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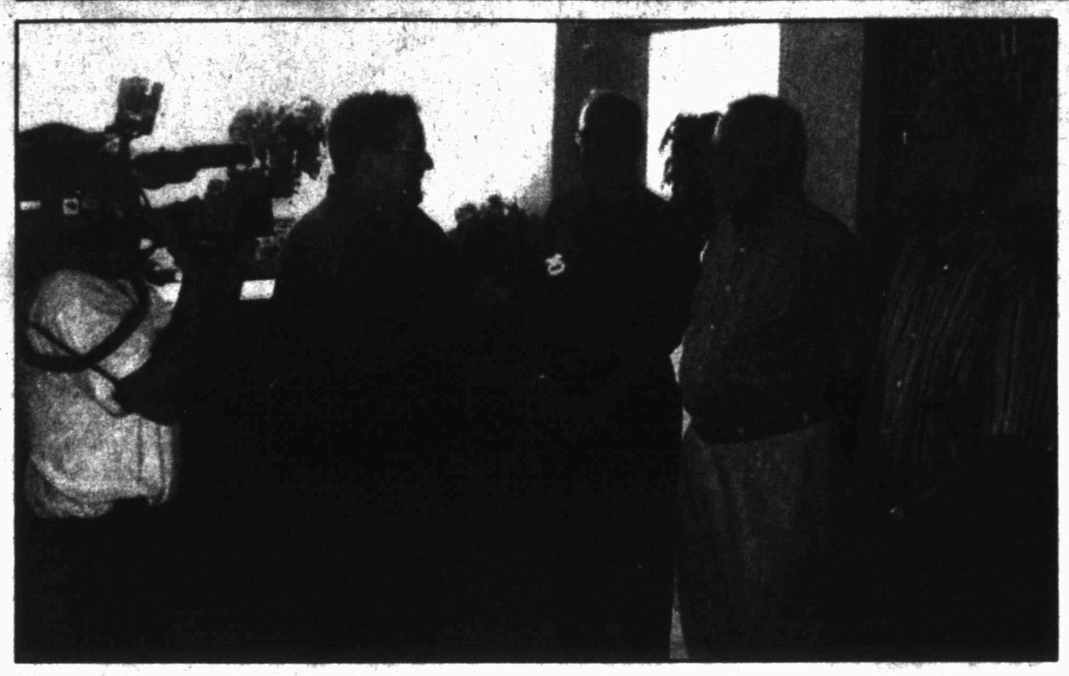
WT-Int. Crude - $26.63
WTIC Posted - $23.50
Natural Gas - $2.970

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
July 26, 2001
Vol. 53 No. 74
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Jerry Torres



TELL IT LIKE IT IS — Sports anchor Kevin McCabe from KSAZ-TV in Phoenix, Ariz., talked with Snyder residents, from right, Horrace Bostick, Jack Gorman and Ollie Peek, while camera man Eddie Valencia filmed the proceedings Wednesday at Snyder High School. The Phoenix station was in town to gather information about former Snyder resident and current Arizona Cardinals head coach David McGinnis. (SDN Staff Photo)

With Covenant Health System...

Cogdell board renews management contract

Cogdell Hospital's management agreement with Covenant Health System (CHS) was unanimously approved this morning by the hospital board.

The one-year agreement mirrors the 2001 document, except it calls for both the hospital CEO and chief financial officer to be CHS employees.

George Parsley, CEO, and Joe Wright, CFO, are Covenant employees whose salaries and fringe benefits are reimbursed by Scurry County.

Prior to the vote on the document, board president Jim Bob Cave told Jim Bullard of CHS that he had only one misgiving about the contract.

"I would like to have a clause in the contract that states Covenant won't compete with our hospital in regards to lab work and X-ray work and other services," said Cave.

Bullard said Covenant and Mike Reed, the board's attorney, have begun working on such a document as other communities had expressed the same concern.

"The document will be some type of agreement between the hospital board and Covenant's medical staff that will have language related to competitive services," said Bullard.

Bullard added that a document of this type is in a new area for Covenant, but a need had been seen.

"This is new territory, but needed territory," said Bullard. "Our medical group is also interested in some type of arrangement such as this."

Parsley said he expects some sort of document will be available to the board by fall.

"This is new ground and a lot of people will want to have input," said Parsley.

"It will be constructed where it will be advantageous to both parties," added Bullard.

Cave has said many times that he felt local physicians could refer more patients to the hospital for lab and other tests.

"I feel the board's responsibility is to the hospital and the community," said Cave. "We'll take a hard look at any document produced."

The board also authorized Parsley to seek bids on health insurance for employees.

It was expected that the hospital's health insurance would increase some 18 percent this coming year, but when the final figures were received, it had gone up 31 percent.

The board also approved the monthly financial statement and the payment of bills, and heard a brief report from Parsley and Cheryl Chance, interim director of nurses, on the nursing staff.

"The hospital has done a remarkable job in hiring and retaining quality nurses," said Parsley. "They've done us an outstanding job."

Cave presided at the meeting and board members present were Dink Foree, Stanley Martin, Nan Swanson and Terry Williams. E. D. Walton was absent.

Vote in mill for patients' rights

WASHINGTON (AP) — House Republican leaders said today they could allow a vote on a rival patients' rights bill next week, departing from their strategy of trying to lure supporters to their own version. The concession came as White House negotiators warmed to the idea of expanded rights to sue health plans in state courts.

"It is my intent to take up patients' bill of rights next week," said House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill. "In some situations we're willing to go to a state court. That's one of the things we are working on. We need to get a bill the president can sign."

Bush, who lobbied undecided members heavily Wednesday, met early today with Rep. Charles Norwood. The Georgia Republican is shepherding moderates on the Democratic-backed patients' rights legislation that Bush has promised to veto.

Hastert said they are discussing how the two sides can resolve their differences over how patients can sue if they've been injured by a health plan's decision to provide health care. He did not rule out continued support of the GOP majority bill — a proposal by Rep. Ernest Fletcher, R-Ky. — that grants the same rights, but limits the instances in which patients could go to state court for redress.

But, he said, "we're trying to get some agreement with Norwood."

Norwood spokesman John Stone said the congressman also wants to work with the majority. "He's never quit negotiating."

Norwood, a conservative on other issues, said Wednesday he's continued talks with the White House during a lot of late nights. But he said as far as concessions go, "I've made mine."

Norwood backers said the White House just hadn't persuaded enough lawmakers to promise votes for the Fletcher proposal. Rep. Bob Barr, R-Ga., a sponsor of the Norwood bill, said he appreciated discussions with Bush, but still found the Fletcher bill offers too many loopholes for errant health plans. "Under current federal law, HMOs are shielded and not accountable for their decisions denying patient care," Barr said after meeting with the president. "This has to change."

House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., said the legal protections in the Fletcher bill were too weak and would take the heart out of the bill. He urged GOP leaders to drop efforts to peck away at the majority supporting the Norwood legislation.

"You can't continue to fight against the will of the House," Gephardt told reporters. "We know where the majority of the House is."

The Bush administration hasn't publicly indicated a compromise it's willing to make. Several Republican sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, had said the White House had discussed limited fresh concessions in the pivotal area of lawsuits, including expanded access to state courts for patients seeking to sue their health maintenance organizations.

Bush spokesman Ari Fleischer, however, said the president would veto the Norwood bill in its current form, and is likely to renew that threat despite any delays in Congress: "The president's focus is on the substance of the legislation, much more so than the timing of it."

Both versions of the legislation would offer millions of Americans new protections such as the right to emergency room care, access to specialists, minimum hospital stays for mastectomies and access to government-run clinical trials.

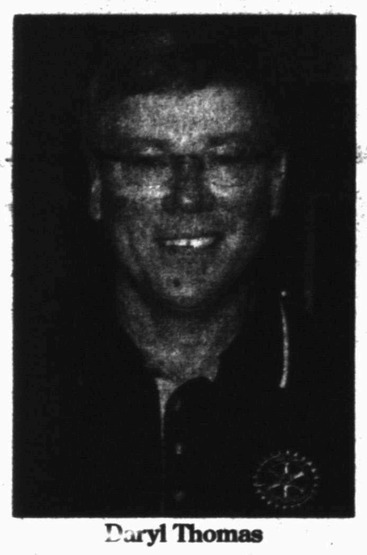
They differ most over granting patients the right to sue HMOs for denial of care. The Democratic-backed bill provides easier access to the courts.

The Republican bill offers a more limited ability to sue HMOs. It permits suits in state court only if an HMO refuses to abide by the results of an independent panel's ruling.

Under the Democratic legislation, patients can sue in federal or state court if they lose an independent appeal, and recover substantial damages if they win in court. It includes a $5 million cap on punitive damages in federal court cases.

Bush has threatened to veto the bill, preferring the GOP plan that does not allow punitive awards and places a $500,000 limit on pain and suffering damages in federal court.

Congressional staffers spoke of behind-the-scenes arm twisting. Some lawmakers were reportedly offered lucrative projects in their districts.



Daryl Thomas

TXU manager transferred to Dallas office

Daryl Thomas, TXU Electric and Gas manager in Snyder since 1992, has been transferred to the Dallas corporate office of the utility company.

Thomas, who has been with the company for 19 years, will work in the controller's office beginning in mid-August.

Tim Burk, Snyder-Sweetwater operations manager, will assume Thomas' responsibilities here.

Burk has been a resident of Snyder for three years.

Thomas said the move would give him a chance to be with his son and daughter as they begin high school in Rockwall.

"I want to thank the many friends I have made and for the support and friendship over the last nine years," said Thomas. "The experience I have gained from working with the city leaders of this community will benefit me in my new position."

"I wish Snyder the best of everything in the future," said Thomas.

FINALLY FINISHED — Road crews striped revamped 37th Street Wednesday afternoon as finishing touches were being added to the roadway. Two-way traffic in four lanes is now in effect, plus a turning lane. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "You can remain upbeat if you think of those things as character lines, not wrinkles."

We sort of got intrigued this week with remembering about the good ole days of newspaper editing and publishing.

Marshall Day, a former coworker who is now publisher of the Gatesville Messenger, sent us some samples of newspaper columns written years go by country editors who "wrote with the bark off."

"...Sheriff Howell's bird dog is still running loose around town, messing in peoples' yards, which is against the ordinance about where dogs can do it. Barney Ferguson tells me one more time in his yard and that dog is gone to glory from a thirty aught six."

"...a hint to Millie who opened the flower shop last spring on the square where the five and ten cent store used to be: Millie, honey, your business might do better if you hang some crepe on the bottom of those short skirts. Women in this town are saying their husbands are going in your place to look for something beside flowers."

"...Tony came in early Monday and paid his bakery ad that was six months past due. Thanks, Tony, now maybe I can get the carburetor fixed on the pickup. Milton at the tailor shop promised to pay up last month for the ads he owes, but he has not yet."

"Your editor is down to the Ds, going through the alphabet of folks who still get the paper weekly, but have not paid. Making the D list is Deets, Dalton and Davis. I seen that youngest Davis boy riding around on a new bicycle. Well, come on Mr. Davis.

"Last week there was another bunch of vandalism in town. This is the same bunch of wild kids that started doing mischief back in December when they knocked over the Christmas tree on the courthouse lawn.

"I will say this again, that the head of this bunch is Junior Jenkins who has got way too big for his britches and thinks he can get away with violating the law just 'cause his daddy has oil wells pumping over three counties."

"...his daddy told me two months ago that if I ever put his son's name in the paper again I will get sued for everything I've got."

"Well, here it is again: Junior Jenkins, Junior Jenkins. So come on with the lawsuit. What you will get is a business that is 30 thousand dollars in debt, a bank account that's overdrawn by 140 dollars and a 10-year-old Ford pickup with slick tires and a bad carburetor. Then I will be shed of all this work and free to go on welfare."

ASK US

Q—Are they putting up light poles on 37th Street, or what are those poles for?

A—For stop signs, no-parking signs and other traffic signs.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 99 degrees; low, 74, 7 a.m. Thursday, 76; no precipitation; total for 2001, 9.44 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly clear, low upper 70s. Friday, partly cloudy, high upper 90s. Friday night, mostly clear, low mid 70s.

Loretta Jaramillo
Partly Cloudy

Sunset: 8:44 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:58 a.m.
Of 206 days in 2001, the sun has shone 194 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Whenever I make a bum decision, I go out and make another one.
—Harry Truman

JUL 26 2001

CSX will pay part of derailment costs

BALTIMORE (AP) — The city spent an estimated $1.3 million containing a fiery train derailment and chemical spill in a downtown tunnel last week, but the rail company is chipping in to defray the cost, city officials said.

CSX Transportation Inc. agreed Wednesday to cover overtime costs for fire, police and some public work crews who responded to the accident on July 18. That amount has not yet been disclosed.

CSX spokesman Rob Gould stressed that the payment was "in no way an acknowledgment of fault" for the accident. The company also is reviewing claims from 25 businesses in the area that may be compensated for losses, Gould said.

"Given the stakes, the possibility of it winding up in court is very high," City Solicitor Thurman Zollicoffer said.

The accident caused a fire and an acid spill that brought much of the city to a standstill, halting all incoming traffic for hours and prompting the postponement of three Baltimore Orioles games.

The fire was doused Monday and traffic on the rail line returned to normal Wednesday.

City officials have insisted that heat from the train wreck caused a water main to break, sending 76 million gallons gushing into downtown. One road partially collapsed and several major intersections were closed off.

City data shows a surge in water movement at a nearby reservoir after the derailment, which officials said suggested the water main break followed the accident involving 60 freight cars.

But National Transportation Safety Board investigators were examining the century-old cast-iron pipe to determine whether the derailment was caused by the burst water main. They also have requested city records on the break.

"The investigation continues," Jay Kivowitz, the lead NTSB investigator, said Wednesday night before a meeting with other investigators and the city's deputy mayor. "It's very tedious work. That's all I'll say."

Mayor Martin O'Malley said the city was not worried about the results of the probe.

"We really don't fear in the least the time sequence," O'Malley said, referring to the possibility that the main broke, or was leaking, before the train derailed.

If the main is found to have been the cause, liability for the derailment and the cost of repair and cleanup could rest with the city. It was unclear whether the city would have to repay CSX if the water main was at fault, Zollicoffer said.

If CSX is found responsible for the broken main, the city said, the public works department may ask the company to pay roughly $125,000 for the water that was lost.

On the Net:
City of Baltimore:
http://www.ci.baltimore.md.us
CSX Transportation Inc.:
http://www.csxt.com

RECEIVES AWARD — Bill Wilson, owner of Big County Autoland, second from left, is pictured receiving the customer satisfaction "Mark of Excellence" year 2000 award from General Motors executives. From left are Derek F. Taylor, area sales manager for the South Central Region; Calvin H. Williams Jr; market area manager for the South Central Region; and C. Lloyd Tatum, area sales manager for the Regional Service Department. (SDN Staff Photo)

Police seize 827 pounds of cocaine

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A routine traffic stop led to the seizure of 827 pounds of cocaine worth an estimated $50 million, police said.

