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WT-Int. Crude - $13.63
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY
March 9, 1999
Vol. 50 No. 264
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Terrance Sands

By board of trustees...

WTC staff given green light to plan for baseball program

By Joyce May
Staff Writer

Western Texas College board of trustees Monday night gave the administrative staff the go-ahead to include in budget planning the possibility of adding a men's baseball program.

Dr. Jim Durham, athletic committee chair, presented the board with the recommendation to do so, and it was clear there were a number of details to work out including where the team would pratice, play, and of course — financing for the program.

The athletic committee's report included a "wish-list" with a $370,000, 3,700 square-foot training facility.

After hearing the estimate, trustee Drew Bullard said, "That is a lot of money. I don't see where we can get the money."

Dr. Durham, as well as Mark Bland, who serves on the athletic committee, were both quick to point out that was the "optimum request."

"There are other possibilities," Bland said, noting that discussions had been held with Snyder High School officials as to the possibility of using its practice field.

Other options the committee could potentially check into include utilizing Winston Park or North Park.

"We don't have adequate facilities at this time for baseball," added Dr. Durham.

Bullard, who is not opposed to the idea of a baseball program, said he wanted to make sure the college covered all its bases.

"I think it will be wonderful, but we want to make sure we are not overlooking something. We don't want to get a new baseball program and then start running a big deficit."

Dr. Durham noted at this point that the program would show a loss on the books.

"But we have to look at it another way. The program will bring in approximately 50 students we wouldn't otherwise have. That would translate into $142,000 in contact hours."

WTC President Dr. Harry Krenek pointed out that money would not go directly to the baseball program, other than possibly paying the coaches and/or assistant coaches salary.

"The baseball program would be an expense, but we are measuring it with what other revenue it will bring in," Dr. Krenek said.

Dr. Krenek said this morning the board seemed in favor of the program and the plan of action now is to put the figures together and see if it is feasible.

"We need to get firmer numbers on the cost. We will also take into consideration the tax-situation and revenue coming in from the state."

The board will then have to ask, "This is what we want. Can we afford it?" Dr. Krenek said.

The possibility of dropping the men's golf team also surfaced. However, Dr. Krenek said the board did not meet that idea with favor.

"Therefore, it is our intentions to include the golf program in our budget planning."

Dr. Durham said if the board approves the program, the committee will then begin work on an equivalent women's prog-

See WTC, Page 10

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Most women go for the strong, solvent type."

Once it starts, they just keep rolling in — those little gems that indicate whether or not you are considered old. This list took a little different approach.

You're not old unless you can remember:

--Being sent to the store to test vacuum tubes for the TV.

--When Kool-Aid was the only other drink for kids, other than milk and sodas.

--When it took five minutes for the TV to warm up.

--When you had to got outside and adjust the antenna to change channels.

--When all your friends got their hair cut at the kitchen table.

--You were grown before you got a store-bought shirt. Before then, all your shirts looked like blouses.

--When nearly everyone's mother was at home when school let out.

--You'd reach into a muddy gutter to pickup a penny.

--When your mom wore nylons that came in two pieces and a seam down the back.

--When all your teachers wore neckties and a dress everyday.

--When laundry detergent had free glasses, dishes or towels as prizes inside the box.

--When a parent could discipline any kid, or feed him, or use him to carry groceries — and nobody, not even the kid — thought a thing of it.

--When it was considered a great privilege to be taken out to dinner at a real restaurant with your parents.

--Fine dining consisted of a chicken-fried steak.

--When they threatened to keep kids back a grade if they failed — and did.

--When being sent to the principal's office was nothing compared to the fate that awaited a misbehaving kid when he got home.

--Parents sided with the teachers.

--When you wouldn't dare wear shorts to church — even on Wednesday night.

--You didn't want adults to think badly of you.

--You shared your phone line with neighbors.

--When a dime was a decent allowance and a quarter was a generous bonus.

--When a sundae was called a dip and a squirt.

--When a dip and a squirt only cost a dime.

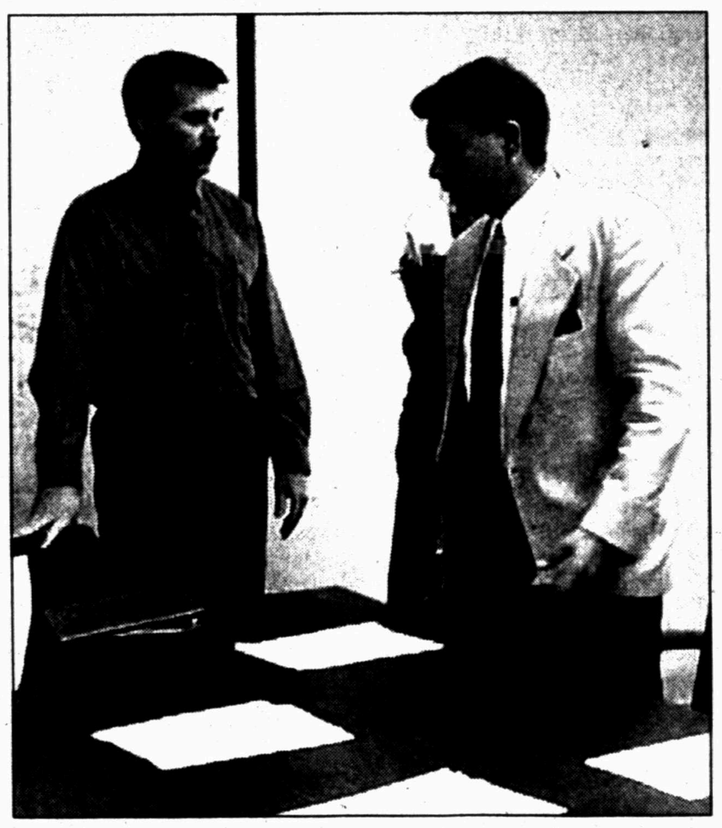
BCD will meet Wednesday noon

The Board of County Development will meet at noon Wednesday to consider one action item.

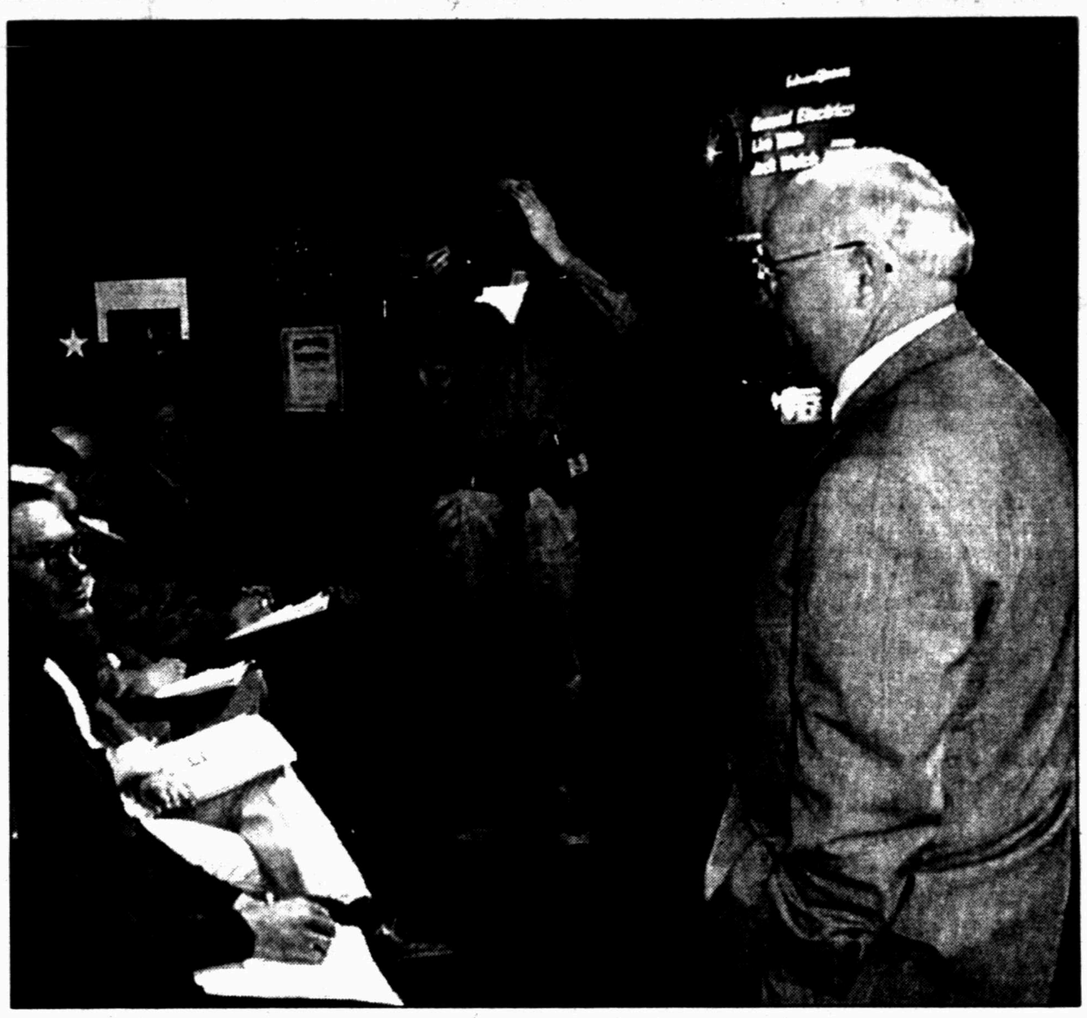
The Scurry County Producer's Association is requesting around $10,106 to help fund the salary of an entomologist to work in the county with local agricultural producers.

Board president David Kattes said Scurry, Mitchell, Nolan and Fisher counties all contribute to the salary of the entomologist.

The board will also consider the monthly financial statements and bills for payment.



UNITED WAY BOARD PLANS — Scurry County United Way president Dr. Bryan Cave and vice president Kent Wright discussed plans for the 1999 campaign with the 16 member board Monday at the chamber of commerce board room.



FILM CREW — A three-person television crew from St. Louis has been in Snyder since Sunday taping local people and sights to be featured in a presentation by the Edward Jones company. The crew filmed 94 citizens Monday watching a live broadcast featuring the cheif executive officer of General Electric. Local Edward Jones representative Tim Riggan is pictured talking with the crowd prior to the broadcast. (SDN Staff Photo)

At Edward Jones...

Live broadcast well attended

Over 94 people attended a live satellite broadcast from the local Edward Jones office Monday afternoon, featuring the chief executive officer of General Electric.

"I thought the telecast went real well," said Edward Jones representative Tim Riggan.

"We enjoyed about a 40-minute presentation, and then about 20 minutes of questions and answers.

Riggan said the questions from the audience here centered on whether General Electric is in Y2K compliance, and the companies investments in foreign companies.

"This is real good exposure for Snyder. The crew itself is quite impressed with our community," added Riggan.

The camera crew spent most of Monday filming the community, and were to interview Riggan's clients today.

The crew is also expected to film Western Texas College's new workforce training center.

Activities are continuing on local school campuses

Activities are continuing throughout Snyder Independent School District as campuses are celebrating Texas Public School Week.

Stanfield Elementary's book fair is continuing through Thursday.

The fair will open at 7:30 a.m. on Wednesday and at 8 a.m. on Thursday.

"Donuts for Dads" will be served Wednesday from from 7:15 until 8:15 a.m., and first graders will present "Sesame Street Salute."

The planned dedication of new playground equipment on Friday has been postponed until April.

At Central Elementary, parents are invited to eat lunch with their children with advance notice made by calling the school at 573-8592.

All during the week, students will emphasize Texas history and will be given the opportunity to explore various Texas highlights via the Internet in the school library.

On Friday, grandparents are invited to eat with their grandchildren.

At East Elementary, parents are encouraged to call the school at 573-1769 for visitation schedules.

On Thursday, the school will host "Donuts for Dads."

At Northeast Elementary, parents are invited to visit their children's classrooms throughout the week, especially during computer time. Call 573-2643 for times.

The school will hold a book fair throughout the week, and has a concert scheduled at 2:40 p.m. Thursday in the school auditorium.

Parents of West Elementary students are encouraged to call the school at 573-3538 for activities and time schedules.

At Snyder Junior High School, seventh grade parents are invited to eat lunch with the students on Wednesday.

The final performance of "Grease" is at 7 p.m. Thursday in the school auditorium.

At Snyder High School, parents are encouraged to visit the school by calling 573-6301 in advance.

Golden Apple dinner tonight

The fourth annual Golden Apple Awards banquet for the Snyder Independent School District starts at 6:30 this evening at the Snyder Country Club.

St. Louis native Diane Day, a leader in the field of behavior management for 25 years, will be the featured speaker.

The annual banquet is hosted by SISD as an appreciation to the community for all its hard work and involvement with the schools.

