being the difference, as Lake View held off a late Tiger rally to post a 6-5 district victory Friday at Chief Field.

While Lake View improves to 4-0 in league play, the Tigers slip into third place at 2-2.

Like Tuesday's setback to Big Spring, the Tigers held the Chiefs at bay for most of the game.

In Tuesday's loss, Snyder committed four errors in the top of the seventh to allow Big Spring to score seven runs.

Against Lake View, it was the third inning that proved deadly for the Tigers.

With Snyder holding a 3-2 lead, the Chiefs' Lee Morrison belted a one-out double to get things going.

Sonny Cumbie surrendered a walk, and both runners advanced on a passed ball. Michael Gonzales plated two runs with a single and moved to third on a Snyder error. Gonzales stretched Lake View's lead when he scored on a wild pitch.

Oscar Solis belted another double and later scored the Chiefs' final run on a single.

All total in the inning, Lake View netted four runs on four hits, two errors, a passed ball and a wild pitch.

It would be all the Chiefs needed.

Snyder buckled down to hold Lake View scoreless for the remainder of the game, with Cumbie going the distance on the mound.

The Chiefs got the first two men aboard in the sixth, but both runners were picked off first base on heads-up plays by Snyder catcher Ralph Ramon.

The Tigers tried to rally in the seventh.

Adam Beck reached base on Lake View's sixth error, and Josh Ward took first after getting hit by a pitch.

With two outs, Ramon drove in the two runs with a single to center field.

Solis, the Chiefs' ace, ended the game with his eighth strikeout of the afternoon.

The Tigers took the initial lead in the first inning when Ramon singled and scored on a ground ball from Matthew Grimmett.

The Chiefs answered in the bottom of the frame with a pair of runs on two hits and an error to go up, 2-1.

Snyder knotted the tally in the second on three Lake View errors, before taking their final lead in the third.

Right fielder Brian Gordon led off the top of the third with his second home run of the district season, a solo shot over the right-centerfield fence.

The Snyder lead was short-lived as the Chiefs got their four runs in the bottom of the inning.

In Friday's other district action, Andrews took care of Sweetwater, 6-3. Big Spring and Fort Stockton were to have played Saturday afternoon.

The Tigers return home on Tuesday to host the Andrews Mustangs at 7:30 p.m. at Moffett Field.

At the Masters...

Duval takes lead at 6-under

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — David Duval thought Augusta National was a pretty neat place to be as he walked down the 10th fairway and heard the crowd roaring for Jack Nicklaus' birdie a few holes ahead.

Tiger Woods didn't, as he struggled for a second day to try and bring sense to a game that was so dominant coming in, but has looked so ordinary at this Masters.

Duval had yet to run off his back nine streak of four birdies and an eagle when Nicklaus birdied the 13th hole Friday and the crowd went wild. Nicklaus was contending again at the age of 60, and players three decades younger were taking note.

"Everybody was going nuts," Duval said. "It was a lot of fun."

For Duval, though, the fun had just begun.

His 30 on the back nine gave him a 7-under 65 that put him into the midway lead of the 64th Masters.

On the leaderboard with him were a bunch of guys more than eager to challenge the domination of Woods. With Woods nine shots back after a 72 Friday, they have their chance.

Duval was on top, but Ernie Els, Phil Mickelson and Vijay Singh were just a stroke behind on a Masters leaderboard glaring only because of the absence of Woods.

Tom Lehman and Steve Jones were three shots back, and even Nicklaus was ahead of Woods after a 70 on Friday left him at even par, six shots back.

Play resumed today under threatening weather conditions with predictions of rain and strong afternoon winds.

"I'm still in it," Woods insisted. "If I can just get it going, everything will be great."

For Duval, everything was great as he shot his best round in a major championship. It came in a tournament he led coming down the stretch two years ago before faltering. He also was in contention last year before he put an iron into the water fronting the 11th green.

"I don't believe I gave the tournament away." Duval said.

The Masters

AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP) — Graded scores Friday after the second round of the the Masters on the 6,985-yard, par-72 Augusta National Golf Club course (a-amateur)

David Duval	73-65—138
Phil Mickelson	71-68—139
Vijay Singh	72-67—139
Ernie Els	72-67—139
Tom Lehman	69-72—141
Steve Jones	71-70—141
Bernhard Langer	71-71—142
Jeff Sluman	73-69—142
Loren Roberts	73-69—142
Retief Goosen	73-69—142
Sergio Garcia	70-72—142
Steve Stricker	70-73—143
Justin Leonard	72-71—143
Bob Estes	72-71—143
Darren Clarke	72-71—143
Nick Price	74-69—143
Fred Funk	75-68—143
Paul Azinger	72-72—144
Nick Faldo	72-72—144
Jumbo Ozaki	72-72—144
Dennis Paulson	68-76—144
Ian Woosnam	74-70—144
Jack Nicklaus	74-70—144
Mike Weir	75-70—145
Colin Montgomerie	76-69—145
Rocco Mediate	71-74—145
Scott Gump	75-70—145
Larry Mize	78-67—145
Padraig Harrington	76-69—145
Craig Parry	75-71—146
David Toms	74-72—146
Jay Haas	75-71—146
Dudley Hart	75-71—146
John Huston	77-69—146
a-David Gossett	75-71—146
Jean Van de Velde	76-70—146
Glen Day	79-67—146
Tommy Aaron	72-74—146
Steve Pate	78-69—147
Miguel Angel Jimenez	76-71—147
Jim Furyk	73-74—147
Carlos Franco	79-68—147
Hal Sutton	72-75—147
Davis Love III	75-72—147
Brandt Jobe	73-74—147
Shigeki Maruyama	76-71—147
Tiger Woods	75-72—147
Stewart Cink	75-72—147
Fred Couples	76-72—148
Mark Brooks	72-76—148
Thomas Bjorn	71-77—148
Chris Perry	73-75—148
Jesper Parnevik	77-71—148
Steve Elkington	74-74—148
Greg Norman	80-68—148
Notah Begay III	74-74—148
Skip Kendall	76-72—148
Failed to Qualify	
Jose Maria Olazabal	72-77—149
Bob Tway	77-72—149
a-Danny Green	73-76—149
Duffy Waldorf	78-71—149
Jeff Maggert	77-72—149
a-Aaron Baddeley	77-72—149
Scott Hoch	78-71—149
Angel Cabrera	74-76—150
a-Sung Yoon Kim	75-75—150
Corey Pavin	80-70—150
Stuart Appleby	73-77—150
Mark O'Meara	75-75—150
Brent Geiberger	76-74—150
Gary Player	76-74—150
Craig Stadler	73-77—150
Tom Watson	75-76—151
Sandy Lyle	79-72—151
Gabriel Hjertstedt	78-73—151
Joe Ozaki	75-77—152
Lee Westwood	77-75—152
Lee Janzen	76-76—152
Paul Lawrie	79-74—153
John Daly	80-73—153
a-Hunter Haas	80-73—153
Ben Crenshaw	79-76—155
Charles Coody	81-74—155
Kirk Triplett	76-79—155
Ted Tryba	75-81—156
Fuzzy Zoeller	82-74—156
Brian Watts	78-79—157
Raymond Floyd	80-78—158
Tim Herron	84-74—158
a-Graeme Storm	83-76—159
Arnold Palmer	78-82—160
Seve Ballesteros	81-81—162
Gay Brewer	84-78—162

District 5-4A Baseball

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
Lake View	4	0	11	9
Andrews	3	1	13	8
Snyder	2	2	9	12
Big Spring	1	2	8	9
Sweetwater	1	3	11	9
Fort Stockton	0	3	6	7

Friday's results: Lake View 6, Snyder 5; Andrews 6, Sweetwater 3.

Saturday's game: Fort Stockton at Big Spring.

NBA Glance

All Times EDT

	W	L	Pct	GB
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
x-Miami	49	26	.653	—
x-New York	47	28	.627	2
x-Philadelphia	44	31	.587	5
Orlando	38	37	.507	11
New Jersey	31	45	.408	18½
Boston	30	46	.395	19½
Washington	27	48	.360	22
Central Division				
x-Indiana	51	24	.680	—
Charlotte	42	33	.560	9
Toronto	41	34	.547	10
Detroit	40	35	.533	11
Milwaukee	36	39	.480	15
Cleveland	29	46	.387	22
Atlanta	26	49	.347	25
Chicago	16	59	.213	35
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
x-Utah	52	23	.693	—
x-San Antonio	47	28	.627	5
x-Minnesota	47	29	.618	5½
Dallas	34	41	.453	18
Denver	30	45	.400	22
Houston	30	46	.395	22½
Vancouver	21	53	.284	30½
Pacific Division				
y-L.A. Lakers	64	12	.842	—
x-Portland	54	21	.720	9½
x-Phoenix	48	27	.640	15½
x-Sacramento	43	32	.573	20½
x-Seattle	42	33	.560	21½
Golden State	17	59	.224	47
L.A. Clippers	14	61	.187	49½

x-clinched playoff berth
y-clinched division

Friday's Games

Philadelphia 102, Boston 97
Toronto 104, Atlanta 84
Miami 103, New Jersey 85
Detroit 97, Charlotte 82
Indiana 95, Cleveland 94
New York 96, Orlando 89
Houston 119, Seattle 116
Utah 105, Golden State 84
Minnesota 95, Sacramento 92

Saturday's Games

Vancouver at Portland, 3 p.m.
Atlanta at Washington, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m.
Seattle at Denver, 9 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Indiana at Charlotte, 12:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Orlando, 12:30 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 3 p.m.
New York at Miami, 5:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Sacramento, 5:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Vancouver, 9 p.m.
Denver at Golden State, 9 p.m.

Sports Briefs

SCC to host Pro-Am

The Snyder Country Club Pro-Am golf tournament will be April 17, with shotgun starts at 9:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.

Teams will be comprised of a local PGA pro, his guest and SCC members. Format is team low-ball, using full handicaps.

Entry fee is $35. To register, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Lions Club to host tourney

The Lions Club golf tournament will be April 29 at Western Texas College. Format is a four-person scramble, and each team must have a combined handicap of at least 50.

Entry fee is $50 per player, including green fee, cart rental and lunch. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top five teams, with $1,000 going to the winners. Hole-in-one prizes are a $5,000 CD and a 2000 Ford Ranger pick-up.

The field is limited to the first 20 paid teams. For more information, call 573-7627 or 573-1423.

Registration here for PDU tourney

The Price Daniel Unit golf tournament to benefit Special Olympics will be held April 29 at Snyder Country Club. Format is a four-man scramble.

Entry fee is $45 per player, and includes green fee, cart and dinner. Hole-in-one prizes include a car and cruise to the Bahamas.

Registration deadline is next Saturday. Entry forms can be picked up at the pro shop.

WTC tourney scheduled

A golf tournament to benefit the WTC Student Chapter of Golf Course Superintendents Association of America will be held next Saturday and Sunday. Format will be a three-man scramble, with teams flighted after the first round.

Entry fee is $150 per team, not including cart. First and second places will receive pro shop gift certificates.

Field limited to the first 20 teams. To register, call the WTC pro shop at 573-9291.

SCC holds weekly events

The Men's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will hold a Tuesday evening scramble and a Thursday MGA event. Play starts at 5:30 both days.

Horseshoe pitching held weekly

Snyder Slingers Horseshoe Club has league play Tuesday's at 7 p.m. at the courts adjacent to the coliseum.

The Duncan Classic will be next Saturday at 10 a.m. Only sanctioned pitchers can participate in the tournament, and pitchers must sign-up by 9 a.m.

For more information, call T.C. Nunn at 573-6710 or Terry Duncan at 573-5589.

Senior league needs help

Snyder Senior Baseball League is in need of board members. Anyone interested in serving on the board, or helping in any capacity, should contact Joel Hook at 573-4872 or 573-5213.

Pitching clinics held weekly

Fastpitch softball pitching clinics will be held every Wednesday. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Softball tourney scheduled

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church will host a men's softball tournament next weekend at Winston Field.

Deadline to enter is Thursday, and entry fee is $110 per team. Trophies will be awarded to the top four teams.

For more information, call Ricky Garcia at 573-5996, Henry Ramos at 573-2037, or Ygnacio Benitez at 573-6401.

Notre Dame's Murphy to return

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Sophomore Troy Murphy, a first-team All-American and Big East player of the year, said he'll return to Notre Dame to take care of some unfinished business — leading the Irish back to the NCAA tournament for the first time in more than a decade.

Murphy, fifth in voting for The Associated Press player of the year, averaged 22.7 points and 10.3 rebounds his sophomore season. He became the first player to lead the Big East in scoring and rebounding in the same year, sparking the Irish to the NIT finals in New York, where they lost to Wake Forest 71-61.

Martin wins Wooden Award

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Cincinnati's Kenyon Martin, who broke his right leg in Cincinnati's first-round game of the Conference USA tournament four weeks ago, was a runaway winner of the 24th John R. Wooden Award.

The 6-foot-9 senior was previously honored as player of the year by The Associated Press, the Atlanta Tipoff Club and the United States Basketball Writers Association.

Boggs' jersey retired

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — The Tampa Bay Devil Rays, in just their third season of play, retired Wade Boggs' No. 12 jersey before the home opener against the Cleveland Indians.

The five-time AL batting champion also threw out the ceremonial first pitch, and his children unveiled his uniform number, affixed to a wall above the right-field stands.

Boggs is the 60th AL player to have his uniform retired and holds the distinction of being the first in major league history to have No. 12 retired in his honor.

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SPORTS

Lady Tigers ready for district showdown after 4-1 victory

After four weeks, the chase for the District 5-4A softball crown has been narrowed to two teams, and one game.

Come Tuesday it will be the Lady Tigers against the Lady Steers — winner take all.

Snyder kept its share of the district lead Friday night by holding off Fort Stockton, 4-1, at Cates Field.

The win improves the Lady Tigers to 6-2, keeping them in a first-place tie with Big Spring.

The Lady Steers pay a visit to Cates Field on Tuesday, and Snyder coach Robbie Dickenson knows the importance of the match-up.

"It's pretty much for the district championship," Dickenson said. "Our girls are excited about it and ready to play. They know the importance of the game, and they're ready to decide this thing."

Snyder maintained its title chances by playing solid defense, and getting timely hits Friday night.

Kristin Martinez threw all seven innings for the Lady Tigers, surrendering only four hits and posting one strike out. The other 20 outs were made by Snyder's defense.

"We played outstanding in the field," Dickenson said. "We only made one error, and made some great plays to get some outs at crucial times."

Kristin Martinez

Whitney Webb

Cameron Mackey

The Prowlers scored their lone run in the seventh, after Snyder had taken a 4-0 lead.

The Lady Tigers jumped on top, 2-0, in the first when Whitney Webb led off with a triple. Cameron Mackey drove in Webb with a single, then scored on a triple by Martinez.

Snyder padded its lead with a run in the third. Mackey belted a double and came home on a Fort Stockton error for a 3-0 advantage.

The Lady Tigers final run came in the fourth when Kira Diaz blasted Snyder's third triple of the night, before scoring on a sacrifice fly by Jennifer Newman.

Mackey was 3-for-3 on the night, with Webb going 2-for-3 at the plate.

"The girls are playing with a lot of confidence right now," Dickenson said. "Even though we lost on Tuesday, they came right back and played well, just like they've done all year long."

Pitcher Courtney Rinehart will likely draw the start against Big Spring.

"It's Courtney's turn in the rotation, so she'll probably start on Tuesday," said Dickenson. "Both her and Kristin have been throwing well, so we're comfortable with either one out there. I'm sure Big Spring will throw their best pitcher, so we just have to keep hitting the ball hard like we have been, and we'll see what happens."

Aikman to marry ex-Dallas employee

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Cowboys quarterback Troy Aikman will add another ring to his collection today: a wedding ring.

Aikman, who has accumulated three Super Bowl rings, will marry former Cowboys public relations staffer Rhonda Worthey in a private ceremony in neighboring Plano, The Dallas Morning News reported in Saturday editions.

The two, who met at the Cowboys' practice facility where Worthey once worked, have been dating about 18 months.

The wedding was planned as an intimate gathering including only the couple's family and close friends. A much larger group was invited to a reception to follow.

"The organization is not in a position to confirm any details," said Rich Dalrymple, Cowboys director of public relations. "It's something we would not do. We respect Troy's privacy in this, and we hope everyone else will, too."

Aikman, 33, has been considered one of Dallas' most eligible bachelors. Worthey, who is two years younger and has a 9-year-old daughter from a previous marriage, quit her job last spring to spend more time at home.

The News reported that the wedding date was kept out of the public eye until it was inadvertently leaked by Fox broadcaster John Madden. The football commentator was attending the Masters golf tournament in Augusta, Ga., when he made an offhand comment to a reporter that he was leaving after the first two rounds so he could return to Dallas for Aikman's wedding.

It wasn't until later that he learned that Aikman and Worthey had wanted to keep the date a secret.

MLB sets home run record Friday night

By The Associated Press

A record 57 home runs were hit in the major leagues Friday night, two more than the previous mark set last Aug. 13.

While the record last year was set in 17 games, there were 15 in the major leagues Friday night.

The 36 homers in the American League were a record for a league in one day, topping the previous mark of 30, accomplished twice previously in the AL (June 10, 1962, and June 14, 1964), and three times in the NL (May 8, 1970, last July 2 and last Aug. 13).

Baltimore and Detroit combined to hit nine homers at Camden Yards, and Texas and Toronto to hit seven at The Ballpark in Arlington.

Charles Johnson homered for the fourth time in three games for Baltimore. His three-run homer highlighted a six-run fifth inning as the teams combined for five home runs in the inning to tie a major league record.

Cleveland's Omar Vizquel hit his fourth career grand slam in a 14-5 victory at Tampa Bay.

Texas' Royce Clayton and Kansas City's Mike Sweeney came up big, too. Clayton hit two of Texas' five homers in the Rangers' 11-5 victory over Toronto, and Sweeney had two homers in the Royals' 10-6 victory over Minnesota.

Sammy Sosa hit his first homer of the season in the Chicago Cubs' 10-6 victory in Cincinnati, and Alex Rodriguez hit his 150th homer in Seattle's 7-5 victory over the New York Yankees. The total could have been 58, but Seattle's Mike Cameron climbed the center-field wall to rob the Yankees' Derek Jeter of what would have been his second home run.

Home runs have increased with expansion, which began in 1961. Records for homers are tracked in two record books, one issued by the Elias Sports Bureau, the other by The Sporting News.

Rodeo continues Saturday

After a solid effort in the opening performance of its collegiate rodeo, Western Texas College continued to shine Friday night.

WTC will send several competitors to the finals, which are slated for Saturday night at Scurry County Coliseum.

The short round begins at 7 o'clock, with a dance to follow at the county rodeo grounds on Gary Brewer Rd.

The Western Texas men are looking to retain the lead in the regional standings, as are the Lady Westerners.

A complete rodeo round-up will be in Monday's edition of the Snyder Daily News.

Rockets oulast SuperSonics, 119-116

SEATTLE (AP) — Though the Houston Rockets aren't in playoff contention this season, they're showing signs of improvement.

Walt Williams ignored his coach's instructions and made a 3-point shot from the corner with 5.1 seconds left to give the Houston a 119-116 victory over the Seattle SuperSonics on Friday night.

The victory came two nights after Houston shocked Portland.

Steve Francis led the Rockets with 31 points. Shandon Anderson had 28, Williams 23 and Cuttino Mobley added 22.

Steve Francis led the Rockets with 31 points. Shandon Anderson had 28, Williams 23 and Cuttino Mobley added 22.

Neither Gary Payton nor any of his teammates could slow down Francis, who scored 18 points in the first quarter and 11 more in the third. When the Sonics double-teamed Francis in the fourth quarter, Mobley and Williams took over, he worked the ball to Mobley and Williams who scored 18 of Houston's 28 points in the final period.

Rockets coach Rudy Tomjanovich was surprised when Williams fired with time left on the clock.

"I told the guys no shots unless it's a layup or a dunk before the buzzer," Tomjanovich said. "So I guess there was some selective hearing out there. The way Walt's been shooting he probably thought that was a layup."

Clayton goes deep twice in Rangers' 11-5 victory

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers finally got an effective outing from their starting pitcher.

Mark Clark won for the first time since May 24, allowing four runs and 10 hits in 5 1-3 innings as the Rangers beat the Toronto Blue Jays 11-5 Friday night.

In their previous three games, Rangers starters had a 7.71 ERA.

Clark missed the final 21/2 months of last season because of a torn ligament in his right elbow, and the Rangers are looking for a bounce-back season from the veteran right-hander.

"He really started using his fastball effectively and that got his split-finger working effectively," Rangers manager Johnny Oates said. "That was probably his best outing as a Texas Ranger."

Clark also got plenty of support from his offense as Royce Clayton broke out of a 1-for-18 slump with his first two-homer game.

Clayton started the night with an on-base percentage of .158 and an .059 batting average, not exactly the sort of production Oates anticipated when he moved Clayton to the top of the order at the start of spring training.

The Rangers have been scoring runs in bunches, averaging 8.6 runs over their first five games. Ivan Rodriguez, Ruben Mateo and Rusty Greer also homered for Texas.

Texas matched the franchise record for home runs in their home park, a feat they accomplished for the eighth time. The club record for all games is seven.

Tony Batista hit his fourth homer for the Blue Jays, who lost their third in a row. Jose Cruz Jr. also homered for Toronto.

Toronto scored two runs in the first inning. Shannon Stewart hit a leadoff triple that skipped past Mateo in center field, and Stewart scored on Homer Bush's single. Bush went to third on Raul Mondesi's single and scored when Carlos Delgado grounded into a double play.

The Blue Jays stretched their lead to 4-0 in the second with the help of a Texas error. Batista led off with a homer and Darrin Fletcher singled. After Jose Cruz Jr.'s grounder forced Fletcher at second, Alex Gonzalez reached on third baseman Tom Evans' fielding error, and Cruz scored on Stewart's single.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Florida	3	2	.600	—
New York	3	3	.500	½
Atlanta	2	2	.500	½
Montreal	2	3	.400	1
Philadelphia	1	3	.250	1½
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Milwaukee	3	1	.750	—
St. Louis	3	1	.750	—
Houston	2	2	.500	1
Pittsburgh	2	2	.500	1
Chicago	2	4	.333	2
Cincinnati	1	3	.250	2
West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Arizona	3	1	.750	—
San Diego	3	1	.750	—
San Francisco	3	2	.600	½
Los Angeles	2	3	.400	1½
Colorado	1	3	.250	2

Friday's Games

Florida 4, Colorado 3
N.Y. Mets 2, Los Angeles 1
San Diego 10, Montreal 5
Chicago Cubs 10, Cincinnati 6
San Francisco 6, Atlanta 2
Philadelphia 4, Houston 1
Milwaukee 9, St. Louis 1
Pittsburgh 7, Arizona 2

Saturday's Games

Los Angeles (Brown 1-0) vs. at N.Y. Mets (Mahomes 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Tapani 0-1) vs. at Cincinnati (Bell 0-0), 1:15 p.m.
San Diego (Hitchcock 0-0) vs. at Montreal (Hermanson 0-1), 2:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Woodard 0-0) vs. at St. Louis (Kile 0-0), 2:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Brock 0-0) vs. at Houston (Gooden 0-0), 3:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (J.Anderson 0-0) vs. at Arizona (B.Anderson 0-0), 4:35 p.m.
Colorado (Karl 0-0) vs. at Florida (Fernandez 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Hernandez 0-1) vs. at Atlanta (Maddux 1-0), 7:10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Colorado (Astacio 0-1) at Florida (Dempster 0-0), 1:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Park 1-0) at N.Y. Mets (Rusch 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
San Francisco (Ortiz 0-0) at Atlanta (Glavine 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Downs 0-0) at Cincinnati (Neagle 0-0), 1:15 p.m.
San Diego (Boehringer 0-0) at Montreal (Irabu 0-1), 1:35 p.m.
Milwaukee (De los santos 0-0) at St. Louis (Ankiel 0-1), 2:10 p.m.
Philadelphia (Ashby 0-0) at Houston (Reynolds 1-0), 3:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Schmidt 0-1) at Arizona (R.Johnson 1-0), 4:35 p.m.

American League
East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	3	1	.750	—
New York	2	2	.500	1
Tampa Bay	2	3	.400	1½
Toronto	2	3	.400	1½
Boston	1	3	.250	2
Central Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Chicago	3	2	.600	—
Kansas City	3	2	.600	—
Cleveland	2	2	.500	½
Minnesota	2	3	.400	1
Detroit	1	3	.250	1½
West Division				
	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	3	1	.750	—
Texas	3	2	.600	½
Oakland	2	2	.500	1
Anaheim	2	2	.500	1

Friday's Games

Kansas City 10, Minnesota 6
Baltimore 14, Detroit 10
Cleveland 14, Tampa Bay 5
Texas 11, Toronto 5
Anaheim 7, Boston 3
Seattle 7, N.Y. Yankees 5
Chicago White Sox 7, Oakland 6

Saturday's Games

Detroit (Nomo 1-0) vs at Baltimore (Mussina 0-1), 1:35 p.m.
Minnesota (Radke 0-1) vs at Kansas City (Suppan 0-0), 2:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Hernandez 1-0) vs. at Seattle (Meche 0-0), 4:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Sirotka 0-1) vs at Oakland (Mahay 0-0), 4:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Burba 0-0) vs. at Tampa Bay (Trachsel 1-0), 4:15 p.m.
Toronto (Wells 0-0) vs. at Texas (Rogers 1-0), 8:05 p.m.
Boston (Rose 0-0) vs. at Anaheim (Hill 0-1), 10:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Detroit at Baltimore, 1:35 p.m.
Minnesota at Kansas City, 2:05 p.m.
Toronto at Texas, 3:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Oakland, 4:05 p.m.
Boston at Anaheim, 4:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Seattle, 4:35 p.m.
Cleveland at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.

National Hockey League

All Times EDT
EASTERN CONFERENCE
Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	RT	Pts	GF	GA
x-New Jersey	44	29	8	5	101	249	202
x-Philadelphia	43	25	12	3	101	230	178
x-Pittsburgh	37	36	8	6	88	240	233
N.Y. Rangers	29	40	12	3	73	217	242
N.Y. Islanders	23	49	9	1	56	191	273
Northeast Division							
y-Toronto	44	30	7	3	98	242	220
x-Ottawa	39	30	11	2	91	236	207
Buffalo	35	36	10	4	84	212	203
Montreal	35	37	9	4	83	195	191
Boston	23	38	19	6	71	207	244
Southeast Division							
x-Washington	44	26	11	2	101	226	193
x-Florida	43	31	6	5	97	241	204
Carolina	35	35	10	0	80	211	212
Tampa Bay	19	52	9	7	54	200	301
Atlanta	14	59	7	4	39	166	307
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
z-St. Louis	51	19	11	1	114	247	162
x-Detroit	48	23	10	2	108	276	207
Chicago	32	39	10	2	76	239	244
Nashville	28	47	7	7	70	199	240
Northwest Division							
y-Colorado	41	29	11	1	94	230	199
x-Edmonton	31	34	16	8	86	220	209
Vancouver	29	37	15	8	81	222	235
Calgary	31	40	10	5	77	208	250
Pacific Division							
y-Dallas	43	29	9	6	101	209	182
x-Los Angeles	38	31	12	4	92	241	225
x-Phoenix	39	35	7	4	89	230	226
x-San Jose	35	36	10	7	87	223	209
Anaheim	34	35	12	2	82	214	223

x-clinched playoff berth
y-clinched division title
z-clinched conference
Overtime losses count as a loss and a regulation tie.

Thursday's Games

N.Y. Islanders 2, Ottawa 1
Philadelphia 3, Atlanta 1
Buffalo 5, New Jersey 0
Montreal 5, Tampa Bay 1

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh 2, Buffalo 1, OT
Toronto 2, N.Y. Islanders 1
Washington 4, Detroit 2
Chicago 4, St. Louis 3, OT
Anaheim 5, Nashville 1
Colorado 3, Calgary 1
San Jose 3, Phoenix 1
Edmonton 5, Vancouver 4, OT
Los Angeles 3, Dallas 2

Saturday's Games

Florida at New Jersey, 1 p.m.
Boston at Philadelphia, 2 p.m.
Carolina at Atlanta, 3 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Ottawa at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Edmonton at Calgary, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Florida at N.Y. Islanders, Noon
Philadelphia at N.Y. Rangers, Noon
Buffalo at Washington, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Carolina, 1:30 p.m.
St. Louis at Chicago, 3 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 3 p.m.
Detroit at Colorado, 3 p.m.
Los Angeles at Anaheim, 3 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Boston, 6 p.m.
Vancouver at San Jose, 6 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Ottawa, 7 p.m.

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Softball
Saturday
on Channel 2
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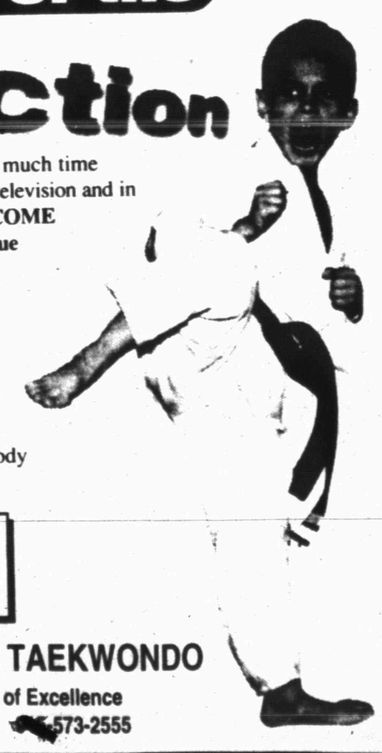

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Medicaid families to be reinstated

WASHINGTON (AP) — States must sign back up poor families that were improperly dropped from Medicaid when they left welfare and were urged to pay any medical bills the families incurred while they were terminated from the program.

Advocates for the poor, who have long complained that people were being dropped from Medicaid even though they were eligible, said Friday's announcement by the federal agency that runs Medicaid was long overdue.

"There have been hundreds of thousands improperly terminated from Medicaid," said Jonathan Stein, a lawyer with Community Legal Services in Philadelphia, which provides legal assistance to low income people.

The Health Care Financing Administration told states in a letter to do extensive searches of computer files to identify families that lost Medicaid coverage when they got off welfare and take "action to reinstate coverage ... as quickly as possible."

The letter also says states must correct whatever problems or policies that led to eligible people being cut off.

The move is an acknowledgment on the part of the federal government that many people have been improperly kept off Medicaid and the strongest step yet taken to correct the situation.

"We're asking all states to review their computer systems and eligibility processes — in order to ensure that all families that are eligible to keep their Medicaid benefits really do keep them," Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala said at a children's health insurance conference.

States were also ordered to reinstate disabled children who were required to get Medicaid after they lost their supplemental Social Security benefits, but didn't. Experts estimate that at least 100,000 children were eligible for coverage.

Shalala said the federal government will help states pay administrative expenses and will match any state dollars used to reimburse families for medical bills that would have been covered by Medicaid during the time they were terminated.

States are not required to reimburse families for those bills, however.

HHS auditors concluded last year that many people were being improperly dropped from Medicaid because states didn't tell people that they were still eligible for Medicaid, caseworkers discouraged families applying for Medicaid, and computer systems that linked welfare coverage and Medicaid wiped out people when they got off the rolls.

Some states have already started to identify people who should have been allowed to keep Medicaid coverage. Frank Lopez, spokesman for the Arizona Medicaid program, said his department has just started a program to reinstate families who were kicked off because caseworkers didn't tell them that they could still be covered even if they were no longer on welfare.

"We all should have done a better job of informing people," said Lopez.

Medicaid enrollment dropped about 200,000 to 41.4 million in 1998, the last year for which figures are available.

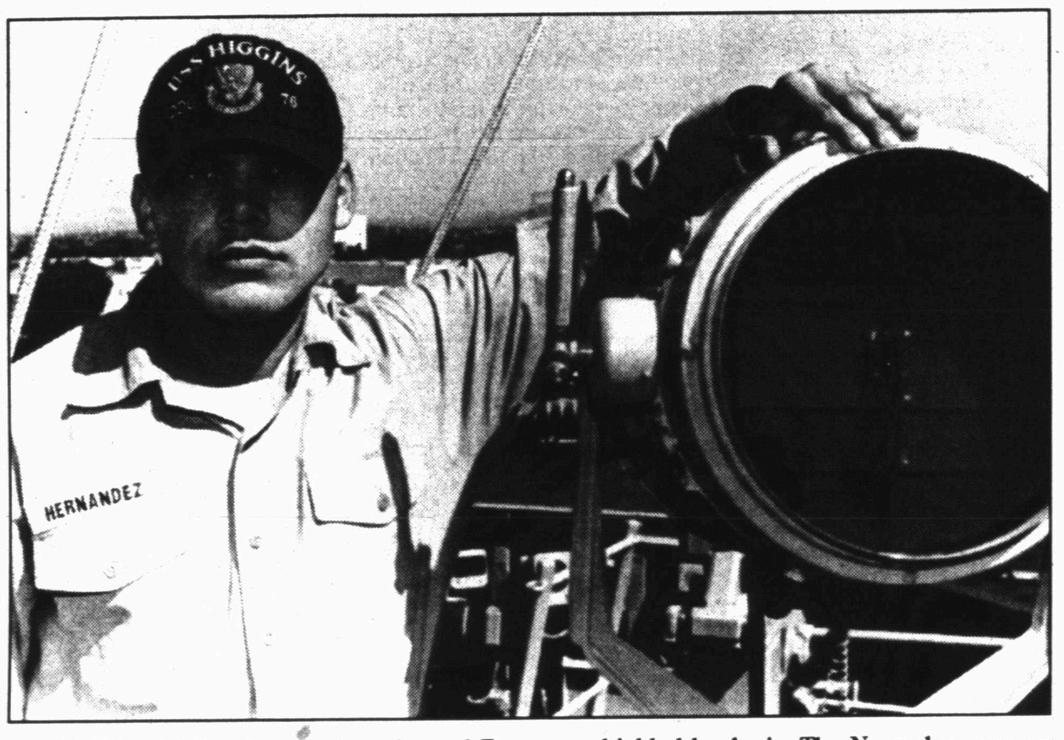
The federal-state program, which provides health benefits for low-income Americans, cost an estimated $181 billion last year — the federal government's share was $103 billion.

HHS officials could not provide estimates of how many people have been improperly kicked off Medicaid. But studies suggest that hundreds of thousands of people lost Medicaid coverage as they left welfare.

A 1999 study by Families USA, a consumer advocacy group that lobbies for universal health coverage, estimated that 675,000 people lost Medicaid coverage in 1997 and had no health insurance because of the improper cutoffs, adding to concerns about the number of Americans with no coverage, which totals at least 44 million.

Ron Pollack, president of Families USA, applauded the announcement but warned that many states have so far resisted making changes that would have kept many people from getting kicked off Medicaid in the first place.

"It's very much on the right track," said Pollack. "But does it mean states will fulfill their obligation? That's something we'll have to monitor very carefully."



ON DUTY — In Greek mythology the god Zeus was shielded by Aegis. The Navy also uses an Aegis shield to protect its ships and this shield is no myth. The Navy's Aegis shield is carried on Arleigh-Burke-class guide missile destroyers and Ticonderoga-class cruisers. Snyder's Joe. E. Hernandez serves aboard one of these formidable destroyers, the USS Higgins (DDG 76). Hernandez and his fellow sailors make the Aegis system a success. The Aegis system can detect, classify and track hundreds of potential targets simultaneously in the air, on the surface and under the sea. This system not only protects the Higgins but protects entire battle groups. Navy Seaman Hernandez, 20, the son of Joe and Lillie Hernandez of Snyder, when not out at sea training or forward deployed on the Higgins, is home ported in San Diego. (Contributed Photo)

Senior Menu

Monday

Barbecued chicken, potato salad, pinto beans, tomato wedges, chocolate chip cookie

Tuesday

Braised pork chop w/cream gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, pickled beets & onions, fruited gelatin chiffon

Wednesday

Roast Beef au jus, golden carrots, savory peas, tossed salad, cherry cobbler

Thursday

Chicken & dumplings, chopped broccoli, vegetable sticks, fruited gelatin, lemon cream pie

Friday

Fried fish, macaroni & tomatoes, Brussels sprouts, creamy slaw, pineapple flop cake.

Senior News

Make plans to attend the Golden K Kiwanis fish fry Sunday from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Senior Citizens Center. Tickets may be purchased at the door for $6.50 per plate. Children under six may eat free. Take-out plates will also be available.

The Scurry County Library has scheduled a special tour for senior citizens at 10 a.m. Monday. The tour, which will provide information on computers and the on-line card catalog, will last one hour.

The American Red Cross has scheduled a training workshop for Thursday through next Saturday. The Red Cross considers a disaster any event having to do with house fires, tornadoes, hail storms, hazardous material incidents, hurricanes, floods and earthquakes.

Classes on Thursday and Friday will be from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m. and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday. The training will be conducted in the center's dining room. The training is free and open to the public. If interested, call 1-800-219-2154 to register. Walk-ins will also be welcome. The classes will include Thursday, Introduction to Disaster and Damage Assessment (a prerequisite for all disaster classes); Friday, Mass Care and Shelter Operations; Saturday, Emergency Assistance to Families I.

The Easter festivities are planned for April 20. Activities will include the egg hunt, the sing-a-long and the bonnet parade. All seniors (men and women) are encouraged to decorate their bonnet/hat and enter the bonnet parade of creations and contest. The fun begins at 10:45 a.m.