The seizure was by far the largest ever by the Oklahoma Highway Patrol, which seized 430 pounds of cocaine in all of 2000, Lt. Pete Norwood said. A man and a woman from California were taken into custody, but their names were not released.

"These are big players," Norwood said. "Someone big and powerful trusted them to carry 827 pounds of cocaine."

The drugs were seized after a trooper assigned to a special drug unit noticed the suspects' motor home making an unsafe lane change Wednesday morning on Interstate 40, Norwood said. He said the vehicle was traveling 53 mph in a 70 mph zone.

The cocaine parcels were double-wrapped in plastic, smeared with axel grease and stashed in compartments in the motor home. At least some of the parcels shown to reporters included names and addresses.

"Maybe that is where they were going to be taken," Norwood said. "We don't know that, but I'm sure we'll ask."

events

LOTTO TEXAS™

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Lotto Texas

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 3-9-21-32-43-45.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $20 million.

Pick 3

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

1-9-6

Proposed oil spill cleanup rule criticized

AUSTIN (AP) — Oil producers Wednesday criticized a proposed Texas Railroad Commission rule that would tell them how to respond to oil spills in sensitive areas.

"It's a very complex rule and the (independent oil producers) were left out of the process," said Morris Burns of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association.

Burns' comments came at the Railroad Commission's annual conference on the state of the industry. Others commented on the need for more workers in the industry, asked the commission to work with them on implementing new technology and boasted about the successful past few years.

But, the majority of comments revolved around the proposed oil spill cleanup rule, called Risk Based Decision Making or Risk Based Corrective Action.

Charles Seely of the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers brought with him about 50 members of the group to protest the rule.

"RBCA may very well be an important regulatory rule of appraising and remediating spills, however, until we have time to thoroughly dissect its content, the Texas Alliance of Energy Producers cannot and will not be supportive," Seely said.

Under the rule, producers who have a spill will input the details of the spill into a computer program and then will receive a computer-generated plan or set of options for remediating the environment.

In the past, when an oil producer had a spill, he would hire a consultant to assess the damage and propose a cleanup plan or options. The Railroad Commission would then either approve, change or disapprove the plan.

Commissioner Tony Garza says the rule could save producers time and money.

"What they are objecting to is change, and the unknown," Garza said. "It is in the oil and gas industry's best interest and this country's best interest that you have regulatory bodies being proactive."

That way, communities generally have the reassurance that the state is holding the oil and gas industry to reasonable standards, protecting the environment and balancing that with the need for production, Garza said.

J.R. Hurd of the Texas Independent Producers and Royalty Owners Association noted that the rule changes the definitions of sensitive areas.

"We recognize that some standard other than proximity may be necessary. However, the new definition has the potential to dramatically increase the number of sites that fall within sensitive areas," Hurd said.

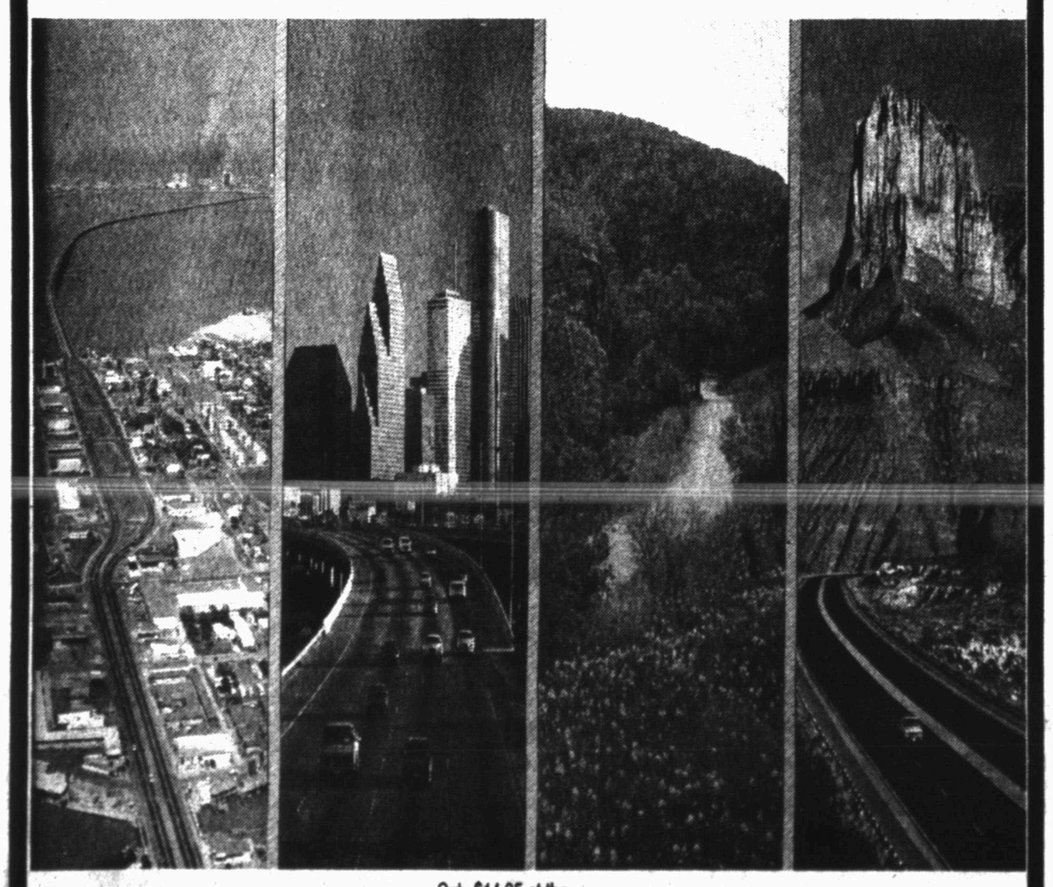
Sen. Steve Ogden, R-Bryan, urged the commissioners to protect environmental quality through regulation that is fairly enforced to reassure the public that the state can take care of its business and have a sound environmental policy.

He started his comments with: "The last two years have been fabulous."

He did not specifically address the proposed oil spill rule and later said he was still studying it.

Others also talked about the market turnaround over the past year, noting that the rig count was up more than 50 percent in 2000 to a yearly average of 343.

THE ROADS OF TEXAS



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PUBLIC NOTICE

TXU Gas Distribution, in accordance with the Gas Utility Regulatory Act, hereby gives notice of the Company's intent to implement a new schedule of rates for natural gas service to be charged to the residential, commercial and industrial customers in the West Region Distribution System effective August 2, 2001, and, in the cities in which they are in effect, to eliminate the Rate Schedule for Public Schools-N and Commercial Contract Public Schools Rate. The West Region Distribution System includes Abilene, Albany, Alvarado, Anson, Baird, Ballinger, Bangs, Benjamin, Blackwell, Blanket, Blum, Bronte, Brownwood, Buffalo Gap, Carbon, Cisco, Cleburne, Clyde, Coleman, Colorado City, Comanche, Covington, DeLeon, Dublin, Early, Eastland, Glen Rose, Godley, Gordon, Goree, Gorman, Granbury, Hamlin, Haskell, Hawley, Hillsboro, Impact, Itasca, Joshua, Keene, Knox City, Lawn, Lipan, Loraine, Lueders, Meridian, Merkel, Miles, Moran, Morgan, Munday, Novice, O'Brien, Putnam, Ranger, Rio Vista, Robert Lee, Roby, Rochester, Roscoe, Rotan, Rule, San Angelo, Santa Anna, Seymour, Snyder, Stamford, Stephenville, Strawn, Sweetwater, Throckmorton, Trent, Tuscola, Tye, Weinert, Whitney, and Winters.

The rate schedule is expected to furnish an 8.76 percent increase in the Company's revenues from residential, commercial and industrial customers in the West Region Distribution System. A Statement of Intent has been filed with each city. If you desire to comment concerning this change of rates, you may contact the City Secretary of one of the above named cities.

Date Book

Thursday, July 26, 2001

Today is the 207th day of 2001 and the 36th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1866, Congress enacted a law giving control of waterways to the states, subject to "local customs, laws and decisions of the court."

On this day in 1912, Lt. John Rodgers transmitted the first radio message from a flying aircraft to a U.S. Navy vessel, the USS Stringham.

On this day in 1948, President Harry Truman ordered the desegregation of the armed forces of the United States.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: George Catlin (1796-1872), artist; George Bernard Shaw (1856-1950), playwright-critic; Carl Jung (1875-1961), psychiatrist; Aldous Huxley (1894-1963), writer; Gracie Allen (1906-1964), comedian-actress; Blake Edwards (1922-), director, is 79; Jason Robards (1922-), actor, is 79; Stanley Kubrick (1928-1999), director; Mick Jagger (1943-), singer, is 58; Dorothy Hamill (1956-), figure skater, is 45.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1980, Daley Thompson won the decathlon at the Olympic Games in Moscow.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "A life spent making mistakes is not only more honorable, but more useful than a life spent doing nothing." — George Bernard Shaw

TODAY'S MOON: Day before first quarter (July 27).

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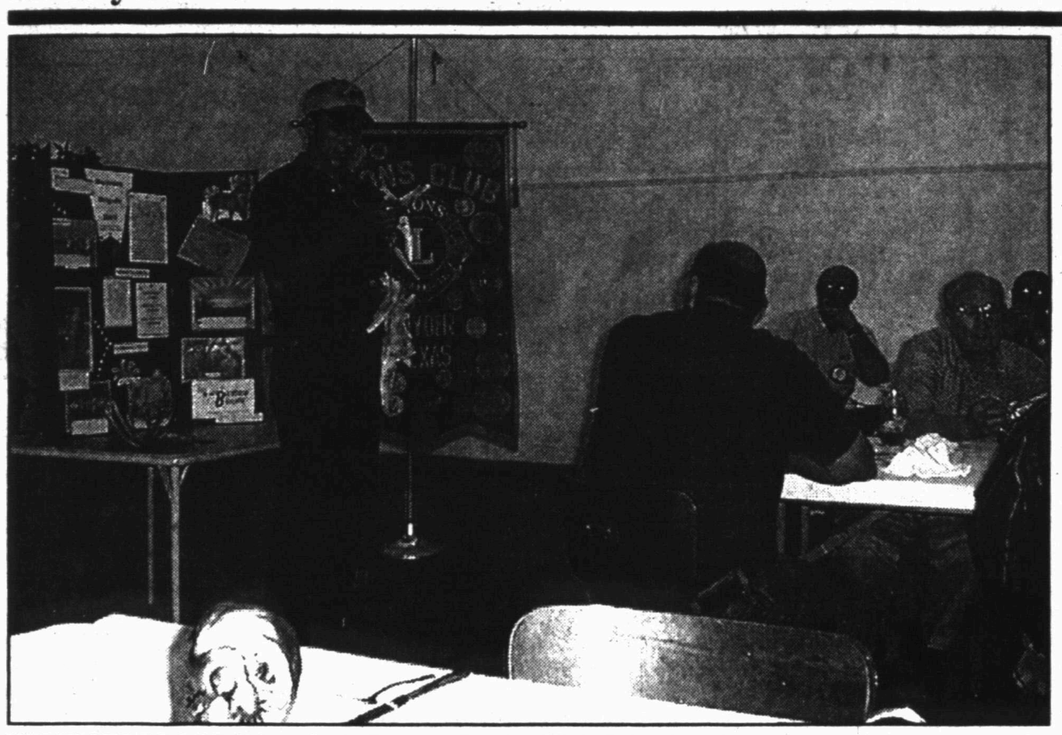


WILDLIFE PROGRAM — Craig Bowen, Snyder High School senior, presented the program for Lions Club Tuesday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. Craig spent four days studying white tail deer anatomy and their habitat along with instruction in leadership skills and public speaking. He is the son of Gary and Barbara Bowen of Snyder. Kent Mills of Snyder was a camp instructor and introduced Craig. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Warning label on saccharin removed

In 2000, the government signed into law legislation that calls for the removal of a warning label on all saccharin-sweetened products. This action was in response to hundreds of scientific studies and the National Toxicology Program's 9th Report on Carcinogens, which removed saccharin from its list of cancer-causing agents.

These summertime recipes are low in fat and calories and loaded with taste.

CHOCOLATE BUTTERMILK CAKE WITH RASPBERRY SAUCE

Makes 10 servings

1 cup cake flour

¼ cup European-style unsweetened cocoa powder

1/2 cup sugar, divided

6 packets (or 2 teaspoons bulk) Sweet'N Low granulated sugar substitute

2 teaspoons baking soda

1/8 teaspoon salt

¾ cup buttermilk

2 tablespoons liquefied Butter Buds Mix

2 tablespoons corn oil

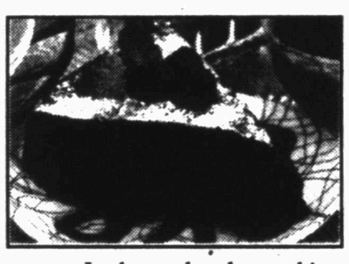
1 tablespoon vanilla extract

6 large egg whites, at room temperature

¼ teaspoon cream of tartar

Raspberry sauce, optional, recipe follows.

Preheat oven to 325 degrees. Spray 10-in. round cake pan with non-stick cooking spray and line bottom with a circle of waxed



paper. In large bowl, combine flour, cocoa powder, ¼ cup sugar, Sweet'N Low, baking soda and salt.

With an electric mixer at low speed, add buttermilk, Butter Buds, oil and vanilla. Mix until smooth. In large metal bowl, beat egg whites, remaining ¼ cup sugar and cream of tartar with an electric mixer at high speed until stiff, but not dry. Gently fold chocolate batter into egg white mixture. Pour batter into prepared pan and bake 25 minutes or until center springs back when touched lightly. Cool on wire rack 20 minutes. Invert onto wire rack and remove pan and waxed paper to cool completely. Serve cake with fresh fruit or Raspberry Sauce, if desired.

Per Serving: 130 Calories, 3 g Fat.

RASPBERRY SAUCE

Makes 10 servings

2 (16-ounce) packages frozen unsweetened raspberries, thawed

4 to 6 packets (or 1½ to 2 teaspoons bulk) Sweet'N Low granulated sugar substitute

2 tablespoons cornstarch

4 tablespoons cold water

Puree raspberries in blender or food processor; strain through a colander or cheesecloth to remove the seeds. Place raspberries in a small saucepan and add Sweet'N Low to taste. Combine cornstarch and cold water. Stir cornstarch mixture into raspberries and cook over medium heat 1 to 2 minutes or until thick and bubbly. Cool before serving.

Per Serving: 45 calories, 0 g Fat, 0 mg Cholesterol.