Honored banquet guests will be community volunteers, parents and businesses who have given many hours of volunteer service and have provided incentives for numerous programs in the district.

This year, tickets to the banquet are available to the public for $7. For more information, call Mary Ann Juarez.

Diane Day has personally trained more than a half million teachers, 100,000 parents and 10,000 bus drivers. During the summer, Diane teaches at eight major U.S. universities. Her teaching career has included every grade at elementary, intermediate and secondary levels. She has taught special ed children, as well as severely emotionally disturbed adolescents.

President Clinton awarded her the prestigious "Arkansas Traveler" Award — originally bestowed upon Charles Lindbergh — for her contribution to education. She has her own television show in Los Angeles.

She serves as president of Cedar Crest Youth Ranch Academy, a non-profit facility for abused or parentless adolescents. She owns Permanent Press and Day Dreams Mail Order Catalogue.

Day's theme Tuesday will be "A Hero Lies in You." Her mission is to encourage everyone to set high expectations and goals for themselves and strive to become their personal best.

ASK US

Q—What is the student to teacher ratio in the Snyder Public School system?

A—In Snyder High School and Snyder Junior High, the ratio is 12 students to one teacher. In elementary schools, it is 13 to one.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Monday, 69 degrees; low, 37; 7 a.m. Tuesday, 37; no precipitation; total for 1999, 1.37 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy. Low, lower 40s. S wind 10-15 mph. Wednesday, partly cloudy. High, lower 70s. SW-W wind 10-20 mph.

Zane Green
Partly Cloudy

Sunset: 6:47 p.m.
Sunrise: 7 a.m.
Of 67 days in 1999, the sun has shone 65 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

"Opportunities are seldom labeled."

Unknown

MAR 09 1999

Bill would ban affirmative action in state agencies

AUSTIN (AP) — Affirmative action policies would be banned from state agencies under legislation filed Monday by a Pasadena lawmaker.

"Today the economic pie becomes available to all people... not just one small sliver arbitrarily set aside by those in the feel-good business," Republican Rep. Robert Talton said at a press conference.

"People will be judged on the basis of their talents and capabilities and not on their skin color, religion, national origin or gender," he said.

Talton's legislation, which is modeled after California's Proposition 209 and Washington state's Initiative 200, would prohibit state agencies from discriminating against or granting preferential treatment to anyone on the basis of race, color, sex, ethnicity or national origin.

The prime target of his bill are so-called historically underutilized businesses, which are owned by minorities and women. Current Texas policy directs state agencies to make a good-faith effort to include these business in contracting.

"There is nothing affirmative about treating people differently," said Ward Connerly, president of the American Civil Rights Coalition and the architect of California's Proposition 209.

ly," said Ward Connerly, president of the American Civil Rights Coalition and the architect of California's Proposition 209.

Connerly said preferential treatment isn't the answer to disparity in opportunity.

"Disparity shows when some kids come to school undernourished, and they don't do as well as other students do. The policy had been compensate for that by giving preferences in college admissions."

And in Texas, they haven't for the past three years. A 1996 federal court ruling led to the abandonment of race-based criteria for admissions, school advancements and financial aid in Texas public colleges and universities.

State Rep. Irma Rangel, D-Kingsville, has already filed a bill that would reinstate affirmative action policies by allowing colleges to consider students' ethnicity in admissions, recruitment and financial aid policies.

Her bill has been backed by the Mexican American Legislative Caucus, which opposes Talton's measure.

"We are currently experiencing declines in minority contracting, procurement and hiring practices, and now is the time to demonstrate an affirmative action to allow equal representation in our Texas economy," said Rep. Rene Oliveira, D-Brownsville, the caucus chairman. "We cannot stand silent."

Members of the Anti-Racist Organizing Committee of the University of Texas also spoke out against Talton's bill.

"It is bogus," said Carl Villarreal, a senior. "It is morally right for those governmental agencies that caused the discrepancies we see today to correct them."

A San Antonio College student, however, supported Talton's efforts to end preferential treatment.

"Why must we put people in different categories? Why can't we just be Americans working together for a common goal?" asked Damaso Torres.

Gov. George W. Bush — who has often said Texans don't belong in "little racial and ethnic boxes" — also opposes quotas.

"He supports "affirmative access" — aggressive efforts to reach out and be inclusive to people in all walks of life," said Linda Edwards, his spokeswoman.

Talton's bill is HB 2386.

Rangel's bill is HB 1106.

Senate panel passes deregulation

AUSTIN (AP) — A bill to break up the state's electric monopolies is headed to the Senate after a key panel approved the complex plan.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. David Sibley, R-Waco, would freeze, then lower, electric rates before allowing competitors into the electric market in 2002.

Sibley said he expects the full Senate to take up the bill March 17.

"This is the most difficult area I've had to master since I've been in the Senate," said Sibley.

While the bill was unanimously approved Monday by the Senate Electric Utility Restructuring Committee, Sibley said he wasn't sure how it would be received by his colleagues.

"There are so many moving parts," Sibley said of the bill. "It really is like the gears of a car coming together. If you start messing with one part of it, you're messing with the gears and it wouldn't work as well."

The bill was passed unanimously after the committee considered more than 50 proposed changes. The measure now goes before the full Senate, which is expected to vote on it March 17.

Under Sibley's bill, electric rates would be frozen for three years, then lowered by 5 percent starting Jan. 1, 2002. None of the state's existing utilities, who have monopolies in their geographic areas, could charge less than the 5 percent reduction — the "Price to Beat" — until 2007 or it lost 40 percent of its customers.

"I believe that we have a system that will work," said Sibley.

Lawmakers hope that competitors would enter the market and offer lower prices and new technology to lure electric customers away.

If the bill both the House and Senate is approved by the governor, electric customers would be able to choose their utility company like they do their long-distance carrier or buy airline flights.

The Senate panel passed the bill after all-day meeting to consider more than 50 proposed changes, including allowing the General Land Office to sell natural gas at a discounted price to state and local governments, independent school districts and universities.

Janee Briesemeister, senior policy analyst for Consumers Union, said she was disappointed that the committee didn't consider proposals to more equitably distribute the debt of incumbent utilities.

Under the current plan, residential customers will be paying a disproportionate amount the debts the utilities have incurred building power plants, Ms. Briesemeister said.

"The jury is still out on whether residential customers will see any savings," she said.

The electric deregulation bill is SB7.

Key player pleads guilty

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A key player in the largest drug money laundering case in U.S. history pleaded guilty Monday to charges in one of three indictments stemming from Operation Casablanca.

Victor Manuel Alcala Navarro pleaded guilty 28 times through a Spanish interpreter, an admission prosecutors said would bring him no special treatment

"The most important thing is he is not cooperating with the government," defense attorney Victor Sherman said.

Alcala Navarro still faces two other federal indictments in Operation Casablanca, which snared officials of three of Mexico's largest banks in a sting by U.S. Customs agents.

Alcala Navarro, 36, admitted to introducing bankers to the U.S. agents he thought were operatives of the powerful Cali drug cartel. The indictment alleged that about $70 million was laundered through Mexican banks and sent to the United States under the direction of Alcala Navarro.

The 28 counts that Alcala Navarro admitted to were only a fraction of the 106 charges lodged against him in the indictment. The government agreed to drop the rest.

Each count carries a possible maximum sentence of 20 years in prison, although Sherman said he expects Alcala Navarro to draw a sentence of about 32 years.

Student remains suspended

JASPER (AP) — A 14-year-old student will remain suspended for wearing a Confederate flag belt buckle, a school board has ruled in the East Texas town where a black man was dragged to death.

Josh Letney, a Jasper Middle School student, was first expelled for wearing the belt buckle Jan. 29. The principal asked him not to wear it in light of the dragging death in Jasper of a black man, allegedly at the hands of three white supremacists.

"We're going to get a lawyer," said the boy's mother, Carolyn Letney, after the school board's decision Monday night.

"Josh has been out of school since late January, and they will not let him make up his classes," she said.

Principal Gwen Gilford asked Letney not to wear the belt buckle to school in deference to the dragging death of James Byrd Jr. last June. One of the three defendants, John William King, was convicted and sentenced to death for the crime. Two others await trial.

Although the Jasper school district considers the belt buckle a dress-code violation, Letney believes the buckle is a symbol of his heritage and Southern roots. The buckle was a gift from his uncle.

"I don't feel there's anything wrong with wearing it," the boy said last month. "It's our heritage. ... It's my right to wear it. I'm not going to let them take my right away."

A local Ku Klux Klan leader, Darrell Flinn, has taken up the Letneys' cause after meeting the boy's father at a Klan rally. The father said he is not a racist or Klan member.

School district superintendent Doug Koebernick has said the buckle violates the dress code because it could be disruptive.

Draft of Senate Y2K report said misleading, inaccurate

Area news reports based on a draft version of a special Senate select report on the country's Y2K readiness has created a misconception about utility reliability in rural areas.

The draft report suggested that the nation's "small rural electric utilities" we are not prepared to address Y2K problems.

"In fact," says Ron Greenhalgh, chief engineer and chairman of the National Rural Eletric Cooperative Association's Year 2000 Task Force, "the nation's co-ops are right on schedule with recommendation of the Y2K computer problem and we expect to deliver the same reliable service in the year 2000 that we deliver now."

Jerry Stapp, general manager of Big Country Electric Cooperative, says "The member/consumer of the Big Country Electric Cooperative should rest assured that we are up-to-date in the Y2K inventory, testing and contingency planning efforts. We intend to continue our excellent service record into the new century."

VA insurance hoax returns

According to Dan Dever, veterans county service officer for Scurry County, a message containing false information about insurance dividends on the Internet has caused some confusion among veterans who have VA insurance policies.

This false announcement, which appears periodically, declares that Congress has recently passed a bill that entitles veterans and service persons to an insurance dividend based upon their years of service.

This false announcement is part of a recurring problem that dates back to 1965. The dividend "hoax" has its origins in a special dividend that the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), then known as the Veterans Administration paid to World War II veterans who had National Service Life Insurance policies. Approximately $2.7 billion was paid in 1950 to over 16 million of these veterans under the "1948 special dividend."

Some time in 1965, the special dividend news announcements of 15 years earlier resurfaced and were mistakenly published by several newspapers. The special dividend had already been paid out to virtually all eligible government life insurance policyholders and there was no new special dividend.

The VA quickly moved to educate the news media, but some well-meaning individuals and organizations began to publish the announcements in smaller publications, newsletters and flyers. The actual scope of the original dividend became fictionialized and some publications declared the dividend available to all veterans (not just World War II) and even to those who never carried government life insurance while in the service.

The latest rumor is that active service persons and personnel separated within the last few years are eligible. The 1948 special dividend program required veterans to apply for the payment. Over the years the dividend story has prompted hundreds of thousands of veterans to write and "apply" for this benefit. While the number of inquiries fluctuates. VA has received as many as 15-20,000 inquiries per week about this dividend.

Because of the volume of these requests for a nonexistent benefit, Congress passed a law in 1970 that prohibited payment of any special dividend declared prior to 1952 unless the application was received before 1954.

There has been no recent legislation authorizing any "special" dividends. Dividends are not payable to current service members insured under Serviceman's Group Life Insurance (SGLI) or Veterans' Group Life Insurance (VGLI). SGLI and VGLI are group policies and therefore, do not pay dividends.

VA continues to pay routine dividends on several policy series, but only to veterans who have kept their policies in force. These veterans receive dividends on several policy series, but only to veterans who have kept their policies in force. These veterans receive their dividends automatically on the anniversary date of their individual policy. They do not have to "apply" to receive their dividends.

Walls agrees to buy Big Smith

CLEBURNE — Walls Industries, Inc. of Cleburne announced Monday that it has agreed to acquire the workwear business of Big Smith Brands, Inc.

The agreement also grants Walls a license to manufacture and sell workwear products under the Big Smith label.

The transaction, which requires approval of a majority of Big Smith Brands, Inc. shareholders, is expected to be completed within 45 days.

Big Smith began in 1916 and is a very familiar name in workwear, particularly throughout the Midwest. The company's workwear operations are located in and around Carthage, Mo.

Big Smith will complement Walls Industries' business as a leader in workwear apparel," noted Albert Archer, chief executive office and president of Walls, Industries.

"We are very excited about the opportunity Big Smith provides Walls as a complement to our existing labels."

Walls Industries Inc. is a leading manufacturer of hunting and outdoor apparel and specialized workwear since its founding by George S. Walls in the late 1930s.

David Wittie manages Snyder's Walls Plant. Approximately 100 people are employed locally.

WES-TEX DRILLING SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS AVAILABLE

Eligibility - Those eligible to apply for a *Wes-Tex Drilling Company - Robert B. Cockrell Memorial Scholarship* are children or grandchildren of persons who had a minimum of one year full-time cumulative service working for West-Tex Drilling Co.