Four weeks until Mayday, May 6. With the assistance of volunteers, businesses, the Exxon Mobil cooking team, and the auctioneers, Grady and Molly Morris, a fantastic fund-raiser is planned. Make plans to support the center. Call 573-4035 if you can help.

Monday

Bridge play begins at 9:30 a.m. and daily exercise at 11 a.m. Line dancers will entertain the residents of Snyder Healthcare at 1:30 p.m.

Tuesday

"88" play begins at 10 a.m. The Golden K Kiwanis meet at noon. Senior swimnastics will meet at the center from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m.

Wednesday

This will be the last day for a volunteer to help citizens with income tax filing. Office hours will be from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Phone 573-4035 for further information. The Kitchen Band will perform at Snyder Oaks at 11 a.m. Anne Gregory will entertain in the dining room at 11:30 a.m. Line dancers will practice at 1 p.m. and clogging will begin at 2 p.m.

Thursday

The Sunshine Choir will entertain the residents of Snyder Healthcare at 10 a.m. Swimnastics at WTC is from 2 p,m, to 3 p.m. Game night begins at 6 p.m. All seniors are welcome.

The blood pressure clinic and bridge tournament both begin at 9:30 a.m. "88" play begins at 10 a.m., exercise at 11, and the sing-a-long begins at 11:30 a.m.

Racial and ethnic tensions permeate Cuban boy's saga

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a lighthearted exchange on Capitol Hill last week, Rep. Jose Serrano, D-N.Y., joked about a crucial breakthrough that would solve the ongoing Elian Gonzalez dilemma.

Serrano said the Cuban boy was actually Haitian, meaning the lad would be shipped back to his island home without delay.

The premise behind the jest is all too real for some lawmakers here and underscores an underlying racial dynamic permeating the saga of Elian Gonzalez.

What if adorable little light-skinned Elian who washed up on U.S. shores from Cuba had been adorable little dark-skinned Elian from Haiti? Some lawmakers don't like the answer they believe they would get.

Based on the Cuban Readjustment Act of 1966, Cubans who reach U.S. shores are usually allowed to stay.

Haitians and others are usually repatriated, unless they can prove a "credible fear" of persecution in their homeland.

"That boy would have been institutionalized or transferred to the Haitian embassy for the purpose of sending him back home. No questions asked," Rep. Charles Rangel, D-N.Y., said when the question was put to him.

Rangel and other black members of Congress have been among the most persistent public voices pushing for the return of Elian to his father in Cuba. And while most Americans — black and white — agree the boy should be returned, according to polls, black lawmakers hold a multitu[de] reasons in reaching that c[onclusion].

Th[e] annulment of par[ents] is case th[at] [Mi]er, Juan [G]arrived [in] king

[ex]ly experi- [fa]lies torn apar[t] [du]rin[g] key factor in the th[e]

"For me and m[any] African Americans, we understand the impact of family disunity and seeing the results of a family destroyed when children are taken from us," said Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif., who traveled to Cuba in January and met with Elian's father.

Elian has been a galvanizing symbol for Cuban-Americans since he was found floating at sea Thanksgiving Day and placed in the temporary custody of Miami relatives.

His mother and 10 other people drowned when their boat capsized during an attempt to reach the United States. Relatives in Miami have maintained the boy should stay with them despite the wishes of his father that he should be returned to Cuba.

Another factor is that Cuban leader Fidel Castro, archenemy of Miami's Cuban exile community, doesn't draw the same emotion from black America.

To the contrary, in some quarters, Castro is credited with bettering the fates of darker Cubans, who were often relegated to little beyond hard days of labor on the island's cane fields.

"Afro Cubans there say they fared better from the revolution," said Wayne Smith, a Cuba expert and senior fellow at the Center for International Policy in Washington.

"When you add in the fact that most of the exiles are white and tended to be well-to-do before the revolution, you are going to have tensions along race and class lines," Smith said.

Others point to Castro's early support for an end to apartheid in South Africa and other black liberation movements at a time when U.S. officials were still openly or covertly supporting white minority regimes.

The black lawmakers are quick to point out that their advocacy for Elian's return to his father in Cuba is mirrored by whites.

A recent Gallup Poll showed 64 percent of respondents supported the U.S. government's decision that the boy should be returned to Cuba to live with his father.

The black lawmakers added that the sense the boy should be returned even cuts across partisan political lines. They point to an op-ed piece last week in The New York Times by Rep. Steve Largent, R-Okla, one of the most conservative members of the House, calling for Elian's reunification with his father.

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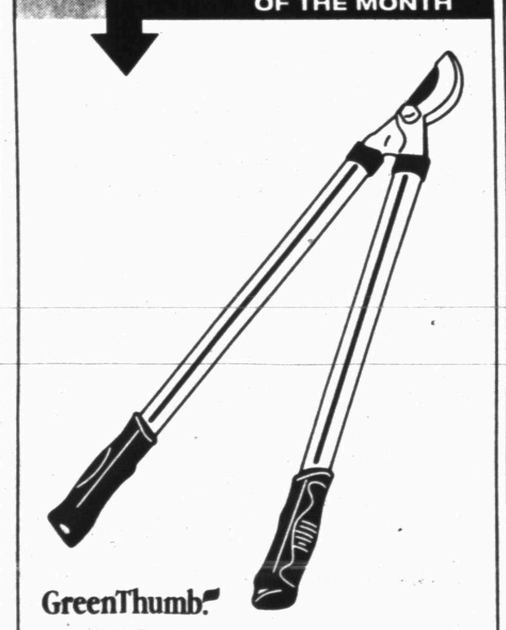
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Legal Notice

PUBLIC NOTICE

Cogdell Memorial Hospital is accepting sealed bids for the Renovation of the Radiology Suite at D.M. Cogdell Memorial Hospital, Snyder, Texas. Plans, Specifications and Contract Documents may be examined without charge in the office of JDMA/Joe D. McKay, A.I.A. Architects, 1402 Ave. N., Lubbock, Texas 79401. A copy may be procured from the same office with a deposit of $100.00 per set. A pre-bid conference will be conducted for the General Contractors and the prime subcontractors on Wednesday, April 12, 2000, 10:30 A.M., at the D.M. Cogdell Memorial Hospital, 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, Texas 79549. Bids will be accepted until 2:00 P.M. on Thursday, April 20, 2000 at D.M. Cogdell Memorial hospital, Administration Office, 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, Texas 79549. Cogdell Memorial Hospital reserves the right to accept and/or reject any or all bids.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given a public demonstration of the testing of voting and tabulation equipment to be used in the April 11, 2000 run-off election will be held in the Scurry County Clerk's Office on the third floor of the Courthouse on Sunday April 9, 2000 at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER DEMOLITION

ATTENTION: Linda Dodson, I have surveyed the property at 405 31st Street, (part of lots 3 & 4, Block 2, Grayum and Nelson Addition) Snyder, Texas. I declare the structures on the above mentioned property to be dangerous as defined by Ordinance No. 324 of the City of Snyder, and intend to order demolition of said structure on or about May 6, 2000. If no objections are received by this date the demolition order will be issued.

Tom Valentine
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Snyder
(915) 573-4959

PUBLIC NOTICE OF INTENT TO ORDER DEMOLITION

ATTENTION: Carl A. and Carla Ann Durrett, I have surveyed the property at 711 N. Ave. V, (Lot 12, Block 23, Boothland West Addition) Snyder, Texas. I declare the structures on the above mentioned property to be dangerous as defined by Ordinance No. 324 of the City of Snyder, and intend to order demolition of said structure on or about May 6, 2000. If no objections are received by this date the demolition order will be issued.

Tom Valentine
Code Enforcement Officer
City of Snyder
(915) 573-4959

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Snyder Child Day Care Center is taking applications for teachers and substitutes. A high school diploma or GED is required. College classes in child development will be paid for by the agency. Apply in person at 2800 2nd St. or call 573-7403 for more information.

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Genarac generator, 4200 watt, 8hp–Briggs & Stratton engine, brand new, 110/220. 573-1047 for great deal!

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1992, 30' Cobra Sand Piper. Excellent condition, sleeps 6. Call 573-7750.

Boats

1979 Glastron, fish & ski, 115hp Evinrude, drive-on trailer, $2,800. **573-3260** after 5p.m. (M–F).

For Sale: 14ft. Lone Star boat w/7hp motor. 3612 Ave. B.

Merchandise

Cardio Glider $60, Antique table w/4 chairs $150, Vending machine (snacks) $50, Lazy-Boy rocker/recliner $125. 573-9429.

Carol's Collection: Candles, Cards, Collectibles. **Avon** gifts & products. 2608 College Ave. 573-0990 (1:00–5:30 T-W-TH-F-S).

Clean Fresh Air
No Smoke, No Odors
Free Home & Business Trial
Call 573-7296

Compatible Toner Cartridges for use in the Hewlett Packard Laserjet(C3906A) 5L/6L/6Lxi/6Lsf/5Lxtra/3100/Canon LBP460/465 printers are $44.95 on exchange until 4-28-00. Call 915-573-2724.
Springer Laser Service
Mention offer A1 and receive an additional $1.00 off.

Compatible Toner Cartridges for use in the Hewlett Packard Laserjet 1100/1100A(C4092A) are $44.95 on exchange until 4/28/00. Call 915-573-2724
Springer Laser Service
Mention offer A1 and receive an additional $1.00 off.

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, Etc. Sales & Rentals
3706 College 573-7582

DEAL OF THE YEAR!!!
Direct TV w/free, professional installation. 95 channels. Best digital picture, $79 plus tax. Limited time only!! Call 573-6269 for details.

Little ads get big results!

Merchandise

For Sale/Trade for travel trailer, mobile home lot w/concrete pad & water. **863-2700**

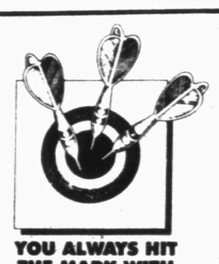
For Sale: Used Mosler Safe, time lock timer, 46" tall, 28" wide, 25.5" deep. You move, only $4,500. Sid, **915-573-2681.**

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES: Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers. WESTERN AUTO 2510 Ave. R.

Mary Burns is bringing $1.00 Geraniums to the First United Methodist Church parking lot downtown again this year beginning Monday, March 27th.

Pallets for sale, $1.00. Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News.

Security Finance now has $1,000,000.00 to lend. Call 573-1761 for a loan between $100–$467 or come by 511 Coliseum Drive. We like to say yes.



YOU ALWAYS HIT THE MARK WITH THE CLASSIFIEDS
573-5486

Building Materials

New Steel Building in crate, 40x22, was $5,880 now $2,830. Must Sell!! 1-800-292-0111.

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

AGRAVET
Science Diet Dog & Cat Food
3014 Varsity Square 574-2472

EASTER BUNNIES: white, grey, spotted cute & cuddly Easter gifts! Call **Critter Corner,** 573-0990 (1:00–5:30 T-W-TH-F-S).

To give away to a loving home. 1/2 Lab, 1/2 Border Collie, less than 1 year old. Needs family to play with. 573-4028/721-9060.

To give away: Male 10/mo. old Lab. – good w/kids & female, 9/weeks old, 3/4 Lab. 573-3868 after 4:00p.m.

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Garage Sales

ESTATE SALE
SADIE LONGBOTHAM
Sat. 8 – 4 & Sun. 1 ??
3015 Denison
Glassware, Dishes, Silver, Kitchen items, Tools, English ironstone, Quilt, Linen, Smoker, Heaters, Spray rig, Old dolls, Generator, Garden tools, Clothes, lamps, Frames, Collectibles, Antiques, TV, Books, Lanterns, Luggage, Refrigerator, Old toys, Stereo equip., Jazz record collection, Cook books, Purses, Brass items, Pottery, & lots of misc.

HUGE GARAGE SALE
2505 Ave. U
Saturday 8 – 6 & Sunday 1 – 5
5 hp Honda air comp., TVs, Stereos, Glassware, Small Sears air comp., New & used air & hand tools, Ceiling fans, Pots & pans, Lawn mowers, Dishes, Tapes, Books, Records, 60–70's albums, Fishing tackle, Bicycles, Motorcycle helmets, Skiis & water toys, Electric range, Refrigerator, All most new 30 gal. Natural gas water heater, etc.

YARD SALE
Pepper & Tomato Plants
4/89¢
1 Week Only
Gwen's Greenhouse
129 N. Hwy. 84

Office Space Rentals

3905 College Ave., 1200 sq. ft. office/retail building available 4-1-00. Former location of Stewart Insurance. Call 573-5648 between 5p.m.–9p.m. for information.

Apartments For Rent

1 & 2 Bedroom Apartments. Furnished or unfurnished. All bills paid, no pets. $250-up. 573-5773.

1 Bedroom Furnished apartment. All bills paid. Rent by 2 weeks or month. 573-5879, 573-3279, 728-8482.

2 bedroom apartment for rent. Good location, reasonable. Call 573-0996.

HICKS RENTALS
2805 23rd – Apt. –1–1, water/gas paid, no pets.
573-7150

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

Apartments For Rent

Field Crest Apartments

"...A good home to lots of good people"

1 bedroom/1 bath - $265
(very big bedroom)

2 bedroom/1+bath - $285

*** $100 security deposit**
*** We pay water**
*** You pay electricity**
*** No application fee**

700 E. 37th
Tel: 573-3519

KINGSWOOD & EASTRIDGE APARTMENTS
100 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-5261
TTY 1-800-735-2989

Call about **LOWER RATES** on our 1 @ 2 Bedroom Apartments
- Cent. A/C Heat
- Carpet
- Playground
- Laundry Rooms
- Resident Manager

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

There's A Deal Waiting For You
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
573-5486

AUCTION

REAL ESTATE AUCTIONS
APRIL 25-27, 2000
SEVERAL FORMER HALLIBURTON ENERGY SERVICES FACILITIES IN CA, KS, MS, TX, WY AND CANADA
FEATURING...
3687 North FM 1611, Snyder
SELLING ABSOLUTE
5.744+/- acres including a 6,060+/- sq ft shop with 5 overhead doors, a 5,624+/- sq ft warehouse/shop and five other bldgs.
This property will sell 4/25 at 7:00 PM from the Radisson Hotel, Arlington, TX
MANY PROPERTIES SELLING AT ABSOLUTE AUCTION WITH NO MINIMUMS OR RESERVES.
FOR MORE INFORMATION CALL
1-800-441-9401
HUDSON & MARSHALL
AMERICA'S AUCTION AUTHORITIES
MORE DETAILS AT www.h-mtexas.com
In Conjunction w/Trione & Gordon ONCOR International

Apartments For Rent

Western Crest Apartments
3901 Ave. 0
●1 or 2 Bedroom
●Covered Patio ● Sparkling Pool
●Playground ● Satellite TV Available

Windridge Village Apartments
5400 College Ave.
●1 or 2 Bedroom
●Sparkling Pool ● Clothes Care Facility
●Great Location ● Satellite TV Available
Office located at 3901 Ave. 0
573-1488

Houses For Rent

1104 28th, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, garage, CH/A, $335/mo., $150/dep. **573-2219.**

1801 39th, 2 bedroom with washer & dryer. $275/mo., $100/dep. Call **573-0900.**

1 bedroom, 1 bath house for rent. 3108 1/2 Ave. V. $195/mo., $100/dep. 573-5312.

2512 Ave. M, 2-1 1/2, clean, w/fenced yard. $250/mo., $125/dep., references. Dupree Rentals, 573-9001.

2 bedroom house, $350, water paid. 27th & Y, 573-7008.

3904 Eastridge, 3-2-2, newly painted, CH/A, nice backyard. $450/mo., $150/dep. Call 573-2219.

Plant a classified ad . . . reap a cash crop. Call 573-5486.

JACK & JACK
611 Coliseum Drive
Ford Spikes Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452

1.74 A's 3-2-2 Basement 1500 sq. ft. Shop....$70T
Ira ISD Nice Country Home Great Barns & Pens
12 miles South of Snyder...3-1-1/4+1+Detached
Neat Starter Home 316 32nd 2-1-1 $22.5T
Reduced Large Home 3-1-1/4+2+Den ..2111 43rd
2 A's w/Doublewide Very Nice....3-2-2 + Sheds
Good Location 3-1-1 3726 Avondale...$32.5T
Hermleigh 880 Harlan Ave. 3-2-2 .....$38T
228 Acres 3-1 Brick $80T
3-1 3/4-1 1901 29th Street.....$27T
Reduced - LOVELY 4-2-2 3303 Irving $112
ATTRACTIVE! 4-2-2 2211 27th St. $42T
3-2-2 4005 Eastridge $30T
5 Acres 2 Story Ira ISD 4-1-3/4 .....$50T
COMM. YARD & RES. 9 Acres.....$150T
Colorado City 4.45 Acres 3-2-2cp...$60T
Large 2505 Sq. Ft. 4-1-1/4 & 1/3 2 ....2800 35th St.
Reduced Executive Home Towle Park Rd 4-3-1/2-3
2711 Ave. U Remodeled 2 Story 3-2-2 + Office
2210 32nd 3-2-2cp + Utility.....$39.5T
A Frame 3-2-1 Shop 11 Acres $65T
Cedar Creek 3-2-2 + Den LOVELY.....$86T
PRETTY! Close In 42 w/5 A's or 36 Acres Optional
Country Dream Home 4-1-1/4+2 Wonderful Storage, 20 Acres, Pool, Several Out Buildings $185T
14.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub, Sprinkle System....$105T
2-1-2 + 2cp 3 Lots 911 17th St.....$37T
Mobile Home to be Moved 2-2 .....$4T
Fixer-Uppers: 101 Elm & 2107 27th.....3-1
3774 Dalton Dr. Lg. Home 3-1-1/4+1cp..$37T
Great Area! 3-1 3/4-2 + 2cp 2304 43rd.....$65T
1907 15th 3-1-2cp.....$20T
2-2-1 + 1cp + 2 Apts 2812 Ave. W....$30T
Small Warehouse or Shop 2410 21st....$7,500

HUD LISTINGS
Doris S. Spikes.....573-6602
Shirley Drum.....573-1550

Golden Terrace Village IV
1911 Martha Ann Blvd.
New Apartments Ready For Rent
1 bedroom apartments especially for Senior Citizens age 62+. Rent based on income. To apply, please call.
915-573-1416

Stevenson Real Estate
573-5612

Wenona Evans
573-8165

Doris Beard
573-8480

Bill Dryden
573-9739

New Listing 5502 Cedar Creek 3-2-1/-2 $97.5T
Country-Sm. Acreage 3-2-2cp Barns /Pens $50/s
1929 Santa Fe 4-3-3cp Study-Over 1/2 Acre..$89.5T
2706 28th St. 3-2-1/-2.....$95.5T
4123 Jacksboro 3-2-2.....$79.5T
3303 Irving 4-2-2.....$112T
2310 Sunset 2-1-1.....$24.5T
2601 Ave. W Assume Loan 3-2-1....$45T
3310 Ave. V 3-2-2 w/extra lot $69.5T
3604 Ave. V 3-2-2.....$69.5T
Hermleigh 880 Harlan 3-2-2 Lg. Lot $38T
1901 29th 3-2-1.....$27.5T
Fluvanna - Large 2-2 w/6 Acres ..$47T
3765 Highland 3-2-1cp.....$39.5T
Hermleigh 3-2 with CH/A.....$23T
2112 28th 2-1-Corner Lot $24.5T
3734 Dalton 2-1-1.....$18.9T
312 36th 2-1-1.....$17.5T
3001 39th 3 or 4-2 Breezeway..$37.5T
5310 Etgen 3-2-2 Liv. & Den/fpl ...$86T
2210 32nd Street 3-1 .....$39.5T
3001 Crockett 4-3-2cp.....Now..$79.5T
4608 Ave. R 3-1 and 2-1-one acre ...$49T
Commer. Site-Office 10 A's Hwy 84 & 180
Commercial Industrial Lot .... N.College
155 Acres, 116 in CRP ..... Close In
Acreage 14 to 650 Acres Available!
Rentals Available

2405 25th Street Snyder, Texas
snydertex.com/stevensonrealestate/index.htm

Elizabeth Potts Realtors
1707 30th Street 573-8505
Temi Matthies
Owner/Broker
Annette Waller
573-9467

Sarah Jamison
573-4028

Dee Kemp
573-1152

Rita Knox
573-7082

Have You thought about **Listing** your **Home**?? Now is the **Prime** time of the **Year** to do so! Call us **TODAY** for your **Market Analysis** and Let us do the paper work!!

2606 CR 317 3-2-2cp Cute! $54.9T
108 Peach 2-1-2 Living Areas..... Call!
3304 Irving 3-2-2 Call Today! $88T
1929 Santa Fe 4-3-3cp..... $89.5T
CR 221 2-2-2cp w/2 Acres .... Only $25T
3206 Ave. B 3-2-2 NICE $54T
2210 32nd 3-2-2cp..... CALL!
11148 S. 208 3-1 1/2..... CALL!
W. Hwy 180 3-2-2cp with 2 Acres . $39.5T
Best Buy Car Lot -Large Office .. $17.5T
3750 Avondale 3-1 3/+1..... Only $31.5T
406 32nd 3-1-1 Great Buy $27T
2257 Sunset 3-1 3/4-2 .... $14.9 As Is!
27 CR 243 3-2-2cp $59.9T
Count Home. .... w/Pecan Orchard
3111 38th Pl. 2-2 + Den Reduced $20.5T
Neat & Tidy 316 32nd 2-1-1 ..... $22.5T
Triple Wide Mobile H. 2100 Ave. N..$16T
1861 Tuscola 3-2-2 w/Acreage .. $115T
Fluvanna 2-1 3/+2cp $45T
Check This Out! Two-2 Story Homes 3-2-2 $59T
6637 CR 465 3-2-2 3 Acres . . $69.5T
3601 Hill Ave. 4-3-Brick $59.8T
2202 43rd 3-2 Detached Garage.... CALL
313 32nd 3-2-1 Brick CH/A $29.5T
211 34th 3-1 3/4-1 Detached .. Only $27T
230 11st 3-2 CH/A Make Offer $29.5T
2810 El Paso 4-3 5 - Loft, Sunroom . $98T
2608 48th 3-2-2 Loft ..... Rent or Sale
Land Available ..... Owner Finance

Check Our Website For Other Into. **www.epottsrealtors.com**

JOB VACANCY
WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE
SNYDER, TEXAS 79549

POSITION: KID'S COLLEGE INSTRUCTORS DEPARTMENT: Continuing Education DUTIES: Planning curriculum and activities for instruction in designated class. EMPLOYMENT: Temporary, June 12-22, 2000. QUALIFICATIONS: Past experience teaching preferred and ability to communicate well with children. SPECIAL SKILLS: Teacher certification a plus. DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS: April 24, 2000 SEND APPLICATION/RESUME TO: Ms. Ruby Smith, Director of Human Resources, Western Texas College, 6200 College Ave., Snyder, TX 79549-9502. DATE OF EMPLOYMENT: June 12, 2000 PHONE: 915/573-8511, EXT 310.

WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION AND IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED AND CONSIDERED WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, CREED, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, VETERANS STATUS OR DISABILITY.

JOB TITLE: Summer Engineer Tech
SALARY: $6.91 – 8.42 Per Hour
LOCATION: US 84, Snyder, Texas
JOB VACANCY NUMBER: 0 08 E001 630
CLOSING DATE: 04/24/00

Application and a copy of the Job Vacancy Notice may be picked up at the District Office at 4250 N. Clack, Abilene, Texas or any other TXDOT office. Completed applications may be mailed to TXDOT, P.O. Box 150, Abilene, Texas 79604 or returned to any TXDOT Office.

"An applicant needing an accommodation in order to apply for this job may call the phone number of the Human Resources Office (915) 676-6817. You may also call the telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (512) 416-2977."

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

Houses For Rent

4-2-2 on large lot, outside of city. Nice pecan trees. Rent or sell. Financing available. 1811 Huffman. 573-2251

For Rent: 2 bedroom, brick duplex w/appliances & CH/A. 573-1012.

For Rent: 2-1-1cp house. Large fenced backyard, storm cellar. $300/mo., $150/dep. 2905 Ave. V. **573-5292.**

For Rent: 4002 Eastridge, 3-1-2, fenced yard, $400 month, $200 deposit, references. Dupree Rentals, 573-9001.

For Rent: Clean, 3 bedroom, 1 bath brick house. Quite neighborhood, shade trees. **573-5710.**

HOUSES FOR RENT
3916 Eastridge.....3-2-2 . . . $450
Sarah Jamison. 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors 573-8505

One bedroom house for rent. Unfurnished, water paid, 3110 Ave. V, $170/mo., no deposit. 573-7337.

Rent to Own: 3 bedroom, 1 bath, CH/RA, 2106 40th. Call 573-9068.

Several 2 & 3 bedroom houses & Mobile Homes, CH/CA. Rent or owner finance. Hud approved. 573-2251.

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads in The Snyder Daily News. Call 573-5486 now!

Houses For Rent

Small, clean, 2-bedroom house, stove & refrigerator, large fenced yard, quiet neighborhood. Person must have business and personal references. $250/mo., $100/dep. Call 573-2587.

Mobile Homes For Rent

2-2 mobile home, w/appliances, washer/dryer on corner lot. 2403 27th, $200/dep., $300/mo. Call 915-728-2374 or 915-573-8571, Shirley Drum.

3 Bedroom Mobile Homes for rent. $250/month. 573-1711.

For Rent: 2 bedroom mobile home. Stove & refrigerator furnished, CH/A, water paid. **573-2893.**

Small Mobile Home. One person, all bills paid. $275/mo.
Also small mobile home. One person, all bills paid. $200/mo. 2709 Ave. O. 573-2101.

Mobile Homes

2-2 Doublewide in New Deal District. Great house, great price! Ready to move in to. 877-749-4063.

No item is too small to sell!

Mobile Homes

$24,991.36, 4-2, 1216 sq. ft., 2000 model. Clayton Homes, 2005 N. University. 877-749-4063.

A-1 Homes 3/2 fully furnished Fleetwood. Appliances/new furniture, glamour bath. $1000/dn, land available, Free Credit Screening. Trina 653-1152 or 800/626-9978. W.A.C. 360 mths. 10.5%, $346/mo.

***Abandoned Doublewide**
1-800-755-9133

ABANDONED HOME
Take over payment!
Call **915-668-2924**

Brand new 3 bedroom $19,500. 1-800-755-9133.

By Owner – Beautiful doublewide, on 2 acres, in country. Call Laura @ 915-665-3544.

Cute 2 + 2.
1-800-755-9133

Cute Little House. Very Affordable. Call 915-673-7353.

Cute Starter Home. Good Credit, Bad Credit, Rebuild Credit. MUST SEE!! 653-1152 or 800-626-9978. Ask for Trina.

Easter Special! Break an egg for free Camcorder, Microwave, 32" TV, Washer & Dryer, or Trip for two to Vegas with purchase of new home. Expires 4/30/2000. Clayton Homes, 2005 N. University, Lubbock, TX.

?Esta usted cansado de rentar? ?O necesta una casa con mas Espacio? A-1 Homes tiene la solucion. Llamele a 915/653-1152, Efraim Puente.

FREE CREDIT APPROVAL
HOTLINE 1-800-755-9133

GOOD CREDIT, BAD CREDIT, Bankruptcy, Divorces, Slow Pays. Call the **Credit Doctor** to own your new home. **80% Approvals. 1-800-755-9133.**

Handy man special $1500. Ask for Jackie 653-1152

Have Land? Need a home? Clayton Homes. Call **877-749-4063.**

INSTANT HOUSING
Move in within 24 hrs.
Call Brendan **915-721-9005**

Lake Home Special!
Must sell! 877-749-4063

Only $350 mth, 4/2 Doublewide w/glamour bath, fully furnished, 2 year warranty. A-1 Homes #1 in San Angelo, 653-1152. Ask for Efraim. 8.75%, 360 mths, $2,500 down W.A.C.

REPO Doublewide set-up on 1 acre of land. 653-1152, ask for Marvin.

SYNERGY HOMES
Your land/home specialist.
Call us in Abilene, 915-673-8488
Good Folks, Good Deals
Great Homes!!!!

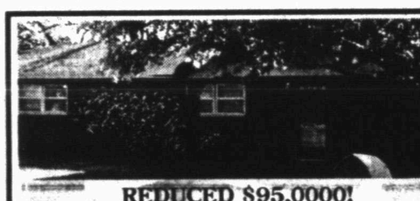
Real Estate

For Sale: Property located close to down town on large corner lot. If interested call **573-3134.**

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

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

Want small house to buy, low priced, for fixer upper. Call Don @ 863-2700.



REDUCED $95,0000! 1861 TUSCOLA

COUNTRY LIVING at edge of town with small acreage. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, 2 car garage with inside entry storm cellar. Has a jungle gym for the kids, covered RV parking, corral and a water well.

Let me show you this GREAT home TODAY!
Call **DEE KEMP**

573-1152/H
573-8505/W
Elizabeth Potts Realtors

HERITAGE HOMES REALTORS

Dolores Jones
Broker/Owner
573-5308

Faye Huddleston
Broker/Owner
573-1223

3405 Snyder Shopping Center, Suite B
915-573-5056

Joan Tate
573-8773

Debbie Miller
573-2075

3781 Highland Nice	3-1-1cp	$30's	
Doublewide	3-2-Shop	$40's	
Brick	2 Bdrm w/Loft Room..	Low $30's	
2810 El Paso	5-3½ baths	$98T	
East	3-2½-2 1 Acre	$60's	
S E on 3 Acres!	3-2-cp Storm Cellar.	$69T	
3-2-2	Isolated Master 2907 Ave. W	$65T	
3-2-2 FP,	isolated master 2601 28th	$74.5	
3-2-2	Dining/study/pool 2704 28th	$150T	
5310 Etgen	3-2-2 + Den, Living Area	$86T	
2-1-1	Sunken Den 2950 Gary Brewer	$88T	
3-2½-2	2803 Denison Reduced	$82T	
4-2-FP	w/ Storm Cellar on 10+A's	$130T	
Country D.W.	3-2-1cp Ready For Animals		
3-2-2CP	w/1 A, Sunken Living Area.	$70T	
3-1¾	on 3 Acres w/roping arena.	$78T	
3-1-2	Brick on 1 acre	$36T	
Dunn 80 Acre Farm,	Barn, Water Well		
Dunn 146 A's	93 Acres in CRP, Barn /Well		
4301 Lubbock	A Real Doll House	$65T	
2408 Towle Park Rd.	Excellent Local 4 3½/3	$100's	
2609 37th	Super Area 3-3-2/hobby room.	$100's	
Appealing	3-2-cp Pens 2 Acres	$50's	
1987 Lancer	3-2 on 1 Acre	$40's	
Brick	3-2-1 2 Lots	$40T	
3006 42nd	3-1-1cp	$25T	
1929 Santa Fe	4 bedroom, Office, 3cp	$89.5T	
RENTAL:	2-2-1 Good Location	Call	

CARDS OF THANKS

Perhaps you sent a lovely card,
Or sat quietly in a chair.
Perhaps you sent a funeral spray,
If so we saw it there.
Perhaps you spoke the kindest words,
As any friend could say.
Perhaps you were not there at all,
Just thought of us that day.
Whatever you did say to console our hearts,
We Thank You so much whatever the part.

The Family of Vera Jackson

The family of Helen Cross would like to express their sincere gratitude and heartfelt thanks to all the wonderful friends who expressed their love through beautiful flowers, abundant food, cards, words of sympathy and many other acts of kindness. The words that Helen lived by were truly reflected back recently–"Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself", Mark 12:31

THANK YOU
Nancy Sue Inman, Fred Cross, Alex Cross and families

Cemetery Plots

Hillside Memorial Gardens 2 lots in the Garden of Everlasting Life, Lot 312, Block C, lots 1–2. Rod Anderson/1-806-622-2609.

Real Estate

2-1-1 House, CA, fenced yard, new roof, newly painted trim. 573-0807, leave message.

3-1¾-1cp, Brick, new CH/A, permanent siding awnings, fenced, storage shed. Beautiful front lawn. Ready for Occupancy–relocated–must sell!! Only $32,500. Hm: **573-7034/338-8256** Mobile.

Clean 2-1-cp, CH/A, total electric, fenced yard. Many extras. See to appreciate. 3714 Noble. **573-2558.**

New law erases earnings limit for retired people

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hundreds of thousands of Americans 65 through 69 will no longer lose Social Security benefits because they keep working.

"This should be a happy day for Americans of all ages today because a very good thing has been done for the future," President Clinton said as he signed a bill eliminating the Social Security earnings test.

Clinton said the earnings cap "made some sense in the Great Depression when the nation was desperate to find jobs for young workers with families and the unemployment rate in our nation was 25 percent."

"Conditions today could hardly be more different," Clinton said. "The economy is booming, the unemployment rate (is) at its lowest point in 30 years, companies desperately need more workers. Older Americans have the skills and the experience that business needed."

The bill was approved without dissent by an election-year Congress. "For too many years, America's working seniors have been getting penalized," House Speaker Dennis Hastert said. "Starting today they will get the paycheck they deserve."

In signing the bill, Clinton also unveiled an Internet service offered by the Social Security Administration for younger Americans who want to get an online estimate of future retirement benefits.

"Our new Internet service ... will accomplish step one of retirement planning, helping workers to understand the amount of Social Security benefits they can expect in retirement," said Social Security Administrator Kenneth S. Apfel.

Congress passed legislation repealing Social Security's earnings limit last month, without a dissenting vote. It was hailed by Republicans and Democrats alike as long overdue.

The penalty is left over from an era of high unemployment when policy-makers wanted to encourage older Americans to retire and make room for younger workers. It has reduced Social Security payments by $1 for every $3 a beneficiary between the ages of 65 and 69 earned in wages over a certain amount — $17,000 in 2000.

Now, employers facing a tight labor market are clamoring for more workers and there are many jobs in retail and services that are a perfect fit for people over age 65.

The repeal is retroactive to Jan. 1 and directly affects 800,000 Social Security recipients who are working this year and another 100,000 who haven't sought benefits because they have jobs. With the earnings test eliminated, each of these people could receive an additional $6,700 in Social Security this year.

Because the repeal is retroactive, about 415,000 working seniors or dependents will get refunds for the money already deducted this year from their Social Security checks — a total of $1.4 billion or an average of $3,500 per person.

Date Book

Saturday, April 8, 2000
Today is the 99th day of 2000 and the 20th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1864, with the passage of the 13th Amendment, slavery became illegal in the United States.

On this day in 1986, actor-director Clint Eastwood was elected mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea, Calif.

On this day in 1988, the Rev. Jimmy Swaggart was defrocked by the Assemblies of God after defying an order to stop preaching for one year.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Buddha (563 B.C.-483 B.C.), teacher; Yip Harburg (1898-1981), song lyricist; Sonja Henie (1912-1969), figure skater; Shecky Greene (1926-), comedian, is 74; Jacques Brel (1929-1978), composer-singer; John Havlicek (1940-), basketball great, is 60; Catfish Hunter (1946-1999), baseball great; Gary Carter (1954-), baseball player, is 46.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1974, Hank Aaron broke Babe Ruth's home-run record by hitting his 715th home run.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Liberty is not a means to a higher political end. It is itself the highest political end." — Lord Acton

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (April 4) and first quarter (April 11).

***

Sunday, April 9, 2000
Today is the 100th day of 2000 and the 21st day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1865, Confederate general Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. U.S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Va.

On this day in 1939, barred from performing at Constitution Hall, singer Marian Anderson gave a concert at the Lincoln Memorial that was attended by 75,000.

On this day in 1959, NASA announced the selection of America's first seven astronauts.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Charles Baudelaire (1821-1867), poet; Paul Robeson (1898-1976), singer-actor; Hugh Hefner (1926-), publisher, is 74; Carl Perkins (1932-), singer, is 68; Jean-Paul Belmondo (1933-), actor, is 67; Michael Learned (1939-), actress, is 61; Dennis Quaid (1954-), actor, is 46.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1974, the Houston Astros defeated the San Diego Padres 9-5. It was the first Padres game attended by the team mascot, the San Diego Chicken.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Magnanimity in politics is not seldom the truest wisdom; and a great empire and little minds go ill together." — Edmund Burke

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (April 4) and first quarter (April 11).

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Oks moratorium

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. (AP) — Religious broadcaster Pat Robertson has endorsed a moratorium on the death penalty, saying it isn't always applied fairly.

Minorities and poor people who can't afford high-priced attorneys are discriminated against under the current system, said Robertson, who was the keynote speaker Friday during a symposium at the College of William and Mary's law school.

While Robertson didn't call for a moratorium in his speech, he expressed support for such a move when asked by a member of the audience.

"I think a moratorium would indeed be very appropriate," said Robertson.

Weavers explain their position

Continued From Page 1

because they are a hospital district."

Dr. Kathleen also assists Snyder family physicians and area physicians to help triage patients.

Dr. Kathleen agreed with some assessments that at times, she might be just a "little overbearing."

"I am demanding. I expect my patients to be treated by the orders I give. Any nurse, any administrator can call me at any time about my patients in the hospital. Yes. If you want to see the dark side of me, change the treatment on one of my patients without my permission," she said.

"Those who have done so, have seen my darkest side," she said with a grin.

"I've learned that if I wait patiently for administration to solve a problem, my patient's care suffers. I only want the same level of treatment for my patients that I would give my own mother, father, or child," said Dr. Kathleen.

While Dr. Kathleen is exploring options outside of Snyder, her husband, Dr. Mark Weaver, says he absolutely has no plans to relocate.

"Basically, I am pleased with the hospital. They do a difficult job well," said the general surgeon.