HERB VINAIGRETTE

Makes 16 servings

1/3 cup balsamic vinegar

2 tablespoons minced onion or shallots

1 garlic clove, minced

1 teaspoon each dried, crumbled: basil, chervil, marjoram and thyme

¼ teaspoon each: salt and pepper

1 packet Sweet'N Low granulated sugar substitute

2/3 cup reduced sodium chicken broth

1 teaspoon Dijon-style mustard

1 tablespoon olive oil

In a small bowl, stir together vinegar, onion or shallots, garlic, herbs, salt, pepper and Sweet'N Low. Cover and refrigerate 24 hours. Strain the mixture, reserving the onion, garlic and herbs. Whisk the broth and mustard into the vinegar. Whisk in the oil. For a more flavorful dressing, stir 2 teaspoons reserved onion-herb mixture back into the dressing. (Note: Discard remaining onion-herb mixture.) Refrigerate covered, up to 1 week. Serve on salads and vegetables.

Per Serving: 15 calories, 1 g Fat, 0 mg Cholesterol, 65mg Sodium, 2 g Carbohydrate, 0 g Fiber.

Youth performs C-section on his cat

REMUS, Mich (AP) — A 17-year-old performed an emergency Caesarean section, saving three kittens, after his pregnant cat was run over in the family driveway.

Brad Fate grabbed a knife moments after he saw a vehicle hit his cat, Cocoa. He cut Cocoa open and pulled out seven kittens. His mother cleaned the kittens and got them breathing while consulting with a veterinarian over the phone.

"He was hurrying and handing them to me," said Sandy Fate, Brad's mother. "I got a bucket of water and washed them."

In their large farmhouse outside Remus, Sandy and husband Michael Fate are the adoptive parents of 10 children, ranging in age from 2 to 20, including Brad.

Brad must have learned how and where to cut the mother cat from watching his father, a hunter, gut deer or from watching The Discovery Channel and "Animal Planet," his mother said.

Four of the kittens died. Brad and his sister are taking care of two of the surviving kittens. The other survivor was adopted Monday.

Girlfriend left in PJs

KAMLOOPS, British Columbia (AP) — Jamie Arbanas thought he was doing his girlfriend a favor by letting her doze on the long drive from the Merritt Mountain Music Festival home to Parksville.

Arbanas steered their motorhome into a filling station in Merritt, east of Vancouver, while Christy Gordon climbed in the bunk above — at least that's what Arbanas thought.

"He just drove away," Gordon said Monday. "I ran down the road after him waving my arms."

Gordon, still clad in pajamas, had jumped out to go to the restroom.

"I sat at the station thinking he'd see me missing and realize," she said. "I sat there five hours."

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 07-26-01
♠ K Q 7 3
♥ K Q 10 9 8
♦ 5
♣ K J 2

West
♠ 8 6 2
♥ 7 6 4 3 2
♦ A 8
♣ A 9 7

East
♠ —
♥ A
♦ 10 7 6 4 3 2
♣ Q 10 8 6 5 3

South
♠ A J 10 9 5 4
♥ J 5
♦ K Q J 9
♣ 4

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	4 NT	Pass
5 ♦	Pass	5 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 2

Thursday, July 26, 2001

The unsung heroes and heroines

By Phillip Alder

A record is a hit. Sometimes the recording artist(s) wrote it, but more often it was someone else (also sometimes plural). One of my favorite songwriters is Gretchen Peters (who in 1997 recorded a terrific album of some of her songs). She pens imaginative lyrics, in particular the song that includes "This uncivil war." (Is that called a lyric byte?)

Bridge is like a war, and sometimes, sadly, it can become very uncivil. Once in a New York duplicate, both opponents misdefended to allow me to collect an overtrick in four spades, which gave us a cold top. They started a lengthy heated argument about who was at fault. And neither of them made one correct analytical comment.

Against five spades, West opened with a trump, on which East discarded the diamond two. At trick two, South led the club four from his hand and West ducked. So, declarer won with dummy's king, drew trumps, and conceded the two red-suit aces. How would you divide the blame?

In answer to North's precipitate Blackwood, South showed one ace. So, when the aceless dummy appeared, both defenders should have realized that they had three aces — three tricks. Therefore, ducking the club ace was very bad. West must take the brunt of the blame. His comment that he was afraid South had a heart void isn't going to sway any jury.

However, North pointed out that East could have made it easier for his partner. "I don't suppose West would have ducked," he said to East, "if you had thrown away the club queen at trick one."

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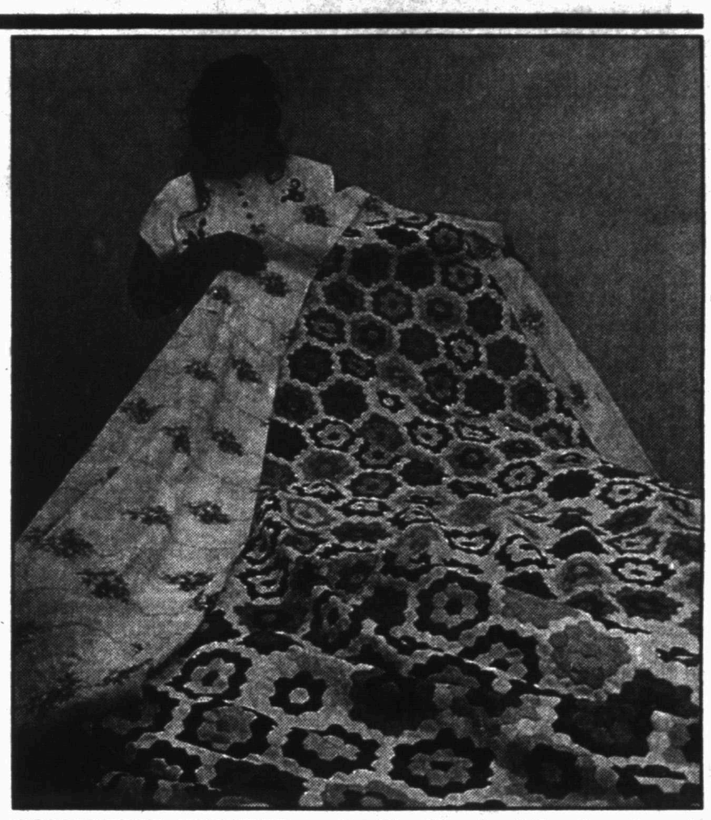
Hospital

ADMISSIONS: July 25-Ann Cody.

DISMISSALS: Wanda Cody, Kenneth Rinehart, Syvola Waller and Ann Cody.

CENSUS: 40 (Med./Surg.-15, Long-term Care-25)

Every time you lick a stamp, you consume 1/10 of a calorie.



COMPLETED PROJECT — Cecilia Floyd of Snyder doesn't waste time. It took her 2½ years to complete this "Grandmother's Garden" queen sized quilt using scraps given to her by her friends and family for the tiny pattern pieces. Cecilia pieced and backed the quilt totally by hand during her spare time and while watching television. Cecilia said she will probably rest awhile before starting another quilt. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; horseshoe courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762.

Rock and Roll Quilting Club evening meeting; Hermleigh Community Center; for more information call 863-2426; 6:30 p.m.

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

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

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-4048; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-0538 or 573-0770.

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

Father turns son in to authorities

VAN BUREN, Ark. (AP) — A burglary suspect figured it would be easy posting bond: He'd call his father, tell him where the money was hidden and walk out of jail once he put up $1,000.

He didn't count on his father calling sheriff's deputies instead.

Shane Lee Lamb, 19, called his father from the Crawford County Detention Center on Monday, told him there was cash hidden in a tennis racket cover in his room and asked his father to use the money to post 10 percent of his $10,000 bond.

Lamb's father found the money, about $800, and called authorities instead.

Investigator Aaron Beshears said Lamb and another man took between $1,500 and $2,000 during a burglary at a Mountainburg home Friday.

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THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

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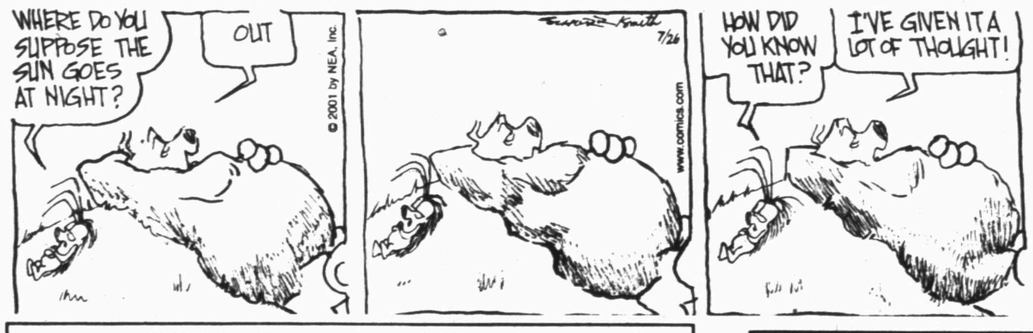
THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 African land
6 Three (Sp.)
10 Diner
12 Actress Woodward
14 Underground workers
15 Film-splicing machine
16 Angel's favorite sign (abbr.)
17 Ums' kin
19 Fastened with thread
20 Priest's hat (var.)
23 Ghost
26 — Moines
27 — -Locka, Fla.
30 Merited
32 Suppose
34 International org.
35 Laid away
36 Future bks.
37 Mao — -tung
39 Shuts noisily
40 Tried
42 Golf hazard
45 Nest-egg inits.
46 Wood sorrel
49 France's place
51 Irked
54 More temperate
55 Walk
56 Negatives
57 Author Joyce Carol —

DOWN

1 Jewels
2 Broadway musical
3 — — time (never)
4 By birth
5 Timetable abbr.
6 Bushy clump
7 Mrs. Gorbachev
8 Grafted (heraldry)
9 Winter storm
11 River in Belgium
12 Buffoons
13 "West" end
18 Like cherries
20 Hot-dog holders
21 Votes in
22 Deadly fly
23 Flower
24 — Christian Andersen
25 Unrefined metals
27 Gumbo veggie
28 Sonnet, e.g.
29 No ifs, — or buts
31 File
33 Frigid
38 Cereal spike
40 Epic poem
41 Sweet potatoes
42 Pro — (for the time being)
43 Bankrupt
44 Folksinger Guthrie
46 Think nothing — —
47 Yield
48 Citrus drinks
50 Foot
52 "How was — — know?"
53 Monk's title

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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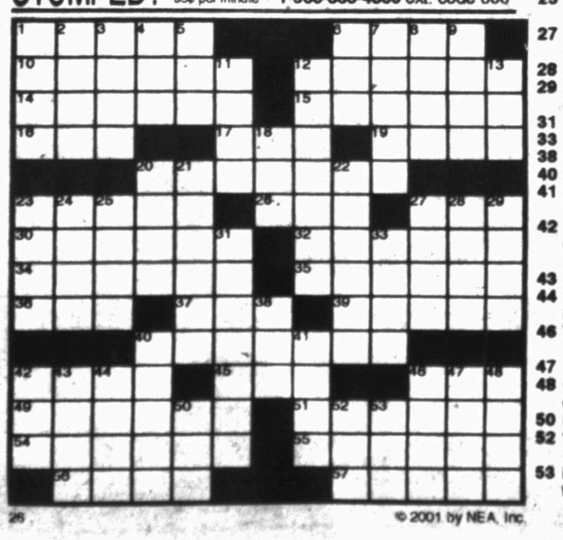

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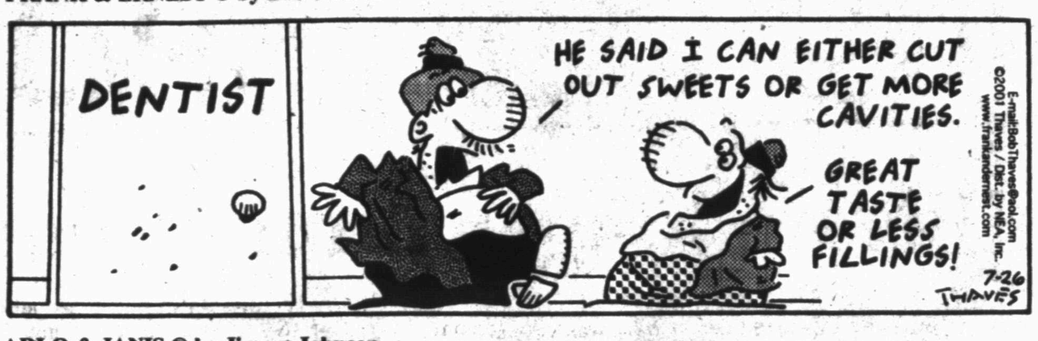
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



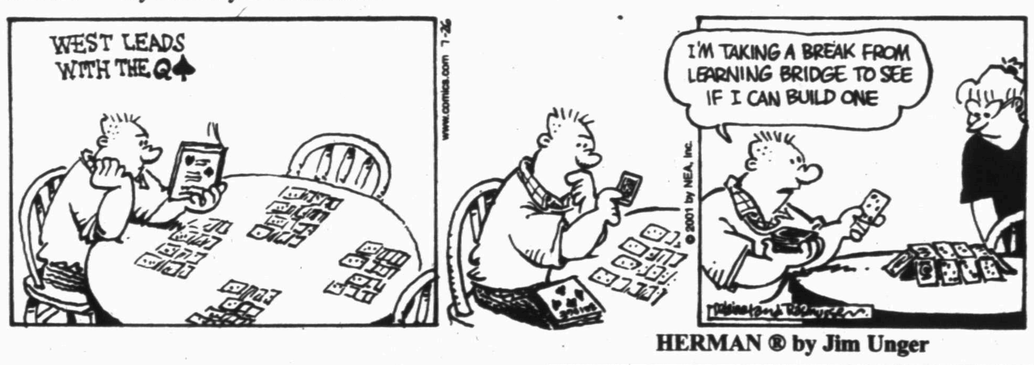
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

MONTY ® by Jim Meddick

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"I don't know what you're eating, but you gave the dog a can of spaghetti sauce!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

SPORTS

Ellis no longer thinks about injury

WICHITA FALLS (AP) — Anyone who saw Greg Ellis this time last year didn't have to ask which leg had been shattered. It was obvious just looking at him stranded on the sidelines at the start of training camp.

That's not the case this summer. Ellis is fully healed from his grotesque injury, so much so that when he talks about all his prolonged recovery, he has to point out which leg it was.

"I have to think about it," he said, breaking into a smile. "That's a joy for me."

Ellis joined workouts late in camp and triumphantly was in the starting lineup for the season opener. It was less than nine months after he'd broken the two main bones in his left leg and had a metal rod implanted to help it heal properly.

The defensive end was the leading tackler among linemen in that first game and the next week he recovered a fumble. In the third game, another fumble recovery led to a touchdown and a sack on the final play sealed Dallas' first victory.

But Ellis' leg was still hurting — more than he was letting on — and while he was making some highlight plays, his overall performance was down.

"I thought I was going to come into last season and be on the same level, be able to do the same things I used to do," Ellis said. "Then I got to the third or fourth game and it was like, 'Man, I can't do it. I just can't push off and do it.'"

Ellis was moved from the left end of the line to right side. In football terms, he went from the strong side to the weak side. The insider lingo was a cruel metaphor for what he was feeling.

"I couldn't push off with my left leg good enough to play that side any more," he said. "But thank God I made it through. It was hard, really hard. I had a lot of tough days."