Limited scholarships of $1,000 are available to assist in defraying the cost of a college education at any accredited college or university or vocational training at Texas State Technical College. These scholarships are awarded on a competitive basis according to financial need and academic achievement. Application forms must be filed by May 1, 1999 for the 1999-2000 academic year.

Direct inquiries to Kathy Mayer, the Community Foundation of Abilene, P.O. Box 1001, Abilene, Texas 79604 and include name, Social Security number, and places and dates of employment of qualifying employee.

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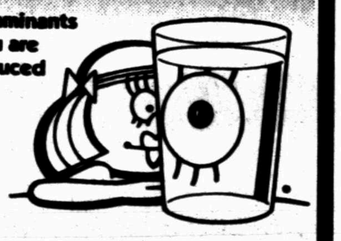

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WEDDING SHOWER HELD — A miscellaneous wedding shower was held for Haley Boaz of Snyder and her fiance, Steven Ratliff of Brownwood, pictured center. Edda Ratliff, the prospective groom's mother from Brownwood, stands beside him and the future bride's mother, Linda Boaz of Snyder, stands beside her. (Photo by Wadleigh Studio)

Nutrition By Ed Blonz, PH.D.

Am I allergic to niacin?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am wondering if niacin (vitamin B-3) can be harmful to your health. I get some pretty bad rashes when I take niacin. It seems like an allergic reaction, and I've heard that niacin is not always safe. What do you say? Is this normal and safe? — N.L.

DEAR N.L.: It is doubtful that you are allergic to niacin, which is an essential nutrient. Niacin is involved in the health of the skin and the nervous and digestive systems, and it also plays a key role in the body's energy-producing reactions. What you are probably experiencing is a "niacin flush," which occurs when large doses of niacin (about 10 times the RDA) dilate the capillaries (the small blood vessels near the skin). You can lower you intake of niacin, take it in divided doses, or shift to nicotinamide, a form of niacin that doesn't cause the flushing effect.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: What is your opinion of the herbal weight-loss supplement called "herbal phen-fen"? What is in it, and how does it compare with the prescription drug that was outlawed? Does herbal phen-fen work as promoted, and is it safe? — F.S., New York City

DEAR F.S.: Aside from trying to cash in on its identity (and the fact that it contains two ingredients) herbal phen-fen has nothing in common with the prescription medication of the same name. The herbal phen-fen preparation typically contains an herbal stimulant (usually ephedra, also called Ma Huang), coupled with an herbal relaxant (usually St. John's Wort) intended to blunt the uncomfortable nervousness that normally accompanies stimulant use.

I do not recommend weight-loss products based on stimulant substances. The active ingredient in ephedra is nor-pseudoephedrine, a potent central nervous system stimulant that, among other things, stimulates the heart, dilates the lungs and increases blood pressure. While it may offer a transient increase in the rate at which calories are burned, this herbal "speed" can, as with most stimulants, lead to an unpleasant letdown as the effects wear off.

This is a drug, pure and simple, and it is not proven to be safe and effective for weight loss. Individuals with heart, kidney or thyroid problems, diabetes, glaucoma or high blood pressure — especially those already taking medications for such conditions — should avoid taking any herbal stimulant unless it's been cleared with their health professional. Another problem is that there is little in the way of dose standardization from one company's product to another.

The relaxant in the formula represents another potential problem. St. John's Wort (hypericin) is normally used as an antidepressant; is not without side effects and has not been tested in tandem with stimulants.

The bottom line: Herbal phen-fens are short-sighted approaches to a long-term problem. Any claims of dramatic, long-term success should be viewed with great skepticism.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am doing a science-fair project on vitamin C. I was wondering how much vitamin C we are supposed to consume daily. I noticed that it is always given as a percentage of daily value, but not an actual amount in grams or milligrams. If you have this information, I would be extremely grateful if you could give it to me. — K.

DEAR K.: No problem. For vitamin C, 60 milligrams per day is the daily value. For calcium, iron and vitamin A, the daily value amounts are 1,000 milligrams, 18 milligrams and 5,000 International Units respectively. Good luck on the project.

Send questions to: "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY 10016. For e-mail, address inquiries to: ed@blonz.com. Due to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is a nutrition scientist and the author of "Power Nutrition" (Signet, 1998) and the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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NUTRITION

ED BLONZ, PH.D.

Date Book

March 9, 1999

Today is the 68th day of 1999 and the 79th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1832, Abraham Lincoln announced that he would run for a seat in the legislature of Illinois.

On this day in 1969, the "Smothers Brothers" television show was canceled by CBS when the brothers allowed Joan Baez to dedicate a song to her husband, who was to be jailed on draft-evasion charges.

On this day in 1987, Paul McCartney, John Lennon, Carole King, Gerry Goffin and Carole Bayer Sager were inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Amerigo Vespucci (1451-1512), Italian navigator; Leland Stanford (1824-1893), financier; Mickey Spillane (1918-), writer, is 81; Yuri Gagarin (1934-1968), cosmonaut; Keely Smith (1935-), singer, is 64; Mickey Gilley (1936-), singer, is 63; Bobby Fischer (1943-), chess player, is 56; Benito Santiago (1965-), baseball player, is 34.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1978, Charlie Tickner won the world figure-skating championship.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Men never think their fortune too great, nor their wit too little." — Dr. Thomas Fuller

TODAY'S MOON: Day before last quarter (March 10).

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Knotting cord, rope or string to make your own purse, wall hanging, or belt among other items using the art of macrame dates back roughly to the 1200s.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Atheneum Study Club; MAWC; program "Cottage Industry," by Fran Farmer; Nona Williams and Loy Forbes; hostesses; 4:15 p.m.

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

Snyder Shrine Club; call 863-2702 for meeting place; 6 p.m.

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

Beta Sigma Phi; country club; "An Evening of Poetry," by Janeen Patterson; 7 p.m.

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

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

Canyon Gun Club; 1910 25th; 7:30 p.m.

Altrurian Daughters Study Club; MAWC; book review by Jo Ashley, Geleska Baze and Shirley Stewart, hostesses; 11:30 a.m.

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY

Storytime for four- and five-year-olds at the Scurry County Library; 10 a.m.

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

THURSDAY

Snyder Palette Club; airport terminal on W. 37th; Paul Hudgins, program, Karen Rinker, hostess; 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. with lunch break.

LLL Club; fellowship hall of First Baptist Church; 9:30 a.m.

Noah Project Advisory Committee; MAWC; noon.

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

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; houseshoe courts, located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information, call 573-9762; 3 p.m.

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

Three support groups — Divorce Recovery, Cancer/Grief and Caring for Aging Parents, will meet at the First Baptist Church; for more information call the church office at 573-2631; anyone is welcome and child care is provided; 6:30 p.m.

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

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

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information, call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 574-1292; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-9742.

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

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

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

SATURDAY

Defensive Driving Course; Snyder Savings and Loan; no reservations necessary, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.; for more information call 573-2850.

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

Rolling Plains Ratite Association; The Shack; 7 p.m.

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

Bridge By Phillip Alder

North 03-09-99
♠ A K Q 2
♥ 8 3
♦ 8 3
♣ Q J 7 6 4

West
♠ 9 5
♥ J 10 9 5 2
♦ J 10 9 5 2
♣ 2

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

South
♠ J 10 7 6 4
♥ K 7 4
♦ A Q
♣ K 9 8

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♣	Pass
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♣ 2

The third defensive signal

By Phillip Alder

Do you agree with this view of French politician and satirist Edouard Laboulaye? He claimed: "The first day a man is a guest, the second a burden, the third a pest."

There is a third defensive aid, the suit-preference signal. It is exhibited in this deal.

North and South waltz into four spades. (Yes, East would like to bid, but he has no convenient way into the auction.) First, we have West's opening-lead problem. I dislike attacking a suit bid by an opponent. Yet here, if West starts with any card other than his singleton club, the contract makes easily. Therefore, let's have West open with the club two.

East knows this has to be a singleton; otherwise, West would have led a different suit. So, after winning with the ace, East will give his partner a club ruff. Yet which club should East lead at trick two? East makes a suit-preference signal to tell West where his re-entry lies.

We ignore the trump suit and the suit in which the ruff is being given. That leaves two suits — here, hearts and diamonds. If his entry were in the lower-ranking suit, East would return his lowest club. But with his entry in the higher-ranking suit, hearts, East places his highest club, the 10, onto the table. (Don't go in for half-measures; be as clear as possible.)

West ruffs and switches to a heart. East wins with the ace, and a second club ruff scuttles the contract.

That looks straightforward, but the suit-preference signal is the least understood and most misused of all the signals. Tune in tomorrow for more.

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TWO FOR TUESDAY
Buy Any Regular 6" Sub and Med. Drink and Get A 6" Sub Of Equal Or Lesser Value
FREE!
SUBWAY
*Good Only On Tuesdays During The Month of March 1999
3903 College Snyder, Texas 573-8782

Cinema I & II
1907 Snyder Shopping Center
573-7519
Tues. - ALL SEATS $3
Wed. - COLLEGE NIGHT $3 With I.D.
Thurs. - 2 FOR 1 NIGHT
4 MOVIES THIS WEEKEND!
MEL GIBSON PAYBACK R
MY FAVORITE MARTIAN PG
MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE PG-13
Waterboy PG 13
Call For Showtimes
Matinees Sat. & Sun. $3.00

GOOD NEWS
By Wayne Horton

GRASP THE WORD - HEARING
1 of 5

Jesus said, "If you abide in my Word, then you are my disciples indeed." (John 8:31).

In Ezekiel's time, God said folks were coming to listen but they didn't do anything about what they heard, (33:31, 32). I've noticed that some people are still the same. And that's a problem because Faith comes from HEARING the Word, (Romans 10:17).

The need to HEAR is good reason for church attendance and listening to tapes or Christian radio broadcasts. It could mean the difference in life or death -- eternally!

When I was ten years old on a stormy day in Edmonson, Texas, I was walking defiantly away from my mother. She raised her voice and demanded that I turn around and get back into the house. I debated the request in my mind for a couple of seconds then turned reluctantly back toward the house. I heard a loud crash behind me and, frightened, I whirled around and saw nothing. My mom, now speedily advancing toward me, told me that a bolt of Lightening and struck the ground in the very spot where I would have been if I'd kept walking and not turned around. I was then able to HEAR my mom and I obeyed her by going into the house --very quickly!

Why does it sometimes take a tragedy to get us to HEAR and obey God? Folks, has He ever said anything to you about your Language? Gossip? Kindness? The way you treat your spouse? Those secret sins in your life? Are you listening? Don't wait until God has to break you before you hear.

The problem with hearing is, at best, we only retain about 15% of the message. That's probably a good reason to attend mid-week Bible study at your church AND be a part of a home study group.

Abiding in God's Word will take more than just HEARING it. Next week we'll discuss READING the Word.

Be doers of the Word and not hearers only, thus deceiving yourselves, (James 1:22).

Good News is a Ministry of the Hermleigh Church of Christ

COME AND GET IT!

THE BEST CATCH IN TOWN
Thursday 4-9 p.m.
Catfish
ALL YOU CAN EAT
Served W/All The Trimmings
$6.95

A BARBECUE BASH
Friday 4-9 p.m.
Ribs
ALL YOU CAN EAT
Vegetable, Beans, & Texas Toast Included
$6.95

LARGE HAND BREADED SHRIMP $6.95

Family Meals Available
RED BARN BAR-B-QUE & MORE
Wednesday
SENIOR CITIZENS 20% DISCOUNT
Hwy. 84 at Huffman
573-2291

Lullaby Lane

Prepared Childbirth Classes
THURSDAYS 7-9 p.m.
(Total of Five Classes)
Mar. 18 thru Apr. 15, 1999
Classes Will Be Held at Board Room at Cogdell Memorial Hospital; 1700 Cogdell Boulevard
(South Parking Lot)
Instructor:
Bonnie Carroll, RN
•Physiology of Pregnancy and Delivery
•Tips to Avoid Complications
•Breathing Techniques
•Newborn Care
•Breast Feeding Techniques
•Tour of Hospital OB Department
•Sibling Class (for future big brothers and sisters - included in final class)

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

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

Class Size Is Limited
To Reserve 574-7467
Next Class Begins May 20., 1999

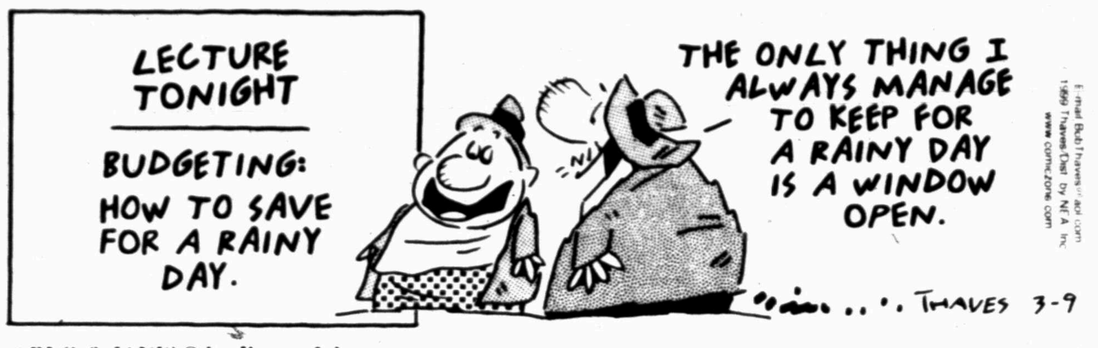
For more information, please contact COGDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, 915-573-6374 LINDA BRISENO, RN, OB Nurse Manager or WILMA DILLARD, Community/Patient Relations.