"It's always difficult to balance needs against excellent medical care," he said.

Dr. Mark, who resigned from the hospital board effective March 1, never hesitated to jab at the commissioners present at the meetings about hospital funding.

"I basically feel the court does the best they can, but they don't have the expertise to handle hospital business. That is what the board is for."

"The public needs to know that a certain level of service has to be provided by a hospital in order for a physician to do their job," he said.

"The level of service provided by the hospital to the physician varies with each physician's specialty," Mark Weaver added.

"At some point, the people will have to let the county commissioners know what level of service they want, and be prepared to pay for it. Let's just hope the price of oil stays up, and that cotton prices go up too."

The doctors squelched the rumor that the two who moved to Snyder from Honolulu in 1993 are splitting up.

"Our plan is this. If I do not believe Cogdell Memorial Hospital will allow me to operate with the quality of personnel and equipment I feel is necessary, we've agreed I will go elsewhere and practice," said Dr. Kathleen.

"If and when Mark feels comfortable that he can leave his practice here, he will join me," said Dr. Kathleen.

"We're both professionals. And we have sunk everything back into this community."

Cogdell board chairman Jim Bob Cave said he was aware of Dr. Kathleen's dislike of the recent cuts.

"It would really hurt our hospital if she did leave, and if Dr. Mark leaves also, that would be even worse," said Cave.

"There is absolutely no question that her patients really love her, and there is absolutely no dissatisfaction with them in any way," emphasized Cave.

Cave did say, however, that he felt the hospital had "bent over backwards" in meeting the demands of Dr. Kathleen.

That assessment is not endorsed by the orthopedic surgeon, however.

"Rumor also has it that I have been handed everything I have needed since I have been here. That is incorrect. I have had to fight for every piece of equipment and every protocol that concerns my patients. Thus, my requests become my demands," said Dr. Kathleen.

"And that fight began with the administration that was here when we moved to Snyder, and it still continues," said Dr. Kathleen.

Local Interest
STOCKS

Patterson	27 3/16	-1 13/16
Dell	55 3/16	+3 5/8
Wal Mart	61 1/2	+3/8
Compac	29 7/8	+5/8
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GTE	75 1/16	-1 3/8
SBC Comm.	46 3/8	-29/128
BJ Services	63 9/16	+15/16
LU	59 3/4	-2 1/4
Cisco Sys.	74 15/16	+3 1/8

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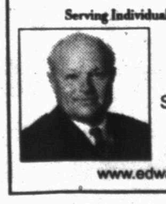

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APR 09 2000

Florida jury again rules against big tobacco

MIAMI (AP) — Her body ravaged by cancer, Mary Farnan still managed to give her 10-year-old daughter a powerfully long and strong hug.

"You can imagine how I feel," a tearful Farnan confided after a jury on Friday ordered the tobacco industry to pay her and another smoker $6.9 million in a landmark case against Big Tobacco.

The verdict sets the stage for a possible multibillion-dollar punitive-damages verdict that cigarette makers fear could bankrupt them.

A third smoker was awarded $5.8 million in the case but the jury decided he couldn't collect because the four-year statute of limitations had run out. The judge said he would decide later how to handle that award.

"I'm smiling, I'm smiling, I'm smiling," plaintiff Frank Amodeo said, even though the jury blocked his award.

The three smokers represent an estimated 500,000 sick Floridians in the first class-action lawsuit against Big Tobacco to reach trial.

Friday's verdict represents just compensatory damages, which cover medical expenses, pain and suffering. Once a jury decides compensatory damages are warranted, it can consider ordering punitive damages, which are meant to punish.

The same jury, which began hearing the case 18 months ago, ruled last July that five cigarette companies and two industry groups conspired to produce a dangerous, addictive product that causes 29 illnesses, including cancer and heart disease.

Despite having lost the first two rounds in court, a lawyer for the industry remains confident that the final punitive-damage phase will not bring a ruinous $300 billion verdict covering all 500,000 smokers feared by some within the industry.

"We're looking forward to trying the next phase of this case," said Dan Webb, the lead tobacco attorney. "We have never believed this jury would award a large amount of damages to thousands of unidentified smokers.

"We're confident that after we present our evidence that we will prevail."

Circuit Judge Robert Kaye told the jurors he would call them back in a couple of weeks to start the punitive-damage phase.

The jury deliberated for more than two days after hearing the life stories and medical histories of Inglis nurse Farnan, 44; Orlando, Fla., clockmaker Amodeo, 60; and New Port Richey housewife Angie Della Vecchia, who died last year at 53.

Both women started smoking at 11. Della Vecchia smoked for 40 years and Farnan for 29. Amodeo started smoking at 14 and kept it up for 34 years.

The industry argued Amodeo's cancer was caused by exposure to wood dust at his job and said the women suffered a form of lung cancer not attributed to smoking.

But the jury gave the three smokers close to the $13.2 million they asked for. Farnan got $2.85 million and the estate of Della Vecchia was awarded $4.02 million. The jury awarded $5.83 million to Amodeo — a record for compensatory damages.

Nationwide, juries have awarded damages to individual smokers only six times. Three verdicts were overturned, two are on appeal, and one was returned last month with a then-record $1.72 million in compensatory damages. The industry has yet to pay anything.

However, the industry has started paying out $246 billion in a settlement with states which sued the industry seeking to recoup costs spent on treating sick smokers. That settlement did not bar lawsuits by individual smokers.

Defendants in the Florida class-action are Philip Morris Inc., R.J. Reynolds Tobacco Co., Brown & Williamson, Lorillard Tobacco Co., Liggett Group Inc. and the industry's Council for Tobacco Research and Tobacco Institute.

There will be mini-trials to determine compensatory damages for each smoker who signs on as part of the class action.

Smokers' attorney Stanley Rosenblatt argued all three plaintiffs became addicted in the 1950s, long before they became aware of the health dangers of smoking, even though the industry was discovering links to disease and addiction at the same time.

The industry not only disputed smoking as a cause of their cancer, but questioned their claims of addiction and said they should not be rewarded for continuing to smoke years after health dangers became widely known.

To pursue an appeal, the industry must post a bond on 125 percent of the award by paying as little as 5 percent in cash, stock or property.

Other elements could limit the damage to the industry. Under Florida law, a punitive verdict cannot put a company out of business. And several tobacco-growing states — including North Carolina, the nation's No. 1 producer — have rushed to protect the industry from any crippling punitive award by setting caps of $25 million to $100 million on the amount a company has to post as bond to pursue an appeal.

Three of the five cigarette companies reported a total of $6.37 billion in profits last year.

Children's lamps are recalled

WASHINGTON (AP) — About 280,000 children's lamps are being recalled because they pose a fire hazard.

Kmart Corp., of Troy, Mich., has received eight reports of the lamps short-circuiting and catching fire, causing a total of $18,000 worth of damage. No injuries or deaths have been reported.

The "Little Ones" wooden accent lamps being recalled come in six different styles: an airplane lamp, alphabet letters lamp, numbers lamp, baseball with bat lamp, train lamp and sailboat lamp.

The lamps are approximately 15 inches high with wood bases. A price label on the bottom reads "Made in China for Kmart Corporation." "Little Ones fun lamp for kids" is written on a paper insert packaged on the lampshade.

Consumers should immediately unplug the lamps and stop using them. They should return the lamps to their local Kmart for a full refund. For further information, consumers can contact Kmart at (800) 63KMART anytime.

On the Net:
Consumer Product Safety Commission:
http://www.cpsc.gov

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Sunday, April 9, 2000
Improved stability in your financial affairs could be in the offing for you in the year ahead. Salt away any surpluses as they accumulate to insure future security.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Even though you won't intend to be offensive, if you don't guard your comments carefully today, a thoughtless remark could slip out. Watch what you say. Aries, 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.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Although you're normally diligent about details, today this may not be true. Don't volunteer to serve as the treasurer for an event where a financial mistake could cost the group.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Boasting about something you simply hope to achieve that's still in the elementary stages won't make for good listening today. Wait until the endeavor is a fait accompli.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Keep to yourself today any information that was told to you in confidence, no matter how tempted you are to reveal it. It would discredit you in the eyes of all the listeners.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) A healthy curiosity is a good thing to have, but if you carry this to the extent of poking your nose in places where it doesn't belong, your intrusion could hurt a number of people.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You're going to need that ability of yours today to pay attention to all the little details in life. It could be something trivial that tarnishes your image if you're not careful.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Before announcing your intentions to just anybody today, stop and think about whether the person to whom you're talking should even know about **them. It may not be wise.**

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Without realizing it today, you could try to tether someone you love a little too tightly and cause this person to draw away from you instead. Don't strangle your prized relationships.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Disagreements between you and your mate today could serve as a thorn under both parties' saddles for the rest of the day. Don't quarrel over trivial issues.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Poor planning could leave you with a major mess today, so don't start any major do-it-yourself project until you have all the needed tools and materials at your disposal.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Be especially careful today before volunteering to do something for another. It may involve some hidden expenses you'll have to incur in order to carry out the task.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Keep instructions to people in your charge as simple as possible, because complex directives today will only be ignored by those who find them too difficult to understand.

Monday, April 10, 2000
In the year ahead, you can look for upswings in your financial affairs. It will be your optimistic and positive convictions that will help speed things along.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) The possibilities for profiting from your endeavors are exceptionally strong today, so it's to your advantage to operate in moneymaking areas. Major changes are ahead for Aries 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.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) It'll be your leadership qualities and initiative, not to mention a little good luck thrown in, that make you so successful today with activities in which you are motivated by personal desire.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Stirrings behind the scenes today may be the result of some fortunate influences of which you're unaware. When they're finally revealed, they will prove to be lucky for you materially.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It won't take much for you to get others interested and supportive in whatever holds your fancy today, because your wonderful enthusiasm will be very contagious to all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) This could be one of those days when Lady Luck is in your corner, so you might not do everything right, but chances are everything you do will turn out right for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Because you'll know how to isolate key people and make them your allies today, you'll be able to marshal a number of delegates to go to bat for you who will convince others to do likewise.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) A joint endeavor might turn out to be more important to you today than you first thought. This is because of the constructive measures you and your allies apply to the project.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Several important decisions that have far reaching effects might have to be made today. Fortunately, today's influences gives you better than usual judgment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Seeing things through to their conclusions today will both please you and benefit those for whom you're doing a service. It isn't likely you'll leave anything you start unfinished.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) The sphere of influence you'll have over your peers may be very pronounced today. This is because what you do or say will have a constructive impact on their lives.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Don't allow small distractions to disturb you today, because things have a way of working out for your ultimate good. That includes events initiated by others.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) If possible, make an effort to incorporate both physical and mental exertion in your activities today, be they social or work related. It's what you need to revitalize your outlook.

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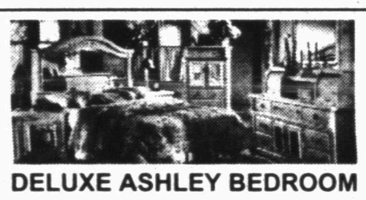
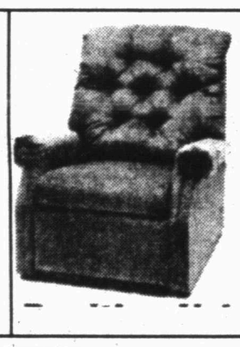
APRIL SAVINGS DAYS

WAREHOUSE FURNITURE



DELUXE ASHLEY BEDROOM
Large dresser, mirror, chest, night stand and beautiful spread headboard Reg. $1499.95
SALE $999

ALL WOOD 6 PC DINING ROOM SET
Includes table, bench and 4 chairs, choice of cherry, natural or honey pine finish. Reg. $499.95
SALE $328



ROCKER RECLINERS
In nice velvet colors. Reg. $299.95
SALE $199

DECORATOR DAYBED
In choice of colors includes back, side rails and bedding
Reg. $199.95
SALE $98

SOLID WOOD BUNKBEDS
Stackable bunk beds in honey pine finish. Includes new foam bunkies
Reg. $299.95
SALE $218

3 PC GLASS TOP COFFEE & END TABLE SET
Choice of black, green or almond color. Reg. $99.95
SALE $57

FUTON SOFA
Complete with pad. Choice of colors, opens to sleep 2 people
Reg. $249.95
SALE $169

TWIN SIZE SLEEPER LOVESEAT
By AHC, opens with twin size mattress, nice cover.
Reg. $499
SALE $299

5 PC. OAK DINING ROOM SET
Large table with leaf and 4 chairs
Reg. $688.95
SALE $488

5 DRAWER CHEST
Lots of storage space, nice woodgrain finish
Reg. $99.95
SALE $48

BEAUTIFUL CORNER SECTIONAL
With 3 recliners and full size sleeper in rich black man-made leather
Reg. $1799.95
SALE $1299

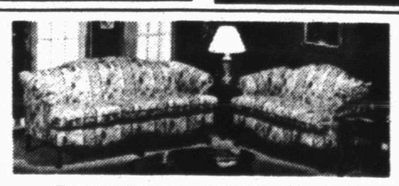
BEAN BAGS
Reg. $29. Starting at
SALE $19

2 PC CORNER SECTIONAL
In rich black velvet cover. 1 only.
Reg. $499.95
SALE $299

5 PC Dinette
Glass top table with 4 sturdy chairs. Priced in the box.
Reg. $169.95
SALE $98

GLIDER ROCKERS WITH OTTOMAN
Several colors to choose from. Priced in the box.
Reg. $168.95
SALE $128

5 PC CONVERSATIONAL PIT GROUP
Includes 2 sofas, loveseat and 2 ottomans, nice cover
Reg. $699.95
SALE $548



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	Reg.	SALE
Twin Size Set	$299	$138
Full Size Set	$349	$178
Queen Size Set	$449	$228
King Size Set	$599	$278

15 YEAR WARRANTY PILLOW TOP SET CYBER REST

	Reg.	SALE
Full Size Set	$499.95	$258
Queen Size Set	$599.95	$298
King Size Set	$799.95	$398

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Marine Captain's court martial...

Closing arguments delivered

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. (AP) — A Marine captain charged in the heatstroke death of a reservist continued to push his troops in a hike despite repeated warnings that his troops were straggling, prosecutors said during closing arguments of his court-martial Saturday morning.

Capt. Victor Arana violated standard operating procedures for such conditioning hikes and showed a careless disregard for his men, Maj. Chris Hamilton told the judge.

"He was like a horse with blinders on...," Hamilton said. "He was head down, focused forward. There was absolutely no supervision of that conditioning hike."

Arana, 28, of Chicago, is charged with dereliction of duty and failure to obey an order in the death of Lance Cpl. Giuseppe "Joey" Leto. Leto, 21, of New Milford, Conn., died of heatstroke following the July 7 night march in 80-degree heat.

Arana faces a maximum sentence of nine months in prison and dismissal from the Marines if convicted.

He testified Thursday that he didn't realize there were so many stragglers until the hike was more than half completed. He said he considered calling in trucks to take the Marines the rest of the way, but instead decided to slow down.

Hamilton said today that Arana failed to initiate and maintain radio contact with the officer supervising the hike. One reason, Hamilton said, was that Arana was outpacing his own radio operator.

But even with the lack of radio contact, Arana could have easily checked the condition of his troops, Hamilton said, "All he needed to do was turn around."

There were three heat casualties during the second leg of the hike, not including Leto; all three Marines had body temperatures higher than 103 degrees, Hamilton. He said Leto was seen vomiting at the first rest stop.

Bosnian voters to elect local officials

SARAJEVO, Bosnia-Herzegovina (AP) — Bosnian voters choose 3,300 local officials Saturday in an election whose outcome may determine whether the United States and Europe remain willing to continue efforts to rebuild the ethnically divided nation.

International officials who administer the country under the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords have indicated that support for Bosnia may evaporate if Muslim, Serb and Croat-based parties that led the country into war in 1992 retain their hold on power.

More than 2.5 million of Bosnia's 4.3 million people are registered to vote in the second elections for mayors and local councils to be held since the Dayton agreement ended 31/2 years of ethnic war.

Since then, however, Bosnians have generally supported Muslim, Serb and Croat parties opposed to a multiethnic society.

This time, international backers who have provided peacekeepers and $5.1 billion for Bosnian peace since Dayton hope that voters will choose candidates willing to implement the treaty's provisions, including the right of all refugees to return to their prewar homes regardless of their ethnicity.

"If we can show some achievement this year, we have the decent chance to convince the American people and leaders to continue the assistance," U.S. Ambassador Thomas Miller said.

Some seemed anxious to prevent change. In one incident Saturday, a man jumped out of a car at a polling station in northeastern Bosnia, swinging a stick at two U.N. police officers, said Douglas Coffman, the spokesman for the U.N. International police. Police evaded the attack and local officers arrested the man.

The attack occurred in Bijeljina, the headquarters of the Serb Radical Party. International officials removed the party from elections, saying the group was obstructing the Dayton peace agreement by using inflammatory language in public speeches.

In turn, the Radicals called for a boycott and their newspaper "Greater Serbia" urged supporters "to smash the boxes, destroy the ballots."

An explosive device was thrown at a cafe in the Croat-controlled town of Glamoc. The cafe is located in a building that a Muslim party uses for meetings. There were no injuries or arrests, Coffman said.

Meanwhile, Bosnians voted at 3,500 polling stations. Among them was former Bosnian Serb president, Biljana Plavsic, who said voters would pay the consequences if they elected radical candidates.

Bush reaches out to Hispanics

LOS ANGELES (AP) — George W. Bush is distancing himself from former Gov. Pete Wilson, who is among California's best-known Republicans but who remains a symbol of polarizing ethnic politics to Hispanics.

The de facto GOP presidential nominee is aggressively courting Hispanic votes, and used his latest pitch to repudiate Wilson's immigration policies. The message drew a sharp response from a Wilson spokesman, who said it resembled Democratic attempts to "demonize" the two-term California governor.

Whereas Wilson warned darkly in a TV ad that illegal immigrants "keep coming," Bush said he could relate to Mexicans who cross the border in search of a better life.

"If you're a mother or dad, and you're worried about feeding your children, and you can't find work close to home, and you hear of opportunities somewhere else, and you're worth your salt, you're coming."

The Texas governor added that he believed in tough enforcement of the nation's borders, and said the long-term solution to the illegal immigration issue was to help Mexico's economy through free trade.

Wilson led the campaign six years ago for Proposition 187, which sought to remove illegal immigrant children from public schools.

Bush drew sustained applause when he cast himself as a leader who "will not use our children, the children of immigrants, as a political issue in America." He said last year he opposed the "spirit" of Proposition 187, but wouldn't say Friday whether or not he would fight against a similar measure this year, should it make the ballot.

"It's so important to have leadership that tears down barriers, leadership that offers a future hopeful for everybody, leaders that reject the politics of pitting one group of people against each other," the Texas governor said.

Asked whether he would actively campaign with Wilson, Bush said tersely, "I accept support from anybody," and cut off any follow-up by calling on another questioner.

When a reporter asked whether he would consider Wilson, who won statewide election four times in California, as a running mate, Bush dismissed the question as a joke: "Good one," he said.

Wilson battled against affirmative action, bilingual education and illegal immigration during his years as California governor, from 1991 to 1999.

Gore ignores fuss over Elian

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — Four cities, four speeches, not one word about the maelstrom swirling around him.

Vice President Al Gore was back in Washington Saturday after a two-day campaign outing in south Florida, where he studiously ignored the tumult over 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez, content, a spokesman said, to "let the process play out" as he tended to fund raising and party platform writing.

While the Justice Department tried to negotiate the boy's transfer — from Cuban-American relatives adamant about keeping him in Miami to his Cuban father who wants to take him back to Havana — Gore butted out.

"He thinks it's important to let those talks happen and let the process play out, so he's not going to make any statement," campaign spokesman Doug Hattaway said Friday.

Last week, Gore stunned the White House and other Democrats by endorsing legislation that would give Elian and his father U.S. residency so that the boy's custody could be decided in family court instead of by the Immigration and Naturalization Service. The INS already ruled Elian must go home to his father.

Gore still holds that view, Hattaway said, and as for any political fallout: "He understands that people disagree with his position, but he thinks

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Obituaries

Evelyn Todd

1935-2000

SWEETWATER — Evelyn Todd of San Angelo died Friday, April 7, in the San Angelo Community Hospital.

Funeral service for Mrs. Todd, 64, is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Galilee Baptist Church and burial will follow in the Sweetwater Cemetery.

Born on Sept. 12, 1935 in Gregg County, Mrs. Todd was a retired schoolteacher and a member of the Galilee Baptist Church.

Survivors include her husband, Aubrey Todd of San Angelo; three sons, Aubrey Todd Jr. of Dallas, Everett Todd of Brenham and Gerald Todd of Carlsbad, N.M.; her father, Roosevelt Williams of Kilgore; five brothers, Roosevelt Williams Jr., Sidney Williams, Carl Williams, Winston Williams and Billy Ray Williams, all of Kilgore; five sisters, Jo Ella Jones of Longview, Cleo Mumphrey and Marie Reddic of Kilgore, Margaret Buard of Overton and Iris Gail Williams of Dallas; seven grandchildren; and several cousins and friends in Snyder.

James A. Jackson

1933-2000

HOBBS, N.M. — Funeral service for James A. Jackson, 67, will be at 2 p.m. MST Monday at Griffin Funeral Home Chapel. His brother, William Jackson Jr., will officiate. Burial will follow at Prairie Haven Cemetery.

Mr. Jackson is the son of Rev. W.M. and Zellie Jackson, Sr., of Tatum, N.M. and Snyder where he serves as pastor of Helms Heights Baptist Church.

He died Wednesday, April 5, at Good Samaritan Village.

Mr. Jackson had worked as a farmer. He served as pastor of Little Zion Baptist Church and Jerusalem Baptist Church.

Mr. Jackson was born on Jan. 24, 1933 in Brenham, Tx.

He was preceeded in death by his wife, Juanita Jackson, who died in 1990.

He is survived by five brothers, William Jackson Jr. of Anson, Clarence Jackson of Haywood, Calif., Russell Jackson of Houston; Roy Lee Jackson of St. Joe, Calif.; Leon Jackson of Homewood, Ill.; and one sister, Onie Jackson of Dallas.

Six people booked into jail on Friday

Six subjects were taken into custody Friday.

Deputies booked a 25-year-old male into custody at 11:58 a.m. on a warrant for failure to identify/bond surrender.

At 2:14 p.m., Department of Public Safety troopers arrested a 19-year-old male on U.S. Hwy. 84 for misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

A 16-year-old male was taken into custody at 4:07 p.m. at Snyder High School for theft by check. An offense report was submitted and the juvenile was later released to his parents.

A Taylor County warrant for Class B theft by check resulted in the arrest of a 39-year-old male. Deputies picked him up at 8:37 p.m. in the 2200 block of 26th Street.

Officers arrested a 19-year-old male at 9:51 p.m. in the 2200 block of 26th Street for public intoxication and disorderly conduct/language.

DPS troopers took an 18-year-old male into custody at 9:59 p.m. on U.S. Hwy. 84 near Dermott for Class C possession of drug paraphernalia.

In other activity Friday, Tod Stinson of Tod's Used Cars requested an officer at his business at 9:38 a.m. to report criminal mischief to one of his vehicles. An offense report was taken.

Dispatchers received a report of gunshots being fired in the area of the 200 block of 25th Street at 3:44 a.m. Saturday. Officers responded and advised they located a subject who stated he was shooting a skunk that had got in his chicken pen.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Benefit dance, BBQ

A benefit dance and barbecue for John Cagle will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Snyder VFW. There will be a raffle and music by Texas Mesquite.

Sausage festival

St. Elizabeth Sausage Festival is set from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Parish Center. Tickets are available at the door for $6 for adults and take-outs, and $3 for children under 12. The sausage dinner with all the trimmings is all-you-can eat. The festival will also have game booths, raffles and a country store. Sausage sold by the pound is $2.75 uncooked and $3.75 cooked.

Golden K fish fry

The Golden K Kiwanis will host a fish fry from 11 a.m. until 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the Senior Citizens Center. Plates, including carryouts, are $6.50 each. Children under six may eat free.

Retired teachers

Scurry County Retired Teachers will meet at noon Monday at the Shack. Mrs. Jo Ashley will present the program.

UW board meeting

Scurry County United Way board of directors will meet at noon Monday at the chamber of commerce office.

SHS athletic banquet

A meeting to plan the high school's athletic banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Monday in the student center. Parents of all high school athletes are urged to attend.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air each Monday on Channel 2. Tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. are "The Church as a Part of History," followed by "Historical Christian Evidences, Lesson 8."

CHIP program signup

A representative of CHIP, a program to provide children's health coverage for parents who can't afford private insurance, will be in Snyder from 1-4 p.m. Tuesday. Applications and assistance will be available at 1212 37th St. at Winston Park. For more information call 1-800-592-7433, ext. 21.

Parent education class

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

Snyder Healthcare bake sale

The family council at Snyder Healthcare will hold its annual bake sale from 9 a.m. until noon on Wednesday in the back southwest hallway.

Class of 2000 video pictures

Parents are reminded to turn in pictures for the senior steak dinner video by Friday. For additional information, call Laura Thomas at 573-1854, or leave a message.

WTC lifeguard class

Western Texas College is offering a course for individuals interested in training as an American Red Cross lifeguard. The course is $140 and is scheduled for April 14-16, and April 28-30. For information on registration and eligibility requirements, contact the continuing education department at 573-8511, ext. 390.

Area-wide crusade

Colonial Hill Baptist Church will host an area-wide crusade on April 16-19, featuring Ken Freeman. Doug Pierce will be the worship leader. Next Sunday's services are set for 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. and evening services will begin at 7 p.m. A noon Men's Bible Study with Freeman is set next Monday. Lunch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall. All men 18 and over are invited. A senior adult luncheon with Freeman is planned next Wednesday. Pot-luck is planned in the Fellowship Hall. All senior adults are invited.

Sonshine School

Pre-registration for the Sonshine School at 37th St. Church of Christ is now in progress for the 2000-01 school year. Call 573-0549 or 573-1700 for more information.

Summer, fall pre-registration

Pre-registration for Children's Day out at the First United Methodist Church is underway through May 15 for the summer and fall. The program provides childcare on Tuesday and Thursdays during June and July. The fall session begins in August. Call Barbara at 573-4770 for more information.

King's Kids pre-registration

Pre-registration for King's Kids and Mother's Day Out for the 2000-01 school year is underway. King's Kids is offered Mondays and Wednesday for ages 1-5, and Mother's Day Out is Friday for ages three months to five years. Call the First Baptist Church for more information at 573-7401.

Joy School pre-registration

Pre-registration for Joy School at East Side Church of Christ is underway. The school is for 18 months to pre-K, and is for up to five days a week with the parents choosing the days.

Snyder Neighbors Sharing

SNS is in need of workers and monetary donations for the April 29 work day. For more information, contact Thomas Fogleman at 573-3538, or Sam Robertson at 573-4053.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

4-3-1

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:

4-11-12-32-33

Texas Million

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Million numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:

14-48-53-88

APRIL 09, 2000

Rail regulators nix reviewing decision to freeze mergers

WASHINGTON (AP) — Federal rail regulators on Friday rejected requests to lift their recent moratorium on new railroad mergers, saying the freeze is necessary to give them time to craft new rules to deal with a rapidly consolidating industry.

The Surface Transportation Board rebuffed bids by Texas-based Burlington Northern Santa Fe and Canadian National Railway to lift the 15-month moratorium, which the regulators enacted just three weeks ago. The two railroads argued that the regulators lack authority to refuse to accept new merger filings and should stay their decision pending court review.

Fort Worth-based BNSF and CN are seeking to merge in a $6 billion deal. The STB's freeze was put in place just as the two railroads were poised to file for merger approval.

The STB's refusal to stay its decision had been widely anticipated, but the complaining parties were required to exhaust their administrative options. Now, they will press their case in federal court in the District of Columbia.

"We're not surprised but we're disappointed in today's decision by the STB," said BNSF spokesman Richard Russack. "We hope that the U.S. Court of Appeals will respond positively and promptly to our recent filings."

BNSF last week filed a motion for a stay of the STB's freeze decision and an expedited court review. CN will head to court early next week with similar filings, said CN spokesman Jack Burke.

"This will leave us no other option but to go to court," Burke said of the STB's latest action. "And we'll do that expeditiously."

The board, in its ruling Friday, defended its earlier decision to impose a 15-month moratorium.

"Because our current regulations are inadequate to address what will likely turn out to be the final round of North American rail restructuring, we must adopt new rules before any major transactions can be considered," the regulators said.

Lifting the moratorium would "force consideration" of the BNSF-CN merger before new merger rules can be developed, the board said. "We find that such a backwards process is not required by law and would contravene the public interest," the STB said.

The decision to freeze new mergers followed a four-day hearing into the future of the railroad industry — at a time when only six major railroads are left in the United States and Canada. That session was called after rail mergers in the 1990s, most notably the 1996 marriage of Union Pacific and Southern Pacific, led to widespread service disruptions.

BNSF and CN contend they should not be penalized for previous mergers' failings.

On the Net: Surface Transportation Board: http://www.stb.dot.gov

Burlington Northern: http://www.bnsf.com

Tainted beef blamed for E. coli illness

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — Beef in an undercooked casserole caused an E. coli outbreak that sickened 18 schoolchildren and meat from the same batch may have been served in schools elsewhere in the state, health officials said.

The outbreak was at Minneapolis' Risen Christ Catholic School, where a casserole of ground beef, pasta and tomato sauce was served March 14, the state Health Department said Tuesday. The students starting showing E. coli symptoms — severe or bloody diarrhea and abdominal cramps — between March 16 and March 20.

The Health Department confirmed six students were infected by the E. coli 0157:H7 strain and is awaiting test results on 12 other students.

Two of those sickened had to be hospitalized. All of the children are recovering or have recovered, Health Department spokesman Buddy Ferguson said.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

'Paranoia' is part of pop vocabulary

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: In my opinion, children toss around the word "paranoia" too much. It seems to be an integral part of adolescent lexicon. Do you agree that it's slanderous to use the word?

DEAR READER: Medically, paranoia refers to a mental disorder characterized by a complex system of delusional thinking in which a person is convinced that he or she is being unrealistically persecuted.

Like many medical terms — such as "demented" and "retarded" — paranoia has entered our speech as a pop idiom, and it's often used in inappropriate ways. Perfectly normal people who, for one reason or another, feel defensive are often labeled "paranoid," although they are emotionally healthy.

I agree that the term is bandied about too much. However, most children don't mean it to be seriously damaging; it's generally understood to be a slang description of someone who blames others for getting in his way.

Persons who use the word "paranoia" as a part of their everyday speech might consider that the term can be both pejorative and hurtful. Sure, all of us may act a little crazy (and seem paranoid) at times. However, true paranoia is sad, destructive and requires professional help.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My son, who is in the army, is married with four children. His wife says he never talks to them and only answers with grunts. Also, he never calls me. Would the service help him if he needed a psychiatrist?

DEAR READER: Yes, it would. All branches of the military have recognized the need to provide professional support to the families of its members — and to the servicemen/servicewomen themselves. However, from the limited information you supplied, I cannot ascertain whether or not your son needs psychiatric intervention. Perhaps he is simply tired. Or bored. Maybe the responsibilities of parenthood have caused unexpected stress. Is his marriage in bad shape?

I suggest that your daughter-in-law check with the base physician — or with his commanding officer — if she is truly concerned about your son's behavior and whether his lack of communication could be affecting his job, as well as his personal life.

I certainly share your concerns, but am relieved to report that resources to help him are easily available if he requests them.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Although I'm 51 and still menstruating, I have osteopenia, for which my gynecologist has prescribed hormone pills. Will these artificial hormones cause problems, since I am still producing my own?

DEAR READER: Although you are still menstruating, I'm certain that your level of natural hormones is below normal. The doctor is merely supplementing your hormones with a synthetic variety in order to slow the loss of calcium from your bones. Osteoporosis means a critical calcium-loss; osteopenia means some loss, but not at the osteoporotic level.

At your age, the combination of your hormones plus the drugstore variety should cause no problems whatsoever. Remember that as long as you take the hormone pills in a regular cycle, you'll probably continue to have menstrual bleeding. So you should follow your gynecologist's advice about regular check-ups. In addition, I'd advise a bone-density measurement annually to monitor the status of your calcium metabolism. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Osteoporosis." 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.

DR. GOTT: When my wife was recently hospitalized, I had a devil of a time obtaining information about her condition. Is this standard policy?

DEAR READER: Let me respond to your question with a personal anecdote. I dedicate this response to the nurse who refused to give me information about my father's condition after he was admitted to the hospital critical-care unit.

As an insider, a practicing physician who himself takes care of hospital patients, I know that the nurse's behavior was standard, ethical and totally professional. But it was also unkind and insensitive. Because I chose to play the role of an outsider, an unsophisticated family member, I learned some valuable lessons about how family members are handled in health-care institutions. Here is what happened:

I was notified that, because of pneumonia, my elderly father had been admitted to a large hospital in an adjoining state. After making my own rounds on a Saturday, I drove an hour to the hospital, parked in the visitors' lot, presented myself at the front desk, properly obtained a pass, and took the elevator to the critical-care unit on the third floor.

Like similar units in other hospitals, the CCU was geared to the care of very ill patients who could not be safely monitored in what we called "floor beds" — ordinary hospital rooms. The quiet efficiency of the nurses, the beep-beeping of the machines, the IV lines, and the appurtenances of modern high-tech medicine were familiar to me. However, I remembered how intimidating this environment could be to a medical neophyte, so I resolved to play dumb.

"How is Mr. Gott today?" I asked the nurse.

"His condition is stable," she replied.

"What are his vital signs?" I inquired, referring to the bread-and-butter data concerning temperature, respiratory rate, pulse and blood pressure.

"I can't give you that information," she answered as she briskly turned on her heel.

"How about antibiotics? What is he getting?"

"I can't discuss that with you. You'll have to check with the doctor," she stated over her shoulder.

I fought the impulse to disclose my true identity. I wasn't a mere mortal; I was a physician. In other circumstances, I'd be the one giving orders. Seeing no easy way to change from my street disguise into my red-caped Superman outfit, I shuffled after her.

"Tell me," I persisted, "is this a hospital regulation or your own rule?"

"It's just the way it is," she snapped.

Reluctantly, I relinquished control and visited my father. After establishing, as well as I could without giving the game away, that he was sick, but comfortable, I approached the unit coordinator.

"Please show me where the kitchen is so that I can get my father some juice."

"That's not permitted," she said with a smile. "You'll have to ask the nurse and she's very busy."

"OK," I responded, "may I call the doctor?"

"The pay phone is in the hall," she frostily replied. Evidently, I was taking on the appearance of a troublemaker.

After further negotiation, I was able to place the call from the nurses' station. While waiting for the answer, I glanced at an open chart on the counter. It was my father's. Without touching the papers, I was able to determine that he was receiving appropriate therapy. The doctor was off duty and unavailable. Subsequently, on Monday morning, I called him and received a full report.

This brief encounter reinforced my belief that patients' families are often sadly misinformed about what is going on. Nurses and doctors adhere to the strict rules of the profession, as well they should; such rules are necessary. Yet, at the same time, they can lead to organizational insensitivity. At any point, I could have blasted: "Look, I'm a doctor and I insist that you answer my specific questions." Then all hell would have broken loose and I would have been given the red-carpet treatment, complete with a tour of the facility. But I didn't, so I was treated like any layman: given general information that served only to distance me from the problems at hand and reassure me that suitable care was being administered.

I realized that this is the way things are done in most hospitals. I understood why. This is the system. I'm part of it. I accept it. Still, it's been said that doctors and nurses should periodically become patients in their own hospitals in order to appreciate patients' isolation — and to gain empathy. Perhaps the next best thing might be for health professionals to pay an incognito visit to a sick loved one, just to experience what it feels like to be in another world.

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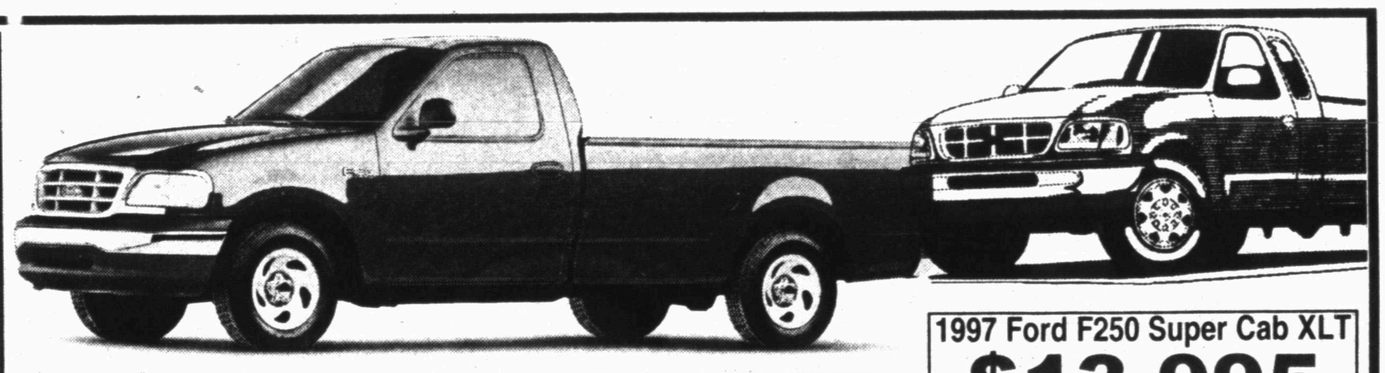

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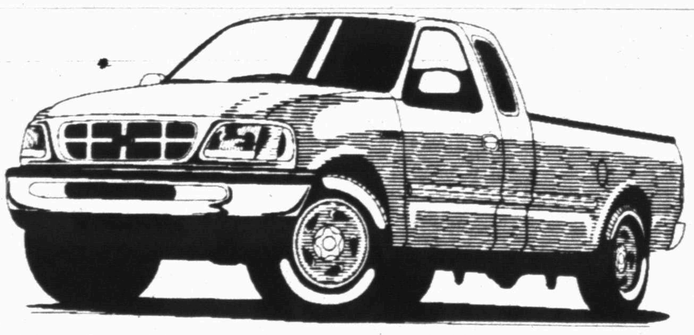

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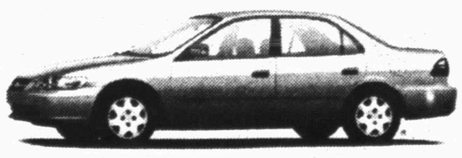

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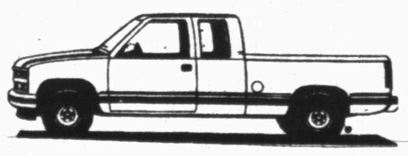

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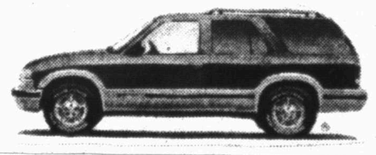

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Scurry County Folks

by Shirley A. Gorman

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

20 SHS students are headed to regional UIL academic meet

Snyder High School will be well represented at the regional UIL academic literary contest slated next Saturday at Angelo State University.