The Cowboys' defense had lots of tough days, too, allowing a ridiculous amount of rushing yards while seldom pressuring quarterbacks. Ellis couldn't help but feel that he was part of the problem, even though he made a career-best 77 tackles, mostly from his new position.

What held him back was continued pain. He finally described it to the doctor who had rebuilt his leg and the man knew exactly what was wrong. He pushed on a certain spot and Ellis said, "You know what? That really hurts."

A screw used to hold the titanium bar in the bone below his knee was the culprit. The screw was surgically removed soon after the season ended and Ellis felt better immediately.

He spent the rest of the offseason catching up on the strength and conditioning work that had become secondary to his rehab work. He reported to training camp this week "as big and strong and fast as I've ever been."

"This was a good offseason," Ellis said. "I ran the 40 just to see and I can still run a 4.7, which is what I did before the injury."

The Cowboys need Ellis to pick up where he left off when he was injured in December 1999. It was late in a breakout sophomore season in which he had 71/2 sacks and a surprising two touchdowns.

Dallas coach Dave Campo fully expects to see Ellis, the eight overall pick of the 1998 draft, at that level again.

"I think there's a great deal of improvement," Campo said. "We really thought we had a chance to have an outstanding player and I feel the same way now.

"If he can play the left end, which is where we're working him, and be solid there, that's a big, big plus for us. Most teams are right-handed, that's their power side, and if he can hold up on that side — which I believe he can — that gives us a starting point to where we can build on."

Zimmerman, Rangers sweep doubleheader

ARLINGTON (AP) — Jeff Zimmerman has established himself as a top-notch closer for the Texas Rangers.

Zimmerman has saves in eight straight appearances, including both games of a doubleheader sweep of Baltimore on Wednesday. Including the series opener, he saved three games in a span of 241/2 hours.

After allowing a pinch-hit single to Cal Ripken in the 6-5 victory of game one Wednesday, Zimmerman threw a perfect ninth in the 5-2 nightcap.

"The second one tonight really helped me," said Zimmerman, who has 19 saves in 22 chances. "I actually stepped it up a little bit. I knew I didn't have a lot of gas left. I stayed within myself and hit the target."

John Wetteland was the last Texas reliever to record saves in both games of a doubleheader, on Sept. 6, 1999, against the Chicago White Sox.

When this season began without the retired Wetteland, Tim Crabtree inherited the closer role. Crabtree converted his first four save opportunities before rotator cuff surgery ended his season.

That opened the door for Zimmerman, who as a rookie in 1999 was Wetteland's setup guy and an All-Star.

"He wants that role. He wants the ball," said Rangers manager Jerry Narron. "He's done a great job. He's definitely a closer, no question."

Texas has its first three-game winning streak since April 13-15.

Baltimore has lost 17 of its last 20 games, including five straight to Texas.

"It was a long day," Baltimore manager Mike Hargrove said. "We beat ourselves in the first game with errors, and couldn't get anything going in the second game."

In the opener, Justin Duchscherer made the most of his one-game shot with Texas. Called up to make the spot start, Duchscherer pitched into the seventh inning to win his major league debut.

Duchscherer allowed four runs and eight hits in 6 2-3 innings, giving up two-run homers to Chris Richard and Brook Fordyce. Duchscherer struck out five and walked one.

As expected, the Rangers optioned the right-hander to Triple-A Oklahoma after that game. He had never pitched above Double-A before Wednesday.

Second Florida player dies following workout

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — Six days after collapsing and falling into a coma following a workout with teammates, incoming Florida freshman Eraste Autin died of complications related to heat stroke.

Autin fell unconscious just outside Florida Field last Thursday while jogging back to the locker room after one of the football team's voluntary summer conditioning sessions.

"This is by far the saddest day ever for me as a coach and for our Gator teams as we have lost a wonderful, outstanding young man," Florida coach Steve Spurrier said in a statement.

It was the second such tragedy to hit the state in five months. In February, Florida State linebacker Devaughn Darling collapsed and died, also after a voluntary workout.

Florida athletic director Jeremy Foley spoke at a news conference Wednesday, a few hours after seeing Autin's family off at the Gainesville airport, where they caught a plane home to Lafayette, La.

"It's human nature to ask why," Foley said. "Why this young man? Why now? Why this? That's human nature, and those are the kind of things that keep you up at night."

After Darling's death, team physician Tom Haney said "cardiac arrhythmia" was the most likely reason for Darling's death. Teammates said Darling complained of chest pains during the fatal workout.

Unlike Darling, Autin didn't complain of any pain and showed "no signs of visible distress," according to Florida officials, who talked to players and staff present at the workouts.

"It was a hot day, and he's the hardest worker out of all of us," roommate and fellow freshman football player Lance Butler said this week.

Well aware their program would be under scrutiny, Florida officials made available copies of the offseason workout regimen, and a long list of information regarding Autin's football activities this summer.

Foley said Autin passed a physical that all incoming freshman who enrolled in summer classes had to take July 2.

He collapsed after his 10th workout of the summer, all of which are overseen by athletic trainers and strength coaches, as is allowed by NCAA rules.

It was 88 degrees with 72 percent humidity — normal summertime weather for Florida — the afternoon Autin collapsed.

Sports Briefs

SHS golf qualifying rounds

Qualifying for Snyder High School golf teams will be held after school Aug. 15-18. For more information, call Coach Ricky Hunter at 573-0239.

SCC golf tournaments

The Snyder Country Club Junior Club Championship will be held at 8 a.m. Friday. Entry fee is $10.

The SCC parent-child tourney is scheduled for 8 a.m. Saturday. Cost is $20 per team. Call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101 to register.

High school football

All Snyder High School football players will receive their equipment at 7 a.m. Aug. 6 at the SHS field house.

Kiwanis golf tournament

Snyder Kiwanis Club will host the annual Hubert and Mary Cargile Memorial Scholarship Tournament Aug. 4 at Western Texas College.

Entry fee for the four-person scramble is $120 per team, with shotgun starts at 8 a.m. and 1 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top four teams. Hole-in-one prize is $10,000.

Call the WTC pro shop at 573-9291, or Russell Fisk at 573-3438 to register.

Tennis meeting

Snyder High School tennis players will meet with Coach Ted Phillips at 6 p.m. next Thursday at the field house film room to plan the upcoming season.

Golf tournament

Price Daniel Unit will host a four-man scramble Aug. 6 at Sweetwater Country Club. Proceeds benefit Special Olympics of Texas.

Cost is $50 per player, including green fee, meal and cart. Trophies, shirts and hats will be awarded to the top teams, with $50 going to the winners. Hole-in-one prizes are a 2001 Ford Mustang, two airline tickets, a set of Hogan irons and a year's supply of Top Flite golf balls.

Entry deadline is Tuesday. Entry fees should be mailed to PDU c/o Connie Rushing. Checks should be made payable to Area 14 Special Olympics.

Western Texas MGA

The Men's Golf Association of Western Texas College holds a weekly event at 6 p.m. each Tuesday. Players need to register in the pro shop by 5:30.

Tuesday scramble and all-day MGA

The Men's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club holds its weekly scramble at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

Also, an all-day MGA event is held each Thursday.

WGA play day

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club holds its weekly play day at 8:30 a.m. each Tuesday. Format is blind partners.

Junior high football

All Snyder Junior High football players will pick up their equipment Aug. 14. Eighth graders will be from 3-5 p.m., followed by seventh graders from 5-7.

Athletic physicals

Seventh and ninth grade SISD athletes, and anyone who has never participated in Snyder athletics must take a physical. SISD will pay for the physicals through Aug. 3.

An appointment should be made with one of the following doctors: Raykov, Burleson, Cooper, Thompson, Nussey, Wobolt, Leighton or P.A. Beth Ashley.

All SISD athletes must return completed athletic forms to the athletic director's office or Steve Kreuger.

Astros sputter against Cards

ST. LOUIS (AP) — With the first-place Chicago Cubs sprinting ahead, the two teams behind them in the NL Central standings lost ground by running in place over a two-game series.

The St. Louis Cardinals broke out of a prolonged hitting slump Wednesday to beat the Houston Astros 10-2, a day after losing to the Astros 2-1.

Since the Cubs won games against Pittsburgh both days, the second-place Astros find themselves four games out, the third-place Cardinals 81/2 games back.

Astros manager Larry Dierker admitted to sneaking a peek at the out-of-town scores.

"Everybody's scoreboard watching," he said. "But there's so much time left now."

The Cardinals open a four-game series against the Cubs at Wrigley Field Thursday. Asked if they needed a sweep to get back in the race, La Russa said, "Heck no — that'd be crazy. What you got to do is play hard for four days."

The Astros open a five-game series against Pittsburgh on Thursday.

The Cardinals got a boost from the middle part of the lineup, which has struggled. Jim Edmonds snapped an 0-for-14 streak with two hits. And Mark McGwire broke a 1-for-14 slump with a two-run homer in the eighth inning off reliever Ron Villone. It was his 14th this season and 568th of his career, moving him to within five of Harmon Killebrew for fifth on the career list.

McGwire said it is too early to give up on the defending NL Central champs.

"The rest of the year we basically play our division and it gets exciting," he said.

St. Louis got another strong outing from Dustin Hermanson — no surprise considering the early start. Hermanson (8-8) is 4-1 with a 2.55 earned run average in nine day starts, but 4-7 with a 6.82 ERA in 12 starts at night. He allowed two runs and four hits and tied a career high with nine strikeouts for the second straight game.

"Maybe I just like pitching in the daytime," he said. "Maybe we ought to get a schedule like the Cubs."

The Cardinals had scored just one run over 20 innings entering the game. But they hammered rookie righthander Tim Redding (3-1) for seven runs — four earned — and 10 hits in 5 1-3 innings.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	57	44	.564	—
Philadelphia	56	45	.554	1
Florida	52	49	.515	5
New York	46	56	.451	11½
Montreal	44	58	.431	13½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	59	41	.590	—
Houston	55	45	.550	4
St. Louis	50	49	.505	8½
Milwaukee	44	56	.440	15
Pittsburgh	38	61	.384	20½
Cincinnati	38	63	.376	21½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	59	42	.584	—
Los Angeles	58	44	.569	1½
San Francisco	53	49	.520	6½
San Diego	49	53	.480	10½
Colorado	43	58	.426	16

Wednesday's Games
Atlanta 11, Cincinnati 3
Philadelphia 8, Montreal 4
St. Louis 10, Houston 2
Milwaukee 4, Los Angeles 3
Chicago Cubs 6, Pittsburgh 5
San Francisco 9, Colorado 3
N.Y. Mets 5, Florida 2
Arizona 9, San Diego 6

Thursday's Games
St. Louis (Smith 2-0) at Chicago Cubs (Tapani 8-7), 2:20 p.m.
Atlanta (Marquis 2-3) at Montreal (Munoz 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Micki 1-0) at Pittsburgh (Schmidt 6-5), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Wolf 5-10) at N.Y. Mets (Reed 8-5), 7:10 p.m.
San Francisco (Hernandez 8-11) at Arizona (Schilling 14-4), 10:05 p.m.
Colorado (Neagle 6-4) at Los Angeles (Gagne 3-4), 10:10 p.m.

Friday's Games
St. Louis at Chicago Cubs, 3:20 p.m.
Atlanta at Montreal, 7:05 p.m.
Houston at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
Florida at Cincinnati, 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
San Diego at Milwaukee, 8:05 p.m.
San Francisco at Arizona, 10:05 p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 10:10 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	60	41	.594	—
Boston	57	43	.570	2½
Toronto	48	54	.471	12½
Baltimore	42	59	.416	18
Tampa Bay	33	68	.327	27

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	58	41	.586	—
Minnesota	59	42	.584	—
Chicago	49	50	.495	9
Detroit	43	55	.439	14½
Kansas City	40	61	.396	19

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	72	29	.713	—
Oakland	54	47	.535	18
Anaheim	51	50	.505	21
Texas	43	57	.430	28½

Wednesday's Games
Texas 6, Baltimore 5, 1st game
Texas 5, Baltimore 2, 2nd game
Toronto 4, Boston 3, 10 innings
N.Y. Yankees 4, Detroit 2
Cleveland 7, Chicago White Sox 5
Tampa Bay 3, Anaheim 1
Kansas City 5, Seattle 1
Minnesota 3, Oakland 1

Thursday's Games
Detroit (Holt 7-7) at N.Y. Yankees (Keisler 1-2), 1:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Johnson 0-1) at Oakland (Heredia 6-7), 3:35 p.m.
Toronto (Halladay 0-1) at Boston (Nomo 10-4), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 7-5) at Cleveland (Nagy 4-3), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Towers 6-4) at Texas (Oliver 7-6), 8:35 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Rupe 4-8) at Anaheim (Ortiz 7-7), 10:05 p.m.
Kansas City (George 0-0) at Seattle (Pineiro 0-0), 10:05 p.m.

Friday's Games
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 7:05 p.m.
Cleveland at Detroit, 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Boston, 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Texas, 8:35 p.m.
Baltimore at Anaheim, 10:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Seattle, 10:05 p.m.
Kansas City at Oakland, 10:05 p.m.

WNBA Glance

All Times EDT

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	18	5	.783	—
New York	16	8	.667	2½
Miami	13	10	.565	5
Charlotte	10	13	.435	8
Orlando	9	13	.409	8½
Indiana	7	16	.304	11
Washington	6	15	.286	11
Detroit	6	16	.273	11½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	20	3	.870	—
Houston	15	7	.682	4½
Sacramento	13	10	.565	7
Portland	11	11	.500	8½
Utah	10	11	.476	9
Phoenix	9	12	.429	10
Seattle	9	15	.375	11½
Minnesota	7	14	.333	12

Wednesday's Games
Cleveland 52, Miami 48, OT
Los Angeles 80, Sacramento 78

Thursday's Game
Washington at Charlotte, Noon
New York at Utah, 9 p.m.
Detroit at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Friday's Games
Indiana at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Orlando at Miami, 7 p.m.
Washington at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Phoenix at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Portland at Sacramento, 10 p.m.

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Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date(s) shown below, and then publicly read.

CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT(S)

District: Abilene
Contract 6067-81-001 for INSTALLATION OF VIDEO IMAGING DETECTION in SCURRY County, etc. will be opened on August 29, 2001 at 2:00 pm at the District Office for an estimate of $290,958.00.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO: 4181

State Office

Construction Division
200 E. Riverside Dr.
Austin, Texas 78704
Phone: 512-416-2540

District Office (s)

Abilene District
District Engineer
4250 N. Clack
Abilene, Texas 79601
Phone: 915-676-6800

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TXDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex or national origin.

Announcements

STATE CERTIFIED ALZHEIMER UNIT
Snyder Oaks Care Center recently opened an Alzheimer Care Unit. We provide a safe, stable & secure environment. If your loved one needs this kind of care, call Ray Turner 573-9377 or come by & visit 210 E. 37th.