Cogdell Memorial Hospital

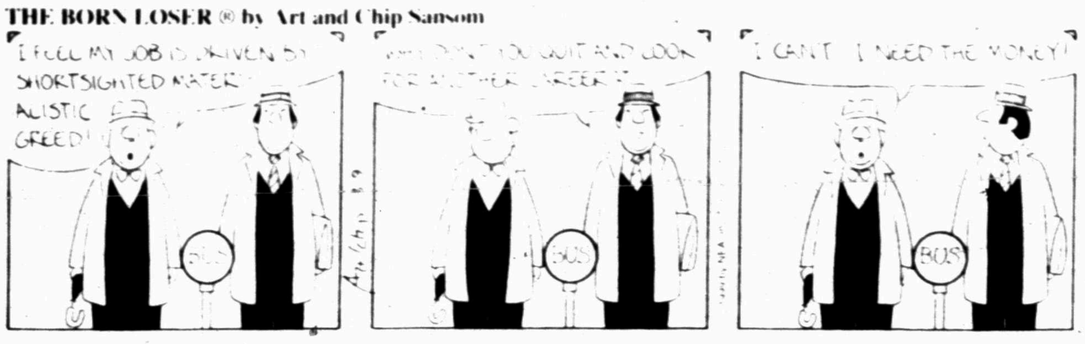
Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

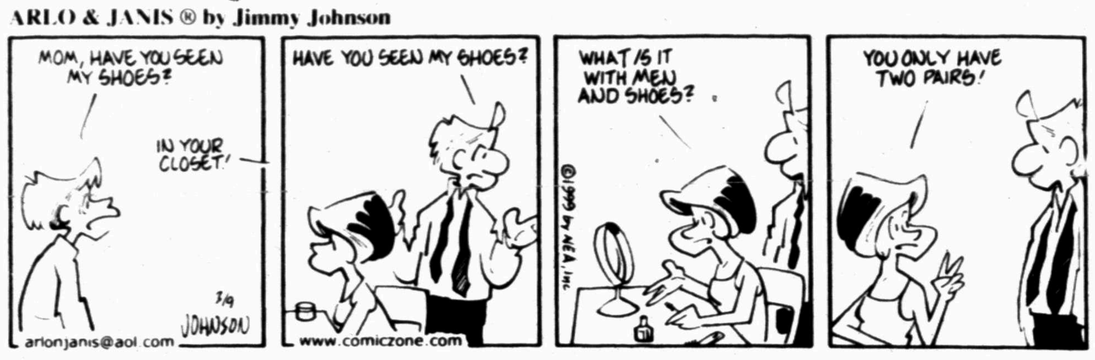
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



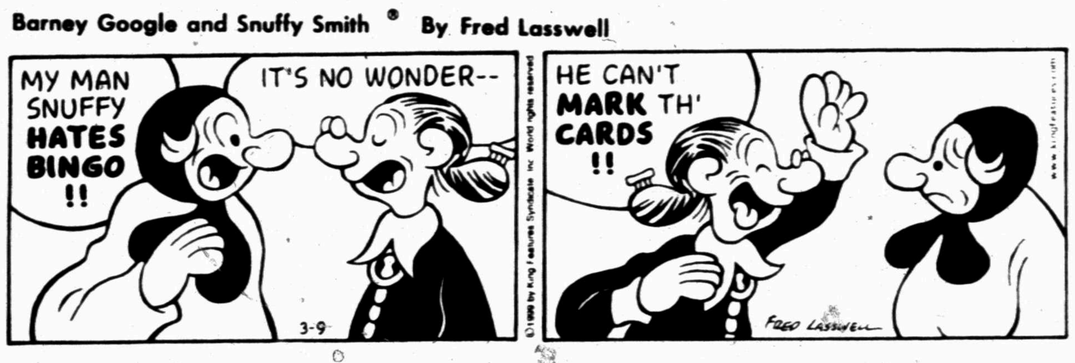
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

Barney Google and Snuffy Smith ® By Fred Lasswell



ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick

E-Mail: JimMeddick@aol.com

BLONDIE ® by Dean Young and Stan Drake

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Kind of license or justice
7 Basil-based sauce
12 Flight to Medina
13 Get warmer
14 Sarcastic
15 Infuriate
16 JFK lander
17 Took part in a marathon
18 Knock with the knuckles
21 One of the Great Lakes
23 Neb. neighbor
26 Elliptical
28 Levantine ketch
29 Time period
30 Coal excavation
31 Arctic sight
33 Sloping roof
36 Buy — — in a poke
37 Hot time in Le Havre
38 Club fees
40 Golfer — Ballesteros
41 Guided
42 Vicuña's range
44 Rudolph's nose color
45 James Bond, for one
46 "— sells seashells . . ."
48 Idaho product
51 Rich cakes
55 Inure
56 Tennis player Goolagong
57 Washday appliance
58 "Consumer Reports" employee

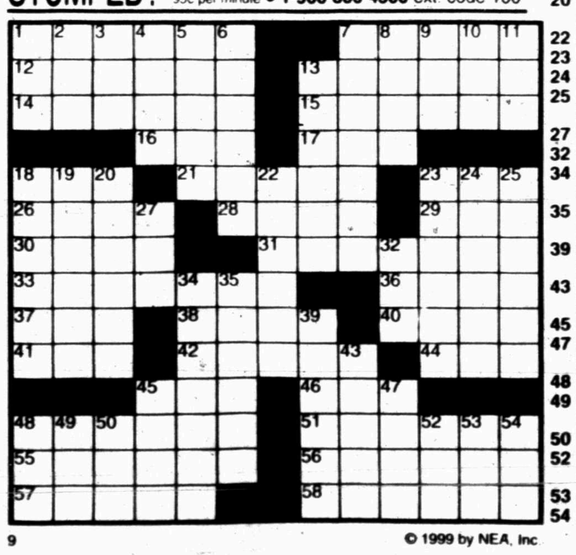
DOWN

1 — Beta Kappa
2 "— the ramparts we watched . . ."
3 Alter —
4 Cans
5 Dublin denizens
6 Spiny plant
7 Act of atonement
8 Bring home the bacon
9 RR depot
10 Jerk
11 Unseal, poetically
13 Gallant
18 Loser at El Alamein
19 Fly
20 Searched for gold
22 Attacked
23 Guardian
24 Get there
25 Complained incessantly
27 Guitarist Paul
32 College degs.
34 Connecting device
35 Author Damon —
39 Part of a sonnet
43 Push forcefully
45 Marquis de —
47 Aphrodite's son
48 College deg.
49 Boat implement
50 Test
52 Blaster's abbr.
53 Compass dir.
54 Sun. talk

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for Answers • Touch-tone or Rotary Phones 95c per minute • 1-900-860-4500 ext. code 100



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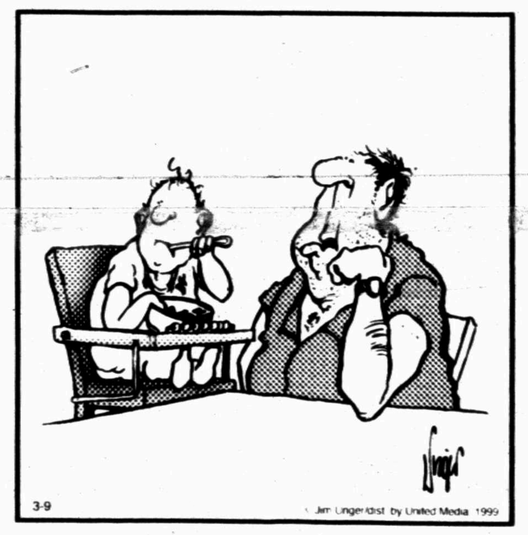
KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

"I don't do windows and I refuse to be called 'Jeeves'."

HERMAN® by Jim Unger



"He wouldn't eat it so I put in some dirt and made it look like mud."

"THE TRUTH IS WHAT YA TELL WHEN YOU RUN OUT OF GOOD EXCUSES."

SPORTS

Bobcats capitalize on five Tiger errors

SAN ANGELO — Even with strong pitching, errors will beat a ballclub in a hurry.

That's a lesson the Snyder Tigers learned on Monday.

Snyder committed five errors, resulting in five unearned runs, in an 8-3 loss to San Angelo Central at Nathan Donsky Field.

Central's only run of the first inning was unearned, as were three of the five runs it posted in the second. The Bobcats took a 7-0 lead through three innings, before the Tigers managed to score.

"They had a good pitcher, but he wasn't good enough to limit our hitting like he did," Snyder coach Roland Herrera said. "Our problem right now is that our kids are losing focus. We're playing according to the level of our competition."

The Tigers totaled only three hits on the day. Banks Alexander belted a two-run homer in the fifth, while Clint Hook slapped a triple and Matt Rodgers lined a single.

The Tigers' focus now turns toward the Snyder tournament beginning Thursday.

"I still feel we have a good ballclub," said Herrera. "We just need to get back to executing the fundamentals of the game. There's still a lot of baseball to be played this season, but there's also a lot to learn."

Snyder opens tournament play at 2 p.m. Thursday against Lubbock Cooper.

HOOK, LINE AND SINKER — Bill Brooks displays the fish he reeled in from Lake Allen Henry on Friday. The Black Bass weighed in at 11 pounds 4 ounces. (Contributed Photo)

Ruling handed down on NCAA eligibility

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The NCAA's 302 Division I schools are on their own now in determining which freshmen are academically eligible to play college sports.

District Judge Ronald Buckwalter ruled Monday that the NCAA may not use a minimum test score to eliminate student-athletes from eligibility because the practice is unfair to blacks.

The policy, known as Proposition 16, required freshmen athletes to have a minimum score of 820 on the Scholastic Aptitude Test regardless of their high school grades.

The judge cited the NCAA's own research showing that the practice harmed black students' chances of being declared academically eligible. He said there were other methods available to reach the goal of higher graduation rates that would be fairer to blacks — such as a system that uses SAT scores together with grade-point averages in core subjects.

Former Georgetown basketball coach John Thompson, who boycotted two games in 1989 over a forerunner of Proposition 16 called Proposition 48, said he had mixed emotions about the ruling.

"I feel more upset than anything. Being right doesn't mean anything to me," he said. "What do you do for the kids who have been deprived, who needed athletics to be able to get out of their situations?"

"Changes will obviously come about, but how do you go back and change the kids this hurt? All you can say is 'Sorry,' and there's something wrong, very wrong with that."

Four black student-athletes who were denied eligibility to take part in college sports challenged the rule.

The average for all 1.2 million students who took the test last year was 1,017. The highest possible SAT score is 1,600.

An NCAA attorney said the organization will seek a suspension of the judge's order "because at this point there is no rule at all" — which she called a disservice to student-athletes.

"It means that there is no standard to guide the schools," NCAA general counsel Elsa Kircher Cole said. "Each school will have to decide itself whether a student can play the first year."

Cole added that she was pleased that the court recognized that improving graduate rates was a legitimate goal of the NCAA.

WTC trailing Midland JC

GALVESTON — The Westerners had some work left to do in Galveston.

Western Texas was to have played the final round of the Galveston Invitational today, after carding an opening-round 309 on Monday.

The Westerners were sitting in the middle of the pack, ninth out of 18 teams, heading into today's competition. The Midland College Chaparrals sat atop the leaderboard at 293.

Martin Gustafson fired a 75 to pace Western Texas' opening-round effort. Cory Mahaney carded a 76, with Michael Hanson turning in a 77. Brad Nutt and Kory Williams both came in at 81.

Following today's final round, the Westerners will be back in tourney play Monday at the Quicksand Invitational in San Angelo.

Homers, triple play highlight games

By The Associated Press

Gabe Alvarez, threw one away, then another, and another and another.

By the time he was gone, the Detroit third baseman made five errors, including four on poor throws. The Tigers made seven errors in all Monday during a 9-7 loss to the Atlanta Braves at Lakeland, Fla.

"I should have had every one of those balls," Alvarez said. "They were all routine plays."