The 20 contestants will include Cara Best, Amber Haarmeyer, D'Ann Hager, all accounting.

Alesha Miller, Jenny Mayer and Laura Greenwood will compete in literary criticism.

Jennifer Bell and Kaycee Marricle will be in the computer applications contest.

Others will be Ryan McAnally, ready writing; Trevor Kerr, current issues and events; Lyndell Lee and Cole McLeod, persuasive speaking.

Others will be Trey Gorman, Trevor Kerr and Wade Ashby in science.

Michael Gibson, Justin Guy and Angie Shoemake will compete in spelling and vocabulary. Trey Gorman will also compete in computer science. Melinda Langham will compete in informative speaking and Liz Brown will compete in poetry interpretation.

UIL sponsors and coaches at SHS include Lynda McCormack, all speech events; Katie Henson, all journalism events; Phyllis Smith, accounting; Becky Johnson, spelling and vocabulary; Darlene Stokes, math and calculator events; Shad Nachlinger, current issues and events, literary criticism; Betty Henderson, ready writing; Thomas Strayhorn, science; Lynda Patterson, computer applications.

Computer Applications

Lynda Patterson is no stranger to UIL as she has served as a sponsor for approximately 30 years, her 12th year at SHS. She currently teaches business computer informative systems, levels I and II.

This school year she is sponsoring UIL computer applications; but in past years she has sponsored keyboarding, accounting, shorthand and spelling.

Snyder students competing in UIL's computer applications have an impressive list of wins.

Jennifer Bell recently placed first at district, scoring 100 percent. Kaycee Marricle took third place with 99 percent accuracy.

From 1994-1999, SHS computer applications contestants earned five firsts at district; two firsts at regional and one at state. Accuracy ranged from 95-99 percent.

Lynda has sponsored the high school's UIL Computer Applications Contest since it began in 1994-1995. It replaced the keyboarding contest which consisted of typing straight copy for 10 minutes on an electric or electronic typewriter. The winner is the person who typed the fastest with fewest errors.

Lynda said the Computer Applications Contest is no "simple" contest. Contestants have to prepare a variety of business documents using word processing, spreadsheet and database software, plus the integration of these, she explained.

After reading a long list of complicated instructions, students prepare two or three documents in 50 minutes. She noted that the documents involved strict formatting, complicated spreadsheets, and database reports that could be printed alone or in conjunction with another document in another program. Each aspect of each document is assigned a point value. The student who receives the most points from completing the most business documents with the fewest errors is the winner.

Lynda said that in addition to the document preparation, students have to learn to set up and break down their own equipment. They also must learn to trouble-shoot during the contest in case, for example, the printer doesn't print. It is not uncommon for a contestant to change out a printer in the middle of the contest or maybe a laptop computer.

Lynda noted that today's contest is basically the same except that the time limit is now 30 minutes. There are usually only two documents to print; however, students often have to prepare a third document to integrate with the other two before printing.

"As one can see, there is little time for trouble-shooting at this rate," she added. "Some allowances have been made, however. For example, if a student has problems with a printer, he/she notifies the director of the contest immediately, he/she will be allowed to save on a floppy disk and print later under the close scrutiny of the director of the contest.

Two of Lynda's students who qualified for regional are Jennifer Bell, a junior, and Kaycee Marricle, a senior.

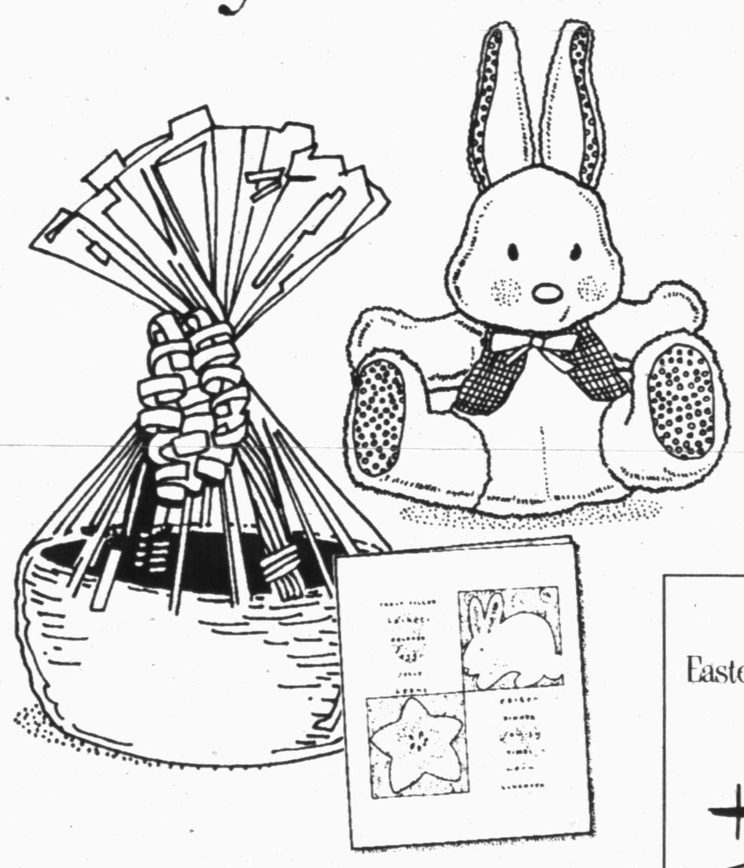
Jennifer is the daughter of David and Donna Bell. She competes in band and computer applications. This is her third year to compete, and she advanced to regional by placing first at district.

"Competing in UIL has given me a deeper understanding of the course. If I place in the top half – it means that I can do it, but

Continued On Page 4B

BOUND FOR REGIONAL CONTEST — These Snyder High School students will compete in the UIL academic regional contest next Saturday at Angelo State University. From left back row, Trey Gorman, Justin Guy, Trevor Kerr; middle row, Wade Ashby, Melinda Langham, Jenny Mayer, Liz Brown, Lyndell Lee; front row, Laura Greenwood, Tiffany Sutter, D'Ann Hager, Cara Best; kneeling in front, Angie Showmake, Alesha Miller. See related photos, Page 4B. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Bundle Up a Bunnyful Easter!



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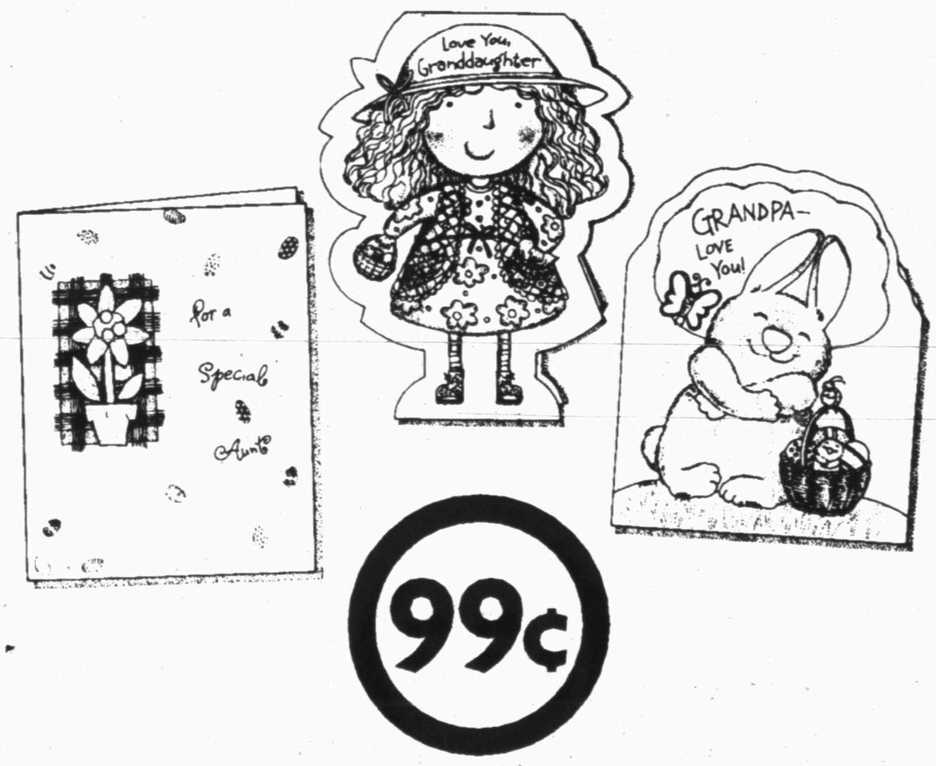

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Lingerie shower honors Miss Hollis

A lingerie shower honoring Mary Hollis, bride-elect of Ramsey Castillo, was held recently at Ashley Grimmett's home. Guests wore their favorite pajamas and decorations were in pastel colors.

Other hostesses were Starla Davis, Debra Davis and Brandi Wolf.

—

Tips for parents

Limit TV viewing for all family members. Children should watch no more than two hours per day. On school days, eliminate TV or limit it to a shorter time.

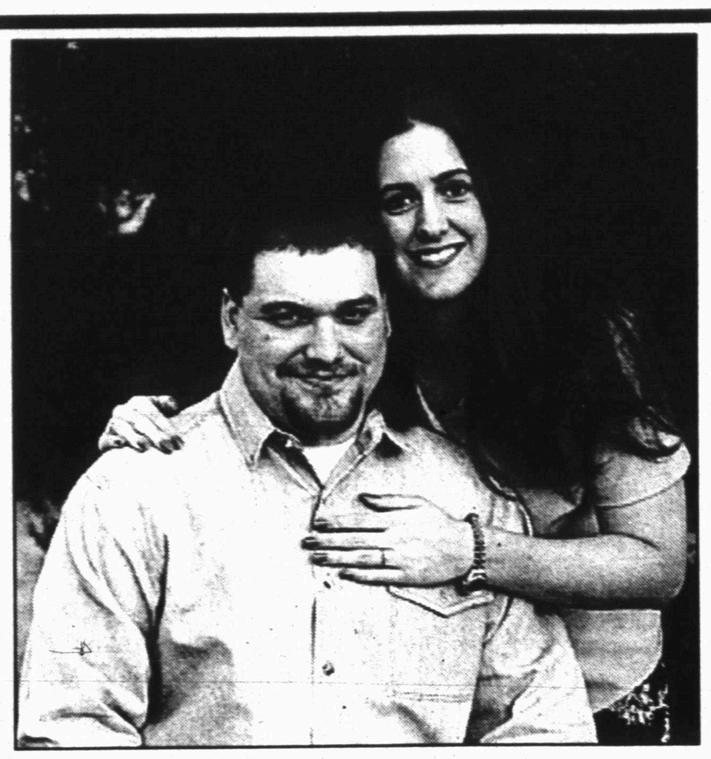
Bridal Registry

CHRISTA ROSSON AND BRETT LITTLEJOHN
RACHEL HUDDLESTON AND JUSTIN LOCKNANE
RACHEL MOORE AND RALPH J. SHANAFELT
STEPHANIE WEST AND CODY LEWIS
ANGEL SCARBER AND ROBERT KEE PATTERSON
LAURA COLLINS AND MATTHEW WHITE
KELLY GONZALEZ AND BANKS ALEXANDER
KATHRYN ROBBINS AND SCOTT HALL
JAMIE BASS AND DANIEL SCHLUMPFI
AMY LEWIS AND CHAD MARTIN
MARY HOLLIS AND RAMSEY CASTILLO
AMANDA KEILS AND HEATH PORTER
KARRAH GRISWOLD AND TODD IGLEHART
KARAN MCANELLY AND CHARLES KITTLES
MICHELLE ROEMISCH AND MATTHEW BYROM
TABITHA GILBRETH AND CHAD CARTER
JACKIE BECK AND ERIC ROBERTSON
KRISTI HARRIS AND JEREMY HOWARD
FELICIA CASTILL AND FREDDIE MARTINEZ
JENEVA MARTINEZ AND TRACY LOYOLA

Infant Registry

Wedding Invitations
•Tuxedo Rentals
Phone In Orders Welcome
Free Delivery To Bridal Shower

Classic Interior
2520 Ave. R
East Side of Square
573-1701
Open Mon. - Fri., 9:30-5:30,
Sat. 10:00 - 4:00



PICKETT-HUNTER ENGAGED — Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Hunley of Eldorado and Rodney Hunter of Santa Fe, Tex., announce the engagement of their daughter, Leslie Hunter, to Charlie Pickett of Teague. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Pickett of Teague. Leslie is the granddaughter of Nina Hunter and Clarence and Freda Rayvon, all of Snyder, and John Pippen of Rockport. They plan to marry in an outdoor ceremony April 14 at the home of the groom's uncle, Daryl Pickett, in Teague. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North 04-08-00 ♠ 10 7 4 ♥ 6 5 ♦ A J 10 4 ♣ K Q 5 2	
West ♠ K Q J 9 ♥ K 10 8 3 ♦ 7 3 ♣ 10 8 7		East ♠ 8 6 3 ♥ J 9 7 4 ♦ K 5 2 ♣ J 9 6
	South ♠ A 5 2 ♥ A Q 2 ♦ Q 9 8 6 ♣ A 4 3	

Vulnerable: Both
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

Not what you want to hear

By Phillip Alder

The Senior Life Master was preparing to start his monthly class.

"There are certain phrases that, of themselves, sound innocuous, but which have a sting in the tail. For example, if a woman says to a man, 'You are so sweet,' he knows that the next word will be 'but,' followed by something like 'although it's been fun, goodbye.' "

The same sort of thing (the SLM continued) can happen at the bridge table. There may be a bid you don't want to hear partner or an opponent make, but out it comes, almost like clockwork. Or you would prefer a defender not to switch to a particular card or suit, but aggravatingly he finds precisely that play to torment you.

As an example, look at the North-South hands on the sheet in front of you. The contract is three no-trump. West leads the spade king. You hold up the ace until the third round, then take the diamond finesse. It loses and back comes your worst nightmare: a low heart. Do you finesse or not? If not, what do you do?

The SLM gave them a few moments to consider.

It looks as though you need either the heart finesse to work — a 50 percent shot — or the clubs to break 3-3 — only a 35.5 percent proposition. So, probably you take the finesse. Yet it is a guess.

You could have avoided the uncertainty by adopting a sweeter approach earlier. Before attacking the diamonds, take three rounds of clubs ending in hand. Did they split 3-3? If so, finesse in diamonds and claim. If not, when the heart comes back, you know to try the queen.

Attention early deflects downfall later.

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Bridge Scores

Duplicate Bridge members played games at the Snyder Country Club.

Friday, March 31

1. Dot Casey, Louise Thompson.
2. Martha Fagin, Barbara Yorgesen.
3. Durelle Gorman, ElWanda Nall.
4. Jane Hinton, Billisue Stuard.

Sunday, April 2

1. TIE: Jane Hinton, Billisue Stuard, Maribeth Vestal and Barbara Yorgesen tied with Dot Casey, Louise Thompson, Martha Fagin and Pat Floyd.

Tuesday, April 4

No Game

District VIII of Texas Garden Clubs held meeting in Ballinger

District VIII of Texas Garden Clubs Inc. met in Ballinger on March 24-25 for its spring convention in the Carnegie Library Auditorium.

Also hosting were Town and Country Garden Club of Coleman and the Cross Plains Garden Club.

Pre-convention activities included a tour of Mary Burnes Greenhouses, a tour of Ballinger Ice House (an antique and crafts store), and Curiosities, an antique and craft mall.

The Saturday executive meeting and business session were presided over by Mrs. LaVerne Hood of Snyder, District VIII director. Seventy-seven members attended from 15 of 20 district clubs.

Elaine Bryant, district awards chairman from Abilene presented awards with Snyder Garden Club named Gold Club of the Year with 460 points. Regan Garden Club of Big Lake was named Silver Club of the Year with 39 points. Mignonette Garden Club of Del Rio and Stamford Garden Club tied with 56 points each for the Bronze Club of the Year.

Officers to serve 2001-2003 include Loyce Rogers of Stamford, district director; Elaine Bryant of Abilene, first assistant director; Sandra Browning of Snyder, second assistant district director; Betty Turner of Big Lake, third assistant district director; Doris Purcell of Abilene, recording secretary; Alma Vecher of San Angelo, corresponding secretary; and Jo Ann Denson of Stamford, treasurer.

State trustee is Patsy Huckabee of Snyder and state delegates are Lela Midkiff of Paint Rock and alternate is Patty Ivey of Robert Lee.

Vera Willingham, national and district life membership chairman from Coleman gave10 district life memberships to Robbie Eoff of Ballinger; Jessie Reister, Lola Long, H.J. Merriott, Myrna Wood, Jo Ann Denson, Joyce Jordan, all of Stamford; Millie Bunton of Del Rio; Becky Greaves from Coleman; and Ruby Holt of Haskell. She presented state life memberships to Wanda Hoyle of Stamford and Sandra Browning of Snyder, given by LaVerne Hood.

After the business meeting and luncheon, the program, "Designs for the New Millennium" was given by District VIII Flower Show Judges Carol Hickman, Loyce Rogers, Maggie Ridgeway, Doris Purcell, Nan Knox Markland, Irene Meitzen, Inez Boyd and Alma Fecher.

HOOD CONDUCTS DISTRICT MEET — District VIII Garden Clubs' spring convention was held March 24-25 in Ballinger. Conducting the meeting was LaVerne Hood, District VIII director from Snyder. Others are (from left) June Kohlman, secretary from Del Rio; Alma Fecher, first assistant director from San Angelo; and Sandra Browning, corresponding secretary from Snyder. (Contributed Photo)

Triple "L" to meet Thursday April 20

The First Baptist Church "senior adult happenings" include a Triple "L," (living longer and liking it) meetings on Thursday and again on April 20.

Games, entertaining program and a covered dish luncheon is included in the activities beginning at 9:30.

A senior adult trip to Carlsbad Caverns has been set for May 18-19 and those planning to attend need to make reservations now.

Births

Jonathan and Jessica Verduzco announce the birth of their brother, Jason Bryan Verduzco, at 4:02 a.m. on April 4 in Mitchell County Hospital. Jason weighed six pounds, 10 ounces. Parents are Pablo and Norma Verduzco of Snyder.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Rock and Roll Quilting Club; Hermleigh Community Center; everyone is invited for free quilting lessons, and special projects are to help someone in need; call 863-2426 for more information; 8 a.m. to noon.

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

Al-Anon Brown Bag Open Meeting, Snyder Park Club in Winston Park; noon.

Martha Ann Woman's Club directors meeting; clubhouse; all directors are urged to attend; 4 p.m.

Weight Watchers meeting; Trinity United Methodist Church; for more information call Nathalie at 573-1868 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5 p.m.

Defensive Driving School; Monday and Tuesday at the Texas Savings Bank Community Room; no reservations needed, for more information call 573-2850; 6 to 8 p.m.

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

American Legion Layne Kite Post 181 and Auxiliary; 7:30 p.m.

White Buffalo Stamp Club; community room at Snyder National Bank; visitors welcome; 7:30 p.m.

Scurry County AA; closed meeting; Park Club; for more information, call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292, 8 p.m.

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

TUESDAY

Atheneum Study Club; MAWC; "Angels at Work" by Betsy Armstong, 4:15 p.m.

Snyder Shrine Club; call 863-2702 for meeting place; 6 p.m.

Beta Sigma Phi; country club; 7 p.m.

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

AA Beginner's Meeting-Open; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 7 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more 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 more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

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

Altrurian Daughters Club; MAWC; 11:30 a.m.

Spiritual Solutions for Living Problems Book Study; Snyder Park Club; 6 p.m.

Just For Today NA, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 574-1292 or 573-8018 p.m.

THURSDAY

Snyder Palette Club; airport terminal bldg. On W. 37th; 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

LLL Club; fellowship hall of First Baptist Church; 9:30 a.m.

Gateway Corporate board meeting; MAWC; noon.

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292, 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.

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

Canyon Gun Club; 1919 25th; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 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 appointment, call 573-9742.

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Just For Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0049 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8268, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 10 a.m.

TRUNK SHOW
Tuesday, April 11th - 11 a.m. til 3p.m.
20% OFF - Free Monograming -
(During This Time Only!)
Graduation Sale • April 14 thru May 15, 2000

Sale Items		Regular	Sale
#560	Daytripper	$129	$103
#701	Grande	23	18
#740	Mainliner	149	119
#802	Shave Kit	59	47
#804	Make-Up Case	69	55
#821	Joe Duffle	127	102
#905	City Pack	78	62
#921	Laundry Bag	43	34

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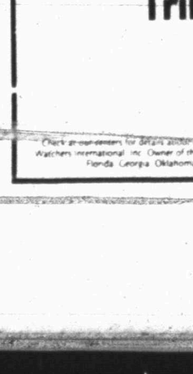
COX
Cox Charge
110 E. Broadway
Sweetwater, Tx
All Major Credit Cards
(915)235-8611
800-750-4381
jewelers
105 years of service



"Summer is closer than you think. Now's the time to join Weight Watchers."
—Sarah, Duchess of York

With 1-2-3 Success, our easiest plan ever, you can eat any food you crave and still lose weight. How? We've assigned every food a POINTS® value—even pizza and ice cream. Stay within your daily POINTS® range and lose weight. Start now and make this summer what it's supposed to be: FUN!

Weight Watchers 1-2-3 SUCCESS

JOIN NOW FOR ONLY $15!
CALL 1-800-572-8600 or visit us at www.weightwatchers.com. Offer expires May 13, 2000.

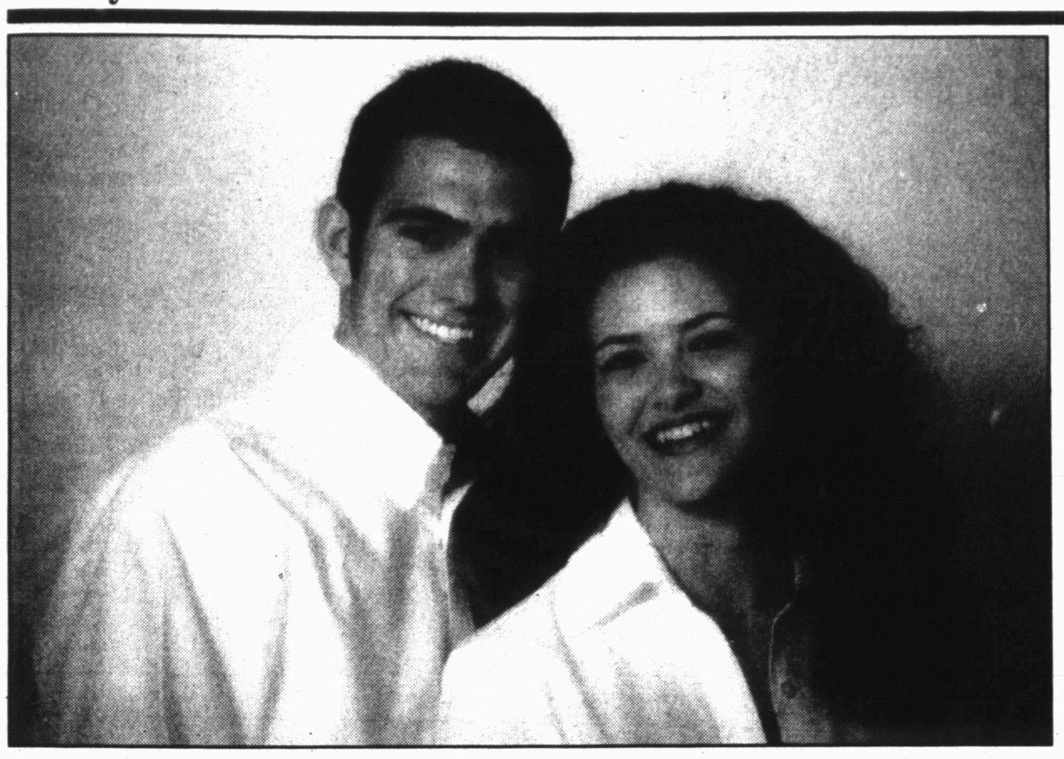
Snyder
Trinity Methodist Church
5200 Trinity Blvd.
Monday 5:30 pm

Check at our centers for details. ©2000 Weight Watchers International, Inc. Owner of the WEIGHT WATCHERS trademark. All rights reserved. Offer valid at participating locations in some of Alabama, California, Florida, Georgia, Oklahoma, Texas and the Carolinas for a limited time only. Not valid for The At Work Program or community meetings.

The Casserole Company
"We Cater to the Busy Family"
3311 College Avenue
574-2000
M-Tu-Th-Night
4-7 pm

This Week

Casseroles	Vegetables
Green Chili - Beef	Party Potatoes
Chicken Spaghetti	Broccoli & Rice
Chicken & Wild Rice	Sm. - $6, Med. - $10, Lg. - $13
Beef Stroganoff	Frozen Casseroles Always 30% Off
Sm. - $8, Med. - $12, Lg. - $15	Now open until 8:00 p.m.



COLLIER-STRAUT ENGAGED — Ronald and Rachel Straut of Livingston announce the engagement and approaching marriage of their daughter, Rebecca Leah Straut, to Brady Keith Collier. He is the son of Tim and Connie Collier of Snyder. Plans are made for a 2 p.m., June 3 wedding in the Central Baptist Church in Livingston. (Wadleigh Studio Photo)

Ask Anne & Nan

By Anne B. Adams and Nancy Nash-Cummings

DEAR ANNE AND NAN: I have collected every one of your articles. When I read them over, as I look for a special article, I get so caught up in your hints and recipes for making homemade cleaners that I forget what I was looking for in the first place! Either because my mind is so full of information or because I'm just old.

Yes, there's a reason why I told you this much.

Can you please tell me how to organize my "Anne and Nan" clippings so I have quick access to them? There are so many. Please help me.

Another cry for help — can you please help me find the oven cleaner Easy-Off in paste? I don't like the spray, as it makes me cough and makes my eyes burn. — **MARIA DAVIS, Burger, Texas**

DEAR MARIA: You can organize your "Anne and Nan" information by subject. Label folders with appropriate headings: cleaning inside, cleaning outside, pests, laundry, recipes, etc. Or you could order a copy of our new book, "Clean It, Find It, Fix It" (The Four Footed Press, 1999) from the Enfield Distribution Co., P.O. Box 699, Enfield, NH 03743. For credit-card orders call (888) 216-7611. The book is $14.95, $4 for shipping and handling.

Now for a Easy-Off paste oven cleaner. Both you and Lenore George of Des Plaines, Ill., were looking for it. It's no longer being made. A woman at the manufacturer said the product was too caustic.

But we recently received a letter from Mildred Turner of Pasadena, Calif., who wanted to know how to clean an oven with household items rather than chemicals.

This easy overnight oven-cleaning method requires one cup of household ammonia and three cups of boiling water. Turn your oven on at 200 degrees and let it warm for about 20 minutes, then turn it off. Be sure and open windows and doors to ventilate ammonia vapors. Put the ammonia in a small container and place on the top shelf of the oven. Pour the boiling water in the broiler pan and put it on the bottom shelf. Close the oven door and don't open until morning. Open windows and doors again before you open the oven door. Leave the room until the ammonia vapors disappear. Wash the inside of the oven with liquid detergent and water. This method is pretty successful with hard baked-on grease. If your oven looks like Nan's, you'll have to repeat the process.

STUMPED: HOW TO REMOVE PECAN STAINS FROM HANDS — This is a problem we wish we had! Anyway, Arlene Nickals of Pillsbury, Okla., wonders how to get pecan stains off her hands and so do we.

Write to "Ask Anne & Nan" at P.O. Box 240, Hartland, VT 05048. Our new book, "Clean It, Fix It, Find It," is ready. The price is $14.95 plus $4 shipping and handling. Add $1 for each additional book. Mail your order to Enfield Distribution, P.O. Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748. Or call toll-free (888) 216-7611.

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Volunteers needed for community garden

It's time to plant!

Volunteers are needed Saturday, April 15, for planting, painting and general clean up at the community garden at 26th Street and Ave. C.

The garden has been plowed and Rollin Swanson, Richard Stoker and their helpers have installed the watering system.

There are three sections — a large area for growing food crops to supplement Snyder's Food Cupboard for the needy; a section with plots for individuals and families who want to grow their own vegetables; and an education garden for Northeast Elementary School.

Those interested in working or would like to have one of the individual gardens this year, meet at the garden at 9 a.m. with work clothes on and bring a hoe, rake or whatever tools you have.

For more information, call Bebe Boren at 574-1967 or 806-629-4475.

SHS Class of 1990 planning 10-year reunion in July

Snyder High School Class of 1990 is planning its 10-year reunion to be held on July 28-29 and the planning committee is trying to contact each member.

An informal gathering will be held on Friday with the place to be announced later. On Saturday, a party at Towle Park Pavilion will be held from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. The main event will be held Saturday evening at the Snyder Country Club that will include a buffet, awards, a group picture and a dance, beginning at 7 p.m., ending at 1 p.m.

Reunion co-chairmen Anne Osborn and Dora Jean (Rumpff) Roberson, advised that more detailed information is available on the Reunion Web Page at www.geocities.com/sdjroberson/home.html. Classmates can check this Web Page for information including dates, times, and a list of classmates they are needing addresses for.

Also, classmates may contact Anne at (303)432-3749 or Dora Jean at (210)679-6651. They ask anyone having any information on addresses of classmates to contact them. Anyone knowing addresses of the list of unknown addresses of the SHS 1990 graduate, his or her parents, other relatives or a friend are asked to reply.

SC Library News & Views

National Library Week is April 10-15.

Have you been to the Scurry County Library lately? Have you used the on-line card catalogue or "surfed" on the Internet computers?

Do you need help planning a garden? Do you want to read a best seller? Do you want some ideas for that summer wedding? Do you want to plan a trip to Alaska or Disney World? Do you need to find out how to cook that trout you are going to "reel in?"

All these things you can find in the new book section at the Scurry County Library.

There are many things you can find in the library — come by during National Library Week. Several activities have been planned.

Monday: Senior Citizen Day

10 a.m.—Join us for a personal explanation and tour of the Internet computers, the on-line card catalog and Print Shop.

Tuesday: Teacher Day

2-6 p.m.—Teachers are invited to browse and take selected books and magazines to be used for teaching, cutting or displays. Any teacher who checks out a book that day may register to win a "Teacher's Basket" to be personalized.

Wednesday: Preschooler Day

10 a.m.—Join us for Storytime in the Children's Room. Any child attending will receive a gift.

Thursday: Student Day

Any student checking out a book will receive a gift and will have an opportunity to register for a free large pizza.

Friday: Parent Day

There will be handouts about Internet sites for children and about reading materials for children and college bound young adults.

All of these activities and more are waiting for you next week at your Scurry County Library. We hope to see you soon!

COUNTRYPLACE

MERLE NORMAN COSMETIC STUDIO

573-1817

Florist
AFS Wire Service

Registry

Gifts
Collectables

"Bride & Groom"

Karrah Griswold & Todd Iglehart
Amanda Keils & Heath Porter
Amy Lewis & Chad Martin
Michelle Roemisch & Matthew Byrom
Tabitha Gilbreth & Chad Carter
Chris & Deanna Stanfield
Mary Hollis & Ramsey Castillo
Karen McAnelly & Charles Kittles
Kathryn Robbins & Scott Hall
Rebecca Ramey & Jeff Whit
Christa Rosson & Brett Littlejohn
Angel Scarber & Robert Kee Patterson
Laura Collins & Matthew White
Rachael Huddleston & Justin Locknane
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Full Service Floral - Fresh & Silk ●Tuxedo Rentals●
4213 College Ave. 915-573-1817 Snyder Visa Discover Mastercard

School Menu

Snyder

All meals are served with choice of milk. Breakfast menu offers a choice of assorted dry cereal, toast w/jelly and juice.

BREAKFAST
Monday
Donut
Tuesday
Scrambled Eggs
Wednesday
Sausage on a Stick
Thursday
Breakfast Pizza
Friday
Biscuit w/Sausage

LUNCH
Monday
Hamburger on a Bun or
Spaghetti & Meat Sauce
Garlic Bread
Tossed Salad
Corn on the Cob
Chilled Fruit
Tuesday
Chili Dog on a Bun or
Beef Nachos
Pinto Beans
Tossed Salad
Brownie
Wednesday
Pizza or
Steak Fingers w/Gravy
Texas Toast
Mashed Potatoes
Green Beans
Orange Half
Thursday
Burrito or
Barbecued Beef on a Bun
Baked Beans
Potato Salad
Pudding
Friday
Corn Dog or
Meatloaf
Mashed Potatoes
W.K. Corn
Applesauce Cake
(Bruce Prize Day)

Hermleigh

All meals are served with milk.
Monday
Juice
Breakfast Pizza
Tuesday
Fruit
Buttered Rice
Toast
Wednesday
Juice
Cinnamon Rolls
Thursday
Fruit
Cheese Toast
Friday
Juice
Buttered Grits
Toast

LUNCH
Monday
Swiss Steak
Mashed Potatoes
Carrot Sticks
Hot Rolls
Blonde Brownies
Tuesday
Beef Stroganoff
Au Gratin Potatoes
Tomato Wedges
Hot Rolls
Fruit Jell-O
Wednesday
Taco Salad/Salsa Sauce
Refried Beans
Tortilla Chips
Chilled Peaches
Thursday
Sloppy Joe
Potato Wedges
Pickle Spears
Chilled Pears
Friday
Chili Dogs
Tater Tots
Relish Cup
Rice Krispie Bars

Ira

All meals served with choice of milk
Monday
Chicken Nuggets
Sliced Potatoes
Black-eyed Peas
Bread
Peaches
Tuesday
Corn Dogs
French Fries
Ranch Style Beans
Cookies
Wednesday
Pizza
Corn
Vegetable Salad
Crackers
Jell-O
Thursday
Sloppy Joes
Tater Tots
Pinto Beans
Cookies
Friday
Sandwiches
Chips
Oranges

Borden County ISD 5-year reunion is being planned for August 4-5

Borden County I.S.D. five year reunion is being planned for Aug. 4-5.

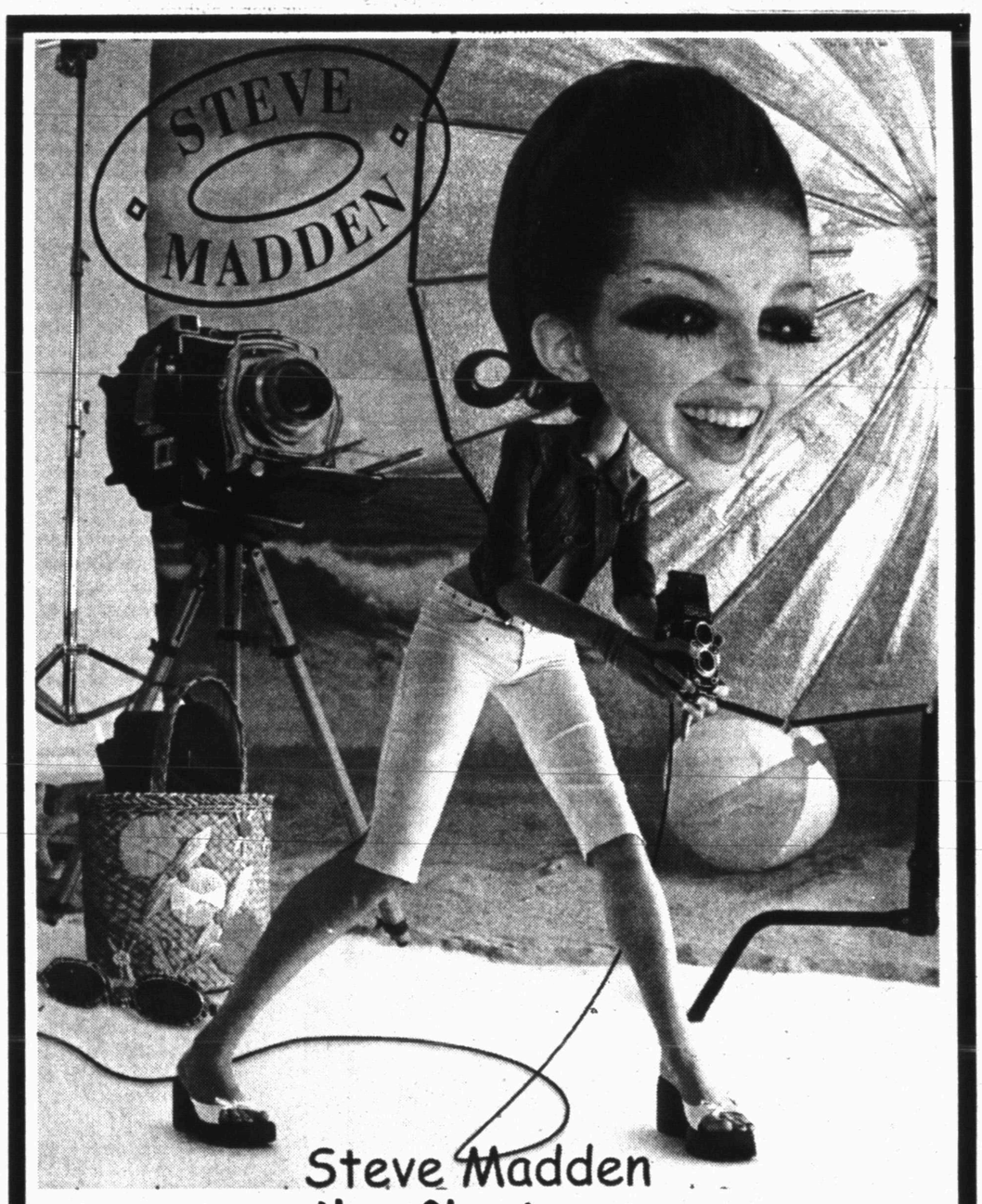
Letters were sent to classmates, teachers and employees that live in the area. A return postcard to Judy Kingston was included in the mailout and out of 450 letters, she has only received 203 postcards. Judy will appreciate names, addresses and the graduation year of exes who live out of the area.