Vehicles

1967 Pontiac Tempest
326 engine, A/C, power brakes
Call 915-573-0616

1971 VW Bug, rare automatic stick shift. Like new tires, new shocks, new carb. $2,500 or best offer 573-3326

1986 Isuzu Trooper II
5 speed, 4 wheel drive, 2 door
130,000 miles $1,500
Call 573-1252 after 6p.m.

1989 Ford Econoline 350 diesel truck with 14' box body. Good truck! $5,000 OBO. Be serious. 573-3677

1993 Chevy Ext.-Cab Silverado, loaded. $5,850. 573-4425 or 915-573-1550

*1995 Silverado Ext. Cab, 350 engine, $10,500
*1994 Sierra Ext. Cab, 305 engine, $6,900
*1989 Silverado, 350, $3,700
In House Warranty
Davenport's Auto Clinic
405 26th St. 573-0495/573-8147

Business Directory of Services

DALE'S ELECTRIC
We Do All Kinds Of Electrical Work
New & Repairs
403 33rd St.
573-5330
Mobile 338-1227
Dale Swigert

Bullard's Internet Service
Join the Snydertex.com online community, serving Scurry County
●Local Storefront, New Computers, Repairs Upgrades, Software, Networking
●If you are our customer, we fix your Internet problems for free
3405 College Ave. 573-4801

KEEP YOUR BUSINESS IN THE PUBLIC EYE

JOE BROWN'S Floor Covering Service
Carpet, Vinyl, Tile - All Types
Wood Floors, All Types Repairs
Restretching Carpets
Minor Carpentry Work
Staining Concrete
Call For Appointment
Joe & Nita Brown
573-2324, 575-1739, 575-1740

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Lee's Construction
"No Job Too Small"
Residential
Remodeling & Repair
STEVE LEE
Snyder, Texas
79549
915/573-2709
Mobile
915/725-3165

SPARLIN CONSTRUCTION
Welding, Fabrication, Fencing, Metal Buildings, Carpentry, Painting
Bud Sparlin
573-9752
Mobile 575-4182
P.O. Box 91
Snyder, TX
79550

NEED A CARPENTER?
Repair - Remodel
Paint - Build
JAMES MILLS
573-0081

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Monthly Sprinkler Checks
Repairs and Installation
Commercial & Residential
Jim Thomas
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Texas Irrigators Lic. #6312

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It's cheaper than owning your own equipment!
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Thank you for your continued support!
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10 MINUTE OIL CHANGE
Services: • Oil Change • Transmission • Radiator • Brake • Tire • State Inspection • Air Conditioner
Kirk Taylor
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573-5956
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Plumbing Repair Service
Telephone
(915) 573-3085
Coventry Plumbing
M-19955
1311 College Ave.
Snyder, Texas 79549
Jim Coventry
Owner

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3204 42nd St.
James Melton,
Master Plumber
915-573-4301
Master Licensed & Bonded

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Air Conditioning & Heating
Sales, Service, Repair - All Brands
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- All Major Credit Cards Accepted -
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Specializing In LONG TERM CARE
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Snyder, TX 79550
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Res: 915-573-6526

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DESIGN & BUILD
CUSTOM HOMES
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Business Hours:
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Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
P.O. Box 949 Snyder, Texas 79550

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The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within 5 days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement. All ads are cash unless customer has an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
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$16.95 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Business Opportunity

FOR SALE
Convenient store w/beer & wine sales in Colorado City. Prime location. Established clientele. Serious inquiries only call (817)561-1556

Business Services

Dot & James
Lawn Care, Handyman
Also servicing house painting.
Free Estimates, Sr. Discount
573-4214

Front-end loader, tilling, leveling. Walk-behind tiller, tractor tiller. Small acreage plowed. **915-573-8264**

House & Window Cleaning
Free Estimates
Call Bonnie 573-8708

Everyone reads classifieds!

Business Services

The Carpet Store & More
915-235-8180 Sweetwater, TX
Free Estimates On Flooring
Open Mon. – Sat.

Would like to clean houses. Experienced & have references. Call 573-9405

Student Work

LAWN CARE
Experienced: Clean-up, Mowing, Edging & Weed Eating.
Call Jay at **573-8648**

LAWN CARE
Mowing, edging, weed eating. Experienced. Reasonable rates! Tate **338-9397**, leave message.

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The link between buyer and seller
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Employment

Abilene Reporter News carrier wanted. $1,200/month 7 days per week/early morning hours. 1-800-588-4284 ext. 5236

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads. Call today!

Employment

Certified Nurse Aides needed, all shifts. Apply in person to Terri Owens, DON, at Kristi Lee Manor, 1941 Chestnut St. Colorado City.

Little ads get big results!

CRUDE OIL TRANSPORT DRIVERS

Sunoco, Inc. is seeking applicants for the Snyder, Clairemont and Colorado City, Texas area. The successful candidates will transport oil from lease sites to pipeline storage tanks and perform minor repairs to unit. Gauge and test product, use handheld computer to complete transactions and interfaces with wide range of customers.

Candidate must be at least 21 years of age, possess a CDL with air brake, tanker and hazardous material endorsement. No more than two moving violations in the last five years and have a High School Diploma or equivalent. Must be able to pass a DOT medical exam. Sunoco offers medical and dental insurance, 401K and a generous hourly wage for qualified persons.

If interested, please call Sunoco at 915-573-3502 for an application packet. EOE, M/F/D/V.

Employment

Cooks & Wait-staff needed. Must be reliable, willing to work. PT/FT Apply in person @ Red Barn, Hwy 84. *No phone calls*

DRIVER/OPERATOR
MUST POSSESS VALID CDL DRIVER'S LICENSE and have one year experience operating medium duty trucks. Must be able to read and write and able to learn a truck route quickly. 10 paid vacation days, 12 paid holidays, 12 paid sick days, and retirement. Employee health insurance paid by the city. Apply in person TWC, Career Stop, C/O WTC, 6200 S. College, Snyder, EOE. Employer paid ad.

Full-time customer service rep., full-time teller and part-time teller needed. Send resumes to P.O. Box 949A, Snyder, TX 79550.

Home mailers needed. Earn $635 weekly mailing letters. Easy! Limited open positions. Call 1-888-333-7114 ext. 8125 24 Hrs.

Immediate job opportunities for persons w/good driving record, at least 18 years of age. Willing to work with public and available Mon.–Sat. Experienced preferred but not necessary. Applications accepted through July 31st or until positions filled. Apply in person at **Higginbotham-Bartlett**, 1913 25th, Snyder.

IMMEDIATE OPENING
Meter Reader
Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc., Roby Office
Requires use of hand held computer. Excellent benefits.
Apply at:
Big Country Electric Cooperative, Inc.
1010 West South First St.
Roby, Texas 79543
888-662-2232
915-776-2244
Consumer Accounts Manager

Immediate openings at
MD Laundry
See Margaret or Lance

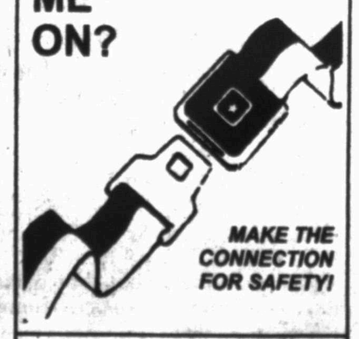
LVN needed. Good benefits, meals, holidays, vacation. Apply in person to Terri Owens, DON, at Kristi Lee Manor, 1941 Chestnut St. Colorado City.

P/T Office manager position available with possible F/T. Candidate needs experience in computers, light bookkeeping, accounts receivable and deadlines. Must have neat appearance and good with public. Salary starts @ $8.00hr. w/opportunity for advancement. Send resume to P.O. Box 561, Snyder, TX 79550. Accepting applications through Aug. 1st.

Purple Sage Motel needs reliable clerk nights/weekends shift. Uniforms provided, insurance available. Computer experience helpful. Apply in person.

Snyder Oaks Care Center is now hiring LVNs and CNAs on all shifts. Call Ladell or Trisha 573-9377 or apply in person 210 E. 37th.

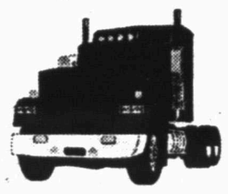
Wanted: Experienced Cook and waitress Apply in person at Rudy's Restaurant.
No phone calls please

ARE YOU PUTTING ME ON?

MAKE THE CONNECTION FOR SAFETY!
A MESSAGE FROM THIS NEWSPAPER AND THE DPS TROOPERS

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

Employment

Truck Driver Training



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Earn $30,000 to $35,000 1st year!
Drive for local, regional and national carriers!
CDL IN ONLY 3 WEEKS!
Train with Western Texas College and Midland College.
Day, night and weekend classes.
Start your career today!
Call now!
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No credit check. No deposits.
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Farmer's Column

Leidman of San Antonio 15" Crosby Roper. Custom made w/15" Crosby hardwood, rawhide covered tree, new lining & stitching, Blevins quick change leathers, Bailey roping cinch. Includes new saddle pad, blanket & saddle rack. $300 574-1922

Outstanding Yearling filly colt. Subject to registration. Breeders certificate. **573-2493**

Boats

'82 VIP bass/ski, lake ready, new trolling motor, ski equip. Call 573-7732.

Merchandise

16'x40' Morgan portable storage building. Free delivery. Financing. **(806)794-6772**

18ft.x 4ft. round above ground swimming pool. New in box w/ladder, liner, filter & pump. $700 cash. **(806)783-9530**

(3)-8" Subs **(1)**-10" Sub w/box, Presicion power amp, **(2)**-Orion XTR3, 10 w/box. Call 915-573-1217

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

Factory built funnel cake cooker. *Gold Medal* brand. Like new! Mounted on trailer. $1,000 573-3677

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

Light brown sectional couch w/full-size hide-a-bed. $150 573-5601

Metal picnic tables w/benches. Metal wood racks. Call 573-7683 after 5p.m.

TRUCKLOAD SALE!!
Above ground swimming pools below factory price. Ask about FREE installation, FREE delivery and FREE financing!!
(806)794-6772

Used 8 person Morgan spa with redwood gazebo + deck. Full factory warranty. **(806)794-6772**

Waterbeds, (2) super single twins, heaters, liners and sheets. $50 each or $75 for both. **915-573-3326**

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

FREE to good home!
(4) adorable kittens. (3) white, (1) grey. Mother was Siamese.
573-3268

Garage Sales

BACKYARD SALE
3007 41st St.
Friday 8a.m. – ??
Lots of Stuff!!

FLEA MARKET
This Weekend Only
Friday – Saturday – Sunday
Hwy 84
7 miles South of Hermleigh
Follow Signs

GARAGE SALE
3103 38th Place
(behind Humble Smith)
Friday & Saturday
8a.m. – ??
Camper, **Free** puppies, TVs, Boom box, Dollies, lots of odds & ends! Come see!

GARAGE SALE
3402 40th St.
Saturday 8a.m. – ??

GARAGE SALE
Fri. & Sat. 8a.m. – 1p.m.
Go W. on Lamesa Hwy., turn right @ blinking light at Union by churches, 2nd house on right
Dishes, Large size clothes, Round coffee table, Hospital bed, Toys & lots more!

GARAGE SALE
Friday 3:30p.m. – ??
Saturday 8a.m. – Noon
Go west past airport through 4-way stop past Weaver Wireline about 1/2 mile on right
Electric stove, School clothes, Toys, Antiques, etc.

GARAGE SALE
Friday 7:30a.m. – 11a.m.
1226 N. Ave. O
N. on Clairemont Hwy., turn right a G&G Grocery, 4 blks to Ave O, turn left 4½ blocks
Boys clothes (14–16), Girl's clothes (12–14), Men's & women's dress clothes, Corner shelf, Dining table w/4 chairs, Dishes & more.

HUGE GARAGE SALE
2505 Ave. U
Thurs., Fri., & Sat.
9a.m. – 6p.m.
Furniture, Pictures, Toys, Saddles, Dishes & lots of misc.

MOVING SALE
3007 40th St.
Friday & Saturday
8:30a.m. – 2:30p.m.
Couches, Appliances & much more!
573-1747

YARD SALE
215 36th Place
Friday 4p.m. – 7p.m.
Saturday 8a.m. – ??
Lots of misc.
Large to small!!

Noah's Attic
Open Friday Only
10 – 5:30
IN STORE SPECIALS!
Proceeds Benefit Gateway Family Services
Formerly Noah Project West
1503 26th St. Snyder, TX 573-8870

Want To Buy

Want to buy 2–5 acres of land. Preferably East or North East of Snyder. Call after 5p.m. 574-2475 or 573-0625

Apartments For Rent

2 bedroom apartment available in clean, quiet 16-unit complex. Locally owned. 573-0340, days. 573-7959, nights.

Hermleigh, bills paid, 1 bedroom furnished apartment. Cable w/TV included. 573-8150 or 721-2240

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Houses For Rent

1808 37th, 3-1, CH/A $400/mo.
3714 Noble 2-1, CH/A $350/mo.
Call 573-9066

1 bedroom, 1 bath. 2505 27th
$200/mo., $100/dep.
725-2764 or 573-2720

3 bedroom, 2 bath, 2cp, FP.
4108 Eastridge 573-2219 or 338-8342 after 5p.m.

COUNTRY LIVING
Charming farm house, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, utility room, washer/dryer furnished, satellite dish. We pay utilities. $550/mo., $250/dep. 1-year lease required. Call **338-0026** for more info.

FOR RENT
2710 Ave. U, 3-2, CH/A, no pets.
$395/mo. plus deposit. **573-8166**

HOUSES FOR RENT
*3709 Highland 3-2.....$425
*3789 Highland 3-2.....$425
Sarah Jamison 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors 573-8505

Sunroom, 2 bedroom duplex, garage, appliances, CH/A. Call 573-1012.

Mobile Homes

Lancer Mobile Home for sale in College Station area. 2bdr, 2bth, 14'x78'. Good home for college student. 573-7918 leave message.

Commercial Buildings for Sale or Lease

Commercial Building
For Sale or Lease
573-8992

Real Estate

Large Austin stone, 3-2. 3106 Hill Ave. Will take smaller house in trade. 573-2649 before 5p.m.

Repossessed house for sale in Ira. 3-2 on 1.5 acres. Down payment as low as $800. Call Chad at 1-800-944-1559 between 8a.m.–11a.m., and 3p.m.–6p.m.

JACK & JACK
Realtors
611 Coliseum Dr
Ford Spikes, Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452

3-1¾+1+1 Det. Great Pens, Barns & Sheds + CRP A's
Ira ISD 5 Acres 3-1¾ Arena, Barn & Shop
3-2-1 + 2 Car Storage 320 36th Pl. $36.5T
3749 Avondale Neat Yard w/Trees Updated 3-1¾
REDUCED 2204 44th 3-1¾+2cp, shop $39.5T
3202 40th 3-1 Nice Kitchen & Carpeting $29.5T
Good Floor Plan 3-1¾+2 4006 Jacksboro $54.9T
SPECIAL BUY! Pool w/20 Acres Out Bldgs
REDUCED! 2800 35th 4-1¾+½2 Covered Patio
Very Nice Mobile Home 2309 O'Neal 3-2 $32.5T
3-2½-2+4+RV Gar., Pool, Hot Tub 2501 48th
2701 34th Updated Nice 3-2-2 + sunroom $86T
Really Nice Starter 302 36th Pl 3-1 $32.5T
Nice & Roomy 3-2-2 + 2 LAs $92.5T
ATTRACTIVE! 4-2-2 2211 27th $42T
C. City 4.45 A's Lovely Hm 3-2-2 $60T
CRP Acreage w/3-1¾+2 + Office + Great Shop
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

DON'T HAVE TO HUNT VERY FAR TO BAG A BUY!