Alvarez, who had 19 errors in 55 games at third last season, made four throwing errors. First baseman Frank Catalanotto and non-roster pitcher Jeff Weaver made one error each for Detroit, which allowed five unearned runs.

At Jupiter, Fla., Mark McGwire homered for the second time in three spring at-bats, connecting off Houston's Jose Lima — who gave up Sammy Sosa's 66th and final home run last year.

McGwire isn't putting much significance on the home runs.

"Hey, guys, this is spring training," he said after the St. Louis Cardinals' 2-1 loss.

In Port Charlotte, Fla., the Texas Rangers pulled off a triple play in a 6-4 win over the Tampa Bay Devil Rays.

Texas led 6-3 in the sixth inning when Fred McGriff walked and Julio Franco singled. John Flaherty lined a shot to third base that Rob Sasser caught. He threw to second baseman Kelly Dransfeldt to double up McGriff, and Dransfeldt's relay to first beat Franco back to the base.

At Fort Lauderdale, Fla., new Dodgers manager Davey Johnson saw many familiar faces — his former teammates on the Baltimore Orioles.

"It's not just another game. I have sentimental feelings about today," Johnson said before Los Angeles was routed 10-0.

Dodgers outfielders Trenidad Hubbard and Hiram Bocachica were injured during a violent outfield collision as Jerry Hairston Jr. circled the bases for an inside-the-park homer. Hubbard sprained his right thumb. Bocachica bruised his ribs.

First inning fuels JV win

In the first inning Monday night, Snyder JV got all the offense it needed, and then some.

Snyder put nine runs on the board in the opening frame, then cruised to a 10-5 victory over Frenship in junior varsity baseball action at Moffett Field.

The Tigers, led by a pair of doubles from Brian Gordon, pounded out 10 hits on the night.

Brandon McGuire pitched the final three innings in relief, holding Frenship scoreless to preserve the win. John Ortegon began the game on the hill for Snyder.

In addition to Gordon, Josh Heaton and Randy Green belted one double apiece.

Ortegon and Glen Burke slapped two singles, with Duane Allred and R.J. Hernandez knocking one single each.

Next on Snyder's schedule is the Frenship tournament, beginning Thursday.

Sports Briefs

Padres re-sign Hoffman

PEORIA, Ariz. (AP) — San Diego Padres closer Trevor Hoffman became baseball's highest-paid reliever when he agreed to a $32 million, four-year contract extension through 2003.

Hoffman's extension includes a $10 million club option for 2004 which, if exercised, would make the deal worth $40 million over five years. The club has a $2 million buyout and, for the first time ever, has granted a no-trade clause.

Woods fires "Fluff" Cowan

CLEVELAND (AP) — Tiger Woods fired caddie Mike "Fluff" Cowan, ending a highly successful 2½-year partnership. Cowan did not carry Woods' bag twice this year, at the Buick Invitational in San Diego, which Woods won, and at the Match Play Championship two weeks ago. Both times, Woods' high school friend, Byron Bell, was his caddie.

However, Bell, who is planning to attend medical school, was not interested in the job fulltime, and Woods hired Steve Williams, who has worked for Raymond Floyd the last 12 years, to replace Cowan.

Track meet volunteers needed

Snyder High School is in need of volunteers to help Saturday with the Canyon Reef Relays.

Anyone wishing to help should contact Matt or Vanessa Gutierrez at 574-6039, 574-6040 or 573-7260.

Pitching clinics scheduled

Pitching clinics for girls' fast-pitch softball will be held every Wednesday. Classes are limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Softball umpires needed

Snyder Umpire Association needs umpires for girls' softball games. Anyone interested should call Russell Fisk at 573-3438 or 575-2043.

Frosh shred Frenship

Snyder's freshman baseball squad put on a batting exhibition Monday night to improve its record to 4-3.

Snyder belted 20 hits and posted runs in every inning to notch a 18-10 victory over Frenship at Moffett Field.

Shay Franks went the distance on the mound to pick up the win, striking out six Frenship batters while walking only two.

Leading the offensive onslaught for Snyder were T.J. Cagle, Brooks Nunley, Steve Ortegon and Craig Bowen with three hits apiece.

Next up for Snyder is a visit to Coahoma at 10:30 a.m. Saturday.

Snyder: Bowen, triple and two singles; Cagle and Ortegon, double and two singles; Nunley, three singles; Franks, Dorsett and Hernandez, two singles; McLeod, triple; McBroom, double.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Orlando	14	5	.737	-
Miami	13	5	.722	½
NewYork	10	7	.588	3
Philadelphia	10	8	.556	3½
Boston	7	8	.467	5
Washington	7	10	.412	6
NewJersey	3	13	.188	9½
Central Division				
Indiana	12	5	.706	-
Milwaukee	10	5	.667	1
Detroit	11	7	.611	1½
Atlanta	9	8	.529	3
Cleveland	7	8	.467	4
Toronto	6	10	.375	5½
Charlotte	4	11	.267	7
Chicago	4	13	.235	8
Denver	5	13	.278	8½
Vancouver	4	14	.222	9½
Pacific Division				
Portland	14	3	.824	-
L.A.Lakers	13	6	.684	2
Seattle	9	7	.563	4½
Phoenix	9	8	.529	5
Sacramento	9	9	.500	5½
GoldenState	7	10	.412	7
L.A.Clippers	0	15	.000	13
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Utah	13	4	.765	-
Minnesota	11	6	.647	2
Houston	10	8	.556	3½
SanAntonio	10	8	.556	3½
Dallas	6	13	.316	8

Monday's Games

Miami 91, Philadelphia 89
Atlanta 114, Orlando 110
Detroit 75, Washington 71
Milwaukee 81, Chicago 76
Portland 92, Vancouver 73

Tuesday's Games

Milwaukee at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Boston at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Denver at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Utah, 9 p.m.
Sacramento at Portland, 10 p.m.
Vancouver at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

Girls Little Dribbler Results

8-YEAR-OLD LEAGUE

Hoopsters 18, Suns 6

Hoopsters: Britney Webb, 12; Jessica Bilderback, 4; Erma Rodriguez, 2. **Suns:** Shaquita Sneed, 6; K'Ana Garcia, 2.

Hoopsters 16, Swifts 11

Hoopsters: Britney Webb, 14; Erma Rodriguez, 2. **Swifts:** Shelbie Talavera, 6; Lesa Jones and Brittany Mitchell, 2; Teryn Sullenger, 1.

MINOR LEAGUE

Little Tigers 23, Rockets 19

Little Tigers: LaCree Tippens, 10; Tana Sullenger, 5; Cassandra Hernandez and Laura Culwell, 4. **Rockets:** Jessica Yanez, 8; Erin Hogan, 7; Karly Buchanan, 4.

Red Hots 18, Mystics 13

Red Hots: Audrey Jones, 10; Jordan Stansell, 4; Devin Davidson and Jessica Odom, 2. **Mystics:** Cheyene Roemisch, 9; Allison Alexander and Mica Tippens-Triggs, 2.

Sharpshooters 37, Swoopsters 23

Sharpshooters: Brianna Bernal, 20; Kate Wall, 11; Ashley Rodriguez, 4; Alexandra Urias, 2. **Swoopsters:** Marleah Akins, 13; Kendra Burns, 5; Courtney Tyrell, 3; Cayelea Rhodes, 2.

Red Hots 37, Wildcats 10

Red Hots: Audrey Jones, 24; Devin Davidson, 7; Aryn Calley, 4; Jessica Odom, 2. **Wildcats:** Teisha McGlouthin, 8; Caylea Wood, 2.

MAJOR LEAGUE

Magic 25, Jawbreakers 17

Magic: Taren Knipe, 10; Claire Pollard, 6; Alana Culp, 5; Jerrica Gutierrez, 4. **Jawbreakers:** Erica Little, 11; Rosa Cruz, Jodi Stewart and Ashley Villegas, 2.

Nikes 30, Fastbreak 15

Nikes: Courtney Cox, 12; Erin Hackfeld, 10; Casey Crain, 6; Katie Curry, 2. **Fastbreak:** Kassey Burney, 6; Christi Williams, 5; Stephanie Parmer and Shaela Thompson, 2.

Hornets 23, Lady Raiders 18

Hornets: Danisha Akins, 11; Rebecca Aguirre, 10; Ashton Thompson, 2. **Hornets:** Briana Burk and Aeryal Peoples, 8; Chelsea Wood, 2.

Starzz 17, Bullettes 8

Starzz: Dondi Brock and Bethany Burleson, 4; Sarah Carpenter, 3; Kaitlyn Greenlee, Wendy Reed and Whitney Warner, 2. **Bullettes:** Ashley Bailey, Brittany Dickerhoff, Heather Holmes and Kenetra James, 2.

Nikes 34, Rebels 18

Nikes: Courtney Cox, 15; Casey Crain, 8; Erin Hackfeld, 7; Bianca Gonzales and Ashley Hyer, 2. **Rebels:** Glyn Wright, 10; Christy Essery, 6; Jessica Taylor, 2.

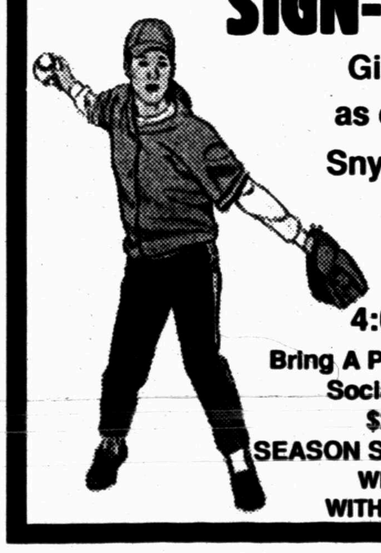
Jazz 29, Fastbreak 10

Jazz: Kayla Guerrero, 13; Breanna Talavera, 7; Heather Polk, 4; Sirena Medrano and Micada Quiros, 2; Khristian Torres, 1. **Fastbreak:** Christi Williams, 4; Stephanie Parmer, Jessica Robbins and Shaela Thompson, 2.

Sonics 34, Lady Raiders 24

Sonics: Heather Zajicek, 20; Teddi Crenwelge, 10; Kalli Wesson, 4. **Lady Raiders:** Brianna Burk, 16; Aeryal Peoples, 4; Lexi Loveall and Mosheka Williams, 2.

Snyder Girls Softball Association
SIGN-UPS
Girls 4 yrs. - 18 yrs.
as of January 1, 1999
Snyder Savings & Loan
March 12th -
5:00-8:00 p.m.
March 13th -
4:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.
Bring A Parent, Birth Certificate,
Social Security Card &
$25 Sign-up Fee
SEASON STARTS ON MAY 1, 1999.
WE ARE WORKING
WITH LITTLE DRIBBLERS



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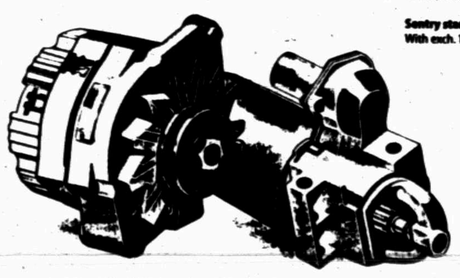

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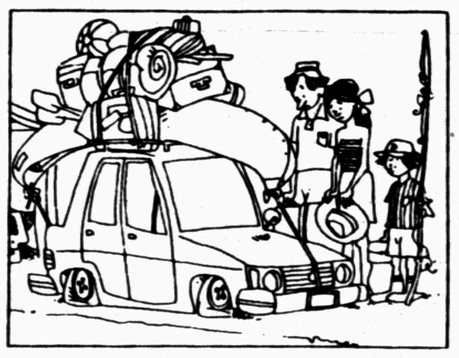
Lowrance Western Auto
East Side Of Square 573-4911



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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
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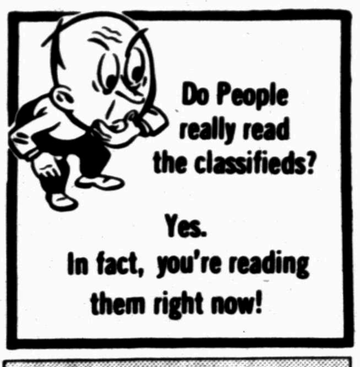
020 ANNOUNCEMENTS

METEORITES! Top Dollar Paid! Rocks that don't fit in? Rust colored that attract a magnet, even slightly. Call toll free 1-888-627-4814.



070 LOST & FOUND

LOST: Black Adult Female Lab w/ White on chest. Vicinity of 20th Place & Ave E. $50 Reward! 573-4332 or 573-6862.

090 VEHICLES

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150 BUSINESS SERVICES

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Before 6:30 p.m.
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JOB WANTED: HANDYMAN NEEDS WORK! Will do light mechanic work, mow yards, maintenance, any odd job. 573-7899 Anytime!