Letters were not sent to most people with Gail, O'Donnell, Vealmoor, Fluvanna, Snyder and Big Spring addresses. Anyone from these towns wanting information on the upcoming reunion are asked to send name, address and graduation year to her as soon as possible.

The same information is needed about those who have died, including the year of graduation if a student.

Information is needed by May 2nd because the last meeting will be held before letters detailing the reunion go out. The planning meeting will be a 7 p.m. at the Gail Community Center. Judy said everyone is invited to help make the final plans.

More information may be obtained by contacting Judy Kingston, Rt. 1, Box 118, O'Donnell, TX 79351, or call 806-439-6686, or E-mail jrdkings@poka.com



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3219 College Ave. Snyder, Texas 573-6763
Store Hours: M-F 9-6; Sat. 9-5:30

Students, sponsors value UIL contests

Continued From Page 1B

I need improvement."

Kaycee, the daughter of Bennie and Charla Marricle, advanced to regional by placing third at district. This is her first year to compete in computer applications.

"I feel that participating in UIL has been a major advantage to me and for my future. I have had to overcome many problems that have stumped me, and that will help me in later on in life."

Accounting

Phyllis Smith has taught at Snyder High School for 16 years. Her current assignments are accounting I and II and business computer applications.

She has sponsored UIL accounting for the past eight years. Previously, she sponsored keyboarding for seven years until the contest was discontinued. While at SHS, six of the keyboarding students she coached qualified for regional, with three advancing to state and one claiming the top prize.

In UIL accounting, Phyllis said a student must place first, second or third or be a member of the team with the highest number of cumulative points to qualify for the next level.

Over the eight years that she has sponsored the UIL accounting contest, 18 students have qualified to go to regional. Many of those 18 students placed first through third at regional, and 12 of the regional qualifiers advanced to state. At state, SHS had a first place individual, third place individual, first place team and third place team."

"UIL accounting is an extremely challenging contest, requiring a thorough knowledge of basic accounting principles. If a student qualifies to go to state as an individual, he/she is one of only 12 people from across the entire state of Texas to get there for Class 4A for that that year, Phyllis said.

"SHS can be proud of the large number of accounting students who have represented our school at the state competition.

"Many of these students have received UIL academic scholarships for their participation. People, in general, are not aware of the opportunities for scholarships that exist for these students, particularly on the state level. Interestingly, a student doesn't necessarily have to win the competition to get a scholarship," Phyllis added.

Of Phyllis' accounting students, three seniors and one junior will compete in the regional contest.

Tiffany Sutter is a junior and seniors are Cara Best, D'Ann Hager, and Amber Haarmeyer.

This is Tiffany's first year to compete. She earned a trip to regional by being a member of the first place team at district. The daughter of Rhonda and Johnny Sutter said, "I have learned so much information about accounting this year that will help me in the future with college and in job experience. It had taken up a lot of time and hard work."

Cara has entered UIL accounting contests for the past two years. In 1999, she was a member of the team that placed first at district and regional. Recently the accounting team won first at district and earned the right to advance to regional.

"UIL accounting has made me aware of accounting as a career opportunity and has taught me what types of tasks an accountant would have to perform," Cara said.

"Even if I do not become an accountant, the information I have learned can help me deal with personal accounting, such as balancing a checkbook," she added.

Cara is the daughter of Dr. John and Vicki Best.

D'Ann has done well in her first year of UIL competition, winning third place as an individual and being on the first place accounting team.

She is the daughter of Don and Kim Hager.

"UIL accounting has been a new, but rewarding experience for me," Hager said. " It takes a lot of time and hard work, but in the end the results can be worth it."

This is also Amber's first year to compete in UIL accounting. She won second place at district and is a member of the first place team which now advances to regional.

The daughter of Marilyn Graves said, "UIL accounting has opened many doors and many opportunities for me. If I make it to state, there is a really good chance for scholarships."

Spelling and Vocabulary

Becky Johnson has coached the spelling and vocabulary students for four years. She has taught 10 years at the high school — junior English, regular and advanced placement.

Seven of her students have competed at regional and one at the state.

"Spelling involves learning to spell 1,500 very difficult words and 300 definitions. Success depends on the student's dedication to study. I have been fortunate to have students that represented SHS well and made me proud," Becky said.

Two seniors and one junior will compete at regional.

Michael Gibson has competed in UIL spelling for two years. In 1999, he earned second and was a member of the first place spelling team.

Michael, a senior, is the son of John and Denise Gibson.

Justin Guy, the son of James Guy and Ginger Sexton, has competed in UIL spelling and math for two years. A senior, he advanced to regional this year by being a member of the first place spelling team.

Angie Shoemake, a junior, earned her ticket to regional by being on the first place district spelling team. Her first year to compete, she is the daughter of Kerry and Teressia Shoemake.

Computer Science

Wynola Early will have one computer science student at regional — senior Trey Gorman.

Wynola has been a UIL sponsor for six years, and teaches computer science I-III.

In the past six years, SHS students have won eight individual awards at the district level, including three first places, three seconds and two thirds. Two teams also claimed two district firsts.

At regional, two students placed first and one team placed second. One student won second at state.

Wynola said Trey Gorman has competed in two different languages, PASCAL and CTT and is making his third trip to regional — a new record in CS UIL in our district."

Trey, the son of Jack and Kim Gorman, has competed in UIL for the past four years. At the recent district meet, he competed in computer science, science, calculator applications and mathematics, advancing in computer science and science.

He likes UIL competition because "it's another opportunity to improve my mind; not an opportunity to beat others or show others how smart I am. It is simply a way that I can learn more about various subjects — not for the sake of knowledge itself; but so that I may do my best for the glory of God, who is the great teacher."

Speech

Lynda McCormack has sponsored UIL speech at the high school for three years. Prior to that she coached journalism events.

Twenty–six students comprise the Speech Team which has competed in two UIL tournaments and hosted their own tournament this school year. Four students have advanced to the regional contest — Lyndell Lee and Cole McLeod in persuasive speaking; Melinda Langham in informative speaking; and Liz Brown in poetry interpretation.

The past two years, 10 of Lynda's students advanced to regional, along with two alternates. Last year, two advanced to state.

The year she coached journalism, three students advanced to regional, along with an alternate.

"I love the concept of UIL because the organization gives our students a chance to test the information we give them at school and apply it in a contest setting. My students not only gain communication skills through UIL competition that are very valuable life skills, but they also gain life skills that give them an advantage in today's world," Lynda said.

"UIL competition goes beyond the classroom and incorporates skills that I can only talk about, but until my students experience them first hand they really don't make a lot of sense. Whether it's having to be disciplined enough to prepare ahead of time, or leave at 3:30 a.m. to get to a tournament that starts at 7:30 a.m., or having to dress up and compete late into the evening, or being subjected to one judge's opinion, or having to change rooms or speaker order and being responsible for keeping up with scheduled events are all wrapped up into one tournament. This really change a student's perspective on life and communication in general.".

"Students who aren't accustomed to change and pressure struggle in the beginning, but if they stick it out and come out confident and can adapt to change and pressure the results can be impressive," Lynda said.

"Students don't always agree with how they were ranked but soon learn that it is one tournament, one judge's opinion and there is always another tournament to shoot for and to improve their skills which is why they compete," she continued.

"I tell my students when they join the team that if their only goal is to win trophies then I strongly encourage them to do something else. I want students who are motivated by wanting to improve speaking skills and to work on skills that will have a long term affect on them not just a short-term victory. I love that we have this opportunity to share what we are doing as teachers and it is rewarding to see the benefits that students derive from UIL competition."

Lyndell Lee, a junior and the son of Lannie and Loretta Lee. has been entering UIL speech contests for three years, mainly Lincoln-Douglas debate and persuasive extemporaneous speaking.

This year he advanced to regional with a first place win at district persuasive speaking. He also placed fourth in the LD debate but did not advance.

Last year, Lee was third in persuasive speaking and was a member of the honor crew at state.

He said UIL competition has taught me "Try your hardest and you just might win."

Melinda Langham is a junior and the daughter of Curtis and Vikki Langham. This is her second year to compete in UIL. This year she has entered informative speaking and current events. For the past two years, she earned second place at district in informative speaking and advanced to regional. She was also a member of the alternate team in current events.

Melinda said, "UIL has given me insight and experience to compete in other tournaments against bigger schools. It is a great experience and I would recommend any UIL event to anyone."

At district, Liz Brown won second in poetry interpretation. She is a senior and the daughter of David and Judy Brown. This is her first year in poetry interpretation, placing second at district to advance to regional.

Cole McLeod was second in persuasive speaking. He will also in the regional meet. (No other information available)

Science

This school year marks Thomas Strayhorn's 21st at SHS, his sixth as UIL sponsor. He teaches biology and sponsors UIL science.

"Coaching UIL allows me to be associated with the leaders of each student group," Thomas said. "Former participants have gone on to success at a university. Each individual will be at the forefront of his or her profession. It is a privilege to work with these fine people."

Since 1995, UIL science competitors have fared very well with four teams and one individual winning first at district meets. In 1997, one student placed first at regional and advanced to state. In 1999, the science team competed at regional.

This year, the team of Trey Gorman, Trevor Kerr and Wade Ashby advanced to regional after placing first at district.

Trey was also the first individual; and he won first place in

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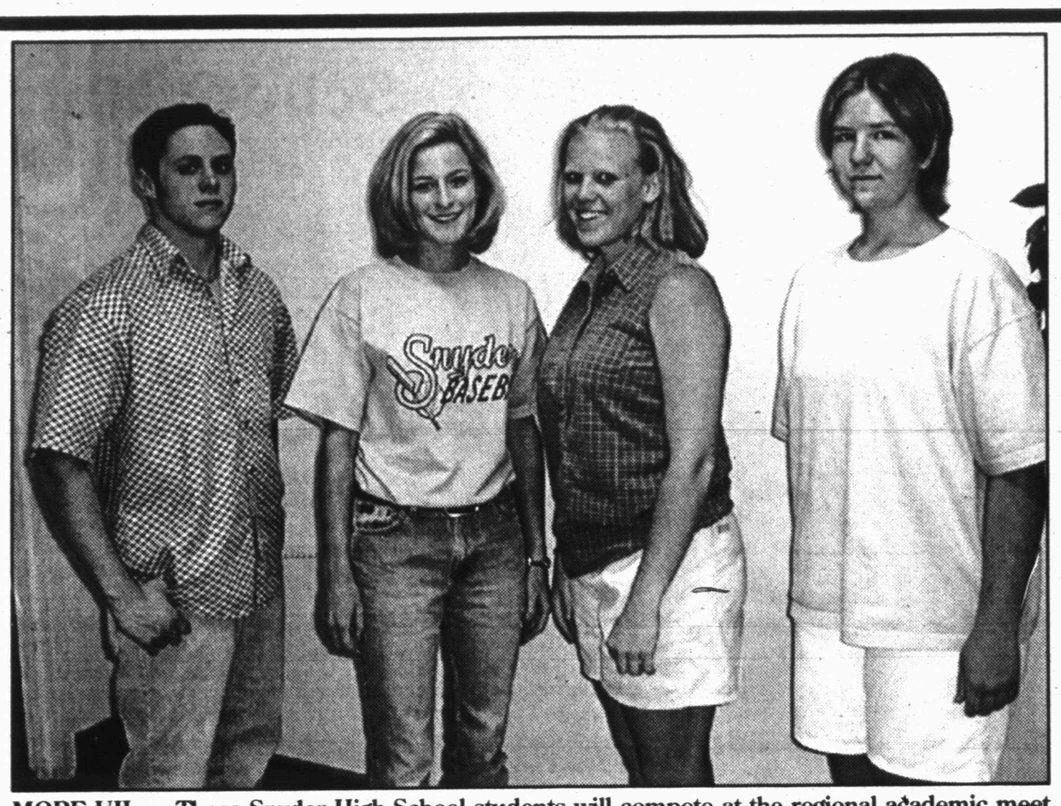

MORE UIL — These Snyder High School students will compete at the regional academic meet April 15 at Angelo State University. From left are Michael Gibson, Kaycee Marricle, Amber Haarmeyer, and Jennifer Bell. Cole McLeod is not pictured. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

UIL SPONSORS — Ten teachers at Snyder High School sponsor the academic UIL events. From left back row, Betty Henderson, ready writing; Darlene Stokes, math and calculator events; Becky Johnson, spelling and vocabulary; Thomas Strayhorn, science; Wynola Early, computer science; front row, Katie Henson, journalism; Lynda McCormack, speech; Phyllis Smith, accounting; Shad Nachlinger, current events and issues and literary criticism. Lynda Patterson, computer applications, is not pictured. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

"I love the concept of UIL because the organization gives our students a chance to test the information we give them at school and apply it in a contest setting." — Lynda McCormack, speech instructor and UIL coach

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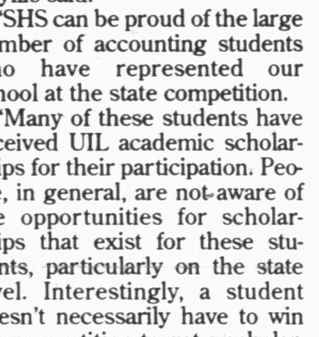
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So comfortable. So easy to wear. You'll wonder why you haven't tried them before.

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Researchers discover key to deep ocean diving

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. (AP) — How ocean mammals can dive thousands of feet deep without running out of air has long confounded scientists. A new study using wired-up seals, dolphins and a whale has the answer: They let gravity do most of the work.

By attaching video cameras to the animals' backs, a team of marine biologists learned that ocean mammals exceed their apparent aerobic capacity by starting their dives with a few powerful swimming strokes, then gliding for most of the rest of the descent in a relaxed position with their lungs somewhat compressed.

Humans — unless they carry diving weights — must kick and paddle in a near frenzy to descend into deep water, quickly burning oxygen as they go.

But the researchers found that marine mammals take advantage of a change in their buoyancy that occurs with increasing pressure and depth. That enables them to sink effortlessly through the water.

The groundbreaking and somewhat controversial research released Thursday could not have been done without the help of a trained bottlenose dolphin diving near San Diego, a 100-ton blue whale of the Northern California coast, Weddell seals hunting beneath the ice in the Antarctic and a northern elephant seal diving in Monterey Bay.

The findings were published in today's issue of the journal Science.

"Basically, they're turning the motor on and off in the course of the dive, and that enables them to reduce oxygen consumption by 10 to 50 percent compared with what they would need if they swam all the way down," said Terrie Williams, an associate professor of biology at the University of California at Santa Cruz. She collaborated with researchers from several institutions.

Ocean mammals' lungs are designed to collapse progressively with increased pressure, forcing oxygen from the alveoli, or air sacs in their lungs, and into the upper part of their respiratory system. This allows their bodies to be compressed into smaller volume, while their mass remains the same, causing them to sink.

In humans and other land animals, air gets trapped in the alveoli as the lungs are compressed, forcing nitrogen into the bloodstream. The result can be nitrogen narcosis — the bends — a life-threatening condition afflicting divers who surface too quickly.

Figuring out ways to attach the cameras to the animals was a challenge.

In the end, the researchers used a large suction cup on the blue whale, and a neoprene wetsuit band with a series of small suction cups on the belly of the dolphin. They glued patches onto the fur of the seals; the patches fell off when the seals molted.

Some experts called the research remarkable.

"Traditionally, researchers have only studied marine mammals, particularly cetaceans,."

Drama has winning tradition

One-Act Play

Jerry Worsham has headed the theater arts program at Snyder High School since 1967, sponsoring the UIL one-act competition for 33 years.

During that period, SHS drama students have won district all but twice. During his tenure, SHS has advanced to regional 32 times and earned 27 trips to the state contest, which they won 13 times.

The one-act players have been a runner-up or won third place on most of the occasions when they did not win first place at state.

The 1995 production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* captured the state title.

"We are known as the winningest school in the history of the UIL, primarily because of the drama achievements," Worsham said. "It has been a wonderful tradition to help build and to put "Snyder on the map."

This year's production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* has won district and competed in the area 4-A contest which SHS hosted.

At district, Michael Gibson was named best actor. All-star cast members include Mark Haines, Hayli Henderson and Valerie Haines.

Corey Knipe received honorable mention.

—

Austin Haire, who plays two characters *in A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Thisby and Flute, is a junior. His first year to participate in one-act, he is the son of Jerry and Ronda Haire.

Cheryl Reed, a senior and the daughter of David and Vickie Reed, has been in one-act play for three years. She portrays Helena.

"UIL has given me a chance to be in a competitive, yet fun and friendly environment," Cheryl said.

Josh Ortegon, a sophomore, is an understudy for the current production. The son of Cherie Rosas, he has entered one-act contests for two years. Al and Jolly Rosas are his guardians.

"UIL has taught me to get along with others and how to work hard for something that means a lot to me."

Sophomore Haley Elkins has dual roles — Moth and Lady In Waiting. Her second year in one-act, she is the daughter of Phyllis Elkins and Michael Elkins

Last year, the one-act play won district and area and was named alternate at the regional contest.

This is Josh Heaton's, son of Evans and Hope Heaton, first year in one-act. He is an understudy.

Senior Michael Gibson is the son of John and Denise Gibson. This is his third year in one-act. So far this year he has been named best actor at district.

Michael sums up his participation, "UIL has taught me teamwork and competence. I have learned how to make friends with people I usually don't see. It has shown me how much work it takes to get what you want."

Jon Hensley is a light technician for the production and this is his third year in one-act. The play advanced to regional for the past two years. He is the son of Dr. David and Kay Hensley.

This is Colby Stoker's first year in one-act. She is a senior and the daughter of Don and Roxanne Stoker. Colby portrays Star Veling and Moon.

"I believe UIL has given me a chance to accelerate my intellectual abilities and my concentration, which will help me in real situations."

Senior Liz Brown is the daughter of David and Judy Brown. She has two years experience in one-act and portrays Hermia.

Sophomore Hayli Renee Henderson, daughter of Donald and Frieda Henderson, plays two roles — Hippolyta and Titania. This is her second year in one-act. She was named to the all-star cast at district.

"It has been a lesson in responsibility, dedication, determination and cooperation. It's something I am very passionate about and enjoy doing."

Senior Buddy Whittenburg is the sound technician for the one-act production, and is his third year in one-act. He is the son of Patti Pointer and Tony Whittenburg.

"UIL has kept me busy, which makes me happy."

Corey Knipe is a senior and the son of Grant and Stephanie Knipe. He received honorable mention all-star cast at district. Corey has two roles. Theseus, duke of Athens, and Oberon, king of the fairies."UIL means competition to me. It gives us a chance to prove, try and challenge our abilities."

Senior Chris Shoemake plays both Snout and Wall in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He has two years experience in one-act play.

Chris, the son of Kerry and Teressia Shoemake, said, "UIL has been a great experience for me. Both events have proven to be very challenging for me. It has also been a great way for me to use my talents and to express myself."

Senior Chad Rice is the son of Doyle and Peggy Rice. He portrays Egeus and Peter Quince. This is his second year in one-act.

"UIL has meant a lot to me. It gives me a chance to compete in something that I enjoy. I absolutely love being a member of the SHS one-act company. It's a place that has challenged my mind."

Morten Edzards is an understudy and director of photography and film. He is a foreign exchange student from Germany, and is currently living with Darrell and Jana Neal through the Rotary Youth Exchange program. This year is his first one-act experience.

"With the one-act play, the UIL is providing one of the greatest things I can experience during my exchange year.

Josh Gonzales is the stage manager. He has participated in one-act play for two years.

"It instills a good sense of the work ethic and concentration which is necessary to compete at a higher level."

Senior Randy Green is the son of Tommy and Bridgette Green. His second year in one act, Green serves as assistant stage manager for the one-act play production.

"UIL has taught me the value of competition along with a good attitude. UIL guidelines have made me a more disciplined person."

Sophomore Mark Haines, son of Paul and Judy Haines, is new to one-act play competition. He plays Puck, the mischievous elf, and was named to the district all-star cast.

Sara Cantu, an understudy, is a freshman and this is her first UIL experience. She is the daughter of Roy and Yolanda Cantu.

"UIL is a great experience to me. Not only does it look good on college applications, but competing is an enormous challenge."

Junior Brandon McCraw, son of Teresa Love, portrays Demetrius. This is his third year in one-act play.

"I've learned many things such as working with others, time management and I have become part of a family. Everything I mentioned and things I didn't will be transferred into my daily life."

Junior Zach Allred, son of Bonnie Allred and Morris Allred, Lysander. He has two years of one-act play experience, including advancing to regional in 1999. He is also in band, advancing to state in solo and ensemble.

"I love competing with my music and with drama. I feel very passionate about both and competition has allowed me to excel at both."

Valery Haines pays Peaseblossom, the main fairy. She is a junior and the daughter of Paul and Judy Haines. She was named to the district all-star cast.

"UIL is 40 minutes long....pure discipline, intense concentration, passion, group joy. A life within a life, a play that becomes real to the audience. One-act changes. It is not just a play but a responsibility which I learn from every day and grow from — I learn perfection."

Kelli Henderson portrays three characters — Snug, Lions and Mustard Seed.

Amy Braziel is an understudy. No other information was provided for either student.

Tooth decay in Britain is so severe that it is expected that four out of 10 adults will have false teeth.

UIL scholarships are available

Continued From Page 4B

chemistry and physics. He will also compete at regional in those events.

Wade Ashby is a senior and the son of Mac and Barbara Ashby. This is his 7th year to compete in UIL. He has competed in number sense, science, computer science and mathematics.

As a ninth grader, he was fourth in number sense; 10th grade, second in number sense and first team in computer science; 11th grade, second in number sense, first team science; 12th grade, first team science; seventh and eighth grade, first in number sense; and sixth grade, second in number sense.

Wade values his UIL competition experience because, "It has helped me learn shortcuts for math. It also helped me by getting ahead in certain subjects."

Trevor Kerr, the son of Dr. Thomas and Carol Kerr, is a senior. He competes in science and current events and has been involved in UIL for four years.

He summed up his UIL experience this way: "UIL accounting district, regional and individual state champion; UIL accounting district and regional team champions; UIL current events, second in district; UIL science, second in district; UIL biology, first in district.

Trevor said, "UIL has provided a way for me to see how well I am doing academically, compared to other high school students across the state of Texas."

Literary Criticism, Current Issues

Shad Nachlinger coaches UIL literary criticism and current events and issues. She also teaches world geography at SHS, and has taught there for eight years.

Shad has served three years as a UIL sponsor.

In 1998, the literary criticism team placed first in district and advanced to state; and one individual advanced to state as an alternate.

In 1999, one student advanced to regional after placing third at district in literary criticism.

In 1999, she sponsored C.I.&E. for the first time with the team winning alternate and one individual earning second place and advancing to state as an alternate.

This year, the literary criticism team of Alesha Miller, Jenny Mayer and Laura Greenwood placed first at district. As individuals, Alesha finished first; Jenny, third; and Laura, fourth.

The C.I.&E. team is an alternate and Trevor Kerr placed second. Kerr will compete at regional.

Alesha Miller, a senior, is the daughter of Gary and Linda Miller. She entered literary criticism this year, her second in UIL competition.

She earned her ticket to regional by winning first individual and by being a member of the first place team.

"Literary criticism has reinforced a lot of what I have learned in English, but it has also strengthened friendships with my teammates," Alesha said.

A senior, she is the daughter of Dalton and Brenda Greenwood.

She placed fourth at district and is a member of the first place team. That gets her a trip to regional.

Her junior year, she placed third at district and advanced to regional.

"In UIL, I have formed strong, lasting friendships, gained better time-management skills. Learning all of the terms I have to know for literary criticism has really helped me in AP English," Greenwood said.

Jenny Mayer, a senior, is the daughter of Lesa Mayer. This is her second year to compete in literary criticism.

Last year the team placed third in district. This year her team won first at district, and she placed third individually.

"UIL has made me more confident in my classes. It's also provided me with more knowledge about different topics."

Ready Writing

Betty Henderson coaches ready writing and has one student, Ryan McAnally - advancing to regional.

Henderson has coached UIL for the past nine years. This is her ninth year at SHS, and she teaches AP English, English IV Honors and English IV.

During her tenure, six SHS students have placed first in district, with one student placing twice placing first. Eight students advanced to regional, and three students competed at state, with one placing fifth.

Ryan is a sophomore and the son of Ed and Cindy McAnally. He entered computer science and ready writing this year. He has competed in computer science for the past two years and ready writing since the sixth grade.

In elementary and junior high, he placed first in district each year. His sophomore year he received second at district. This year, he placed second in district and will compete at the regional meet.

"Preparing for ready writing has helped me to pay better attention to current events for use in my essays," McAnally said.

Math and Calculator Events

Darlene Stokes sponsors UIL math, calculator events and number sense. She teaches pre-calculus and algebra I, and has been at SHS for nine years. Previously, she taught at the junior high where she also sponsored UIL calculator events.

In recent years, several of her students advanced to regional in number sense and math, and a calculator team won first at district to qualify for regional.

This year, Trey Gorman qualified to compete at regional as an alternate.

Stokes said students voluntarily choose to compete, but she wishes more would, noting that for the first time she had full teams competing this year.

"Math, calculator and number sense requires a lot of time and study, and it is hard for students to find the time because they are involved in so many other things," Darlene said.

Journalism

Katie Henson has taught journalism at the high school and coached UIL for the past two years. No student advanced to regional this year, but she noted that they faced stiff competition from both Andrews and Fort Stockton, schools which have very strong journalism programs.

Katie praises the UIL program as good for students because it gives them a chance to use their skills as a student. What they learn will benefit them later in life, she added.

Lynda Patterson said one of the many "perks" of competing in UIL, in addition to winning, is the ability to apply for and receive a Texas Interscholastic League Foundation scholarship. These scholarships are available to all students who compete in one of the UIL Academic State Meet Contests.

"UIL academic contests are not "'push-over' by any means," she continued. "When our students study, work hard and place in one of these events, they have truly accomplished a great deal.

"Unfortunately, their accomplishments go unnoticed a lot of time because people in general, including many parents, do not understand what their sons and daughters are really involved in and what wonderful opportunities may follow.

"All of the UIL sponsors at Snyder High School do understand and are very proud of the accomplishments of their students and rejoice with them when they win...this is our reward."

Since 1954, the TILH has awarded approximately 11,600 scholarships at over $13.2 million. Amounts for scholarships range from $500 for one year to $13,040 ($3,260 a year) for four years . In 1999-2000, the TILF will disburse over $940,000 to 383 new and 212 renewed students attending colleges and universities in Texas.

'Make Snyder Brighter'

City wide Clean-up Campaign APRIL 17TH THRU 20TH. Utilize free dump truck service provided inside the city limits by cleaning up over this weekend and next weekend.

Watch for additional information!

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#821	Joe Duffle	127	102
#905	City Pack	78	62
#921	Laundry Bag	43	34

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Letters to the editor

Replace 9-1-1 signs

Dear Editor:

Will the county replace the 9-1-1 road signs that were stolen about a year or less ago?

Ours had Sterling Road, they got the pipe and the sign.

Thanks,
Mrs. Mickey Sterling

Please, let us pray

Dear Editor:

Who is Lord over the United States? A Christian citizen knows the answer, Jesus Christ. But why is it that so few Christians are willing to proclaim this fact publicly, and why is it that no Christian political candidate dares mention it?

There is a reason why we ask the government to let us pray, please. The nation is never supposed to identify itself as Christian. "A Christian nation is self-contradiction," so we are told.

This is the problem. God-fearing Christian Americans have been told that the Constitution teaches them absolute separation of church and state. They have been told correctly; but what they have not been told is precisely where does it say this. It does not say this in the first amendment. The first amendment says only that Congress shall make no law regarding religion or the free exercise thereof. So, where does the Constitution prohibit a Christian America?

It's alright for Congress (both houses), states and national to have prayer to start their session and a prayer breakfast, but not for the people of the nation. If Christ is Lord over the United States, (the citizens of the United States either publicly deny this or are afraid to affirm it publicly), and if the elected politicians and appointed officers of the nation are legally prohibited from pursuing the implication of this fact, then what does this mean for the nation. It seems to imply that we are a nation of many laws and many gods.

Rulers and citizens around the world affirm the existence of a particular god, and they call upon their god publicly to defend the nation, bless it and bring his will to pass in history. Even in those religions that affirm no god, such as Buddhism, the people affirm their faith in a particular religion. Nations are explicitly religious.

There is only one exception to this rule on all the earth, one politically correct nation, the United States. Coaches don't pray with your team before a game, it's not politically correct. Students don't pray for the safety of the players and crowds at a game, it's not politically correct. Sense the government now owns over 90 percent of all assets, you probably work for it, so don't put up a nativity scene or express your faith by wearing a religious cross, its not politically correct. No one, no city, no state and no nation should ever publicly affirm the existence of any particular god or religion. This is the unique freedom of the greatest land and people on earth, the United States. Please, big government, tell us we can really be politically correct and still be the unique children of our Eternal God.

Carl Nunn
Hermleigh

Let's keep our doctors

Dear Editor:

To whom it may concern:

We're going to lose a very well-trained and dedicated physician in Snyder unless we can get our act together.

She has a very large practice — but Snyder has to have a hospital to practice that is well equipped and staffed with trained dedicated people.

The commissioners court must get over its pettiness and mature into men who want to serve the county. A hospital is very important to the community.

We will never get new doctors until we clean up this mess.

We need tax money, the cigarette money for health care. We need a county owned and run hospital.

I worked in the hospital many years. We don't have an oil base or medicine to take care of things. Let's mature and take care of our own.

Nona Carter Jones

Children are our future

Dear Editor:

Citizens of Scurry County

As we enter a new century and approach a new millennium, we should reflect on where we are going. One of the most important indications of a civilized society is how we treat our children. Unfortunately, if current trends continue, too many Texas children will be abused and neglected.

Children are our most precious resource and we should be committed to working toward a happier, healthier and safer environment for them. Far too many children in Texas are abused or neglected. All Texans must join together to prevent this tragedy.

Our future depends on the well being of children today. The time has come for us to reflect on what we are doing as a community to support children and their families. We must start putting children first. It's up to you. If we don't stand up for children, who will?

Sincerely,
Scurry County
Child Welfare Board
Chris Bane, secretary

Spring-cleaning at library

Dear Editor:

The Scurry County Library will conduct a "Spring Cleaning" during the entire month of April. During the past few months the staff has diligently gone through all old records and transferred them to the computer, and we were astonished to find the large number of citizens who owe books or video fines to the library. We now have a complete listing of all those persons who owe the library video fines and late books for the past 30 years.

Those who have an outstanding debt to the library, receive two overdue or fine notices. We know that most of us, upon receiving such a notice, set it aside, meaning to look for the book, but then sometimes forget to look. Some of our patrons have children who receive the notice, and if they picked up the mail first, they may have just thrown it away. That means some persons may have no idea they have out-standing debts at the library. Because of postal rates, we are unable to continue sending notices indefinitely, and because of staffing schedules, we cannot call continuously to remind people to return books or pay video fines.

All books and videos in the library have been purchased with the Scurry County taxpayers' money, and these taxpayers expect library books to be returned so that they may also enjoy the books. While exploring the records, we found that entire sections of the library have been lost because one person checked out all the books on a certain subject and failed to return the books.

In the month of April we are going to make it easy for all with our "Spring Cleaning" special! As the family does their spring-cleaning, getting ready for those spring garage sales, we are asking all to begin looking for those books they owe Scurry County. The staff wants to clean up these outstanding debts, so that these persons can resume checking out books or can begin to use the Internet computers. To help citizens in their endeavors, we are offering the following incentives:

Video fines — For every dollar owed, give us one can of food for the Food Bank, or pay only 50 percent of the amount in cash to clear fines.

Paperback Books — Give another title that is in good condition.

Unfortunately, for hardback books, we can only accept the book or our original purchase price. All should remember that no matter how overdue the book is, there is no library fine on that book. The library just wants the book back.

In April we invite everyone to call or come by to see if they are on the list of people with outstanding debts. In May, we will be publishing in the newspaper the names of those people who have not settled their records in the library, so that we can make contact with these people. This is not to embarrass anyone, but is an attempt to locate persons who owe books or video fines to the library.

We encourage all to join in our "April Spring Cleaning" so that we can clean up these outstanding debts and serve the community of Scurry County even better.

Jane Romaine
Library Director

Farewell column wanted

Dear Editor:

I miss Deanie Francis Mills "Country Life" column in the weekend edition of the Snyder Daily News. It was the first column I turned to each week, to see what her topic might be, and to hear her comments on a variety of subjects.

I haven't always agreed with some of her opinions, but she often offered viewpoints that made me think. And, I understood her column was her opinion, and did not necessarily represent the SDN.

When I called Deanie to see what happened, hoping she was on a well-deserved break, yet thinking perhaps it might have something to do with her last published column, the one concerning homosexuality, she said she had been fired — by mail!

A brief letter had arrived on Tuesday, March 21, informing her the paper's editorial policy was being changed and her services were no longer required, and mentioning her being on time for deadlines the past few years. She has been writing the column for 16 years — over 800 columns — never missing a deadline, for the same weekly wage.

Her daughter, Jessica, was four years old when Deannie started writing her column. Her son, Dustin, and my son, Andy, became friends, and I looked forward to seeing what she might say about their escapades.

I found her comments on country life uplifting. I learned a lot about cowboys, Aggies, researching books, interviewing people, the publishing business, nature, dogs, cats, horses and all God's creatures, and many, many other topics. I was touched by her insight, humor and common sense, among other things. I came to consider her a friend.

I am disappointed that she was terminated so abruptly. I think there might have been a better, more personal way to handle releasing a loyal employee. I would like to suggest you might consider requesting that she submit a farewell column. I, and perhaps other readers, too, would like to hear from her one more time.

Thank you,
Anne Overhulser

Keep our sheriff

Dear Editor:

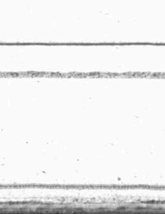
Sheriff Darren Jackson has done and is doing a great job as sheriff of Scurry County.

Voting in the Republican primary was unfortunate, but he was trying to get the people elected he thought would be best for Scurry County.

Being unopposed in the election shows that Scurry County believes he is the man for the job. Let's continue his good work. County commissioners, appoint Darren Jackson as sheriff, should the office become vacant.

He has risked his life many times for the people he serves, let's show him the support that he is due now.

Sincerely,
Gwen Cumbie



EDITORIAL COMMENT

Waco Tribune-Herald

On prayer before kickoff:

The X's and O's of getting government involved in religion provide this strategy: Claim that to forbid student-sponsored prayer before football games is to deny students freedom of speech.

It's a good try, but it shouldn't fly.

Freedom of speech and freedom of religion are equally cherished and can coexist without the government providing a platform for majority religion.

Free to pray before the game? Absolutely. Free to express one's faith before, during and after? Unquestioned. But the state serving as the conduit for the majority to impose its faith on others is contrary to the First Amendment prohibition on state-established religion.

The U.S. Supreme Court this week heard arguments in a case in which the Santa Fe (Texas) Independent School District seeks to uphold a policy of students voting to have someone give an invocation before the game. It is being presented as religion-neutral, an opportunity that might be as much pep talk as prayer. But the intent of the district and the majority of students clearly is pregame prayer.

Intent is of the essence. The Supreme Court overturned Alabama's requirement of an ostensibly religion-neutral "silent moment" in public schools because the clear intent of the silent moment was to encourage prayer. So, too, with the Santa Fe district's game day strategy.

Freedom of individual religious expression? It flourishes, and well it should in this nation of free individuals. We are a people of rich and varied spiritual heritage. Gatherings "around the pole" to pray before school are to be respected as heartfelt communal statements. A student can pray at school (or anywhere else) at any time in a fashion that doesn't disrupt. One can talk about his or her faith in a non-disruptive way.