READ AND USE THE CLASSIFIEDS FOR ON-TARGET BARGAINS THAT ARE RIGHT IN SIGHT.

Snyder Daily News Classified Ads
573-5486

Tobacco giant Philip Morris apologizes for its statement

NEW YORK (AP) — Tobacco giant Philip Morris Cos. has apologized for a company-funded study that stated the early deaths of smokers is one of the "positive effects" of cigarette consumption.

"We understand that this was not only a terrible mistake, but that it was wrong," Steven Parrish, a Philip Morris senior vice president, told The Wall Street Journal in today's editions. "To say it's totally inappropriate is an understatement."

The study by research company Arthur D. Little International concluded that the financial benefits to the Czech Republic government from duties and taxes paid by consumers, importers and tobacco businesses outweighed the costs of health care, lost working days and fires caused by cigarettes.

On top of that, it said, were the "indirect positive effects" of early deaths — savings on health care, pensions, welfare and housing for the elderly. The government's net gain from the tobacco industry was $146 million, it said.

The study's conclusions were reported last week in The Wall Street Journal and since then have caused widespread buzz, eliciting response from columnists and television talk show hosts.

The incident has hurt the company's attempts to boost its reputation. It already has spent $100 million annually for positive advertising, donations and shelters for battered women to persuade the public it has changed its ways.

The company has canceled plans for similar studies in Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, and Slovenia, Parrish said.

U.S. Marine gets five years in prison for restaurant fires

TOKYO (AP) — A Japanese court sentenced a U.S. Marine to five years in prison today after finding him guilty of setting fire to a row of restaurants and bars on Okinawa.

The Naha District Court on the southern island of Okinawa ruled that Lance Cpl. Kurt K. Billie, 24, was guilty of burning a total of seven restaurants and bars in Chatan, central Okinawa, in two arson attacks in January, said a court spokesman Eiki Miyazato.

Billie had pleaded guilty to the arson charges filed by Japanese prosecutors in February for the January fires.

In the ruling, chief judge Soichi Hayashida said Billie's criminal responsibility is serious because he was drunk and made the attacks to escape from reality.

"The motive was selfish and unreasonable. He should bear a serious criminal responsibility," Hayashida said.

Long-simmering tensions between the U.S. troops and Okinawans worsened following a series of recent crimes involving American servicemen stationed on the southern island.

Okinawa is home to more than half of the 47,000 U.S. troops stationed in Japan. Naha is 1,000 miles southwest of Tokyo.

Among the most explosive recent cases, a 24-year-old U.S. airman stationed at Kadena was arrested earlier this month on suspicion of raping a Japanese woman. The case particularly angered the Okinawans because the U.S. military did not approve the handover of the suspect to the Japanese authorities for four days after an arrest warrant was issued.

Earlier this month, Okinawan police arrested another U.S. Marine on suspicion of damaging a motorcycle, and an airman on suspicion of setting fire to a car.

In Billie's case, Japanese officials had also protested the U.S. military's initial refusal to hand him over to police. He was not surrendered until prosecutors filed charges.

NEA offers teachers $150,000 'unlawful homicide' insurance

WASHINGTON (AP) — High-profile killings of teachers in the past several years have prompted the nation's largest teachers' union to offer a $150,000 benefit for the families of members slain on the job at school.

The National Education Association has offered life insurance to members since the 1980s, but the new "unlawful homicide" benefit was approved only this year. It will be announced to the union's 2.6 million members in a September newsletter.

Under the benefit, families of slain teachers, aides and other NEA member employees are eligible to collect three times as much as if the worker were killed accidentally.

Randy Martin, who handles risk management for NEA Member Benefits, said the new coverage was not the result of any single incident. "It was just the knowledge that these incidents were occurring," Martin said.

"I think it's very good that we're doing this," said Wayne Johnson, president of the California Teachers Association. "I think that it's sad that we need to do it."

The benefit is free to NEA members.

Jamie Horwitz, spokesman for the American Federation of Teachers union, said its members have not requested such a benefit, but the AFT's benefits historically have mirrored those offered by the NEA. Horwitz said the union probably would consider the homicide benefit.

While recent high-profile school shootings have focused media attention on school violence, few teachers or staff have been slain on the job over the past decade.

According to the National School Safety Center, which keeps statistics on school violence for the federal government, 29 school staff members — teachers, administrators, custodians, nurses, school police officers — have died violently at work since 1992.

Teacher Dave Sanders was among 13 victims of two student gunmen, who killed themselves, in the 1999 Columbine High School shootings in Colorado. Most recently, Lake Worth, Fla., teacher Barry Grunow was shot in the head by a student he had sent home earlier on the last day of school in 2000.

The 14-year-old boy convicted in the killing faces 25 years to life in prison in his sentencing, scheduled today.

"Obviously one death is one too many, and I don't want to minimize the importance of those, but violent deaths as a whole are a small, small percentage of overall school violence," said Ken Trump, an Ohio school safety consultant. He said teachers are much more likely to be assaulted at work.

Johnson said school violence has become "sort of a sign of the times."

"It's a sad reality that there is this random violence in the public schools," he said. "I'm glad the NEA is doing it. I hope it won't be used very often, but I'm glad it's there for the families of teachers who will be attacked and killed."

Non-emergency care sought for undocumented immigrants

WASHINGTON (AP) — States and communities would be allowed to provide preventative care to undocumented immigrants under a bill introduced by Rep. Gene Green on Wednesday.

Green, D-Houston, introduced legislation to allow states to offer primary and preventive care to illegal immigrants. He said it would allow hospitals to avoid more expensive emergency room costs.

"Providing primary and preventive health care makes economic sense," Green said in a statement. "By supplying health care services for basic health care needs, we take care of medical problems before they develop into painful and expensive complications."

He said the Harris County Hospital District estimates that it spent $225 million on undocumented residents in emergency care over the last three years.

Green crafted the bill in response to an opinion by Texas Attorney General John Cornyn. Cornyn said two weeks ago that the federal welfare law allows non-emergency care to be provided to undocumented immigrants only if a state law allowing such care was enacted before 1996.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	35.55	35.17	35.47	—.08
AOL TimeWrn	43.90	43.26	43.32	—.43
AT&T Corp s	20.23	20.01	20.15	
Albertsons	32.34	32.00	32.25	—.03
Alltel	62.00	61.50	61.72	—.29
AmEl Pw	43.15	42.56	42.80	+.22
AndarkPtr	57.00	55.61	56.40	+.70
ATMOS Egy	20.18	19.99	20.14	+.14
Aviall	10.81	10.70	10.70	—.13
BP PLC	48.70	48.34	48.56	+.16
BakerHughes	35.85	34.85	35.30	+1.18
Bank of Amer	63.25	62.32	63.18	+.78
BellSouth	40.80	40.40	40.50	—.45
Beth Steel	2.13	2.07	2.10	—.03
BurlNoSFe	26.98	26.30	26.60	+.05
Caterpillar	52.88	52.45	52.50	—.50
Chevron	89.30	88.45	88.91	—.26
Citigroup s	49.85	49.11	49.80	+.45
CocaCola	44.90	44.51	44.74	—.24
ColgatePal	54.50	53.78	53.86	—.53
ComclMetals	32.30	32.20	32.25	—.25
CooperIn	39.49	38.70	38.80	—.44
DaimlrChry	48.70	48.29	48.54	—.59
DeltaAirl	44.34	43.80	44.17	—.33
Dillards Inc	14.53	14.25	14.27	—.12
DowChem	35.20	34.65	34.89	+.20
DuPont	43.00	42.71	42.94	—.27
EastmanChem	44.98	43.90	44.65	+.34
EstKodak	44.23	43.79	43.95	—.19
EDS Corp	63.30	61.20	63.09	—.91
Entergy	36.60	35.80	36.19	+.29
ExxonMobil s	42.15	41.29	41.85	—.28
FstBksAm	28.50	27.90	28.50	+.70
GenDynam	80.39	80.20	80.29	+.15
GenElec	44.10	43.25	43.45	—.35
GenMills	45.05	44.56	44.60	—.60
GenMotors	63.34	62.16	63.15	+.20
GaPacGP	35.60	35.31	35.34	—.01
GlobalMar	18.09	17.26	17.43	—.27
Goodrich	35.95	35.62	35.62	—.30
Goodyear s	28.40	28.20	28.29	—.10
GtAtlPac	15.72	15.32	15.65	+.14
Halliburtn	35.39	34.20	34.70	+.45
Hanson ADS	35.95	35.90	35.94	+.13
HarteHanks	24.09	23.65	23.78	+.08
HomeDepot	49.82	48.70	49.10	—.11
HoneywellInt	37.10	36.80	37.03	+.23
IBM	104.77	103.42	103.50	—1.39
IntlPaper	39.45	38.80	39.07	—.14
JohnsonJn s	52.80	52.10	52.78	+.08
K mart	11.11	10.89	11.04	+.34
KinderMorg	52.30	51.60	52.20	+.42
Kroger Co	25.35	25.12	25.33	—.15
LockheedM	38.45	37.80	38.29	+.94
Lowes Cos s	38.50	38.06	38.41	+.15
Lubys	9.15	9.10	9.15	
LucentTech	6.90	6.73	6.87	+.20
MayDeptStr	32.25	31.87	31.91	—.28
Medtronic	48.24	47.50	48.24	+.24
Motorola	17.73	17.28	17.65	+.37
NCR Corp	38.51	38.10	38.35	+.25
Navistar	32.30	31.76	31.76	—.24
Penney JC	27.68	27.05	27.54	+.59
PepBoys	13.00	12.65	12.99	+.09
PepsiCo	45.75	45.10	45.32	—.48
Pharmacia	42.11	41.60	41.70	—.42
PhelpDodge	40.09	39.68	39.76	—.33
PhilipPet	56.48	55.89	56.07	+.82
PilgrmPrd B	14.89	14.80	14.89	—.01
Polaroid	1.20	1.15	1.16	+.01
Praxair	45.00	44.21	44.75	—.22
ProctGamb	69.60	69.01	69.50	—.50
PubS NwMx	30.30	29.77	30.06	+.39
RadioShack	28.70	27.52	27.90	+.25
ReliantEngy	31.55	30.50	31.22	+.72
RoyalDut	57.45	56.87	56.97	+.41
SBC Comm	43.40	42.42	43.09	—.29
SaraLee	19.87	19.71	19.72	—.10
Scripps EW	68.27	67.26	67.75	+.68
SearsRoeb	47.00	45.90	46.26	—.14
SherwinW	22.25	21.90	22.06	—.34
SouthernCo s	22.60	22.35	22.49	+.04
SwstAirl s	19.30	19.05	19.15	—.21
SprintFON	22.09	21.85	22.08	+.09
SprintPCS	25.75	25.24	25.38	—.36
Sunoco Inc	34.56	33.97	34.04	+.39
TXU Corp	46.45	45.50	45.86	—.22
TempleInland	56.86	56.11	56.68	+.08
Texaco	67.50	66.93	67.33	—.22
TexInd	39.25	39.13	39.23	—.01
TexasInst	32.50	31.10	31.93	+.32
Textron	54.36	54.05	54.15	—.21
TriconGlbR	45.00	44.25	44.51	—.65
TrinityInds	21.63	21.40	21.48	+.12
TritonEngy	44.72	44.68	44.70	+.01
TylerTech	2.50	2.50	2.50	+.07
USX-Marathn	29.08	28.55	28.89	+.04
USX-USS	19.20	18.99	19.18	
UnionPacif	53.37	52.63	53.10	—.05
UnitedTech	73.70	72.80	72.80	—.97
Unocal	35.28	34.44	34.88	+.37
Venator Grp	15.57	15.13	15.17	—.43
VerizonComm	55.30	55.00	55.25	—.58
WalMart	55.30	54.40	54.61	—.49
WellsFargo	46.68	45.32	45.59	—.03
WstrnGasRs	29.39	28.50	28.80	+.30
WinnDixie	22.60	22.35	22.56	+.03
Xerox Cp	7.89	7.62	7.87	+.28

JUL 26 2001

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, July 27, 2001

Because things could start out slowly for you in the year ahead, you may have to exercise more patience than usual. It'll pay off, however, if you simply let events run their courses.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Attempt to be fair and just when negotiating a mutual agreement with someone today, but guard against inclinations to give up more than you should. Be practical. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead.

Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Because your interests, motivation and drive could wane with the passing of each hour today, be sure to get an early start and take care of priority issues first.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — There is nothing wrong with your reasoning faculties today; the problem could be letting your emotional judgment take the upper hand and run the show. You'll lose.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — It could be you're deliberately putting your administrative skills on the back burner today, because you'll simply not stop an ill-equipped person from running your personal affairs.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — There is a thin line between wishful thinking and optimism which you must not cross today. Of course, think positive at all times, but be realistic first and foremost.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — There is nothing wrong with wanting to have fun and enjoy yourself, but try to do so as inexpensively as possible. Impulsive extravagances could come with a hefty price today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Should you allow yourself to get off track today, you may not readily get back on course. If you hope to perform effectively, you must keep your objectives in mind at all times.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — It might be more difficult than usual today to keep a confidence concerning some important or critical information to which you're privy. Be extra careful about what you say and to whom.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Keep as many people as possible out of your affairs today, because business situations are apt to be a trifle sticky to begin with. You won't need further complications.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — In areas where you usually receive some assistance, you may have to be prepared today to go it alone. But that might not be all bad, since others could mishandle things for you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Be extremely cognizant of the little things today, especially when performing any type of delicate task. You won't neglect the obvious, but you could easily miss important details.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If the figures look funny to you in your business dealings today, don't be afraid to ask for an accounting. In fact, even if they do not seem fuzzy, don't take anything for granted.

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The state flower of North Dakota is the wild prairie rose.

Complaints about oil refineries aired

BAYTOWN (AP) — In an industry where fumes from petrochemicals are not so jokingly compared to the smell of money, some residents complained Wednesday the odor from refineries is the smell of death.

"We simply want them to do what's right and clean up their act," Baytown resident LaNell Anderson said of the five refineries that operate near her home.

Anderson said pollutants from the refineries have resulted in two deaths and numerous illnesses in her family. Her neighbors' families have suffered similar afflictions.

Peter Altman, executive director of the Sustainable Energy and Economic Development Coalition, said residents living in communities along the Gulf Coast are suffering everything from asthma to cancer caused by toxic pollutants released by the 12 refineries along the Texas and Louisiana coastline.

"What nobody has been talking about is the health issue," he said. "If we roll back the Clean Air Act we are going to see more and more people sacrificed to making gasoline."