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Bill Dryden, Broker/Owner

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Wenona Evans 573-8165
Doris Beard 573-8480
Bill Dryden 573-9739

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Agent
573-4028
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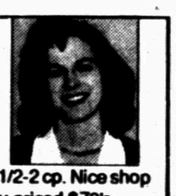

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AT&T Corp	87⅞	87 3-16	87 9-16	—7-16
AirTouch	91 11-16	91⅛	91 11-16	+⅛
Albertsons	56 15-16	56 9-16	56⅝	—⅛
AlldSignal	45⅝	44 11-16	44 13-16	—⅞
Alltel	59 3-16	58¼	58 15-16	—7-16
AmOnline s	92⅛	89	92 1-16	+3-16
AmStores	34½	34	34⅛	—⅛
Ameritech	63 13-16	63¼	63 13-16	+1-16
AndarkPtr s	33⅝	32⅝	32 13-16	—5-16
ArmcoInc	4⅞	4 11-16	4 13-16	+1-16
AtlRichfld	58 13-16	58	58⅜	—5-16
ATMOS Egy	23⅝	23 3-16	23 5-16	—1-16
Aviall	14 11-16	14 9-16	14 9-16	—⅛
BP Amoco	90	89⅝	89 13-16	+5-16
BakerHughes	20 5-16	19⅞	20⅛	—5-16
BankAmerica	69 7-16	68¼	69 7-16	+1 5-16
BellAtl s	54 9-16	54¼	54 9-16	—1-16
BellSouth s	46 3-16	46	46	3-16
BethSteel	8 5-16	8 3-16	8⅛	—1-16
BurlNoSFe s	33 13-16	33⅜	33⅜	—⅛
CBS Corp	36 15-16	36⅛	36⅞	+3-16
Caterpillar	49 7-16	49	49 1-16	—9-16
CenSoWst	25 3-16	24 15-16	25⅛	—⅛
Chevron	81	80¼	80 5-16	—⅞
Citigroup	62 15-16	61 11-16	62⅞	+⅞
Coastal s	34 7-16	34 3-16	34⅛	—⅛
CocaCola	63⅞	63¼	63½	—½
ColgatePalm	93	92	92⅞	+9-16
ComclMetals	23 1-16	22 7-16	22⅞	+3-16
CooperIn	45⅝	45 1-16	45⅛	—⅞
CyprusAmax	11 1-16	10⅞	10 15-16	—⅛
DaimlrChry n	89⅝	88 15-16	89 13-16	+⅞
DallSemicn	37⅞	36⅞	37⅛	+⅛
DeltaAirl s	62⅞	61⅞	62⅝	—1-16
Dillards Inc	24 3-16	23⅞	23⅞	—9-16
DowChem	100⅞	99⅞	99⅞	—1⅛
DuPont	53 15-16	53½	53 11-16	—3-16
EastmanChem	47⅛	46⅛	46⅛	—5-16
EstKodak	65 11-16	65⅛	65 9-16	+⅛
EDS Corp	47 11-16	46 11-16	47 9-16	—15-16
Entergy	28⅝	28½	28⅝	—⅛
Exxon	70 13-16	70⅛	70⅛	—3-16
FstBksAm	19⅝	19⅜	19⅜	—⅛
Flowers	24⅞	24 7-16	24 7-16	—9-16
FordMotor s	60⅝	59 9-16	59 15-16	—⅛
GTE Cp	61⅞	61 5-16	61 11-16	+⅛
GenDynam s	58 15-16	58⅛	58⅛	—13-16
GenElec	105 11-16	104⅞	105 7-16	+⅜
GenMills	79⅝	79 1-16	79⅛	—⅜
GenMotors	88 11-16	87 9-16	88 11-16	+1 1-16
GaPacGP	70⅛	70 7-16	70 11-16	+3-16
GlobalMar	9 5-16	9	9 3-16	—3-16
Goodrich	34 7-16	33⅞	34 7-16	+1-16
Goodyear s	51 15-16	51 5-16	51 11-16	—3-16
GtAtlPac	31 7-16	31⅛	31⅝	+1-16
Halliburto	32⅝	31⅞	32 7-16	—3-16
Hanson ADS	43⅝	43⅜	43½	+⅛
HarteHanks s	27⅞	26⅞	27⅛	+⅛
HomeDepot	64⅝	61⅞	64 7-16	+1 5-16
IBM	182⅝	178 9-16	182⅛	+3⅝
IntlPaper	41⅞	41 1-16	41 7-16	+⅜
JohnsonJn	89⅛	88 3-16	89⅛	+1-16
K mart	17⅝	17⅛	17 3-16	—⅛
Kroger Co	63 5-16	62⅝	62 7-16	—11-16
Litton	57⅛	56⅝	57	+⅛
LockheedM s	37 3-16	37	37 1-16	—7-16
Lowes Cos s	64 15-16	62⅞	64⅛	+2⅛
Lubys	13 11-16	13⅛	13⅛	—7-16
LucentTech	109⅛	105 11-16	109⅜	+1⅞
LucentTech wi	55⅛	53⅝	55	+⅜
MayDeptStrs	59⅝	58 15-16	59 3-16	—⅜
MayDeptStr wi	39⅝	39⅛	39⅛	—7-16
MediaOne	58 15-16	57 7-16	58 15-16	+⅜
Medtronic	74	71	71 1-16	—2⅛
Mobil	89⅛	88 9-16	89 3-16	+3-16
Monsanto	47⅞	46⅝	46⅝	—⅞
MorganJP	116 7-16	115 5-16	116	+7-16
Motorola	72 9-16	70⅛	72⅛	+1⅛
NCR Corp	45⅛	43⅝	45 3-16	+15-16
Navistar	42 7-16	41 9-16	42 1-16	—15-16
Penney JC	36⅝	36	36⅝	—⅜
PennzEnergy s	9⅛	9⅛	9 3-16	—1-16
PepBoys	18⅝	18⅛	18 9-16	
PepsiCo	38⅛	38 9-16	38⅛	—5-16
PhelpDodge	48⅝	47⅞	47 11-16	—⅛
PhilipPet	40½	39⅞	40⅛	—13-16
PilgrmPrd B	17⅞	17 5-16	17⅝	+⅜
Polaroid	22 3-16	21⅝	21 7-16	—11-16
Praxair	35	34 3-16	34 5-16	—11-16
ProctGamb	93 5-16	91 11-16	92⅛	—⅛
PubSNwMx	15 13-16	15 11-16	15⅝	—3-16
ReliantEngy	27⅞	27⅛	27 9-16	—5-16
RoyalDut	46 15-16	46⅛	46 15-16	+⅛
SBC Comm	51⅛	51 1-16	51⅛	+3-16
SaraLee s	26 15-16	26 5-16	26⅛	
Scripps EW	41 7-16	41⅛	41 7-16	+1-16
SearsRoeb	43⅝	43⅜	43⅛	+3-16
SherwinW	26 3-16	25⅞	26 1-16	—⅛
SmithklBchm	73	71⅛	72 13-16	+1 3-16
SouthernCo	25⅛	24⅛	24⅛	—1-16
SwstAirl s	31⅛	30 7-16	31⅛	+1-16
SprintFON n	89⅛	88 13-16	89 1-16	—11-16
SprintPCS n	35⅛	34 1-16	35	+11-16
Sunoco Inc	31⅞	31⅛	31⅛	—1-16
TNP Ent	30⅝	30 5-32	30 3-16	—1-16
Tandy	56⅛	54 13-16	54 15-16	—1 5-16
TempleInland	60⅛	59⅝	60	+5-16
Tenneco	30⅛	30 1-16	30 13-16	+7-16
Texaco	50	48 15-16	49⅝	—⅛
TexInd	23 7-16	23 3-16	23 3-16	—⅛
TexasInst	107⅞	103 7-16	106⅜	+1⅜
TexUtil	42 15-16	42⅛	42 15-16	+⅛
Textron	79 15-16	79⅛	79 15-16	—9-16
TriconGlbR	66 1-16	65⅞	66	—7-16
TrinityInds	34⅛	34	34⅛	+3-16
TritonEngy	6 15-16	6½	6⅝	—⅛
Tyler	5 13-16	5⅛	5 13-16	
US West Inc	56	55 5-16	55 7-16	—1-16
USX-Marathn	22⅛	21 1-16	22	+7-16
USX-USS	24 5-16	23⅝	23⅞	—9-16
UnCarbde	42⅝	41 11-16	42⅛	—⅛
UnionPacif	49⅝	48 7-16	49 5-16	+⅜
UnitedTech	127 1-16	126⅛	127	
Unocal	30½	30⅛	30½	
Venator Grp	4 13-16	4⅝	4 13-16	+⅛
WalMart	93 7-16	92 9-16	93 5-16	—⅛
WellsFargo	38 15-16	38⅛	38⅛	—5-16
WstnGasRs	5⅛	5 7-16	5 7-16	—⅛
WinnDixie	43 5-16	42⅞	42 7-16	—1
Xerox Cp s	57 3-16	55⅛	57 3-16	—11-16

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DISMISSALS: David Mora, Carolina Boyer, Valerianna Lopez.

CENSUS: 50 (Med., Surg.-24, Long-term Care-24, CCU-2).

Barbie turns 40

NEW YORK (AP) — Barbie turned 40 today and isn't showing any signs of slowing down.

Mattel Inc. plans to release a Butterfly Art Barbie, with a butterfly tattoo on her stomach, and Working Woman Barbie, who comes with a play laptop and cell phone. There will also be a 40th anniversary doll and the Postal Service is to unveil an official Barbie stamp.

Barbie doll sales have been sliding. Kids today stop playing with Barbie dolls at an earlier age, instead favoring high-tech toys, such as CD-ROMs and video games, clothes and makeup.

Card Of Thanks

Thank You

We are grateful to our friends and loved ones who visited Bobby in Lubbock's Methodist Hospital, phoned and sent cards during our nine weeks stay.

Special appreciation to Bros. Carl Nunn and Cleck Smith for the caring and impressive service for Bobby, the life-long friends who served as pallbearers, the beautiful music, and spectacular floral offerings. Thanks to dearest friends for providing a delicious lunch for our family. We appreciate Mark Cypert's kindness and efficiency.

Pat James
Gerald, Jennifer, Nicki & Brian James
Jimmy Pat, Julie, Jordan & Jessica James

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Journalist given 18 months in prison

GREENBELT, Md. (AP) — His voice quavering, veteran reporter Larry Matthews offered a courtroom assurance that he'd only been researching a story when he downloaded and sent child pornography online.

U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams was unswayed Monday.

"I believe Mr. Matthews crossed the line," Williams said in sentencing Matthews to an 18-month prison term. "I also believe that it was immoral."

Matthews, who was also fined $4,000, received the lightest prison sentence possible under federal guidelines. He faced up to 30 years in prison and a $500,000 fine after pleading guilty in July.

Williams said he would recommend Matthews serve his sentence in a halfway house, provided federal prison officials agree. Matthews was given 60 days to report to prison, although it was unclear whether his attorneys would try to keep him out of jail pending an appeal.

Matthews is the first journalist prosecuted for accessing child pornography on the Internet, according to the Reporters Committee for Freedom of the Press.

Prosecutors had likened his acts to someone buying and selling cocaine to write a story on drugs. Media and civil rights groups, meanwhile, defended his right to research a story.

"How can this not send a chill through any investigative reporter who has violated a statute in the attempt to gather a story?" said Jane Kirtley, executive director of the reporters committee.

The judge in the case refused to allow Matthews to use a First Amendment defense, prompting him to plead guilty in July to charges of receiving pornographic images on his computer and transmitting child pornography.

Colleagues, family, public honor Blackmun

WASHINGTON (AP) — Supreme Court justices, former law clerks, family and members of the public paid respects to Harry A. Blackmun as his body lay in repose at the nation's highest court.

Today, Blackmun was being remembered at a memorial service with eulogies to be given by his daughter, Nancy Blackmun, by three of Blackmun's former law clerks, and by Justice Stephen G. Breyer, his successor on the court.

Blackmun, author of the Roe vs. Wade decision that legalized abortion nationwide, died Thursday at age 90. He served on the court for 24 years and retired in 1994.

On Monday, he became the fifth Supreme Court member to lie in repose in the building's marble Great Hall, following Chief Justices Earl Warren and Warren Burger and fellow justices Thurgood Marshall and William Brennan.

Dozens of family members, 88 former law clerks and seven of the court's current nine members gathered for a solemn 15-minute ceremony before members of the public were allowed to file past his coffin.

Blackmun's widow, Dottie, listened silently from her wheelchair, flanked by the couple's three daughters and five grandchildren, as violinist Robert McDuffie played the hymn "How Great Thou Art."

Blackmun's casket, draped in the same 48-star flag that adorned his father's coffin, rested on the bier first used for Abraham Lincoln's funeral. Nearby, a 1978 portrait of the justice was on display.