But the courts properly have drawn the line at using the school as a pulpit for the religion of the majority. They should do the same concerning the imposing of religion on captive audiences at state-sponsored sporting events.

It's one thing for a large group to do something en masse to express its religious faith that's free expression in action. It's another for the state to provide the microphone and the authority for the majority to monopolize people's thoughts.

Austin American-Statesman

On the Second Amendment:

Whenever the national debate over firearms goes through a periodic upsurge, one element is always sure to be part of the discussion: the retreat of gun advocates into their myths about the Second Amendment to the Constitution.

If the country is to have a reasonable debate over guns, the truth about the Second Amendment bears repeating from time to time, and the truth is that there is no constitutional guarantee for private ownership of firearms. There isn't now; there never has been.

When the Bill of Rights was being crafted for our Constitution, the Second Amendment was written to guarantee the prerogative of each state to organize and arm its own "well-regulated" militia without constraint from the federal government. The new Constitution had authorized the national government to raise its own standing army, a notion viewed with alarm by many anti-federalists. Although the state militias in the Revolution were generally ill-armed, ill-organized and ineffective, the anti-federalist faction wanted a constitutional guarantee for their continued existence.

The Second Amendment makes that guarantee, and read in its entirety, its meaning clearly deals with "bearing arms" in a solely military context, not with the private ownership of guns. In the words of the U.S. Supreme Court, the "obvious purpose" of the Second Amendment was "to assure the continuation and render possible the effectiveness" of state militia forces. "It must be interpreted and applied with that end in view."

While anyone who reads the Second Amendment is entitled to his or her opinion about what it really says, under our constitutional system, only one such opinion really matters, that of the nine people on the Supreme Court charged with deciding what the Constitution actually means. In the case of the Second Amendment, they have been absolutely consistent: The amendment deals with the arming of state militias, and no guarantee of private ownership can be found there.

Corpus Christi Caller-Times

On NASA's bumpy ride:

NASA has come a long, long way from its glory days of lunar missions and glittering prestige.

These days, the agency operates under budgetary constraints that would have been unthinkable in the days when Americans and Russians were battling for supremacy in space. Manned missions continue, but more and more the space agency is investing its capital in unmanned missions. Where once not even the sky was the limit, the word at NASA in recent years has been: "faster, better, cheaper."

However, the recent failures of two unmanned Mars probes have spurred a reassessment. This week an independent team probing the failure of the Mars Polar Lander found it was the result of a premature rocket engine shutdown. That, team leader Thomas Young said, reflected "inadequate funding and inadequate margins" in the planning and execution of the agency's Mars program. With engineers and other staff working 80-hour weeks with limited resources, failure was all but assured.

Should we again lavish NASA with unlimited underwriting? That just isn't going to happen. Instead, the agency and the federal government need to commit to a realistic agenda and come up with adequate funding to do the job right. Agonizing reappraisals lie ahead, but with clear-eyed vision and commitment, NASA could fly high again.

San Antonio Express-News

On privacy on the Internet:

Taxation isn't the only aspect of Internet commerce that has lawmakers under pressure to act but unsure about which direction to turn.

Privacy is another massive problem looming over Congress as electronic commerce explodes.

Consumer advocates are pitted against giant Internet business interests in the debate over how much information the electronic companies can take from consumers and spread through the marketplace.

The industry is pushing lawmakers to take no action, saying regulation could thwart Internet growth.

And some congressional leaders say they want more time to examine the situation, Congressional Quarterly recently reported.

But protecting Americans from unwanted invasions of privacy is the correct priority for lawmakers if they represent the people.

Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

J&S Oilfield Services, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Tommy and Elizabeth Delorea, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Mesquite Oil Tool, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Price Brothers of Snyder, four 2000 Chevrolet pickups from Big Country Autoland.

Charley D. Stone and Stone Welding, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

James Branch, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Niewoehner Inc., 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Price Construction, 2000 Chevrolet van from Big Country Autoland.

Patterson Drilling, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Wayne Hogan, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Amco Medical Services, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Virginia Adams, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

John Drummond, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Kenneth and Brumbach Pinkerton, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

David N. Beard Enterprises, 2000 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Cindy K. and Missy K. French, 2000 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Duke McDowell, 2000 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

David and Jeanette L. Sutton, 2000 Pontiac from Big Country Autoland.

Filed in District Court

Billy and Clora Guynes vs. James Snowden and All State Indemnity Co., suit for damages.

Raymond and Adelia Alarcon vs. Annette Lee Chesser, suit for damages.

Action in District Court

Kathleen Ballard vs. Jon and Carolyn Derouen, judgment for defendants.

In the marriage of Lana Prewitt Hataway and Emmitt Hataway, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Belinda Kay Grimes and Tony Lee Grimes, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Maria Theresa Carrisalez and Michael Carrisalez, divorce granted.

Deed Records

Stacey Allen and JoAnna Browning to Mario and Melissa Garcia, the east 100 feet of the south 95 feet of Lot 2 in Block 97 of the Blankenship Addition.

Neil Lynn and Kay Frances Brown to Phil and Shanna Covington, Lots 22 and 23 in Block 3 of the Park Place Addition.

Michael Todd and Sheila Ann Sorrells to the Dunn Cemetery Association, 5.9933 acres out of Section 88, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Patsy Gene Brackeen to Patsy Gene Brackeen, Custodian for Timothy Ray Green, the north 110 feet of Lot 2 in Block 22 of the Wilmeth Addition.

Joel E. Dennis to Dorothy Grimes, Lots 9-12 in Block 23 of the Replat of the Belmont Park Heights Addition.

Billy Joe and Darla Jean Willis to Shimrith and Sara Shelezinger, tract one being the south 100 feet of the west 100 feet of Lot 4 in Block 31 of the Blankenship Addition; tract two being the east 50 feet of Lot 4 in Block 31 of the Blankenship Addition.

Robert Gregory and Michelle Dorraine Lumpkins to Michael D. and Michelle R. Martini, Lot 8 in Block 10 of the Park Place Addition.

Keith and Karen Herrley to Double "H" Pizza Co. Inc., the north 130 feet of the south 230 feet out of the northeast one-quarter of Section 182, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Thomas Joe May to M&M Fuels Inc., tract one being an undivided one-eighth interest in 426 acres in the J.B. Scarborough Survey No. 1; tract two being Lot 14 in Block 3 of the Kittrell Heights Addition; tract three being Lot 4 in Block 2 of the Kittrell Heights Addition.

Guadalupe C. and Victorina V. Garcia to Ricky and Sandy Watson, a 0.62-acre tract out of the southeast one-quarter of Section 133, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Lawrence M. Magdovitz, Trustee, to Nationwide Real Estate, 0.14-acre tract out of the northeast part of Section 120, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Lana Prewitt Hataway to Emmitt Hataway, 2 acres out of Section 56, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Lana Prewitt Hataway to Emmitt Hataway, tract one being Lot 21 in Block 1 of the Kittrell Heights Addition; tract two being the west 50 feet of Lot 7 in Block 72 of the G&N Addition; tract three being the east 49.5 feet of Lot 26 and the west 12.50 feet of Lot 27 in Block 7 of the Highlands Addition; tract four being the west 48 feet of Lot 9 in Block 7 of the WA Addition; tract five being Lot 8 in Block 3 of the Morningside Addition; and tract six being the south 50 feet of Lot 1 in Block 37 of the Blankenship Addition.

Heath L. and Rosemary Watlington to Vernon K. Pittman, Lot 7 and the north 30 feet of Lot 8 in Block B of the Highland Park Addition.

Virginia Hill may be site of oldest American settlement

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — New research on an early human settlement in Virginia suggests that the Western Hemisphere was settled at least 15,000 years ago — far earlier than believed.

Don't expect the findings to settle the debate.

"I think it's enough to begin a resolution. I don't think it's going to end it," said Yale paleobotanist Lucinda McWeeney, who helped date the findings to be presented today at a conference of the Society for American Archaeology. "It means ... we need to keep an open mind, because some people did come here earlier."

Researchers studied material from an early human settlement on a sandy slope called Cactus Hill, 45 miles south of Richmond.

Their findings may finally force anthropologists to rethink the longstanding image of a wave of skin-clad, spear-carrying humans trudging over a land bridge from Siberia after the last ice age.

"The significant thing today is that we're very sure the site exists, that the older level really is there," said archaeologist Joseph M. McAvoy, leader of the research team.

Researchers generally agree humans evolved several hundred thousand years ago, possibly in Africa, then spread across Europe and Asia. In the 1930s, a dig near Clovis, N.M., revealed a "Clovis culture," characterized by distinctive spear points and dating back 10,900 to 11,500 years. The culture quickly spread throughout North America.

In 1997, a site in Chile called Monte Verde was found to have been occupied 12,500 years ago — 1,000 years earlier than Clovis.

McAvoy has worked since 1989 at Cactus Hill, about 100 yards from the Nottoway River, where Clovis tools had been found. But beneath the Clovis-era site, they found tools of a different material that dated back 15,000 to 17,000 years.

Soils scientist James Baker of Virginia Tech, with the help of laser dating, provided evidence that older areas of the site had not been polluted by the younger eras. The sand from the site was examined for evidence of disturbance by living material.

McWeeney used two methods to show that remains of white pine trees matched the time sequence provided by other evidence. Charred bone fragments were identified and believed to have been burned in a hearth rather than a forest fire.

The results prove humans occupied the site far earlier than the Clovis era, McAvoy said.

McAvoy said the earlier residents were hunter-gatherers and may have eaten the Eastern mud turtles and whitetail deer, burned remains of which were found. Their presence means the Americas were not populated by a single mass migration, he said.

"The Western Hemisphere was probably populated in spurts, probably starting more than 20,000 years ago, by small groups of nomadic hunters that just came in at various periods of time like opening and shutting the faucet of a sink," McAvoy said. "It wasn't a long significant migration probably until much later."

On the Net: Society site: http://www.saa.org

Accused general had been tapped for role of deputy inspector

WASHINGTON (AP) — The two-star general accused of sexually harassing the Army's most senior female officer had been announced last summer as the Army's next deputy inspector general, but he never assumed the post, officials said.

In November, about the time that Lt. Gen. Claudia Kennedy filed her sexual harassment complaint, Maj. Gen. Larry G. Smith was put on an administrative "hold" and posted to Army Materiel Command as a special assistant to the commanding general there, according to Army personnel records. He remains at that post.

The Army would not say Thursday why Smith's move to the deputy inspector general's job was frozen, but defense officials who spoke on condition of anonymity said it was because he came under investigation in the Kennedy matter.

Neither Kennedy nor Smith has discussed the matter publicly and both have declined, through Army spokesmen, to comment on a steady stream of media reports about the allegations, which came to light last week.

The matter is being investigated by the Army inspector general.

The identity of Smith as the officer accused by Kennedy was first made public Thursday by The New York Times, The Washington Post and The Washington Times. Army spokesman Col. Edwin Veiga and Defense Department spokesman Rear Adm. Craig Quigley both refused to comment on the newspaper reports.

"I'm not advancing this any bit further," Quigley said.

Other defense officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, confirmed that Smith is the accused general.

The New York Times reported that Kennedy told her superiors about the alleged sexual harassment — said to have taken place in her Pentagon office in 1996 — immediately after the incident but chose not to file a formal complaint.

Q & A

What is the forget me pill?

(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.)

What is the forget me pill?

"Someone must have slipped me a mickey."

How many times have we heard this line in a movie after someone wakes up after being drugged? But how real is that? Is it really possible for someone to slip something into your drink without you not even noticing it? Yes it is.

The drugs used are commonly known as Date Rape Drugs. "Roofies," "forget-me pill," and "liquid ecstasy" are street names given to these pills. You need to be aware of what they are and how you can fall prey to these potentially harmful and even deadly drugs.

First look at the "forget me pill." Its real name is Rohypnol. Rohypnol is a brand name for a prescription drug sold all over the world. In the USA it is not legal.

Rohypnol is a very potent transquilizer. Just to give an idea of how strong it is; it is several times stronger than valium. Many people are fooled when they see it in pill form because of the bubble packaging. This gives the appearance of being "legitimate" or safe, after all it's not cocaine or heroin. This is a dangerous, false sense of security.

In some countries this drug is used as an anesthetic for surgery. The reason it is not legal in the U.S. is because we have much safer and effective ways of putting people under anesthesia.

How are roofies used in date rapes? Bob goes to pick up Suzy. Suzy has met Bob a few times but may not know him all that well. After a few drinks together and dinner he asks her if they can go somewhere a little more private. She agrees.

She is feeling a little intoxicated but passes it off knowing she has had a couple of drinks. Within 20-30 minutes she is completely "intoxicated." She has the complete appearance of being drunk. She has lost her inhibitions and is at the mercy of Bob. She at this point could very easily lose consciousness.

How could this happen? Because roofies are odorless and have no taste when dissolved in a drink. Suzy will be in this intoxicated state, if she is conscious at all, for 8-24 hours depending on the dose and what alcohol she drank. The worst thing about the whole experience is that the drug can cause temporary amnesia. She will probably remember nothing of what happened after the drug started to take affect.

If the victim cannot remember being raped or how or even by who this makes for a difficult investigation. Now can you understand why it is called "the forget me pill." Police departments all across the country are reporting several women waking up nude in frat houses or other unfamiliar surroundings not having any remembrance of the night before.

In the movies things usually turn out okay for the victim but remember you can write the script for your own life. Next week we will talk more about the other affects of roofies and how you can avoid playing Suzy in this scenario.

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 (915) 573-1141 or 1-800-658-6722. Information on help groups and individual's phone numbers may be found in the SDN Community Calendar.

Newt Gingrich's divorce is final

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — Newt Gingrich's divorce from his wife of 18 years is final.

A judge on Thursday approved a settlement agreement reached by the couple in December. Terms were not made public. Marianne Gingrich appeared in court to answer routine questions, but the former House speaker wasn't present.

"This is a very sad day for Marianne," said her attorney, John Mayoue.

Gingrich, 56, separated from his wife in May and filed for divorce in July.

St. Elizabeth Sausage Festival

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
Sausage Dinner Complete
With All The Trimmings

•Game Booths
• Country Store

Sunday, April 9
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center
30th at Ave. A, Snyder, Texas
Meal Tickets Sold At Door
$6 Adults
$3 Children 12 & Under
$6 All Take Outs

Sausage Sold By The Pound
$2.75 Lb. (Uncooked)
$3.75 Lb. (Cooked)

Celebrate The Miracle of Easter
with the First Baptist Family!

Easter Morning Worship Service
10:15 am Sunday, April 23rd
at Snyder High School's Worsham Auditorium

Musical Presentation: "God For Us"
Featuring the Combined Choirs of
First Baptist Church and
Colonial Hill Baptist Church.
7:00 pm Friday and Saturday,
April 21st and 22nd
First Baptist Church Worship Center

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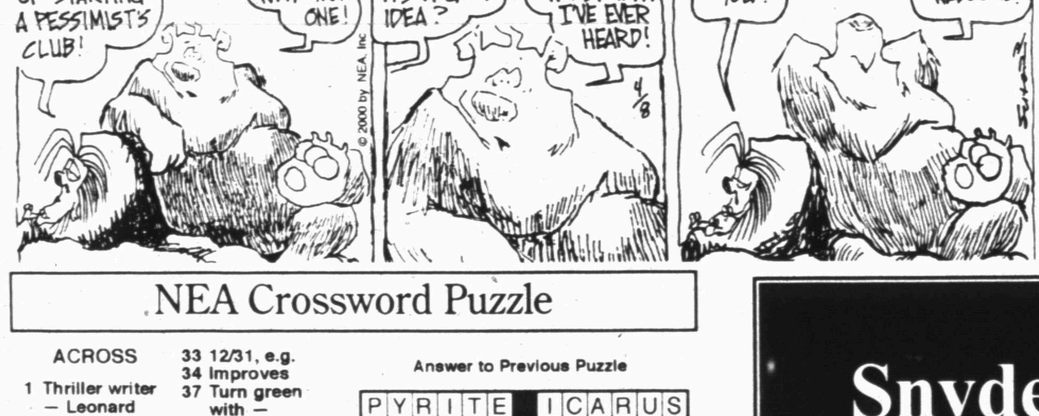

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Thriller writer — Leonard
7 Avoided adroitly
13 Actor Harvey —
14 Rationally
15 Bars of metal
16 Of a social group
17 — degree
18 Roman three
20 — — standstill
21 Acquires
23 Common tree
24 Solar disk
25 Russian's negative
27 Spring festival
29 Sounds of contentment
31 Make an edging
32 Grant's foe
33 12/31, e.g.
34 Improves
37 Turn green with —
40 Novelist Bagnold
41 Toward the stern
43 Per —
45 Author Rand
46 Mountain peak
47 Nahoor sheep
48 Journey
51 Indian and Atlantic
54 Glossy paint
55 Goal
56 Military guard
57 Goes 95 mph

DOWN

1 — out (just getting by)
2 Of a penitential period
3 Powerful
4 Ear (comb. form)
5 Soak (flax)
6 Ms. Dinsmore
7 Calculate approximately
8 Ape
9 Kin of mono
10 Formal argument
11 Click beetle
12 Singer Bob —
19 — de France
22 Closed securely
24 Be present
26 In that case
28 Rescue
30 In a dignified manner
34 Indefinite person
35 Certain quorum
36 Calif. airline destination
38 Countenance
39 Pined
40 Roof edges
42 Jogs
44 Poles
49 Qty.
50 Neighbor of Fr.
52 Brimless hat
53 Before, to a poet

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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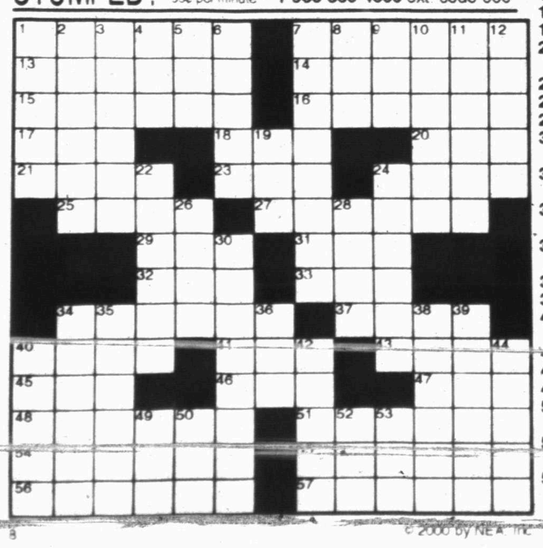

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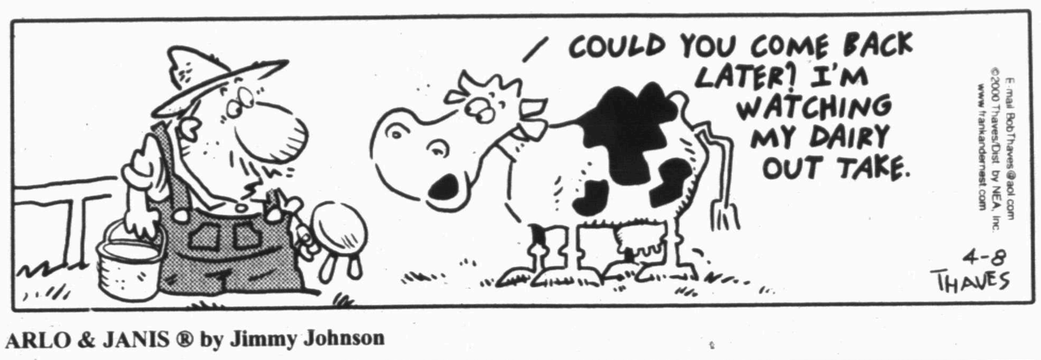

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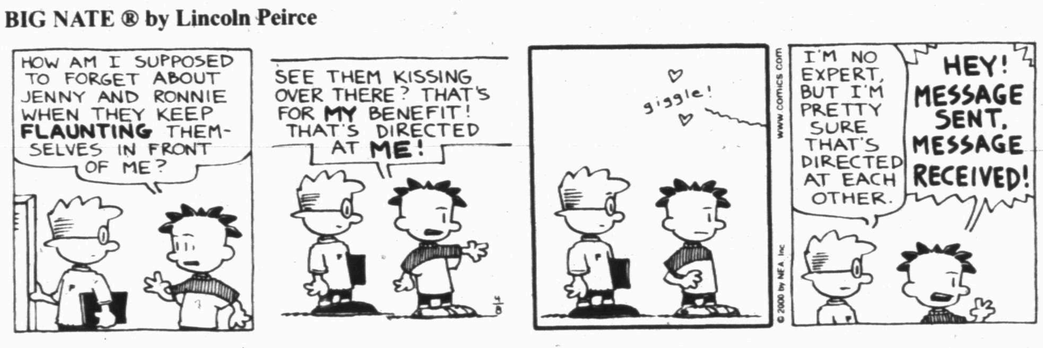

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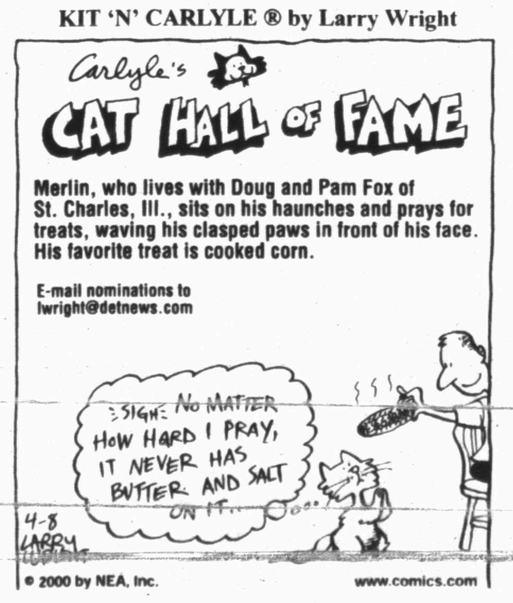
HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"At least try the earrings! This lot cost me $6."

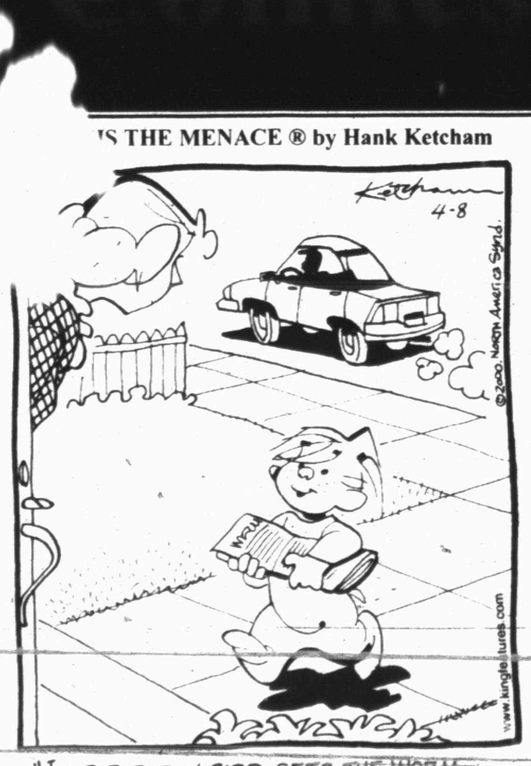
KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Snyder Daily News

Comics

'S THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"IF THE EARLY BIRD GETS THE WORM... I WOULDN'T WANNA BE THE EARLY WORM."

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Don Taylor
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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Mom thankful that son views marriage as equal partnership

DEAR ABBY: I feel the need to respond to "Curious," regarding who should write thank-you notes. When my son and his wife were married, they decided that it would be a joint effort, with each responding to the gifts from their own family and friends, and working together on those for mutual friends. I had several of my friends and family members compliment me on what wonderful thank-you notes they received — and they were very impressed that he had written them.

When he was young, I impressed upon him the fact that household responsibilities are for all who live in the home, not designated to certain genders. I came from a home with all sisters, and we helped with all duties. His father came from a home with all brothers, and I know he would never write a thank-you note because this would have never been expected in his family. I am proud and pleased that my son assumes and shares all responsibilities with his spouse. The husband of "Curious" needs to get a clue! — **PROUD MOTHER IN OGDEN, UTAH**

DEAR PROUD MOTHER: Orchids to you. You have done your job well, and you deserve to be proud. Whether it's conscious or unconscious, mothers have tremendous influence on the attitudes they impart to their sons — and you seem to have imparted a sense of gender neutrality to yours.

**

DEAR ABBY: Last summer, my Cadillac "died" amidst busy traffic in a rundown area of town. I had to walk quite a ways before finding a telephone to summon help. When I returned to the car, I "directed" traffic around it for at least 45 minutes.

During that time, 17 people stopped and offered to push my vehicle to the curb or phone for assistance. I thanked them all, but said help was on the way. One lady even offered to let me sit in her air-conditioned car to wait, as it was a hot day. When I refused with thanks, she handed me a cold can of pop!

Finally a nice man parked on a side street, walked back and said he wanted to help me, even though I said help was coming. He replied, "If my mother were in trouble, I would want someone to help her!" Then he got my car started and insisted on following me all the way to the Cadillac agency (at least 10 blocks). These wonderful good Samaritans all stopped during their busy day to help a stranger!

I am a 67-year-old Caucasian woman, Abby, and 16 of those 17 people who stopped were black. When my local paper chose not to print this, I hoped that you would. It is a true testament of compassion, when all we seem to read about is the bad side of life. — **ANN ALDRICH, COLUMBUS, OHIO**

DEAR ANN: Thank you for pointing out that there are caring, concerned people in every neighborhood. The level of affluence has nothing to do with it, and neither does the skin color of the residents.

**

CONFIDENTIAL TO "LIVING LIFE TO THE FULLEST": "Live all you can; it's a mistake not to. It doesn't so much matter what you do in particular so long as you have your life." (Henry James, 1843-1916)

**

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, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

****

DEAR ABBY: Because your name is synonymous with good advice, we wanted to share with you and your readers some of Uncle Sam's best advice for today's woman.

The "Women's Consumer Survival Kit" is a free package of up to 20 federal consumer booklets tailored especially for women by the Consumer Information Center. This free package is designed to help empower women to take positive control of their lives. The booklets contain vital information for staying healthy, taking medicines, buying a home, investing, getting federal benefits and handling consumer complaints.

Abby, we appreciate your assistance in getting this valuable consumer information to your readers, but please tell them to place their orders now, because supplies are limited. — **TERESA NAVARRO NASIF, DIRECTOR, U.S. CONSUMER INFORMATION CENTER**

DEAR TERESA: Your offer proves the truth of the saying, "The best things in life are free!" I have reviewed the booklets you are offering, and they're chock-full of information on food and women's health, home and finance, Social Security and Medicare.

There are three ways to order the "Women's Consumer Survival Kit":

1. Call toll-free: 1-888-878-3256 weekdays 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Eastern time, and ask for the Women's Consumer Survival Kit.
2. Send name and address to "Women's Consumer Survival Kit," Pueblo, CO 81009.
3. Go online to check out and order it through the Consumer Information Center's Web site at www.pueblo.gsa.gov. While you are there, you can read, print out or save any publication on the site for free.

Readers, the survival kits will be sent at no cost to you — no postage, no fees. God bless America!

**

DEAR ABBY: My fiance, "Ric," and I share a home and a child, and very soon a marriage certificate. When his best friend was married last fall, Ric was asked to be a part of the wedding party. However, when the invitation arrived, I was not included. I took his suit to the cleaners for the rehearsal party, picked up his tuxedo, shopped for the wedding gift (which cost more than expected), and sat at home with our son all weekend while he participated in the festivities, without complaining.

Since the wedding, his friend and his new bride have invited Ric to participate in various other outings with them — and, you guessed it — they have conveniently forgotten to include me, or to even acknowledge that I am a significant part of his life.

I have since told Ric that their lack of tact bothers me, but he continues to participate solo, I continue to sit at home and wait, and his friends continue to exclude me. Am I wrong to be hurt by this inconsiderate behavior, or to feel as if he has betrayed me by letting this continue? — **TIRED OF BEING TAKEN FOR GRANTED, NORFOLK, VA.**

DEAR TIRED: Since you share a home and a child together, it should have been clear to your fiance's friends a long time ago that he is in a committed relationship. And that means you should have been included in the invitations. You are being treated with disrespect and lack of consideration.

The person to blame for this is Ric. It is long past the point where he should have made clear to his friends that you are a couple, and if they want his company, you are part of the package. Ask him why he has allowed you to be excluded, and why he is socializing without you. Listen closely to his answer. If Ric isn't willing to put a stop to it now, you'd be wise to rethink marrying him, because I predict he'll make your future miserable.

**

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby's "Keepers," P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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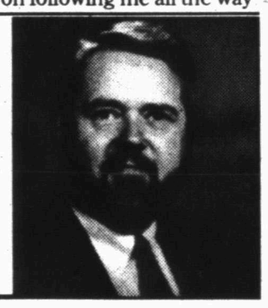
Minding Your Own Business

By Don Taylor



Ten Technology Myths — Some E-commerce Fiction

Part one of a three part series

The great enemy of the truth is very often not the lie — deliberate, contrived and dishonest — but the myth — persistent, persuasive and unrealistic. — John F. Kennedy

In business conversations, I often hear people say, "I saw that on the Internet." The Internet has quickly become an easily accessible source of information. To many people, just reading an article, story or chat room conversation online establishes complete credibility. I call this the "I- read-it-on-the-Internet-it-must-be-true" myth.

Recently, I made a technology presentation to a national trade association. Now, I should stress here that I'm not a technology guru. I do understand the value technology can bring to business, but personally, I'm a late stage adopter when it comes to computers and related technology. Therefore, I found myself reading hundreds of articles, news stories, books and editorials as I gathered research for this critical presentation.

The deeper I dug looking for factual, useful and interesting information the more myths I found. Since the deadline for this column approaches relentlessly every week, I began to write down these pieces of "misinformation" with a future column on the topic in mind.

I soon found 10 myths regarding the Internet and E-commerce that are being propagated in various media. I hope my pointing out these myths to you will help you keep your business focus, avoid technology traps and boost your bottom line.

Almost the truth

(Myth Number One: If you have a product or service worth selling, it's worth selling on the Internet.

Fact: Not all products and services are well suited for "online selling." For example, some customer groups are very infrequent users of online services. If your target customers aren't online, you are wasting resources that should be redirected to effective marketing methods.

Fact: Some products and services require trust in the relationship. Personally, I don't believe I'll trust my lifetime savings with an E-commerce broker in the Cayman Islands.

Fact: Even Gateway, the online seller of computers, has opened nearly 100 retail stores to serve customers who need a person-to-person relationship before they invest in a computer. Not all potential customers will buy online.

I don't care to order hot tamales online. I don't want to receive a massage online. I prefer to go to my favorite restaurant for a relaxing meal. No, not all things worth selling are best sold online. Promoted yes, sold no.

(Myth Number Two: People don't shop the Internet looking for low prices.

Fact: Price shopping or price checking is a leading reason why E-commerce shoppers enjoy the Internet. They can, in a very short time, visit many E-tailers and compare offerings and prices.

There are even search engines available to locate the lowest priced items. You simply type in the product you're looking for and the engine will find the best prices for you. There is no "salesperson-looking-over-your-shoulder" pressure.

Price shopping online requires little investment other than time. There might be even more price checkers in traditional retailing if customers didn't have to drive from store to store and exert some effort to compare several prices. What takes minutes online may consume hours in the real world.

Remember this: Wal-Mart is the world's largest retailer. Their FY2000 sales grew by 20 percent to $165 billion. For 38 years, they have focused on one main marketing theme: low prices always.

Next week we'll debunk some more E-commerce myths in part two of this three-part series. Don't miss "Ten Technology Myths" part two.

Don Taylor is the co-author of Up Against the Wal-Marts. You may write to him in care of Minding Your Own Business, PO Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105.

Protestors are headed to Washington

WASHINGTON (AP) — Opponents of China, protectors of the rain forest, and religious groups pushing for Third World debt relief are all coming to town. And the police are asking: Will this be a replay of the Battle in Seattle?

Energized by their successes contributing to the collapse of the World Trade Organization talks in a cloud of tear gas last December in Seattle, a host of anti-globalization forces are taking aim at their next target — the spring meetings of the 182-nation International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

Organized under the umbrella name Mobilization for Global Justice, the protest groups, ranging from the AFL-CIO to Friends of the Earth, are planning 10 days of teach-ins and demonstrations starting Saturday.

The focus of their efforts will be a massive rally in a park across the street from the White House on April 16, followed by a march down Pennsylvania Avenue to the headquarters of the IMF and World Bank, where finance ministers will be gathering for the start of their meetings.

"We think this will be the biggest thing to happen to the IMF in its history. It will serve like Seattle did for the WTO to put the IMF on the map for people to notice. The IMF is doing some very bad things," said Scott Nova of Global Trade Watch.

The protesters believe that the operating rules of the WTO, IMF and World Bank are rigged in favor of wealthy multinational corporations at the expense of poor people, labor unions and the environment.

Labor unions hope to attract 10,000 people to the Capitol grounds next Wednesday to demonstrate against the Clinton administration's push in Congress to grant China permanent normal trade relations with the United States.

Religious groups will have their own Capitol rally this Sunday when they plan to form a human chain around the building to demonstrate for greater debt relief for poor countries.

World Bank President James Wolfensohn today praised the "enormous conribution" that these groups, organized under the name Jubilee 2000, were making.

"While we do not agree with every aspect of how to address this challenge, we salute the coalition for helping to bring this critical issue to the world's attention," Wolfensohn said in a statement.

Protesters also plan to be on hand early in the morning on April 14 outside the gates of Andrews Air Force Base to provide a sendoff for the undecided lawmakers being flown to China by the administration, which hopes the trip will convince them to support the China trade bill.

"We want to give them a sendoff party and make sure they have their propaganda survival kits, which include a Bible and picture of the Dali Lama," said Lori Wallach of Ralph Nader's Public Citizen.

Groups preparing for the IMF and World Bank demonstrations have been taking training in such activities as blocking traffic, hanging banners from tall buildings and being chained to immovable objects. They insist their demonstrations will be nonviolent.

"The protesters are the ones who will decide if this is going to be peaceful or if it's not going to be peaceful," said District of Columbia Police Chief Charles Ramsey.

His department will have 1,500 officers ready — nearly half the force. They have spent $1 million on new helmets and body armor and have been watching training videos on what the Seattle police did wrong.

Demonstrators in Seattle were able to block key intersections and keep WTO delegates from attending the opening sessions. Police quickly lost control of the situation, firing tear gas and rubber bullets into the crowds while a handful of self-styled anarchists broke windows and set fires in the downtown area.

Television viewers who had never heard of the WTO were treated to scenes of National Guard units patrolling boarded-up downtown streets after the governor declared a state of emergency.

If the threat of thousands of protesters at their doors was not bad enough, the IMF and the World Bank are having to contend with critics in Congress who want to see the institutions either radically downsized or shut completely because of what the opponents say was a botched handling of the Asian currency crisis.

The IMF's acting managing director, Stanley Fischer, said this week he was confident that local authorities could control the demonstrators and that the meeting would proceed on schedule to tackle the agency's important reform agenda.

He rejected suggestions during a news conference that the demonstrators might force a rescheduling of the meeting or a change of location. But asked about the possibility of using helicopters to get delegates through blocked streets, Fischer joked, "Maybe it's not a bad idea."

On the Net: Mobilization for Global Justice site: http://www.a16.org
IMF site: http://www.imf.org
World Bank site: http://www.worldbank.org

Burt Bacharach puts tour on hold because of broken bone suffered in fall

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Burt Bacharach has put his concert tour on hold and returned home to Los Angeles while he recovers from a broken bone suffered in a fall.

Bacharach, 71, fractured his left shoulder Wednesday when he missed a step during a rehearsal at the Indiana Roof Ballroom, according to a statement from his publicist. The injury forced him to cancel concerts scheduled for this weekend in Milwaukee.

Bacharach hopes to continue his tour after consulting with his doctors.

Bacharach, a pop star in the 1960s, has seen his music gain new life in the soundtracks of "My Best Friend's Wedding" and "Austin Powers, International Man of Mystery."

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(Editor's Note: Citizens are invited to write their servicemen and servicewomen stationed stateside and overseas. Anyone having additions, changes or corrections to the list should submit them in writing to the Snyder Daily News, P.O. Box 949, Snyder, TX, 79550, or bring them by the office at 3600 College Ave. Sorry, no addresses will be accepted over the telephone.

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PSE 559 PO BX 5530
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DA accused of stalling police indictments

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A prosecutor who was removed from the county's police corruption probe has accused the district attorney of stalling efforts to indict rogue officers, the Daily News of Los Angeles reported today.

Just days after the prosecutor's reassignment, another deputy district attorney was ordered to delay his efforts to file charges in a separate case against Rampart police officers.

House Republicans embrace report on low Internet taxes

WASHINGTON (AP) — A federal commission report urging Congress not to permit taxes to block the Internet's growth got a warm welcome from House Republicans despite lingering claims that the report is one-sided.

"I heartily endorse the majority proposals," said Rep. Tom Bliley, R-Va., chairman of the House Commerce Committee. "If there's one recurring theme in that record, it is that taxation and regulation could kill the goose that's laid the golden egg."

Gov. Jim Gilmore, R-Va., chairman of the 19-member Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce, said lawmakers should embrace the panel's majority report even though it largely fell short of the two-thirds vote needed for a formal recommendation to Congress.

The report, Gilmore told a Commerce subcommittee Thursday, outlines a "constructive foundation for legislative action that will have a tangible positive impact on the lives of working men and women and their families."