Refineries in Texas and Louisiana account for more than 60 percent of the nation's gasoline-making capacity. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates show 80 percent of the nation's oil refineries are in violation of the Clean Air Act.

"If we as Realtors have a code of ethics and have to answer to someone, why don't these purveyors of chemical poison?" Anderson, a real estate agent, asked before boarding a long silver tour bus with about two dozen others people beginning a three-day publicity tour.

They left Baytown, about 30 miles east of Houston, and headed east to Beaumont and Port Arthur and stops in Louisiana at New Sarpy, Norco and Mossville, all home to refineries..

They planned protests outside the office of Sen. John Breaux, D-La, in Baton Rouge, and Shell Oil Co. offices in New Orleans before flying to Washington for a protest outside Vice President Dick Cheney's home.

"While governor, George Bush, was able to weaken the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission to the point where it doesn't protect public health and that is exactly what he is trying to do to the EPA," said Altman, whose group worries Bush's energy plan would dilute the Clean Air Act.

TNRCC Commissioner Ralph Marquez disputed the allegations.

"I think it is very unfair," he said. "I don't see where then-Gov. Bush or now-Gov. Perry has asked us to slow down. I think we have made more progress in cleaning up the air in Texas in the past five or six years than we have at any other time.

"Our agency is steadfast in our programs and our goals to get the air cleaner," Marquez added. "There's not a concern that there will be any rollbacks. Texas will continue to clean up the air."

ExxonMobil said in a written statement that its Baytown refinery, among the largest in the nation, takes seriously the responsibility it has to operate safely in an environmentally sound manner.

"Over the last 30 years, ExxonMobil has made substantial investments to reduce emissions at the Baytown Refinery," the company said. "We remain committed to continuing to reduce emissions from our operations."

At one point during the coalition's media tour Wednesday, the air smelled of nail polish remover — acetone — near one of the refineries.

"That was just one nice unpleasant smell we got exposed to and we're insulated by the air conditioning system of the bus," Altman said as the passed over a set of railroad tracks and by large furnaces and boiler stacks.

"The Houston airshed cannot absorb any more pollution,"

Train ordinance trial date set by judge

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — An Eagle Pass ordinance designed to combat the irritants that sometimes come along with the freight trains that roll through Texas border cities is facing a federal court challenge.

A judge heard arguments Wednesday after two railroads sued to block the city law, claiming it is either in conflict with state and federal statutes or imposes undue burdens.

U.S. District Judge Sam Sparks set a trial date for Aug. 22 after the city agreed to suspend enforcement of its ordinance for 60 days, the San Antonio Express-News reported in story for today's editions.

The city says it simply wants to force Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway to become "good corporate citizens."

"We just want to make sure we have a safe environment," Mayor Pepe Aranda said. "I'm talking about chemical spills, a runaway train and engines idling for many hours at some locations."

Sparks had some critical things to say to the railroad companies after hearing evidence about intersections being blocked by freight trains six to 10 times a day, sometime for more than an hour, Eagle Pass representatives said.

"The most exciting thing was when he told the railroads they needed a yard in Eagle Pass and that he would not allow them to paralyze a town," Aranda said.

Union Pacific spokesman Mark Davis said the company acknowledges traffic problems in Eagle Pass, but that such problems should be worked out between the railroad and the city, rather than in court.

"It's something that both of us probably need to sit down and continue to readdress," Davis said. "There are issues that have grown as the city has grown since railroad was built."

Davis said the ordinance is unnecessary because issues in it are addressed in state and federal statutes.

City Attorney Gloria Hernandez said the ordinance incorporates state and federal rules and imposes no new burdens on the railroads.

"This ordinance is basically like many others that require the trains not to block the intersections for more than five minutes, not to ring the whistles more than necessary, and it also has provisions for chemical spills," she said.

Hernandez said defective tank cars arriving from Mexico are often left leaking in Eagle Pass before being repaired and moved inland.

The city ordinance invokes the Texas Water Code to provide both civil and criminal penalties, including a maximum fine of $1.5 million or a sentence of 30 years in prison for serious environmental offenses.

The case brings attention to complaints in other border cities.

"We have tremendous railroad problems with blocking of traffic in the city, certainly more so because of the increased trade with Mexico," Brownsville City Manager Lanny Lambert said.

Officials in Laredo described similar problems, as well as sometimes fragile relations with the railroad companies whose loads pass through to Mexico.

"We have been working with the railroads. Sometimes it's very friendly, and sometimes it's not so friendly, and when we feel it's necessary, we issue citations," Laredo City Manager Larry Dovalina said.

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Democrats boost farm aid package

WASHINGTON (AP) — Risking a presidential veto, Democrats are pushing through the Senate a $7.48 billion package of farm aid that would spend $2 billion more than the White House wants.

The money approved Wednesday by the Senate Agriculture Committee includes money for conservation programs and favors for a wide variety of farm interests, including producers of sugar, honey, milk, apples, peas and lentils.

Republicans accused Democrats of provoking a confrontation with President Bush that could delay the payments. The House approved an aid package this month totaling $5.5 billion

"The situation has not improved for our farmers and probably is worse than last year," said the panel's chairman, Sen. Tom Harkin, D-Iowa.

But in a letter to Harkin, White House Budget Director Mitch Daniels said he would recommend that President Bush veto any package exceeding $5.5 billion, the amount set aside for fiscal 2001 farm aid in the congressional budget agreement.

"Stronger prices across the livestock sector and for much of the crops sector continue to improve prospects for many farmers and ranchers," Daniels wrote.

The Agriculture Department estimates net farm income this year at $42.4 billion, $2.8 billion below last year. The 2001 estimate does not include the supplemental assistance Congress is considering.

The Senate committee approved the $7.48 billion package on a voice vote and rejected a $5.5 billion Republican alternative 12-9.

Showdown looming over safety rules

WASHINGTON (AP) — Barring an 11th-hour breakthrough, a Senate showdown looms over safety standards for Mexican trucks in the United States that White House officials say are too restrictive and probably would be vetoed.

Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., tentatively scheduled a vote for today on ending Republican delaying tactics against the requirements. Democrats and their GOP supporters will need 60 votes to prevail, but even if they do, Republicans could toss other procedural hurdles at the legislation.

"I obviously hope we can reach some agreement," Daschle told reporters, adding, "I want to finish the bill."

The battle has spotlighted political, regional and ideological disputes over how tightly to restrict trade agreements. today's vote also will be a test of how solidly GOP senators want to back Bush, and take on the new Senate majority leader, on the complicated issue.

Although some participants spoke of progress in their talks, neither side seemed willing to back down.

"I will not edge away from the safety requirements in the bill," said Sen. Patty Murray, D-Wash., who is with Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., the chief author of the measure.

The leading opponent, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., promised: "We will not leave this legislation until this issue is resolved."

The proposed restrictions are included in a $60.1 billion measure financing transportation programs for next year.

On Wednesday, the Senate rebuffed an initial GOP effort to weaken the proposed standards.

Senators voted 65-35 against a provision by Sen. Phil Gramm, R-Texas, saying the United States would not "discriminate against Mexico" by imposing tougher requirements on its trucks than on Canadian or American vehicles. Gramm said it would violate the North American Free Trade Agreement, an 8-year-old treaty, to clamp stricter standards on Mexican trucks.

McCain cited that roll call as proof that he would have the minimum 34 votes required to uphold a Bush veto of the legislation.

Murray says the tougher requirements for Mexican trucks are justified because more of them fail safety inspections. She and other supporters also say their proposal would not violate NAFTA, because the treaty gives the United States the right to impose the standards it chooses.

Opponents say Murray's provisions would be so difficult and time-consuming to impose that they would endanger NAFTA and other trade agreements and effectively bar Mexican trucks from most of the United States for years.

Fire still a threat in Wyoming

JACKSON, Wyo. (AP) — Homeowners scurried to retrieve more belongings today before a forest fire on the outskirts of the resort area of Jackson Hole started another expected run toward their mountain homes.

About 400 people were forced out of their homes Wednesday because of the fire burning within a mile in the surrounding tinderbox forest.

They were allowed to go home for three hours this morning. Officials said weather was ripe for the fire to intensify and make another run this afternoon. Homes in the booming area typically sell for $500,000 and up.

"We are under a red flag warning ... meaning there's a danger of winds increasing and the temperature so high and relative humidity low, which is a bad combination," said fire spokeswoman Marylee Peterson. "We've called in extra crews."

Out on the fire lines, firefighters were making an effort to hold the fire on a ridge overlooking a number of homes. The ridge has fewer trees, giving firefighters a glimmer of hope.

"They're feeling a little more optimistic," fire spokesman Joe Colwell said. "They have some line in there and plus it's lighter fuel, and they're hoping that that will hold it up."

Residents had been warned for days to expect a quick evacuation, but the fire's rapid shift caught many off guard Wednesday.

"Every damn thing I own is in there," said Tom Bloodworth, a cook at the Crescent H guest ranch.

Bloodworth hauled out a trailer with some of the ranch's horses but on Wednesday couldn't go back for anything else. "We had a choice of either the horses or my '89 Subaru, and my '89 Subaru lost," he said.

The Forest Service marshaled about 1,000 firefighters to fight the blaze that has burned some 2,500 acres since it began in a camping area Sunday.

It was only 10 percent contained and no rain is forecast until Saturday. The rugged terrain and fire danger prevented investigators from reaching the ignition point to determine the fire's cause.

No structures have been damaged and no one has been injured, but if the flames reach the homes, crews will have difficulty moving equipment into the subdivisions, which are squeezed into dense stands of pines on steep hills.

"We were coming over the pass and then I saw this huge cloud of red smoke," said Rachel Litchford, who had spent her day off hiking in Idaho but was blocked returning to Crescent H ranch. "We never thought it would happen this quickly."

Obituaries

Opal Evans

1913-2001

Graveside service for Opal Alene Evans, 88, is set for 8:30 a.m. Friday in the Fluvanna Cemetery. Dr. Chris Alltrock, a grandson-in-law and Church of Christ minister, will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Opal Evans

Mrs. Evans, a former longtime Snyder and Fluvanna resident, died Monday, July 23, in the Oak Ridge Manor Nursing Center in Brownwood.

Born July 18, 1913 in Mena, Ark., to the late James A. and Lenora Barton Gatlin, she moved to Scurry County in 1931. She married Bunyon Evans on Oct. 28, 1933 in Hermleigh. He died Aug. 25, 1996.

She was a homemaker and a member of Trinity United Methodist Church.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Nelda and Kenneth Hardin of Brownwood; three sons and daughters-in-law, J.V. and Carolyn Evans and Troy and Betty Evans, all of Brownwood, and Ricky Don and Terri Evans of Lorenzo; one sister, Edna Mearse of Snyder; 16 grandchildren; and seven great-grandchildren.

Friends are contributing to the American Cancer Society, Box 1396 in Snyder; the American Diabetes Association, 2209 N. Big Spring, Suite J, in Midland, 79701; or to the National MS Society, 1031 Andrews Hwy., Suite 201, Midland.

Family visitation will be held from 6 to 8 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Paula Matthies

1938-2001

Pauline "Paula" Matthies, 62, of Snyder died Thursday, July 26, in Snyder Oaks Care Center. Miss Matthies will be cremated under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at a later date.

Born on Dec. 11, 1938 in Rotan, Miss Matthies had been a resident of Snyder Oaks Care Center since April. She graduated from Rotan High School in 1957 and moved to Denton to attend Texas Women's University, graduating in 1962. She was an animal groomer in Dallas until moving to Snyder. Miss Matthies was a member of the Cathedral of Hope Church in Dallas.

She was preceded in death by her parents, A.K. and Alma Matthies and two brothers, Carl and John Matthies.

Survivors include one brother and sister-in-law, Melvin and Marie Matthies of Rotan; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Addie Markham of Snyder, Christine and J.O. Sanders of Loraine and Carol and Charles Mooney of Colorado City; numerous nieces and nephews.

Personal, Professional Service
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Arrests keep lawmen busy

Arrests

Officers arrested a 38-year-old man Wednesday afternoon for possession of a controlled substance. Police received a tip from a woman who reported the man was causing a disturbance in the Park Village Apartments parking lot. She also informed officers that he was carrying a controlled substance.

A 37-year-old man was taken into custody in the 400 block of 28th Street Wednesday afternoon on an outstanding warrant from Fisher County. The warrant was for burglary of a habitation with intent to commit assault.

Just after midnight, an anonymous caller alerted police to a 38-year-old man in the 1500 block of 28th Street with warrants out for his arrest. Officers made contact with the man and arrested him on outstanding warrants from Ector County. The warrants were for failure to appear before a judge and unlawfully carrying a weapon. Both warrants called for cash bonds of $5,000.

Forgery

Patricia Hernandez reported a forged check had been passed at Gill's Fried Chicken. An officer responded and forwarded the information to CID.

Fire note

Larry Wayland reported a grass fire 15 miles north of Snyder on Hwy. 208 and Texaco Rd at 4:15 Wednesday afternoon. A transformer had blown and that started the fire that burned five acres. The fire department was dispatched and responded with two fire trucks and six firefighters.

Prowler

Annette Birchfield reported two juveniles on bicycles prowling around in the alley behind the Golden Terrace Apartments at 10 p.m. Wednesday. Birchfield advised that the subjects were heading toward Allsup's.

Criminal mischief

Ricky Sorrells requested an officer at 4073 W. CR 3128 in Ira in reference to criminal mischief to a company truck at Teppco Crude Oil. Sorrells reported that a windshield and bug guard on one of the company trucks had been broken.

Accident

Officers responded to a minor accident at 30th Street and College Ave. at 1 p.m. Wednesday. Involved in the accident were a 1991 Cadillac Sedan DeVille driven by Mickey Juarez, 20, of 100 E. 37th Street #48 and a 2000 Ford F-150 pickup driven by Vickie Sargent, 43, of 3009 38th Street.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Masters Degree

The Masters Degree will be held at 7:30 this evening at the Snyder Masonic Lodge.

Car wash

Hermleigh High school cheerleaders will have a fundraising car wash starting at 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart. Donations will be accepted which will go to pay for camp and uniforms.

Class of 1966 reunion

The SHS class of 1966 will hold a reunion Friday and Saturday. Anyone with classmates' addresses is asked to contact Janeen Patterson at Box 208, Snyder.

Cisneros family reunion

The Cisneros family reunion will be held Friday and Saturday at the Willow Park Inn. For more information, call 915-263-3430.

Class of 1976 reunion

The SHS class of 1976 will hold its reunion Saturday at Jack Greene's pasture. For information, call Lorinda Hardin at 573-2700 or Sherry Thompson at 338-0026. The website is classmates.com.

Huddleston family reunion

The 57th annual family reunion for the descendants of John and Mollie Huddleston is set Saturday at the Baptist Student Center at Western Texas College. Registration begins at 9 a.m.

Children's Saturday fun time/VBS

Children's Saturday fun time has joined the Vacation Bible School at Avenue D Baptist Church, 324 30th St. Sessions are planned from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday during July. The VBS is for those who have completed kindergarten through the sixth grade. This year's them is "Truth Trackers." For more information, call 573-6878 or 573-0971.