During the court's morning session Monday, Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist noted Blackmun's death "with sadness."

FARM HONORED — Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs honors (top photo) John Richardson of Richardson Farm — Tract I in Scurry County; (middle photo) Anne Richardson von Roeder of Richardson Farm — Tract II; (bottom photo) Mary Richardson Dunn and Judy Richardson Gebben of Richardson Farm — Tract III. The farm has been operated by the family for 100 years or more and was inducted into the Texas Department of Agriculture's Family and Land Heritage Program in a recent ceremony in Austin. (Contributed Photo)

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Friend Can't Support Wife Who Keeps Returning to Heartache

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DEAR ABBY: My close friend has had a turbulent 12-year marriage to a man who has had several long-term affairs. She has left him on several occasions, but always ends up returning.

Currently, she is separated. She told me that this time she is determined to go on without him and regain her self-esteem. I have just heard that she is in the planning stages of returning to him.

Abby, for 12 years I have listened to her cry, watched him break her heart over and over, and I can't take it anymore. She is asking me for words of encouragement and I can no longer offer them. I can't be supportive when I know she is going to be hurt again. I want to scream at her, "Wake up! You have rocks for brains and he's never going to change." How can I get through to her?

TIRED OF WATCHING

DEAR TIRED: Have you told her what you've just told me? It wouldn't hurt to try. However, if you do try and your efforts fail, accept the fact that your friend must live her own life. For your own sanity, perhaps you should distance yourself from her. Losing your support might be the wake-up call she needs.

***

DEAR ABBY: I'm engaged to a woman I'll call Mary. She has a 4-year-old granddaughter I'll call Ashley. In Mary's eyes, Ashley can do no wrong. I have actually heard Ashley say, "Shut up, Grandma," or "Come here right now!" — and Grandma does.

Mary admits that Ashley's behavior isn't good, but she allows her to get away with it. Mary lives with her son (Ashley's father) and his wife, and if Daddy says no to Ashley, Mary quietly tells her to "wait until Daddy goes to work."

Abby, this child is so spoiled she's a brat. If I had behaved that way when I was growing up, I would have been paddled. I have tried talking to Mary about her granddaughter, but I get nowhere. What should I do?

RECONSIDERING MARRIAGE

DEAR RECONSIDERING: Mary is living with Ashley's parents, and it's almost impossible for a grandmother not to spoil a cute little granddaughter while in such close proximity. However, if you and Mary get married, she'll be living with you, and you won't have to witness the spoiled child daily treating her grandmother disrespectfully.

Ashley is going through a phase that she will probably outgrow, but if she doesn't, keep in mind that your contact with her will be limited. Because you love Mary, you should be able to tolerate Ashley in small doses. Reconsider with this in mind, and let me know what you decide.

***

DEAR ABBY: My wife's 46-year-old son will soon be marrying for the third time. She is a nice, pretty lady who is his age. This will be her first marriage. She is from a large and wealthy family.

My wife informed me I will be buying dinner for all those attending the wedding rehearsal. Is this my responsibility? Do I pay for the drinks, too?

Shouldn't he, at his ripe old age, pay for this event himself? What about asking his five-times-married biological father to help share expenses? The father has provided very little to this "boy," who moved in with his mother and me when his first two marriages failed.

FEELING BADLY USED IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR FEELING BADLY USED: I see no compelling reason to open your checkbook. After the first marriage, your stepson should be footing the bill himself.

***

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

Firm recalls playsets with parts children can choke on

WASHINGTON (AP) — Chariot Victor Publishing is recalling about 44,000 of its figurine playsets, the Consumer Product Safety Commission said Monday. The VeggieTales' Dave and the Giant Pickle playsets have figure parts that can come loose, posing a choking hazard for children.

The government and the Colorado Springs, Colo.-based company are aware of one report of a 2-year-old child found with a plastic plug from the playset in his mouth. According to the CPSC, six of the character figurines have plastic plugs in their base that can come out. The French Peas figurine also poses a choking hazard because of its size and shape.

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Lawmakers, scientists seek nuke stand-down

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States and other nuclear powers should take their missiles off alert to avoid dangerous confrontations in the event of computer failures on Jan. 1, 2000, a Democratic lawmaker says.

"This is a perfect opportunity to use the Y2K issue to open the whole discussion" of nuclear stand-down, Rep. Ed Markey, D-Mass., said Monday at a symposium on how the Year 2000 computer crisis might affect nuclear power plants and weapons systems.

The Pentagon has not publicly discussed the idea of a stand-down, although some officials have raised concerns that taking weapons off alert status and then putting them back on might pose additional risks. In the military, a stand-down means to go off duty for a certain time.

Instead, the administration has proposed that Russian experts and American counterparts meet in Colorado at the end of the year to jointly monitor early warning systems and prevent computer-generated misperceptions of an attack. A Russian delegation is coming to Washington later this month to discuss this and other ideas on the Y2K problem.

But Michael Kraig of the British American Security Information Council said at the symposium that no matter what steps are taken, "computer errors are by their very nature idiosyncratic" and "the real cure is to take the weapons off alert."

Russia is thought to be well behind the United States in fixing computers to make sure they don't confuse the date 2000 with the year 1900, and Bruce Blair of the Brookings Institution said the Russian early warning system, with its thousands of missiles on hair-trigger alert, is especially susceptible to the computer bug.

He added that breakdowns in power grids could degrade the Russians' ability to monitor events such as the theft of nuclear weapons and that shutdowns in the cooling systems in 72 or 73 deactivated Russian submarines raise "the possibility of multiple Chernobyls."

Blair and others said there is little evidence even in Russia to justify fears that computer errors will lead to accidental launches or explosions in nuclear silos. Deputy Defense Secretary John Hamre told a Senate hearing last month that "our nuclear command and control system has been thoroughly tested and has performed superbly."

Speakers at the symposium also urged the Nuclear Regulatory Commission to adopt a more hands-on approach to assuring that nuclear power plants in this country are safe and that adequate backup systems will be in place.

David Lochbaum of the Union of Concerned Scientists said the NRC has audited only 12 of 103 operating nuclear plants to ensure their preparedness and "needs to change from being a spectator to being a regulator."

The NRC's executive director for operations, William Travers, testified to Congress last month that the commission is confident that all plants will be Y2K ready by October, and, should noncompliance be spotted, the NRC is ready to take steps including shutting down plants. NRC officials said inspectors will check on Y2K fixes at all the plants this spring.

For Results Use Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

IRS fixing mistake for thousands entitled to $400 child tax credit

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is making sure that thousands of people who qualify for new child tax credits don't miss a chance to cut income taxes this year.

The Internal Revenue Service estimated Monday that so far, more than 30,000 taxpayers who appear to qualify for the $400-per-child credits failed to enter it on their tax forms. The IRS is fixing the mistake for them.

In some cases, this means a larger-than-expected income tax refund; in others, it means a smaller tax bill, IRS spokesman Don Roberts said.

The credit is new for the 1998 tax year. Within certain income limits, a taxpayer can qualify for $400 credits for each dependent child, grandchild, stepchild, adopted child or foster child who is under age 17 and is a U.S. citizen or resident.

The child credit is largely responsible for a 15.5 percent increase in average refunds this year, from $1,497 to $1,729. Roberts said about a quarter of the 39 million tax returns filed thus far have claimed the credit.

The IRS is finding that thousands of people checked a box on their 1040 forms — column 4 of line 6c — indicating that a dependent meets these qualifications, but they failed to enter the $400 or more on line 43 of the form.

By using Social Security records, the IRS can determine if one dependent qualifies and will automatically correct the mistake. The IRS for years has corrected tax return math errors and other mistakes, often to taxpayers' benefit.

If the service can't determine eligibility, taxpayers will get a letter from IRS explaining the discrepancy and requesting an amended return to take advantage of it.

For additional child credits, taxpayers should contact IRS about whether those dependents are eligible.

Some taxpayers cannot claim the credit because their incomes are too high. The credit is reduced by $50 for every $1,000 of a taxpayer's income that is above $75,000, or $110,000 for a married couple filing jointly.

Credits differ from deductions in that they reduce tax liability on a dollar-for-dollar basis, while a deduction reduces the amount of income that is subject to taxation.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Wednesday, March 10, 1999

In the year ahead, trends and conditions will now enable you to flow with the tide instead of bucking it. This will be especially true in areas that affect your work or career. You could experience greater success than anticipated.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Rely less on others today and more on yourself, and you will be successful. All it takes is a wee bit of faith in your abilities to do whatever that needs to be done. Pisces, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send the required refund form and for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and self-addressed stamped envelope 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.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Because you tend to view life philosophically today, things could go rather smoothly for you. What would normally rattle you, will now be taken in stride.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If there is something you've been contemplating in the area of forming a joint venture, try to do some ground work on it today. Interesting developments could spring from it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) It's best not to postpone making an important decision today, because it looks like you'll be a better decision-maker now than tomorrow.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) By employing resourceful, logical methods to your work today, you should be able to figure out ways to lighten your burdens considerably.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You will be especially good at managing social situations today, regardless of whether they are for adult friends or children in your care. In either case, all will be happy you were there.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) What could prove to be the most satisfying for you today might be domestically-oriented activities. In your spare time, putter around the house or work out in the yard.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) If you're able, take that brief break you've been promising yourself. It'll be more likely that you'll be able to participate in a fun outing today than tomorrow.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Opportunities around you today for ways to acquire personal gains of some kind are abound. Be alert and capitalize on any developments that will allow you to do so.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) If you are involved with another who has been remiss to take action on a mutual interest, take the bull by the horns today and do it yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Continue to be closed mouth today about something you've been working on no matter how eager you are to tell your friends what you've been up to.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) You may learn some valuable information concerning something new you've been involved with by keeping your ears and eyes open today. Communicative channels will contain some gems.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Will cortisone cream help scaling

DEAR DR. GOTT: Because of a chronic, scaly rash on my ears, I was prescribed a moisturizing lotion, but it hasn't worked. Should I try an over-the-counter cortisone cream?

DEAR READER: Many different skin disorders, including seborrhea and psoriasis, can cause a scaly rash. I think you should see a dermatologist before using cortisone cream, because — although the cortisone may be appropriate — it's a good idea to establish a diagnosis before using it for more than an occasional skin problem.

DEAR DR. GOTT: The whites of my eyes have taken on a yellow tint and I feel rundown. Could this be due to an improper diet? I'm 16.

DEAR READER: Yellowing of the eyes is a sign of jaundice, a condition caused by liver malfunction. In otherwise healthy adolescents, the most common diseases associated with jaundice are hepatitis and mononucleosis. Because you may be contagious and a threat to those around you, I urge you to see a doctor before your condition worsens. You will need special blood tests to determine the cause of your jaundice, which is caused by a back-up of bile in the body, an affliction that should not be ignored.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 80-year-old mother was recently diagnosed with cirrhosis of the liver. This surprised us because she has never consumed alcohol. Could the condition be caused by dietary factors or the pills she takes for diabetes?

DEAR READER: Cirrhosis simply means scarring of the liver. It is a dangerous affliction that can result from a variety of agents, including viral hepatitis and damaging reactions from toxic chemicals. In the Unites States, most cirrhosis is the end result of alcohol abuse. Inasmuch as your mother is not a drinker, the cause of her cirrhosis is unclear. In my opinion, she should be examined and tested by a gastroenterologist who specializes in liver disorders. Although your mother's cirrhosis is permanent and incurable, she needs a specific diagnosis so that further, life-threatening damage can be avoided.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am 82 and in good health. I neither smoke, drink nor use medication. Recently, I noticed blood in my urine and semen. What causes this?

DEAR READER: Bloody urine or semen is always abnormal. It could be caused by blood-clotting problems or by irritation related to infection, tumors or stones. You should see a urologist for an exam. As a general rule, painless bleeding into the genitourinary tract is relatively easy to diagnose and treat.

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

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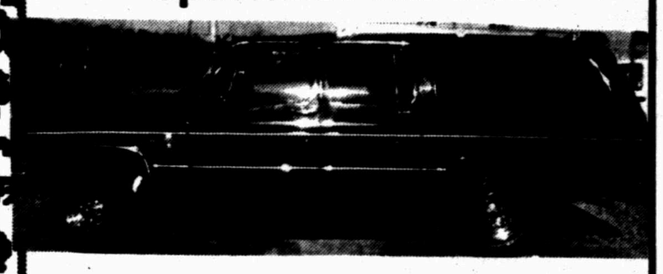

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"HE CARES FOR YOU"

Peter told us, "Casting all your anxiety upon Him, because He cares for you" (1 Peter 5:7). Is God so busy with the affairs of the universe that He does not know our individual needs as His children? Three times in Matthew chapter 6 Jesus told His disciples not to be filled with worry about earthly, material things. This does not mean we are to be idle (1 Thessalonians 4:11-12). But it does mean that the Lord does not want us to be "worried and bothered about so many things" as He told Martha (Luke 10:41).