Traditional retailers, organizations representing state and local governments and three senators today took issue with Gilmore's presentation, saying it did not represent a consensus on the commission and ignores concerns of fairness among all forms of commerce and the potential loss of billions of dollars in sales taxes.

Sen. George Voinovich, R-Ohio, said at a Capitol Hill news conference that the opponents would "make sure the majority opinion isn't greased through the United States Congress. We're not out to try to stick it to anyone. We want the system to be fair to everyone."

Gov. Mike Leavitt, R-Utah, chairman of the National Governors' Association and a dissenting member of the e-commerce commission, said many opponents of the majority report want Congress to allow states to develop their own interstate compact for the collection of sales taxes on e-commerce by Dec. 31, 2003.

Bliley said the critics were arguing about "process" and that it was "hard to sympathize" with them because commission opponents of the report abstained during many of the panel's crucial votes last month.

"I suspect what's really going on here is a hidden agenda, an agenda to tax the Internet," Bliley said. "Consumers expect tax relief from this Congress. They should get it."

The commission's six business members and those with a clear anti-tax position, including Gilmore, approved a majority report asking that Congress:

—Permanently ban any tax on Internet access and repeal a handful of state taxes already on the books.

—Repeal the 3 percent telephone excise tax enacted in 1898 to finance the Spanish-American War.

—Extend for five more years the moratorium on new or discriminatory Internet taxes, which expires in October 2001.

—Encourage state and local governments to streamline sales tax systems so that eventually one rate would apply in every state.

—Define in law when a business has physical presence, or "nexus," in a state for sales tax purposes.

Several of the proposals have already been introduced as bills in Congress and have strong bipartisan support, especially repealing the telephone tax.

Some Democrats said the Internet tax panel failed to recognize the potential that state and local governments could eventually lose billions of dollars in sales tax revenue if growing electronic commerce becomes a tax haven.

"We can't predict the weather three or four years from now by looking out the window today," said Rep. Ed Markey, D-Mass. "If we're going to exempt one part of the economy from taxation, we're talking about raising taxes in another part of the economy."

On the Net:
Advisory Commission on Electronic Commerce:
http://www.ecommercecommission.org
Congress:
http://www.thomas.loc.gov

Queen makes royal profit

LONDON (AP) — Queen Elizabeth II made a royal paper profit Saturday as a new Internet venture floated shares on Britain's Alternative Investment Market.

Getmapping.com PLC, which is preparing aerial photographs of the whole of Britain, set an initial offer price of $3.20 per share.

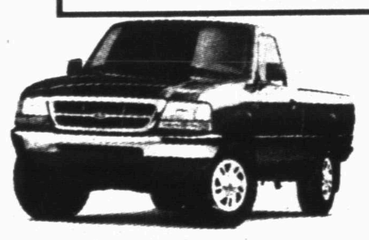
The queen had invested $160,000 for a 1.5 percent stake in the company before the flotation, and her shares were already worth $1.4 million at the initial offer price. The stock closed Saturday at $3.58 per share, leaving the queen with $1.6 million.

The queen became involved with the company after it won her seal of approval to dedicate to her its facsimiles of the Domesday Book, the 11th-century survey of England commissioned by William the Conqueror.

The company, set up in 1998, says it has photographed 85 percent of England and expects to complete the whole of the United Kingdom this year.

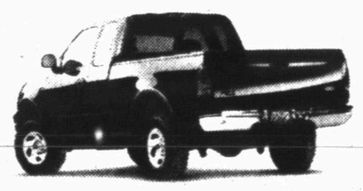
The company said it would use the $11.2 million raised by the share offer to develop its Web site and to begin aerial mapping of other countries.

On the Net:
company's Web site:
www.getmapping.com

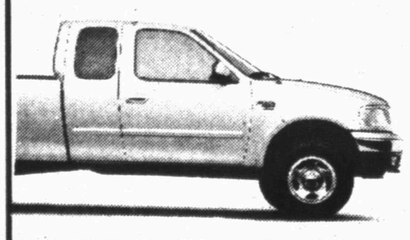


2000 Ford Ranger XLT
V-6 Automatic, Four Door Option, Power Windows, Power Locks, Tilt & Cruise #20063
136.00* Mo.
*MSRP $20,355. Rebate To Dealer, 25% Down Cash or Trade, 12,000 Miles a Year, RCO 58% Residual, 1% APR 24 Months, Final Payment $12,009 WAC

2000 1/2 Ton Ford Supercab XLT
V-6, 5 Speed, 17 Inch Wheels & Tires, Texas-Oklahoma Sport Truck, Solid White, CD Player #20173
124.00* Mo.



*MSRP $24,435. 12,000 Miles a Year, Rebate to Dealer, 25% Cash or Trade, RCO 61% Residual, 5% APR 24 Months, Final Payment $14,966 WAC



2000 Ford Supercab XLT
V-8 Automatic, Power Locks, Power Windows, Tilt, Cruise, Power Seats #20218
149.00* Mo.
*MSRP $26,300. Rebate To Dealer, 25% Down Cash or Trade, 12,000 Miles a Year, RCO 64% Residual, 5% APR 24 Months, Final Payment $16,832 WAC

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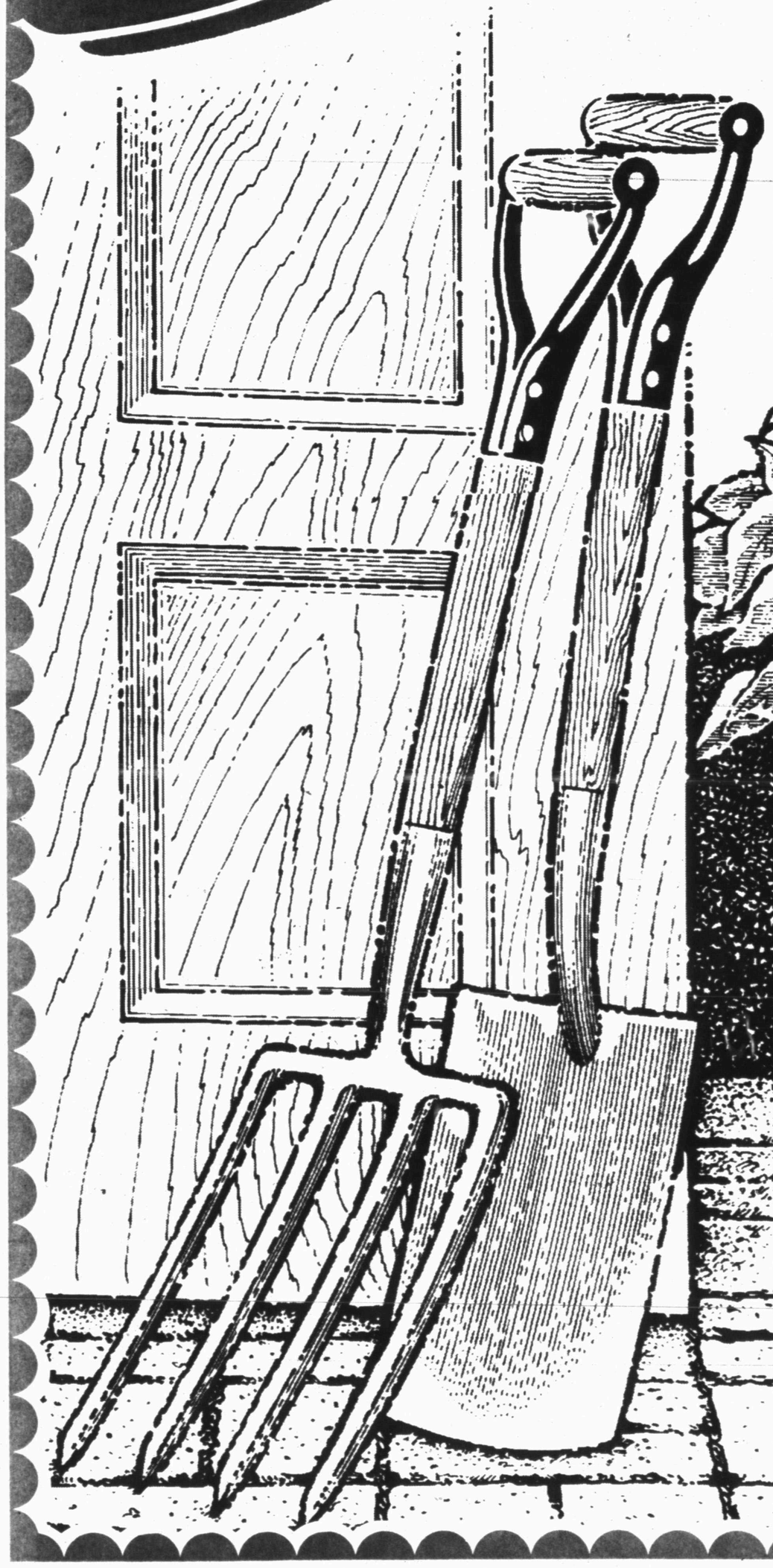

APRIL 9, 2000

The Snyder Daily News
Section C
Sunday, April 9, 2000

Spring Dream Projects Come to Life

Proper Planning Is Important To Any Home-Improvement Job

Before the birds begin to sing in the trees, homeowners already have their spring home-improvement projects planned. Whether it's replacing windows, reshingling the roof or installing new flooring, they're ready to take action as soon as the weather gets warm.

Whether people are doing the work themselves or hiring professionals, proper planning is an important part of any home-improvement project. When hiring a contractor, people need to know exactly what they want done, so they can meet with professionals, explain the work and get realistic estimates. Do-it-yourselfers need to plan ahead to ensure they have set aside enough time for the project, have the right equipment and materials, and understand the work that needs to be done.

Having the proper equipment means not only having the tools specifically designed for the task at hand, but also having tools that are in good condition. It is a good idea for do-it-yourselfers to check that tools are in working order before beginning a project. All handles should be fixed firmly into the tool's working end, and jaw teeth, cutters and blades should be sharp. Any tools that are damaged should be thrown away.

If, when planning a project, do-it-yourselfers find that they don't have a tool they need, they can buy, rent or borrow it. Renting or borrowing allows them to see if they like a particular model or brand, making the decision easier when they finally decide to buy the tool. If people want to buy the tool, many home-improvement professionals recommend going to a knowledgeable local dealer. While prices may not be as inexpensive as those in a catalog, do-it-yourselfers will be able to get a feel for the tool before buying it.

After getting the proper equipment, people should follow the manufacturer's instructions when using each tool. Tools should be kept clean, dry and away from excessive heat. Before using a tool near electricity, people should shut off the current. They also should use steady pressure on jaws or cutters, instead of rocking the tool. If they are doing continuous work, it is a good idea to wear gloves or use comfort grips to help avoid getting blisters or calluses.

With the proper planning and right tools and materials, people are well on their way to a successful project and a more beautiful home. *SH961952*

Here's How to Choose Vinyl Windows To Block Unwanted Heat Flow

(MPS) — If you're building or remodeling a house and have noticed deterioration of your window frames, you'll soon have to make a decision about new or replacement windows.

You'll find a multitude of styles, shapes and sizes from which to choose in a variety of material systems.

Your first step is to shop among reputable building-products brands, brands that stand behind their products.

You'll find a wide selection of windows sold through building-materials dealers and home centers. You'll want to look for windows that feature solid construction, energy efficiency and low maintenance for your busy lifestyle. Your choice is critical in ensuring beauty, as well as performance.

For a number of reasons, many homeowners are choosing window frames made of vinyl over those made of primed wood, wood with vinyl or aluminum cladding, or aluminum. Often, vinyl windows are less expensive than traditional wood or wood windows with vinyl or aluminum cladding. Vinyl windows also effectively block heat escape, which occurs through gaps and cracks in wood frames. Unlike wood, vinyl windows don't require painting, saving you time during installation, as well as costly maintenance down the road.

While aluminum windows are generally the least expensive windows, their disadvantages are aesthetics and energy efficiency. Heat flows readily through the frame from indoors to outdoors, making the indoor side of the window feel cold. This problem applies even to aluminum frames that are "thermally broken," i.e., have insulation between the interior and exterior parts. (Aluminum is fine, though, to reinforce horizontal members of large windows.)

If you decide the low maintenance and energy efficiency of vinyl windows appeal to you, check out the following details. And, remember, not all vinyl windows are created equal:

- Welded corners are airtight and watertight and won't pull apart after exposure to heat and cold.
- For increased energy efficiency, look for Low-E/Argon glazing, which helps keep the house warmer in winter and cooler in summer.
- Consider double-pane windows, which also slow heat flow through a window, nearly halving the heat loss that can occur through a single pane.
- R-value measures a window's resistance to heat flow, so the higher the R-value, the greater the insulating performance.
- U-value measures the actual heat transfer through a window's frame and glass, so a lower U-value means the window is insulating more efficiently.
- The new single-hung and double-hung tilt windows make cleaning a breeze, and many casements open a full 90 degrees. Check the tilt features out on a couple of different brands.
- Installation ease may be a factor if you're doing the replacement work yourself. Look for a frame depth of at least 3¼ inches or one that may not be as deep but is offered with an accessory — a drywall return or wood return — that snaps on to the frame and brings drywall or wood flush against the window, so you won't have to caulk or trim.
- Check the warranty. Ten years for glass and lifetime for vinyl are reasonable. The warranty should be nonprorated.

Choosing windows is often a complicated exercise. Following these tips should help you through the purchase process and ensure your new windows will contribute to your comfort and savings throughout the year.

Search for the Simple Life Drives Demand for Low-Maintenance Surfaces

Time at home is becoming more of a luxury than ever. People constantly are searching for ways to simplify their lives to provide more time for family and fun.

This move toward simpler lifestyles is spilling over into home design, creating a demand for carefree surfacing options. Renewed interest in easy maintenance is driving the resurgence of decorative laminate as a preferred surfacing option.

"Everyone wants to make life simpler. Products that are easy to maintain mean we spend less time doing household chores and more time with our families," says Lynne Wilde, consumer specialist for Wilsonart International. "For years, laminate has been used on counters and cabinetry for its durability and low-maintenance characteristics. And, for the same reasons, laminate is now traveling onto our floors."

Laminate flooring has been popular in Europe for many years, but the U.S. market is just now beginning to note its benefits, Wilde says. Recently introduced Wilsonart® Flooring, with a surface of high-pressure decorative laminate, provides the same wipe-clean maintenance as laminate countertops.

"It is a great alternative to traditional flooring options, such as wood, tile and vinyl, in areas where impact-resistance, wear-resistance and easy maintenance are a must," she comments.

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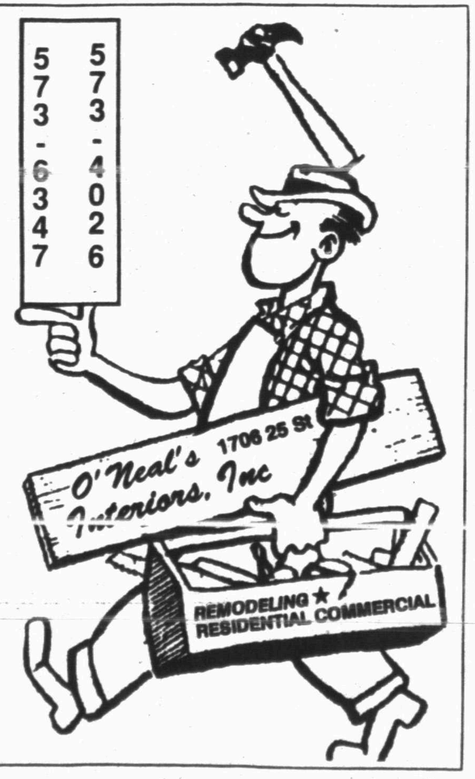
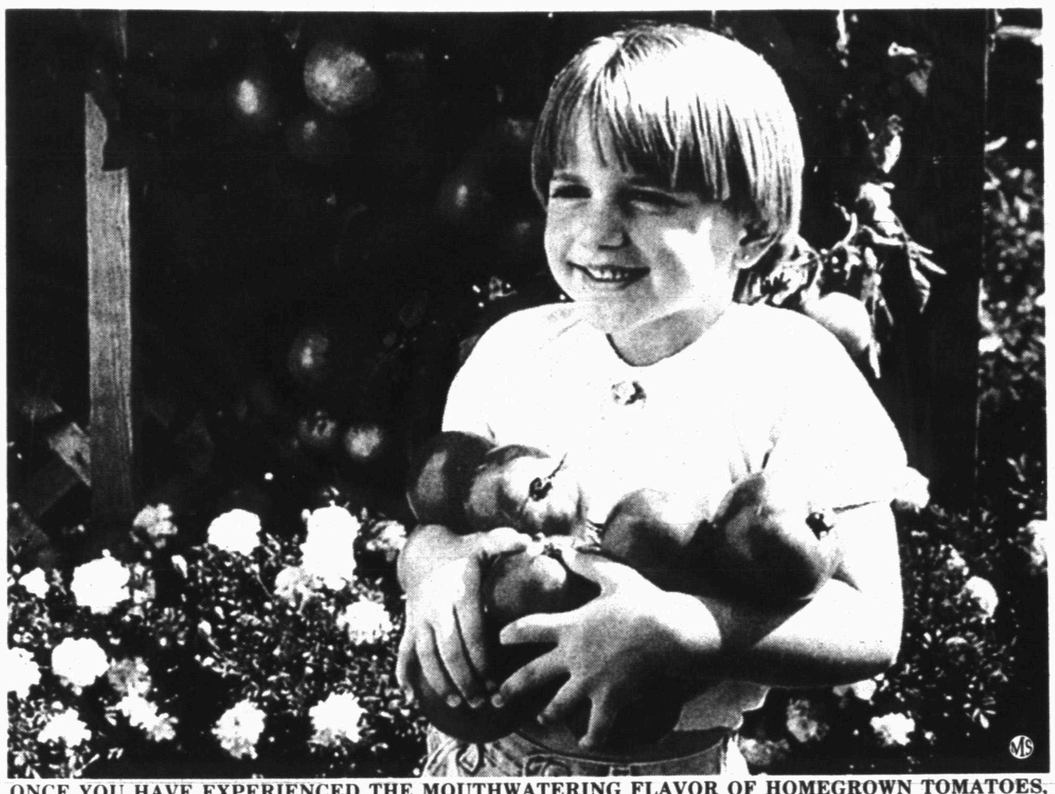


This Season, Get to the Root of Great Gardening



ONCE YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED THE MOUTHWATERING FLAVOR OF HOMEGROWN TOMATOES, it's easy to understand why they are so immensely popular. To learn more about tomatoes, including Burpee's Fourth of July, the earliest variety available, visit the Web site at www.burpee.com.

Tips on How to Grow Great-Tasting Tomatoes

(MS)— There is nothing better than a tomato that has been allowed to fully ripen on the plant. In fact, tomatoes are the No. 1 home garden vegetable. Growing a great one, however, takes some skill. Whether you're growing the smallest cherry varieties or a 2-pound-plus giant, with a little know-how, you can harvest rich, delicious tomatoes of every description from early summer to first frost.

For 124 years, breeders at W. Atlee Burpee & Co. have introduced hundreds of tomatoes for different uses and tastes. Here are some tips from Burpee that will help you get a great start on an excellent crop this year.

• **What types to choose —** There's no need to limit the number of tomato types you choose when planning a home garden. There are the early varieties, which are vigorous growers that yield fruit much sooner than others. In terms of size, tomatoes can range from the cherry tomatoes, ideal for salads and snacking, to the giants, with old-fashioned beefsteak flavor. The great-producing varieties can promise heavy yields of large fruits. Saladette tomatoes are great in salads and sauces; while paste tomatoes are best for cooking. Winter-storage varieties last longer off the vine without refrigeration. With planning, you can enjoy homegrown tomatoes all season long.

• **When to sow and transplant —** You can sow tomato seeds directly in your garden after the final frost, however, to get an early start and a season-long harvest, start your seeds indoors six to eight weeks before planting. After they are well rooted, plant them outdoors, spaced 30 inches apart. For lusher plants and healthier fruits, Burpee recommends using a plant food with calcium. Calcium helps maintain the flow of water through the plant into the fruit so that during rapid growth periods, the tomatoes will have adequate fluids and won't rot.

• **How to support —** Burpee recommends supporting your plants with stakes, cages or trellises. This not only keeps the tomatoes off the ground, it also improves air circulation so you will have larger, cleaner, more perfect fruits.

• **When to harvest —** To get the wonderful flavor that only homegrown tomatoes can produce, leave tomatoes on the plant until they ripen to their fullest. Once you pick a tomato, it stops developing flavor. The longer the tomato is on the plant, the more time it has to develop the natural sugars that make it sweet. Red-fruited varieties are ready when they are a full, deep red. Yellow and orange-fruited tomatoes are ripe when their color is well developed. Winter-storage tomatoes, like the Red October, can keep three to four weeks longer than other varieties.

To learn more about tomato varieties and care, visit Burpee online at www.burpee.com or call (800) 888-1447.

Gardeners Should Protect Eyes Outdoors

For many people, working in the yard or home garden is relaxing and enjoyable. Whether you're a weekend-only gardener, or grow roses for show, you should protect your eyes when working outdoors. Each year, power lawn trimmers alone cause more than 1,500 eye injuries. Tree or bush branches can cause painful scratches to the eye. And, burns or eye irritations caused by fertilizers and weedkillers also can occur.

To help prevent eye injuries in the home garden environment, the American Optometric Association (www.aoanet.org) offers this advice:

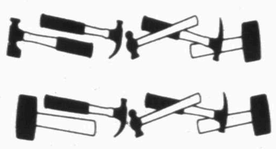
• Wear wraparound safety goggles, made of polycarbonate — the strongest lens material available. They can be found at hardware and department stores. Look for a label saying the goggles meet the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Z87.1 standard.

• Don't rely on ordinary prescription glasses for eye safety. Although they are impact-resistant, they are not intended as safety eyewear. In addition, chemical or spray dust can get around them easily.

• Wear sunglasses that block 99 to 100 percent of the sun's UV-A and UV-B (ultraviolet) radiation and screen out 75 to 90 percent of light. If the eyes can be seen through the lenses, they are not dark enough. A gray tint is recommended because it does not distort color perception. Green and brown tints also are acceptable.

• Cover the sharp tips of bamboo or metal stakes (often used for tomato or climbing plants) with plastic wire nuts to prevent an accidental puncture wound.

Last but not least, remember to have an eye examination every year or two. Good vision is needed to read instructions on seed packages, fertilizer bags and weedkiller bottles, and for spotting those pesky weeds! ◆ *GT004284*



If you're not sure whether you need a new roof, the roofing experts at GAF offer the following key danger signals that your roofing system is not protecting your home:

- Leakage in the attic after a driving rain. Possible causes: leaky or inadequate shingle underlayment or deteriorated flashing.
- Blistering and/or peeling of inside or outside paint. Possible causes: excessive moisture or high humidity due to poor attic ventilation.
- Stains on interior ceilings and walls. Possible cause: inadequate or faulty shingle underlayment allowing leakage from ice dams.
- Roof shingle, sheathing or siding decay. Possible cause: poor attic ventilation.
- Missing, cracked or curling shingles. Possible cause: shingles have reached the end of their useful life.
- Dark, "dirty-looking" areas on your roof. Possible causes: environmental pollutants; vegetation, fungus or algae growth; loss of granules due to age of shingles.
- Excessive energy costs. Possible cause: Insufficient attic ventilation causes heating/cooling system to run excessively.

Shape Decorative Garden Container Displays

Container gardening can bring new life to traditional gardening techniques. From teacups to terra-cotta pots, any container can house a beautiful garden.

There are many factors to keep in mind when creating a container garden. Color, size and texture of flowers and type of container all are notions to be considered. Shape also is a design element that can be adapted to fit the creative style of the gardener. The following six basic planting shapes are courtesy of "Container Gardening Through the Year" (DK), by Malcolm Hillier.

FAN-SHAPED

Plants and shrubs that splay out into an attractive fan shape work well in terra-cotta pots that are conical in shape. Select plants that grow to about one-and-a-half times the container height for a balanced display.

VERTICAL

To create visual symmetry, try to grow several tall plants together in a single container so that the width of the plants equals the width of the pot.

HORIZONTAL

To counteract the long narrow shape of a window box or trough, avoid planting in straight rows, vary the height of the main plants to break up the horizontal thrust, and soften the overall effect with filler plants.

OVAL-SHAPED

Oval-shaped containers often are low-level and look most effective when viewed from above. Plants that are diminutive in stature, or have a characteristic spreading or trailing habit, are the most suitable candidates.

DOME-SHAPED

Many plants grow into hummocky shapes, a profile that suits low tubs and cauldrons in exposed sites.

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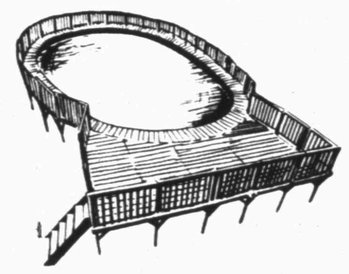

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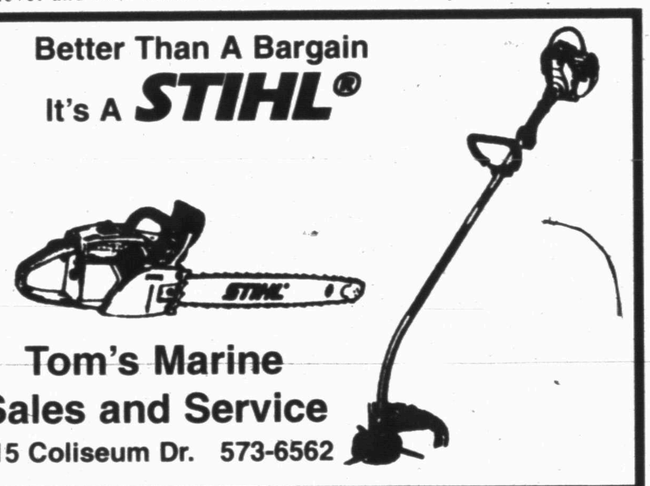

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10 Tips for Creating A Knockout Kitchen

Is your kitchen boring and lifeless? If your kitchen needs help, don't worry. Countless solutions for creating a knockout kitchen exist, and most of them can be accomplished in one weekend. Following are 10 tips for enhancing and updating the look of your kitchen.

1. FLOORING — Say goodbye to hard-to-clean floors. With Georgia-Pacific's EternaFloor™, the look of real wood combines with a brilliant, long-lasting finish of an extremely hard lacquer to give you an easy-to-clean, wear-resistant surface. EternaFloor easily can be installed directly over a variety of subfloors, including concrete, vinyl and wood. You won't ever have to worry about refinishing, since this floor is virtually maintenance-free. Its prefinished top-coat offers shine and protection for years to come.

2. WORKING WINDOWS — Let the sun shine in your kitchen. Create a cozy window seat, or grow herbs right on your windowsill. It's easy with Grand View™ Vinyl Windows from Georgia-Pacific. Designed to visually open any room, a garden or bay window ensures maximum insulation and lowest air-infiltration rates.

3. MOULDING MAGIC — Available in a wide variety of shapes and contours, Georgia-Pacific real wood moulding can add immediate drama to your kitchen. Customize your cabinets with moulding profiles along the tops, or add panel moulding to flush cabinet and drawer fronts. Create an attention-getting ceiling with a cluster of lights surrounded by moulding. Your dishwasher door even can blend in with a new moulding-framed front, glued in place with epoxy. And, it's easy to build an overhead pot rack with moulding to display and store your wares at the same time.

4. A FABULOUS FAUCET — If you're looking for fashion appeal and value-packed performance, then take a look at the wide selection of kitchen faucets available from Delta Faucet Co. These faucets come in a variety of finishes to match any kitchen decor and are known for their reliable operation. For instance, the Waterfall™'s elevated spout swings 360 degrees, so it's easy to clean large pots. Other convenient and timesaving accessories include a contemporary-style vegetable sprayer and updated soap dispenser.

5. PRE-HUNG WALLPAPER — If you like the look of wallpaper, but don't want to endure the hassle of hanging it, The Paper Works Collection® from Georgia-Pacific is the solution. Available in many different patterns, the attractive "wallpaper" prints are mounted on plywood paneling sheets for easy application. Simply nail the 4-foot-by-8-foot panels onto the wall, and cover the seams with matching seam tape. No more hassles with messy wallpaper paste, matching up seams or smoothing out wrinkles. This collection also features designer-style borders with a peel-off back that can be used by themselves or to further enhance The Paper Works Collection.

6. ORGANIZED COOKING UTENSILS — Now, you can find exactly what you're looking for without rummaging through your "junk drawer" or hunting through cabinets. Cover the top half of a wall with a perforated hardboard, like Clutter Cutter® from Georgia-Pacific. Attach small hooks into the holes in the board, and hang your cooking utensils, measuring cups, small pots and pans. Everything you need will always be right at your fingertips.

7. TEMPTING TILES — Decorative tiles can add a splash of color and design to countertops, backsplashes or even the floor. There are lots of sizes, colors and shapes to choose from, but one constant remains: You'll need to install a stable, moisture-resistant base beneath the tile. Georgia-Pacific's Dens-Shield® Tile Backer installed underneath tile helps prevent moisture damage to the subfloor or wall cavity.

8. "GREEN" APPLIANCES — If it's time to replace appliances, you may want to remodel "green." That doesn't mean green-colored appliances, just ones that are more environmentally friendly. According to Whirlpool home economists, your best bet when it comes to buying a new refrigerator is one of the new 1995 CFC-free systems, which beat 1993 federal efficiency requirements by as much as 41 percent. The newest dishwashers also are more energy-efficient — about 25 percent more. If you choose a dishwasher with internal heating, you can further cut energy costs, say Whirlpool home economists. That's because it raises temperatures to grease-dissolving levels, so the machine doesn't place extra demands on your hot-water heater. Other items to consider are trash compactors and in-sink garbage disposals, which will help reduce the volume of household trash.

9. WAINSCOTING — Change the look of your breakfast area by paneling the bottom half of a wall and capping it off with a chair rail. The natural beauty of its classic beaded look and the choice of nine rich wood-grain shades make Bedford Village® paneling from Georgia-Pacific a perfect choice. This adaptable design can dress up your breakfast nook or any of your kitchen walls.

10. EASY MAKE-OVERS — Don't forget the little details, the small touches. By doing a few simple things, you can give your kitchen a distinctive flair. Try hanging some large ferns from the ceiling. Add new knobs and hardware to your cabinets. Install a dimmer switch on your light hanging over the kitchen table. Replace the solid doors of a few cabinets with glass ones, and show off your tableware. Use a stencil pattern, and add some color to your backsplash or walls.

These are just a few ideas. Let your imagination soar, and the opportunities are endless. Tackle one project every weekend, and before you know it, your kitchen will be a knockout.

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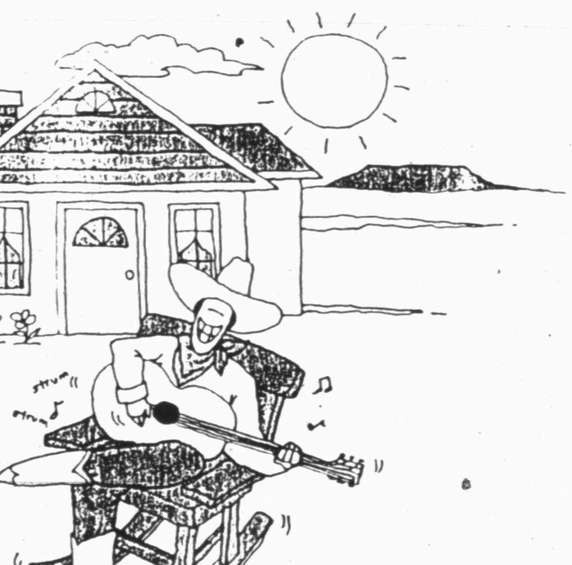

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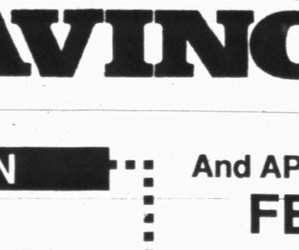

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HOME IMPROVEMENT MADNESS

Ready, Set, Grow!

(MS) — There's nothing quite like the taste of a fresh, garden-grown tomato. Salads just look brighter and bacon-lettuce-and-tomato sandwiches seem to taste better when you use homegrown tomatoes. But instead of buying tomatoes this year, why not grow your own? Nowadays, producing great tomatoes is easier than ever, thanks to a lot of new products on the market.

The first thing you need to do is to find a sunny spot for your tomato plants. Then make sure they have an ideal environment in which to grow. One of the best ways to do this is by using a product called Garden Mulch Film. The mulch will keep weeds out and moisture in. In addition, the product helps keep soil temperature consistent and your tomatoes clean.

To use the product, all you have to do is lay it over the area where the tomatoes will be planted. Then, simply cut holes in the fabric and place the plants through the material directly into the soil. Once your tomatoes are properly planted, be sure to feed them. Making sure they have the right nutrients is simple, especially if you use a fertilizer, like Jobe's Fertilizer Spikes for Tomatoes.

The easy-to-use tomato spikes feed the plants at the roots, which experts say is important. It's best to insert the pre-measured spike at the time of planting or early in the season. To use the spikes, all you do is push the spikes 1 inch below soil level on opposite sides of the tomato plant, approximately 6 inches from the stem. Then simply water the plant. The spikes are especially nice because you don't have to worry about constantly reapplying fertilizers. The spikes will feed tomato plants for up to eight weeks.

One last thing to do to assure the success of your tomato plants is to protect them from early-season frost and insects. The way many professional growers do this is by using a product called the Easy Gardener Plant and Seed Blanket. The blanket acts like a miniature "greenhouse," keeping young plants warm and moist. Experts say that with the product, seeds sprout 50 percent faster and produce matures earlier.

GIVE YOUR TOMATOES the nutrients they need with Jobe's Fertilizer Spikes for Tomatoes.

With the right products, growing delicious tomatoes really can be easy. Pick up the right items, and soon you'll be picking up some great tomatoes.

The products can be found at most chain retailers, garden centers or hardware stores or by calling Easy Gardener at (800) EASY-INC. *GT004305*

A Multitude of Uses for Miniature Roses

(MS) — The best little plants around, miniature roses can be used in a number of ways that will make your garden more attractive, more fragrant and more fun to be in.

In the landscape, miniature roses add bright spots of color. From the whitest whites to the darkest reds, and lots of colors in between (not to mention the unusual bicolors,) miniature roses can perk up a corner that needs to glow.

At the front of the perennial border, miniature roses bloom lavishly all season long. They help to bridge the transitions between the spring bulbs and the early summer perennials, the late summer bloomers into the fall colors. Mini roses just never stop blooming.

As underplantings to big roses, minis ensure vibrant green foliage and lots of flowers low to the ground where big roses don't bloom. And in beds by themselves, miniature roses make a fabulous display of a single color or a monochromatic mixture.

Some varieties of miniature roses cascade naturally over a stone wall or from a hanging basket. In full bloom for the entire season, they provide lots of color when most perennials have faded. As they trail prettily from hanging containers, mini roses provide a cheerful greeting when hung near the front door or as they spill over a handrail.

Climbing miniature roses are the most reliable and floriferous of all climbing roses. They have flowers and foliage on a smaller scale, growing on tall canes that can reach 12 feet. They're wonderful on a trellis or over an arbor, or fastened horizontally to a fence. With miniature roses, your gardening imagination can run wild.

Miniature roses are easy to grow, too. They need only a sunny place, a little fertilizer and lots of water. Never allowed to dry out, mini roses will reward their grower with a fascinating display and lots of flowers for cutting, for bouquets, and for boutonnieres. When you grow one or two of the many intensely fragrant varieties, their wonderful rose scent will waft pleasantly through the garden or through your home.

Experience the fun and the rewards of growing beautiful miniature roses. Call or write the nation's largest producer of miniature rose plants to get your free color catalog. Write to Nor'East Miniature Roses Inc., P.O. Box 306AH, Rowley, Mass. 01969; call toll free (800) 426-6485; or access the website at www.noreast-miniroses.com.

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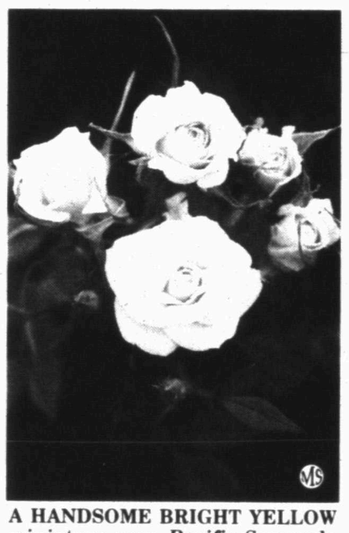


A HANDSOME BRIGHT YELLOW miniature rose, Pacific Serenade grows to about 2 feet. It's a great landscape plant and even one plant will provide all the fragrant bouquets you could possibly want.

Rose Diseases Don't Have to Be a Problem

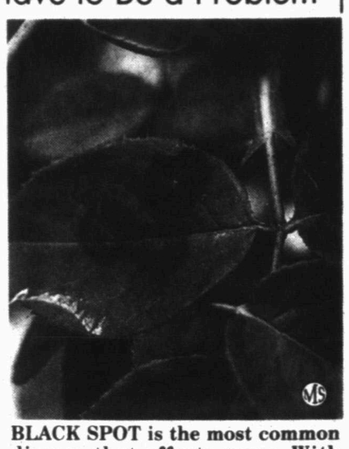
(MS) — The hardest part of growing really great roses is dealing with the fungal diseases that like roses almost as much as people do. In fact, all of the plants in the Rosaceae family, like strawberries, apples, and lots of other fruits and flowers, are highly susceptible to diseases like powdery mildew and black spot.