Appreciation service

The public is invited to an appreciation service in honor of Reid (Magic) Johnson. The service, "Saving the Best for Last," will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at The Word Is Life Church, 312 Coliseum Drive, to show appreciation for Johnson's stewardship of the Sunday Morning Gospel Program on KSNY.

Potter's House event

The Potter's House will present Live at the House and the rap group Urban Soldierz at 11 a.m. Saturday, Aug. 4, at 2524 Ave. R (at the square) There is no charge. For more information, call 573-6510.

SHS football booster club

The SHS football booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the film room. "Meet the Tigers Night" set for Aug. 11 will be discussed.

Gateway Family support group

Gateway Family Services will offer family support groups for family violence victims from 6-7 p.m. starting Wednesday. There will be groups for adults, for children under four and for children four and older. To attend, call 573-1822.

Kids' College project pick-up

All projects from Kids' College summer session need to be picked up Wednesday at the continuing education building on the WTC campus. Projects may be collected from 8 to 5 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

Certified nurse's aide program

Snyder Oaks Care Center will conduct a certified nurse's aide program starting Sunday, Aug. 5. Classes will be held each weekend, for a total of 75 hours. Call 573-9377 or 863-2426 for more information.

WTC swimming pool

The WTC swimming pool is open for public use. Lap swimming: M-TH 6:30-8 a.m. Open swimming: M-TH 2-5 p.m. Cost is $3 per person or $50 for a semester pass. The pool is also available for parties on Fridays and Saturdays. For more information, contact Mike Harrison at 573-8511, ext. 279.

Mesquite Country Writers Guild

Mesquite Country Writers Guild invites citizens to send in original poetry to be considered for publication in the newsletter, "Bards of a Feather." The limit is 20 lines and the theme is fall and the holidays. Deadline is Sept. 15 to mail entries to MCWG, Box 237 in Ira, 79527, or e-Mail to dade@bigcountry.net.

Democrats see GOP politics in wording on tax refunds

WASHINGTON (AP) — Tax refund checks going out to millions of Americans carry the upbeat phrase "Tax Relief for America's Workers." To Democrats, that sounds like a Republican political theme.

Democratic National Committee chairman Terry McAuliffe objected to the wording Wednesday, questioning whether it belongs on checks from the U.S. government.

"The federal government is not a toy, and checks from the U.S. Treasury should not be used as political props," McAuliffe said in a statement.

Over the next nine weeks, the Treasury Department will mail about 92 million of the checks to refund $38 billion to taxpayers in the first installment of President Bush's 10-year, $1.35 trillion tax cut. Individual taxpayers will get up to $300, heads of households $500 and married couples filing jointly up to $600.

McAuliffe's objections marked the latest political battle over the refund checks and previous notices mailed to taxpayers explaining the process. The earlier notices, which prominently mentioned Congress and President Bush, triggered heavy Democratic criticism and unsuccessful attempts not to pay printing and mailing costs.

Treasury Department officials made the decision to include the wording, which spokeswoman Tara Bradshaw defended as necessary to remind taxpayers why they are getting the refund. Taxpayers, she said, need "an appropriate explanation of the checks' purpose so recipients can distinguish this from other federal payments" such as regularly scheduled Social Security checks, veterans' benefits and railroad retirement checks.

There is some precedent in the states for similar wording. In Wisconsin, sales tax rebate checks sent last year included the words, "It's your money. Tommy G. Thompson, governor." Thompson, a Republican, is now Bush's Secretary of Health and Human Services.

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Day camp at prison helping mothers and children bond

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Children snack on snow cones, line up for pony rides and bond with their families amid a "Paradise Island" theme.

But the fake palm trees can't hide razor-wire fences and uniformed guards at the Indiana Women's Prison, where a summer day camp strives to preserve family ties among inmates and their loved ones.

"It makes you feel like a human being," said Linda Chiesi, a convicted murderer who weeps as she talks about spending time with her 7-year-old grandson. "It makes me feel like I am doing a grandmother's job again." Chiesi, 50, might never hug Ashton outside the prison; her release date is 2045.

Experts say nationally about two-thirds of women in prison are mothers. The U.S. Department of Justice reports that in 1999 almost 1.5 million of the nation's children had a parent in state or federal prison.

The day camp tries to break the cycle of children following their parents' path into a life behind bars. It is part of the prison's ongoing family preservation program, which offers parenting classes and provides a children's visitation room with toys and activities.

"The crux of the whole issue is to maintain bonds between the mother and child and stop the cycle of incarcerated moms, incarcerated kids," said Gary Scott, the prison's supervisor of education and unofficial camp cook.

About 30 imprisoned mothers, grandmothers and aunts are joined by 46 campers, ages 5 to 12, for a typical week of camp activities — kickball, arts and crafts, and pony rides.

"I'm a blessed one," said Belinda Ellis, 47, whose 7-year-old granddaughter, DaJanee, giggled as she smeared glue from her artwork on her grandmother's face.

Without looking up from a papier-mache project, the pigtailed girl said her favorite thing about camp is the snow cones.

And, "I like being with my grandma," she said.

Ellis, who has served one year of 10-year sentence for selling cocaine, said DaJanee visits about once a week, but camp is still special.

The setting allows children and parents to forge a bond that normal visitation wouldn't provide, said Stephen Brodt, a professor of criminal justice and criminology at Ball State University.

"Actually having a place where they can interact is better than having children just come in for a visit and sit in a room," Brodt said. "This is something a little bit closer to a natural setting."

Last year, on the final day of camp, Chiesi's grandson dipped his hands in paint and gave her a hug — a souvenir to remember where Ashton's hands would touch if he could hug her more often.

Chiesi said saying goodbye is easier for her than some of the mothers because she sees Ashton more than once a year.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

The effects of Valium and alcohol are similar

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 33-year-old husband takes 10 milligrams of Valium every six hours in addition to his four cans of beer every evening. How can I get him to quit?

DEAR READER: Not by yourself and certainly not until he is willing to do so.

Thirty milligrams of Valium is a whole lot. I estimate that the effect on the brain of 5 milligrams is equivalent to 2 ounces of hard liquor. Therefore, your husband is consuming what amounts to 12 ounces of spirits a day, plus beer. This would, by any criterion, qualify as substance abuse, unless there were a medically compelling rationale to the contrary. (I can't think of any, but I want to leave the door open.)

Your husband might be inclined to deny his problem, but - except for a lack of toxic effects on the liver - Valium produces the same mental changes that alcohol does: slurred speech, sedation, poor coordination and altered higher brain function (such as reasoning and memory).

To be candid, I'm surprised that your husband's physician would consent to over-prescribe a tranquilizer in such an irresponsible manner. In fairness, however, perhaps he hasn't. Maybe your husband is obtaining prescriptions from several doctors. (In my practice, the magic time is late Friday afternoon when I can almost count on having one or two unfamiliar patients walk in, asking for narcotic medication to treat their back pain or whatever, and get them through the weekend. I'm not the easy-going soft touch I used to be. But I digress.)

I suggest that you bring this situation to your husband's doctor's attention. The problem needs to be addressed. Your spouse will probably require detoxification in a hospital to get off his drugs.

If the doctor is defensive or unsympathetic to your concerns, you may have to look for other resources in your community. Another physician, a substance-abuse counselor, a clergyman, Al-Anon and similar organizations may provide you with a mechanism - sometimes called an intervention - to confront your husband with his drug dependency and successfully direct him toward treatment.

I do not advise that he go "cold turkey" with either substance because of the possibility of convulsions during the withdrawal period. Nor do I recommend that you harp about his behavior. That effort may be incorrectly viewed as nagging, and you'll be misperceived as yet another "controlling" spouse. Actually, whether or not your husband consents to treatment, you could be helped immensely by going to Al-Anon meetings, where you can obtain invaluable information - often from other people in the same situation - about how to deal with a loved one who has an addiction.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a healthy 20-year-old man. Every time I move or get out of bed, my whole body cracks. I eat properly and have lifted weights for four years. What's going on?

DEAR READER: If you are otherwise healthy and active, I think that you can dismiss the cracking of your body's various joints. Some people's joints are held together more loosely than normal and body motion allows such joints to move slightly out of position and then snap into place, causing clicking or popping sensations. Loose-jointed people should probably avoid contact sports, such as football, because of the increased risk of dislocations and other joint injuries. Weight training is OK.

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CG commanding officer shot to death on remote island

ANCHORAGE, Alaska (AP) — The commander of a Coast Guard communications station on a remote island in the Bering Sea has been shot to death in what is believed to be the first slaying on Coast Guard property.

Chief Warrant Officer Timothy A. Harris, 33, was found dead Tuesday outside his office on St. Paul Island. Carl W. Merculief Jr., 25, was arrested and charged with murder.

Police said Merculief believed his estranged wife was romantically involved with the officer, according to charging documents released Wednesday.

According to court papers, Merculief and a second man drove to the base about 4 a.m., and Merculief shot the Coast Guardsman in his room.

Police said Merculief then went to the home of his estranged wife and threatened to kill her and the second man if they reported the shooting. Hours later, the two slipped away and notified police.

Authorities said Merculief, a former St. Paul resident who had been living in Anchorage, returned to the island Monday and was served with a domestic violence restraining order by St. Paul police, restricting him from any contact with his wife.

"As a small, humanitarian service in the lifesaving business, we're grieving the tragic, violent loss of one of our team members," said Capt. Richard Houck, chief of staff of the 17th Coast Guard District.

Petty Officer Roger Wetherell, a Coast Guard spokesman in Juneau, said the slaying is the first known homicide on Coast Guard property.

Harris, a 17-year Coast Guard veteran, was assigned as commanding officer of the station on July 3. He had transferred from New Orleans, where his wife and two children still live.

Prison inmate accused of running an ID theft ring

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — A man serving a nine-year sentence in a $3 million fraud case was charged Wednesday with running a similar scheme while in prison.

Jeffrey Campbell, 32, used telephones and the mail at Gulf County Correctional Institution to orchestrate the identity theft scheme, which netted about $200,000, authorities said.

Campbell and five accomplices, including his girlfriend, allegedly used contacts at businesses to assume a person's identity and commit credit card fraud, buy cars and open checking accounts.

Campbell and the others were charged with racketeering, conspiracy and fraudulent use of personal identification information. They face prison terms ranging from five years to life.

The indictment lists more than a dozen victims from Florida, and investigators believe more victims may be found, said Tim Moore, commissioner of the Florida Department of Law Enforcement.

Earlier, Campbell was convicted of defrauding people and businesses in Florida and Georgia of $3 million from 1994 to 1998.

"I thought when we arrested him and put him away for racketeering before that we had seen the last of this," said department Special Agent Wayne Ivey.

Three of Campbell's accomplices were in custody, authorities said. A search was being conducted for two others.

The investigation began after a man discovered his identity had been stolen when he received a court summons on charges of failing to return a rental car.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Divorced parents each need their own time with the kids

DEAR ABBY: I must respond to the letter from "Tacoma Mom," who complained that her ex-husband didn't want to take their 6-year-old to his swimming lesson during his regularly scheduled Wednesday night visit.

I, too, am a divorced mother who is happily remarried. Unlike "Tacoma Mom," I do not wish to control every moment of my daughter's time with her father. Watching the children participate in a sport does not allow the quality time divorced parents should have.

Everyone talks about the importance of a father's role in a child's life. Does that apply only if he follows the schedule given to him by the mother? I am sure that when the family was intact, "Tacoma Mom" didn't tell the father how to spend his time with his son.

After a divorce, people are consumed by hurt and anger. Children are too often caught in the middle and used as a way of "getting back" at each other.

While I agree that the Tacoma father should be involved in the child's activities, divorced fathers need time with their children on their terms, not ours. This is what creates a bond between fathers and their children.

My daughter and I enjoy a close and loving relationship; I believe her father is entitled to one, too. She and her father do things that I don't do — fish, camp, work on cars. She has two very different and fulfilling lives. That is what keeps her well-adjusted. Her father and I have developed a healthy relationship where our daughter is concerned. We always keep HER best interests in mind.

Abby, shouldn't a mother consult the father before signing up the children for activities that interfere with his time? They are his children, too. Or is this just a power struggle of a bitter woman? — **A MA IN PA.**

DEAR MA: I commend you and your ex-husband for putting your daughter's best interests first.

I have received stacks of letters regarding "Tacoma Mom." Most readers felt that there should be a compromise. They suggested that Dad should have an additional day of visitation with an activity that he has planned — or just some alone time. More compromise and less "control" would be a healthy solution.

**

DEAR ABBY: My best friend asked me who I liked. I told her, trusting that she wouldn't tell anyone. Her response was, "Eew! You like him?!"

The next day she got one of our other friends to get the guy I like to ask her out. The worst part is she doesn't even like this guy and she's moving away. What should I do? Help! — **MAD IN LEESBURG, VA.**

DEAR MAD: The first thing you should do is recognize that your "best friend" can't keep a secret, and is a troublemaker on top of it. Do not confide in her again.

And second, don't give up hope. Your rival is moving away, and the field will soon be open for you again.

**

DEAR ABBY: My daughter is having her marriage blessed next week. After the blessing, she is to have a dinner party for about 50 people. Most of them were at her wedding, which took place five years ago.

I am unsure about giving gifts. Should we bring a gift, and if so, what kind of gift should it be? Thank you. — **PUZZLED IN RHODE ISLAND**

DEAR PUZZLED: Give her a token gift for the happy occasion — a lovely picture frame, a candy dish or a crystal jam jar.

**

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Strongest warning put on painkiller

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government put the strongest warning possible for a prescription drug on the painkiller OxyContin Wednesday, stressing to doctors the pills are only for patients with serious pain and that improper use can cause addiction and kill.

The actions by the Food and Drug Administration and OxyContin maker Purdue Pharma are an attempt to stem illegal use of the painkiller.

OxyContin is a long-lasting version of oxycodone, a narcotic considered important therapy for many patients suffering long-term, moderate to severe pain from cancer or other illnesses, FDA stressed. When swallowed whole, the tablet provides 12 hours of pain relief.

But if chewed, snorted or injected, OxyContin produces a quick, and potentially lethal, high. It has been linked to more than 100 deaths.

Drug abusers don't read warning labels. But the hope is that if doctors give OxyContin just to patients with serious, chronic pain, it will become harder for abusers to get leftover tablets.

"We're hoping ... people will consider this a serious drug for serious pain," said Dr. Cynthia McCormick, FDA's chief of addictive products.

OxyContin will bear the FDA's strongest type of warning — a black box calling OxyContin as potentially addictive as morphine and explaining that chewing, snorting or injecting it can kill, she said.

It is not for mild pain or for temporary pain, such as after dental or surgical procedures.

Purdue wrote 800,000 doctors about the warnings. Also, the FDA posted a patient-information Web site urging that OxyContin be kept in a secure location and that unneeded tablets be flushed down the toilet.

On the Net:
http://www.fda.gov/cder/drug/infopage/oxycontin

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