Many people have just given up on roses because disease has devastated their plants. And what a shame it is, since roses are among the most beautiful of flowers and certainly the most satisfying to grow.

In this new millennium, with a wide variety of new and very safe-to-use spray materials, garden disease is almost history. So roses and other perennials, annuals, shrubs, and trees can flourish in gardens where they've never been able to before.

Gardening is, of course, the most popular hobby in the United States. The fun and challenge of gardening is to learn what your plants require and provide it for them. Roses require good soil, good drainage, a little fertilizer, and a lot of water. But they also need protection against disease.

"New" fungicide chemistry has resulted in spray materials that prevent diseases from attacking roses and will eradicate disease once it has become a problem. Furthermore, these new materials have very low toxicity levels, and have to be sprayed much less often than traditional fungicides. When cared for in the same way you care for your roses, all the other plants in your garden will be happier and healthier, too.



BLACK SPOT is the most common disease that affects roses. With new spray materials, you can eliminate it forever.

Primary Products (for serious gardeners!) offers a wide variety of spray materials, fertilizers, tools, and growth stimulants that will help you grow fabulous roses. For a free color catalog featuring lots of rose-culture tips, call (800) 841-6630 or write to them at 175-R New Boston St., Woburn, Mass. 01801. Or, check out the company's website at www.primaryproducts.com and subscribe to their free Rose-E-Tips through e-mail. *GT004334*

How to Grow Fabulous Roses

(MS) — Maybe you're one of those gardeners who has tried to grow roses and failed miserably. Or maybe you think roses are so hard to grow, you're not even going to try. Well, take heart! Roses are easier to grow than ever before.

Most of the fun of any kind of gardening is to figure out what plants need and to provide it without a lot of fuss. And it's no secret that roses need lots of sun and water and a little fertilizer once in a while. You can cope with a few bugs here and there, but your roses really do need a spray of an organic or chemical fungicide every few weeks. Not hard.

However, what rose producers have never told you before is how a rose variety will perform in your climate. The United States is a big place, with many types of regional climates. And most roses perform better in some climates than in others. Your selection of rose varieties really determines your success or failure with roses.

One of the few rose producers that provides specific information on how their roses perform in different climates, Weeks Roses, makes it a breeze for budding rose gardeners to choose plants that will be easy to grow in their very own yards.

Hybrid tea roses, for example, are more susceptible to the ravages of winter. Most varieties will overwinter in cold climates, but only with lots of winter protection. For rosarians who love the wonderful, long-stemmed hybrid teas, it's worth the extra effort it takes to grow them where it's cold. But more casual rose growers may find the own-root bush roses easier to cope with. Because they grow on their own roots, rather than having been budded (grafted) onto a rootstock, own-root roses will continue to thrive, year after year, even in the coldest climates — and with little or no winter protection.

Some roses just hate the cold, no matter how hard a gardener tries. The wonderful greenish-yellow hybrid tea, St. Patrick, is an annual in the North, but it loves humid heat and will astound a southern gardener with huge, perfect flowers on long, sturdy stems.

Roses with many petals perform better where summers are dry, and many of the heritage roses need a cool period to set buds. In northern climates, many of the hardy shrubs delight rose gardeners. The yellow, red, pink and orange shrub, Flutterbye, rewards northern gardeners with tons of bloom all season long. But the truly fabulous white climber, Sally Holmes, which grows to 15 feet in California, needs some protection in New England, where it grows to about 5 feet.

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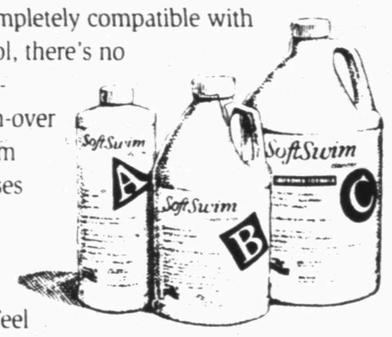

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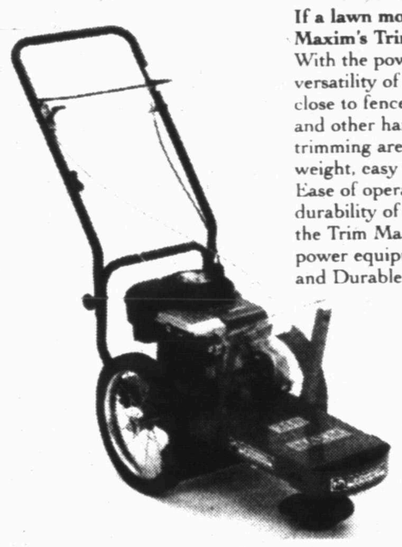

If a lawn mower just won't cut it Maxim's Trim Master probably will. With the power of a lawn mower and the versatility of a string trimmer you can get close to fence rows, trees, landscaping and other hard to reach areas. Problem trimming areas disappear with the light-weight, easy to operate Trim Master. Ease of operation combined with the durability of all steel construction make the Trim Master a smart choice. Maxim's power equipment – Versatile, Adaptable, and Durable.

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APRIL 2000

A Delight for the Whole Family

(MPS) — The arrival of spring signals that everyone will soon be enjoying the beauties of nature — blooming flowers and greening shrubs and trees.

Another natural beauty that can be enjoyed within the home is ornamental fish. The fascinating movements, bright and distinctive colors, and various shapes of ornamental fish are a delight for the whole family.

Enclosed porches (California or Florida rooms) are ideal locations for goldfish aquariums. Goldfish, unlike tropical fish, do not need a heated aquarium and are a great addition to spring and summer living.

Goldfish are fun and beautiful. In fact, a study conducted by researchers at the University of Pennsylvania in 1980 concluded that watching ornamental fish in home aquariums helps relieve stress.

So, if you have some extra space and would like something your whole family could enjoy, consider an aquarium with ornamental goldfish.

To go about starting a goldfish aquarium, you will first want to locate a good dealer. If you have a friend who has an aquarium, ask for a reference; otherwise, the phone book lists most goldfish retailers.

Tropical fish are warm-blooded and require a heated aquarium. Goldfish do fine in an aquarium with a water temperature around 65 F.

When visiting a tropical-fish store, get an idea of different sizes of aquariums and the type of equipment you will need. A goldfish aquarium should be covered with a reflector using fluorescent lights, which do not throw off a significant amount of heat.

In terms of a stand for your aquarium, your dealer will have a selection, but you also could consider building one to match the decor of your room. This is relatively simple, but be sure it's very sturdy, since the weight of the aquarium and water is quite heavy.

A good idea is to build an open stand out of two-by-fours and then cover the front with decorative paneling to match your room decor. Leave the back open, so the wiring and tubing from your aquarium's pump and filter can be stored out of sight.

In addition to the reflector, you also will need a good filter, since goldfish are rather messy. The Whisper Power Filter and Bio-Bag Filter Cartridge system is an easy way to maintain a crystal-clear aquarium. Your dealer can help with a selection.

Even though you don't need a heater, it's a good idea to use a thermometer to make sure the water temperature does not rise beyond 80 F.

A recent development in thermometer technology is the liquid crystal digital thermometer, which affixes to the outside of the aquarium, yet measures most accurately the water temperature. The Secondnature Acura liquid crystal aquarium thermometers are accurate to within 1 degree and can be read easily through the aquarium glass.

If you are going to keep a lot of fish, you also will want a separate air pump in addition to the filter to add more oxygen to the water. A Whisper air pump is good for this purpose and is quiet and long-lasting.

Decorating your goldfish aquarium can be great fun. There are multicolored gravels, highly decorative backgrounds, hundreds of ornaments, as well as Plantastics plastic aquarium plants that are so real in reproduction it's almost impossible to distinguish them from live plants.

Most good retailers will have a complete assortment, and your selection should be based on the size of your aquarium and the amount of money you decide to spend.

Once you have set up your aquarium, you should add a chlorine neutralizer, like AquaSafe 2, to the water and initially add only a few fish. These few fish will help develop the proper biological conditions necessary to maintain a fully stocked aquarium. After three or four weeks, assuming everything is functioning properly, you can go ahead and add the rest of the fish.

Aquarium maintenance is much simpler than people think. Every two weeks, a partial water change (not greater than 20 percent), by siphoning the water from the bottom of the aquarium, is all that's required.

A device called the Hydro-Clean Gravel Cleaner allows efficient siphoning by separating the debris from the gravel and removing it with the water from the aquarium. On a monthly basis, your filter will require minimal maintenance. That's all there is.

Landscape Beds Should Showcase Your Style

(MS) — Make your landscape beds the most unique on the block. Your design should reflect your personal taste. Whether your look is rustic, traditional or even a little old-fashioned, you can create a landscape that showcases your style.

You probably selected a perfect location for your bed. And now, when choosing your plants, don't forget the unlimited variety of plants that offer height, interesting textures and brilliant colors that will make your landscape a little different from the ordinary. But don't stop there — finish off your landscape beds by choosing the right edging.

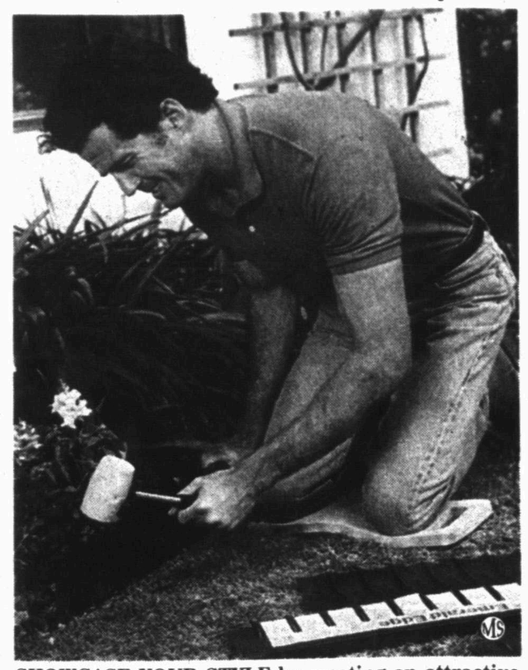
The edging you choose can make all the difference in the world in your landscape beds. There are so many great edging products available that are attractive and easy to use, you're bound to find one that fits your particular style. Edging gives beds a finished look and provides a focus for a special area in your garden. Some edging also acts as a barrier to block creeping grass and to prevent bark runoff. One company, Easy Gardener Inc., makes a variety of good-looking and simple-to-use edging products.

A handsome barrier edging made of durable green plastic, Emerald Edge® is Easy Gardener's best seller. Using the product is easy. All you have to do is hammer the edging into the ground with a rubber mallet. The edging is durable, yet flexible enough to create curves and tree rings. Emerald Edge won't rust, rot, crack, chip or fade. The edging is available in lightweight, easy-to-handle sections that are 4 feet long and 5 inches high. The sections connect securely together to form a scallop-design, continuous border. If you're looking for an easy-to-use barrier edging with a simple design, this is the edging for you.

More decorative than Emerald Edge, Easy Gardener's TerraCotta Tiles™ are great for highlighting a special place in the garden. They allow you to install a decorative edge without spending a lot of time or money on it. The tiles look like terra cotta, but actually are made with long-lasting UV-treated polypropylene. The tiles come in packages of four that create a 3-foot rope-design border. The 9½-inch tiles connect and swivel to form straight or curved lines around your landscape bed. To install the tiles, just use a shovel to create a wedge opening, push the tiles in the ground and compact the soil around the support.

If you're going for an old-fashioned look and genuine tiles are what you're looking for, try Terra Cotta Edging®, which is available in a terra-cotta or granite color. What makes these tiles unique is that a decorative design is embossed onto each one. Each section, which contains four tiles, provides a 2-foot piece of edging for your landscape bed. Galvanized steel rods are attached to the edging to ensure easy installation and stability. The edging also acts as a barrier, preventing soil or bark runoff.

Another easy-to-use product is Adirondack Edging®. This decorative edging showcases the classic Adirondack look, forming a miniature picket fence. It effectively holds bark, rock or marble chips in place around trees, shrubs or flower beds. UV-stabilized to last for years, each



SHOWCASE YOUR STYLE by creating an attractive landscape bed with easy-to-install products like Emerald Edge.

Adirondack edging piece is attached to galvanized steel rods for easy installation. To use, simply stick the rods into the ground around the area you wish to edge. The edging comes in white, sage green, slate gray and rosewood.

Perhaps you'd like a more rustic look for your edging. Try Log Edging®. The flexible, easy-to-install edging comes in 2-foot sections that contain nine realistic brown "logs" staggered in heights from 3½ to 5 inches. Attached to each Log Edging section are steel rods that make it simple to put the edging into the ground.

This spring, when designing your landscape beds, get creative. Try new edging, new colors, new textures or even native plants. Check with your county extensions office and local garden centers for some ideas. Remember to showcase your personal style by installing attractive borders with products like TerraCotta Tiles, Terra Cotta Edging, Adirondack Edging or Log Edging. These products can be found at just about any garden supply store, hardware store or chain retailer or by calling Easy Gardener at (800) EASY-INC. *GT004307*

An Efficient Home Office Takes Planning

In the United States, 40 million people — more than one in three adults — work at home at least part of the time, a number that is increasing by more than 3 million per year.

However, successfully establishing a home office is a relatively new science, and many households are ill-equipped to accommodate a fully functional, professional office. Most people need to create a space that successfully separates a feeling of home with that of being at work, so they can be productive.

According to Alvin Rosenbaum, home-office columnist for Worth magazine and author of "The Complete Home Office: Planning Your Work Space for Maximum Efficiency" (Viking Studio Books), "In the past, home offices have tended to be afterthoughts, small and cluttered, inefficient and uninviting. Dozens of books and articles have provided tips on setting up a home office, as if it were a task for a Saturday afternoon rather than a project that may have enormous consequences on your life, relating not only to your income, but to your sanity at work and the time you have left to spend with your family."

As a regional planner and designer who works in a home office of his own design, Rosenbaum imparts his knowledge to those about to embark on such a project. All the details of creating a home office are worked through, like zoning and permits; costs, financing and tax concerns; lighting; acoustics; flooring; plumbing; heating, ventilation, air quality and cooling; electrical requirements; safety and security considerations; and file storage and shelving.

Many of the design options included encompass a wide range of styles, tastes, work habits and budgets, with more than 250 photos, blueprints and diagrams. Whether you are self-employed, operate a part- or full-time business from home, telecommute, or maintain an office for evening and weekend job-related work, your particular situation is discussed.

In terms of what should be put in the office once it's complete, there is a 28-page illustrated directory of products and services, including furniture, computer accessories and many of the items that are so necessary in today's fast-paced office environment.

"Office furniture and equipment are being redesigned to fit a new scale for the home, bringing the science of organization and pristine efficiency, ergonomics, acoustics, illumination, and a dazzling array of telecommunications and data-processing devices to our basements and spare bedrooms," says Rosenbaum. *SH962002*

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Wear and Tear or Simple Boredom Woos New Furniture Buyers

When American families decide to replace their furniture, it's not because of exciting new styles, eye-catching advertising, great sales or any other industry-inspired motivating factors.

Instead, the main reasons people give for replacing furniture have to do with wear and tear, comfort, and simply becoming tired of their current furnishings.

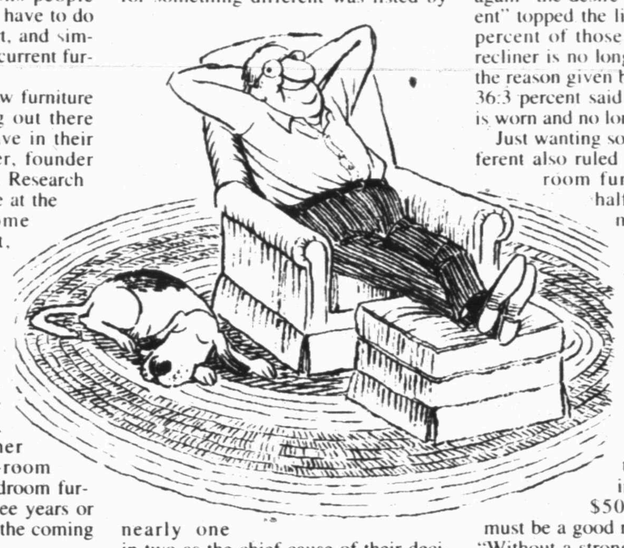
"People aren't buying new furniture because there's something out there they absolutely have to have in their homes," says Britt Beemer, founder and chairman of America's Research Group at a news conference at the Fall International Home Furnishings Market. "They're only buying when they're sick and tired of the furniture they own."

Beemer's analysis of attitudes toward new furniture purchases was based on a survey of 1,000 consumers conducted by America's Research Group. Those surveyed had either purchased a sofa, living-room table, recliner or master-bedroom furniture in the last two to three years or planned such a purchase in the coming year or two.

Those interviewed were given a number of considerations for replacing their furniture, including comfort, retail-store appeal, new style from manufacturer, change in home decor, unexpected extra income and wear due to usage over the years.

In every single product category, considerations inside the home dictated the timing of new furniture purchases.

Of those who had purchased or planned to buy a new sofa, the desire for something different was listed by



nearly one in two as the chief cause of their decision. Simply getting tired of the sofa and worn fabric followed, with almost four in 10 saying that this consideration was definitely a strong influence on their buying decision.

When it came to purchasing a new living-room table, the top reasons for replacing the old table were: "I just wanted something different" (44.3 percent); "I got tired of it" (34.3 percent); and "the table had nicks and dings in it" (29.2 percent).

In choosing to replace a recliner, again "the desire for something different" topped the list — chosen by 45.2 percent of those surveyed. "The old recliner is no longer comfortable" was the reason given by 37.6 percent, while 36.3 percent said "their recliner fabric is worn and no longer lookes nice."

Just wanting something new and different also ruled the purchase of bedroom furniture, with nearly half saying that is what motivated their new purchase. Growing tired of the bedroom furniture was cited by 45.6 percent, and the desire for bigger bedroom furniture was given by 30 percent of new bedroom-furniture purchasers.

"When the furniture industry is asking someone to spend $500 to $1,000, there must be a good reason," Beemer says. "Without a strong and compelling reason, consumers are simply postponing the purchase until they have to replace old and worn furniture."

(The survey was conducted by telephone from America's Research Group's headquarters in Charleston, S.C. The margin of error is plus or minus 4.3 percent.) *SH961982*

10 Critical Items to Fix Before You Sell

(MPS) — Knowing the 10 most critical items to fix before you put your home on the market can result in earning thousands of extra dollars, claims consumer advocate and author Bob Easter. Many sellers fix the wrong items when trying to get the most benefit for their hard-earned money. Certain items bring a larger return than others, and some items really don't cost any money, just some work.

There are two types of homes in every marketplace: 1) the home people live in on a daily basis and 2) the home people make ready for sale and present to the public.

There are at least two major mistakes that owners overlook when selling their home. 1) They never look at their home through the buyer's eyes. 2) Sellers seldom realize home buyers will drive through neighborhoods and make a snap decision to call about a home based upon their impression of the home from the street.

Some exterior mistakes that most sellers make include:

- garage doors open and showing a messy garage
- cars parked in the driveway and in front of the house
- car repairs in the driveway, along with bicycles, lawn mowers and equipment in the yard
- boats or campers parked in the driveway

The more attractive your home shows from the street, the more likely it will sell quickly, particularly if the price is competitive, says Easter.

"'The 14 Home-Selling Secrets, The Mistakes Everyone Makes' is the best little straightforward house-selling book we have seen ... It's full of gems of inside information. Easter tells you what any house seller should know," writes Judy Rose, Detroit Free Press.

Mark and Diana Wood, of Seattle, Wash., found the book extremely beneficial when selling their home. "It was the best selling experience we've ever had. We can barely believe how smoothly and quickly our home sold. It was 35 hours from listing to full-priced contract and 28 days later to a hassle-free closing. Amazing! Your step-by-step marketing plan and straightforward advice would definitely benefit anyone who wants to sell."

To see your home through a buyer's eyes, send for the free checklist of "The 10 Critical Items to Check Before You Sell." Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to the address below. To order "The 14 Home-Selling Secrets," call 1-800-848-5593, or write to 4212 Lostridge, Suite 900, Austin, TX 78731. The book costs $9.95 plus $3.50 for shipping and handling, and credit cards are accepted.

Easter's new book, "Home Buying Power: Inside Tips, Tricks and Trends for Buying the Home of Your Dreams," already has been adopted by consumers. "I am a recently retired college administrator having read many books, but none as informative as 'Home Buying Power.' In the process of buying my seventh home, I feel totally in charge and confident in every detail," says Elliott R. Chambers, Ed.D., of Lodi, Calif. To order this book, which costs $12.95 plus $3.50 shipping and handling, call 1-800-848-5593, or write to the above address. *SH961872*

Finishing Touches

(NAPS)—"Oh! Thou magic world of flowers.../The spell of love, the voice of power./May thrill us from a single flower," wrote Lucy Hooper in the poem *Poetry of Flowers*.

From painters to poets, flowers have been the inspiration for great words and great works of art through the centuries.

The decorative arts have not escaped the enchantments of flowers either. Floral motifs fill our homes, dancing across wallpaper, textiles and decorative accessories.

"Once we become aware of them, we suddenly realize that flowers are everywhere," said Susan Overton, president of the American Institute of Floral Designers (AIFD). "When fresh flowers are added to the decorative mix, a room suddenly takes on a very special look—it becomes friendlier, warmer, and everything looks more beautiful."

Floral designers in AIFD all agree that flowers can be a glorious expression of personal style. Whether you are looking for a summer garden arrangement, or a traditional tabletop design, your professional floral designer is just a phone call away.

Hassle-Free Gardening With New Plastic Materials

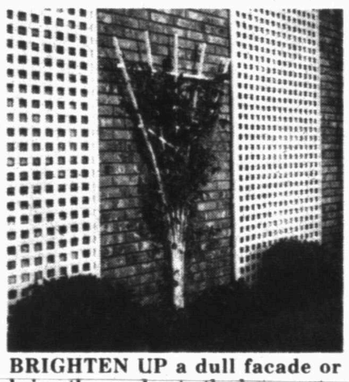
For years, gardeners have spent more time fixing their gardens than enjoying them. The hostile conditions of water, sun and insects create maintenance demands in wood trellis and lattice. This year, many gardeners are turning to low-maintenance plastic products to take the hassle out of gardening without sacrificing the classic appearance of gardening structures.

Trellis is a framework of plastic, wooden or metal bars used to support climbing plants. It adds character and color to a garden, but needs frequent repairs and replacements. New plastic products make gardening with trellis easy.

Plastic trellises will not rot even in the moist conditions of a garden, and they are mildew- and insect-resistant. The color will not fade in the sun, and chips and scratches will not show because the color goes all the way through the trellis.

Try these ideas to beautify any garden with plastic trellis:

- Add depth and dimension to a garden by spacing trellises with climbing plants throughout the garden.
- Bring the color of the garden to the walls of a home by training climbing flowers on a trellis.
- Brighten up a dull facade with colorful flowers climbing up a trellis.



BRIGHTEN UP a dull facade or bring the garden to the home exterior with trellises. For a free trellis brochure, call TUFF-BILT at 1-800-394-6679 or visit www.tuffbilt.com.

Enjoy Garden-Fresh Vegetables All Year Long

You love to garden, and spend hours outdoors lovingly caring for your fragrant flowers, gorgeous green shrubs and vibrant vegetables. After months of hard work, you reap the rewards — the seeds that you toiled over have become beautiful blossoming flora.

Your garden is abloom with sweet-smelling flowers and a sea of green plants, trees and bushes. You also have plenty of fresh, home-grown vegetables that are ready to be eaten. One problem though — you've planted so many vegetables that you have no idea where to store them. What should you do? Try freezing them so you can enjoy the taste of home-grown vegetables throughout the fall and winter months.

Following are some simple guidelines for freezing a variety of vegetables commonly grown in home gardens, courtesy of GardenGuides — a growing resource for gardeners (www.gardenguides.com).

Asparagus — Wash and remove woody portions and scales of spears. Cut into 6-inch lengths and blanch in boiling water for three minutes. Cool in iced water for three minutes. Drain. Place on trays in a single layer and freeze for 30 minutes. Pack into suitable containers, seal and label. It keeps for up to six months.

Beets — Only freeze young tender beets, no more than 2 inches to 3 inches across. Cook until tender and slice. Cool and transfer to plastic containers. Label. Freeze for up to six months.

Carrots — Wash and scrub carrots, and cut large carrots into pieces. Blanch for three minutes in boiling water. Chill in iced water for three minutes. Drain. Spread on a tray in a single layer and freeze for 30 minutes. Pack in freezer bags, remove air, label and seal. It keeps for up to six months.

Cucumbers — Peel and chop in a food processor. Pack into plastic containers with tight-fitting lids. Label and freeze. It keeps for up to six months.

Eggplant — Cut into slices, sprinkle with salt and allow to stand for 30 minutes. Drain off excess liquid, and fry gently in butter or margarine until just tender. Cool and pack into plastic containers. Seal and label. It keeps for up to three months.

Ginger — Separate ginger into convenient-sized knobs. Place in freezer bags. Remove excess air from bags, seal and label. Freeze for up to six months.

Peppers — Wash, remove seeds, and cut into slices or leave whole. Place on a tray in a single layer. Freeze for 30 minutes. Pack in freezer bags, remove air, label and seal. Freeze for up to six months.

Squash — Peel and cook in boiling salted water until tender. Mash, cool and pack into freezer containers leaving room for expansion. Seal and label. Freeze for up to three months.

Tomatoes — Wash, remove stems, cut into halves or quarters, or leave whole. Dry and pack into freezer bags. Remove air, label and seal. It will keep for six months.

- Dip into boiling water for one minute. Remove and peel. Place on a tray and freeze for 30 minutes. Place in plastic bags, remove air, seal and label. It keeps for up to six months.

sites, arrangements, soil test and other "must have" information to help any gardener sort through catalogs and nursery listings and choose from hosta to hyacinths to butterfly bushes to basil.

Whether a first-timer or seasoned pro, every gardener is stumped with a problem now and then. The "Burpee Basic" series — "Bulbs," "Annuals," "Perennials" and "Roses" ($15.95 each) — anticipates almost every question that might come up.

The National Gardening Association provides the backup and expertise for "Gardening for Dummies," "Perennials for Dummies," "Lawns for Dummies," "Annuals for Dummies" and other titles ($16.99 each) in the IDG Book series. "Roses for Dummies" has blossomed into a new, second edition, with all new photographs and details on 75 varieties of America's favorite flower. A new addition is "Trees and Shrubs for Dummies," full of thoughtful advice on finding the best shade providers, focal points and accents of plant architecture to grace a treasured plot of land, however small or large. "Container Gardening for Dummies" and "Decks and Patios for Dummies" ($16.99 each) contain space-savvy designs tips on which plants go where to best advantage. The new "Herb Gardening for Dummies" ($16.99) is a green-thumb guide to spicing up a garden. The Gardening Association says that 8 million households in the United States are growing their own herbs — and likely cooking with them — so the book has some deliciously savory recipes, too.

Two more books would round out the gardener's shelf. "Gardening With Stone" (IDG Books, $39.95) suggests seeing the rocks in the yard not as litter but as focal points to work with.

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Respect The Power Of Your Mower

(NAPS)—A lawn mower saves time and keeps the yard looking great, but it can be dangerous when used improperly.

How can you protect yourself and those you love from injury? The most important thing you can do, according to Billy Lowe at Snapper, is to read your owner's manual. Today's mowers have a number of safety features, but they won't help if you don't know how they work. Remember that you are pushing or riding a powerful machine with a sharp blade capable of cutting and hurling more than just grass. Other important safety rules include:

Safety First. Don't let children operate this equipment. Make sure the operator is not only physically able to handle the machine (enough strength to push or guide a walk behind, tall enough to comfortably reach the controls on a riding mower) but responsible enough to use it.

No Passengers. Many accidents are caused by well-meaning adults who want to "give rides" to excited children. Even though a riding mower moves slowly, children can slip off at the slightest bump. Children used to riding along may lose their natural fear of the machine and run toward it, often without the operator being aware that the child is there.

Always Dress Properly. Always wear hard shoes to protect your feet, long pants to protect your legs from flying debris or hot engine parts and a shirt that will give some protection to your chest and arms. Accessorize your lawn mowing outfit with a pair of safety glasses.

Pick Up Debris. While you can never pick up everything that lands in your yard, look over the yard each time before you mow. Wire, rocks, small branches and soda containers can become missiles, injuring people and damaging your mower.

Prepare Your Mower. Start the year with a good checkup by an Independent Lawn Mower Dealer. Each time you mow, give the mower a safety check. Look for loose or missing parts. Make sure guards, shields and bags are installed correctly and in good repair and safety switches work properly.

Eliminate Potential Accidents. Keep children and pets away from the mowing area. Make sure they are inside and under someone's watchful eye. Let everyone in the immediate area know you will be mowing. Be aware of changing conditions—sloped terrain, wet areas, small animals, changing weather—and be prepared to act quickly. Stay alert!

Read Your Owner's Manual-Again. More injuries and damage to mowers are caused because owners just don't understand their mower. "While most mowers generally work in the same ways, each manufacturer adds different handles, throttles and fail-safe mechanisms to specific machines," says Lowe. Require anyone who uses your mower to read the manual, too. It will save time, repair bills and possibly save you or someone you know from injury.

For more information, call 1-800 SNAPPER or visit www. Snapper.com.

North American Precis Syndicate

Don't Sneeze At What You Don't See

(NAPS)—For millions of Americans who are allergic to dust and dust mites, a good night's sleep is often difficult, unless the mattress, box spring and pillows are encased in zippered covers, designed to reduce exposure to these allergens. Invisible dust mites thrive most in beds. They love the environment: potential warmth, humidity and a fertile food resource—skin.

On its asthma web site, the University of Pennsylvania Health System lists an anti-mite pillow cover as the first of 16 tips to managing these allergens at home. You spend one third of your life in bed, so a comfortable cover is as essential as an effective one.

The covers you choose should breathe and be soft, like Aller-Ease, made with 3M's Propore fabric. These covers are also a barrier to dust mite droppings which trigger allergic reactions. The American Textile Company makes these washable, moderately priced covers. To find out more about them call 1-800-386-9223.

Comfortable, soft Aller-Ease mattress and pillow covers, manufactured by the American Textile Company of 3M's Propore fabric, form effective barriers against dust mites, which trigger allergies in millions of Americans.

North American Precis Syndicate

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Blooming Beauty

(NAPS)—In the language of flowers, roses symbolize love, lilies symbolize purity and jasmine symbolizes grace and beauty. Flowers inspire the romance of poets and the brushstrokes of artists.

"To create a little flower is the labour of ages," wrote British writer and artist William Blake (1757–1827). Today, many people identify with nature's most fragrant beauty and are leaving the city's concrete and clamor for the lush serenity of country life. One such couple, Martin and Corinna Perry, were so inspired by nature that they fled London's frenzied film industry for the rolling hills and hedgerows of the English Cotswolds.

In a gardener's shed in Corinna's boundless garden, Martin tends to his garden of flower box figurines, Harmony Garden.

Harmony Garden is a collection of cultured marble flower figurines that have a virtually seamless lid. Inside each flower is Lord Byron, resident ladybug. Harmony Garden tells the story of Lord Byron as he travels from flower to flower looking for lost love and adventure. The romantic garden flowers include some of the most symbolic flowers, such as the iris, sunflower and forget-me-not. They are colorfully hand painted and available in fine gift shops throughout the United States and England. For more information and a colorful look at all the flowers in Harmony Garden, please visit the company's Web site, www.harmonykingdom.com.

North American Precis Syndicate

Tick, Tick, Tick

(NAPS)—Ticks are persistent little suckers. While attached to you or your pet, these parasites can consume up to 100 times their body weight in blood and in the process spread such diseases as Lyme disease and Rocky Mountain spotted fever.

These parasites can multiply rapidly-a female can produce up to 8,000 eggs-and can attach to both animals and humans, feeding on warm blood.

There are some basic precautions people can take to help protect themselves against becoming an unwilling host to ticks:

- Keep landscape areas clean and well-trimmed;
- Keep crawl spaces, attics, vent holes and drains tightly sealed and screened to prevent potential hosts from entering the home;
- Keep pets well-groomed; and
- After spending time outdoors, shower and look carefully for ticks on your body. Also, examine your pets thoroughly for ticks after they come inside.

According to RISE (Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment), pesticides play an important role in reducing the health threat posed by these pests. Always carefully read and follow the pesticide label before using.

RISE is committed to working to ensure that Americans have the products they need for home, garden and structural pest control. For more information, visit their Web site at www.acpa.org\rise or write to RISE at 1156 15th Street, NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20005.

North American Precis Syndicate

Turning Your Yard Into A Work Of Art

(NAPS)—When done correctly, landscaping can increase the value of a home, far more than the original investment. To ensure that the job is done right, it makes sense to consult the pros, such as landscape architects, designers, contractors or arborists.

But whom do you choose? Here's a brief consumer's guide to help you with your selection if you want to turn your yard into a work of art.

Landscape architects are licensed and governed by a professional body and hold one or more degrees in their field. Because of their design training, landscape architects can be very helpful in developing a master plan for your property. Their fees may be a percentage of construction costs, an hourly rate, or a lump sum. Their talents and perspectives vary greatly, so look for one that suits your tastes and style. Many landscape architects rely on commercial work as the backbone of their practice, but enjoy doing residential design.

Landscape designers generally work on residential design and may or may not have the educational background of landscape architects. Many are very talented garden designers, but are prohibited in some states from designing certain structural projects. Often landscape designers are plant connoisseurs with a talent for design, whereas landscape architects put more focus on structure and flow, but may not be as strong in horticulture.

Landscape contractors implement the plan. Their work may include grading, paving, planting, irrigation, lighting and building structures. Some landscape architects and landscape designers have "design-build" firms, where they both design and implement a plan. If you have a completed landscape plan, you can hire a landscape contractor yourself, if you wish.

If you have large trees, don't overlook consulting arborists. These folks can help you protect trees in the landscape while work is being done. Look in the phone book for tree services that are members of the American Society of Consulting Arborists. Arborists are professionals with a good understanding of tree biology and usually discourage damaging practices such as tree topping.

When looking for a professional, do your homework. Call a minimum of three businesses and visit their work. Talk to their customers. Most people are willing to share both their positive and negative landscaping experiences. Look for landscapes that interest you. When you see an attractive yard, ask the homeowners whom they used.

No matter which professional you choose, be sure you both understand the scope of the work. Be sure to include protection of existing trees in your contract. It is common to pay a deposit, but don't make a final payment until the project is totally and satisfactorily completed.

Remember, once a plan is on paper, you can implement it in stages as time and money permit. You may even choose to do parts of it yourself. Once plants are in the ground, it is important to water and feed them regularly so that they fill in quickly. Watering is crucial in the first two years while the roots are becoming established. Use fertilizers such as Nursery Special 12-6-6 containing Polyon® timed-release nutrients to provide continued feeding for up to three months with each application.

For information about fertilizers to help your new landscape grow, contact Pursell Industries at 1-800-874-8892 or on the Internet at www.fertilizer.com.

North American Precis Syndicate

Are You Water-Wise?

You use water in most aspects of your daily life, from cooking to cleaning to just plain drinking. However, this fundamental "ingredient" is often misunderstood. Test your water smarts with this true-or-false quiz.

1. Boiled water is sterile and free of all contaminants.

False — While it's true that boiling kills many harmful bacteria, evaporation during boiling actually can increase the concentration of contaminants in water that boiling doesn't remove. Distillation is the most effective method of water purification.

2. Hard water makes water-using appliances and fixtures hard to clean, but seldom causes permanent damage.

False — Scale from hard water builds up on the inside of pipes and appliances just like it builds up on the outside. This buildup forces appliances to work harder and often less efficiently, causing premature maintenance problems over time.

3. Reverse-osmosis filters are the best drinking-water filters available.

False — No single filter is the best for solving all drinking-water problems; the best filter is the one that directly addresses your specific problems. Reverse-osmosis filters remove bacteria, lead, mercury, iron and other contaminants. Carbon filters reduce chlorine, organic materials, dissolved gases, and other materials that can cause water to taste and smell bad.

4. It's easy to determine the quality of your home water supply.

True — Determining your home's water quality is as easy as having a water-treatment professional conduct several in-home tests. A trained consultant can test your water for iron, acidity, hardness and other common problems. For a complete water analysis, most testing laboratories provide inexpensive kits to mail in your home water sample.

5. Water that's been softened too much won't rinse away soap and shampoo.

False — Water cannot be "too soft." Washing with soft water may give a slippery feeling like soap hasn't rinsed away, but that sensation is actually your skin's natural softening agents. In reality, hard water clogs pores with soap residue, leaving skin "squeaky," but not clean.

6. Acidic water smells like rotten eggs.

False — Water that smells like rotten eggs contains hydrogen sulfide, but is not necessarily acidic. Acidic water can't be detected by smell, appearance or feel; however, it can eat away at fixtures, corrode water-using appliances, and etch sinks, countertops and tiles.

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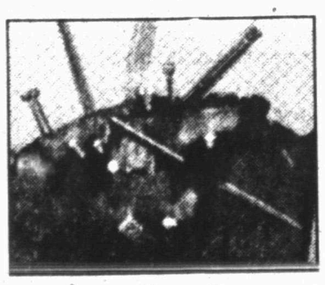
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