Jesus said, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added to you" (Matthew 6:33). When we do the best we can, then we should leave the future entirely in God's hands. The Bible says, "Let your character be free from the love of money, being content with what you have; for He Himself has said, 'I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you'" (Hebrews 13:5). Come Sunday and praise Him and learn more of Him!

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Antitrust fight isn't over...

Intel, FTC to settle some claims

WASHINGTON (AP) — Intel Corp., the world's largest maker of computer chips, appears to have dodged one bullet from federal antitrust enforcers, but a larger battle looms.

Intel and the Federal Trade Commission announced a proposed settlement of some of the agency's allegations Monday, on the eve of a hearing before an administrative law judge.

Neither side would comment on details of the settlement, but Intel's president and chief executive officer, Craig Barrett, called the agreement a "win-win" situation. "We are satisfied that the agreement gives us value for our intellectual property rights," he said.

FTC's attorneys "got the relief that they wanted," said agency spokeswoman Victoria Streitfeld. At the same time, however, the agency said in a statement that "there are remaining issues under investigation."

Antitrust experts said the reference was to a much broader inquiry into Intel's practices.

"This was a piece of a larger investigation where the FTC was looking into whether Intel used its market position to achieve dominance in related areas," said Kevin Arquit, a New York antitrust lawyer and former director of the FTC's Bureau of Competition.

For now, a settlement means the FTC will get what it wanted — an order prohibiting Intel from withholding information from customers because of patent squabbles. The full commission must approve the settlement before it becomes official. It is expected to vote within two weeks.

"This is one of those unusual situations where both sides can declare that they won," Arquit said. "For Intel, the stakes were enormous."

That is because "the last thing they need is for a government agency to label them a monopolist" at a time when the company also faces private antitrust lawsuits, Arquit said.

In its June 8 complaint, the FTC argued that Intel holds a monopoly in the market for microprocessors, the "brains" of computers.

WTC eyes baseball program

Continued From Page 1

ram such as softball.

In other business, trustees tabled action concerning an administrative staff-recommended calendar.

The proposed calendar met opposition from the Faculty Association.

In a letter to the board, the faculty expressed concern that it was not allowed the opportunity to give input.

A meeting was scheduled for 11 a.m. this morning for administrative staff to meet with faculty members to discuss the calendar.

Input will also be requested from the Student Government Association and the classified clerical committee.

In the proposed calendar, WTC's Christmas break would be shortened from three weeks to two.

Dr. Krenek said the change would put the college more in sync with other schools and colleges.

"It will provide more continuity with Snyder Public Schools as well as area community colleges."

The staff also recommends additional holidays during the fall and spring terms, including Columbus Day, Martin Luther King Day and Good Friday.

Concerning the bid for golf cart sheds, the board tabled the item and rebid the project with a less detailed set of specifications.

Bullard said he believed the specs were too strict.

"We need to get a lot simpler. I think then we can get a lot better bids."

In other action, the board approved the renewal of 61 contracts for professional personnel.

Two contracts — those of Allen Hodges, assistant director of workforce education, and Bill Mitchell, golf-course superintendent and grounds maintenance director, have not yet been renewed.

According to Dr. Krenek, Hodges' salary is being paid by workforce grants that will expire this semester.

"Since the money is running out, we can't evaluate and give him a contract until we see where we are financially."

The administrative staff is considering combining golf-landscape technology responsibilites with that of Mitchell's current job and creating a new position.

Dr. Krenek said because of the possible changes, the contract cannot be renewed as written.

Also approved were a curriculum core as presented by Dr. Jim Palmer, dean of instruction and a member of the curriculum committee and five tuition and fee variance requests.

Dr. Jay Kidd presided and all trustees were present to include Bullard, Carolyn Barbee, Jackie Greene, R.C. Patton, Eddie Peterson and Lee Presswood.

Microsoft pledges software fix for privacy controversy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reacting to privacy concerns over a flaw in Windows, Microsoft Corp. is promising to offer software to strip out an identifying number that could be used to trace the authorship of some electronic documents.

Steven Sinofsky, a vice president for Microsoft's Office products, said late Monday the company also almost certainly will offer a patch for the tens of millions of customers who use its popular collection of Office 97 business programs, which include Word and Excel.

That software fix, to be administered by customers themselves, would prevent the identifier number from being quietly embedded within electronic documents in the future.

"We take these things very seriously," Sinofsky said.

The company previously promised only to allow customers to remove the serial number from their computers, not from individual documents, such as business letters and spreadsheets.

Microsoft confirmed over the weekend that its latest version of Windows generates a unique serial number for each computer that is partly planted within some documents.

Separately, the company also acknowledged it may have been harvesting those serial numbers from customers — along with their names and addresses — even when customers had explicitly indicated they didn't want the numbers disclosed.

Privacy groups complained that the list of serial numbers, together with names and addresses, could be used to trace electronic documents to a specific computer even when an author wished to remain anonymous.

Richard M. Smith of Brookline, Mass., the software programmer who first noticed the numbers hidden within his Microsoft files, compared the situation to a person's Social Security number being stamped on every document he creates.

Smith said Monday that Microsoft was acting appropriately.

Obituaries

Ola Floyd

Ola Floyd

1899-1999

Ola Mae Floyd, a longtime resident of Scurry County, died Monday, March 8, in Snyder Healthcare Center.

Funeral service for Mrs. Floyd, 99, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Homer Anderson, minister of 37th Street Church of Christ, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born Aug. 2, 1899 in Comanche, Miss Floyd was a member of the Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by four brothers and three sisters.

Survivors include a sister, Nell Graham of Snyder; and a brother, Ennis Floyd of Mesquite and formerly of Snyder.

Ola Williams

1947-1999

SWEETWATER — Ola Mae Williams, the sister of Howard Brown of Snyder, died Sunday, March 7, in Abilene's Hendrick Medical Center.

Funeral service for Mrs. Williams, 51, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Eddie Nelson will officiate, and burial will follow in the Sweetwater Cemetery.

Born July 6, 1947 in Brazos Valley, she had lived in Sweetwater since the age of 13. She married L.C. Williams in 1964 in Sweetwater, and he died in 1974.

A member of the Caanan Baptist Church, she worked for Pace Packing and retired from U.S. Gypsum Co.

She was also preceded in death by two sons, L.C. Williams Jr. and Anthony Williams; and a daughter, Bonnie Ruth Williams.

Survivors include two daughters, Regina Williams and Nicole Williams, both of Sweetwater; her mother, Catherine Brown of Sweetwater; four sisters, Erma Williams, Zula Jackson, Bulah McIntire and Debbie Brown, all of Sweetwater; two other brothers, Donnie Brown and Toby Brown, both of Sweetwater; stepson, Artie Lee Williams of Fresno, Calif.; and nine grandchildren.

Ira trustees will meet Wednesday

Ira ISD's board of trustees will meet Wednesday morning at 7:30 to consider routine matters for this time of the school year.

Personnel contracts for teachers will be considered, as will the recommendations of the district's textbook committee.

The board will also consider the monthly financial reports and cast ballots for directors of the Region 14 Education Service Center.

Following the regular meeting, the board will have a planning and goal setting workshop.

Dognappers nabbed; stolen dogs may be gone forever

SWEETWATER, (AP) — It was a dog-gone shame. Over 13 days last month, three pit bulls, three pugs, one mini-Doberman, one boxer and two Chihuahuas were reported missing.

Sure that pet pooches were being purloined, police began tracking down the dognappers. Now investigators believe they have cracked the case with the arrest of a Snyder couple accused of stealing dogs and selling them.

Johnny and Claudette Fuentez were taken into custody last week and were charged with theft. The offense, a Class B Misdemeanor, is punishable upon conviction by up to 180 days in jail and a $2,000 fine.

Unfortunately, the arrests come to late to help those whose dogs were stolen, said Sweetwater detective Phillip Gill.

"It looks like we will be unable to recover any of the animals that were taken," Gill told the Sweetwater Reporter News. "We know pets are like members of the family and are sorry they cannot be recovered."

The pets were apparently sold in a variety of cities and would be untraceable, police said.

Police believe the couple scouted out neighborhoods, grabbing pure breed dogs right out of their doghouses.

The couple was captured after a dog owner reported a suspicious vehicle driving around his block.

"I located the vehicle and called several offduty officers to help me track it in their private unmarked cars, but we never actually observed anyone get out and grab an animal," Gill said.

The second week of February is National Kraut and Frankfurter Week.

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Two persons are arrested

Two people were booked into Scurry County jail on Monday as local law enforcement personnel enjoyed a relatively quiet day.

Officers arrested a 30-year-old male at 9:57 a.m. at Municipal Court for failure to appear on a traffic warrant. The man was also detained for the Border Patrol.

Following a one-vehicle accident five miles west of Snyder on Highway 84, Department of Public Safety troopers arrested a 44-year-old male for driving while intoxicated at 9:47 p.m.

In other activity, a woman requested an officer at 8:33 a.m. in the 2700 block of Avenue E in reference to problems getting her child to go to school. The officer escorted the student to West Elementary.

An officer was requested in the 400 block of 33rd Street at 7:51 p.m. as juveniles were shooting BB guns at a garage.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

AARP meeting

The AARP Chapter 2063 board will meet at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday at the Senior Center.

Free tax aid service

Free tax help is available every Wednesday at the Senior Center. Help is also available for shut-ins. Call 573-3822 or 573-4035.

Support groups

Four different support groups meet Thursday in the First Baptist Church. The groups include divorce recovery, cancer-grief support group, a group for parents of teens and a group for adult-children caring for elderly parents. Child care is provided.

Free computer lessons

The Scurry-Mitchell Computer Club will offer free computer lessons at 6 p.m. Thursday at Tom's Marine. The session is open to the public.

Women's Conference

Women Worshipping Jesus Devotedly Conference will begin at 7 p.m. Friday in the Martha Ann Woman's Club. Mercy & Truth from Rockwall will lead the music and Barbara Murrell from Mesquite will be the speaker. For more information or to pre-register, call 573-8401 or 573-9812.

Bible study tapes

Bible study video tapes air weekly on cable TV channel 2. The tapes to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "The '3 Bears' of Galatians 6," followed by "His Needs, Her Needs."

Parkinson's support group

Parkinson's Disease community support group will meet at 10 a.m. next Tuesday in the Cogdell Hospital board room. A video entitled, "Practical Pointers for Parkinson's Patients," will be shown.

Windbreak trees available

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District has extra windbreak trees, both hardwood and evergreens, available.

Aggie scholarships

The Rolling Plains Texas A&M Mothers' Club will award two scholarships to a high school senior and a current A&M student. Students in Fisher, Mitchell, Nolan and Scurry counties are eligible. Applications are available at the high schools and postmark deadline for applications is April 1.

Public hearing for bomber training

The Air Force will hold a public hearing on the proposed Realistic Bomber Training Initative (RBTI) on Wednesday, April 7, from 5-9 p.m. at Snyder High School.

Planetarium shows

The refurbished planetarium at Western Texas College is available for group shows Thursday evenings and all day on Fridays. The shows are by reservation only and there is no charge. There are three presentations available in the 59-seat auditorium, one for pre-K, another for K through 4, and one for general audiences. For reservations contact Sharon Gill at WTC, 573-8511, ext. 312.

Adult education classes

Adult basic education classes that can lead to a GED are underway at Western Texas College. Students may enroll at any time in Room 209 of the WTC library. Both day and evening sessions are held Tuesday and Thursday. Call 573-8511, Ext. 322, for more information.

Road to Recovery program

Volunteers are needed to take patients to Abilene or Lubbock one day a week for cancer treatment. Following approval by the American Cancer Society, drivers will be provided liability insurance and can be reimbursed for fuel expenses incurred for the trip. For more information, contact ACS Road to Recovery volunteer coordinator Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 and leave a message, or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery:
11-20-25-28-37
(eleven, twenty, twenty-five, twenty-eight, thirty-seven)

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
1-9-9
(one, nine, nine)

American jets bomb Iraqi air defense sites

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — American fighter jets bombed Iraqi air defense sites in the northern no-fly zone today, the same day that a Persian Gulf ally criticized the United States for the near-daily attacks on Iraq.

Air Force F-15s fired laser-guided bombs in self-defense at Iraqi anti-aircraft artillery sites west and south of the northern city of Mosul, said Capt. Manning Brown, a spokesman for Incirlik air base.

The bombings occurred about the same time that Defense Secretary William Cohen encountered the first open opposition to the U.S. airstrikes from a key U.S. partner in the Persian Gulf region, Qatar, which said the strikes should end and the tension over Iraq be peacefully resolved.

Foreign Minister Sheik Hamad bin Jassim bin Jabr Al-thani said Qatar opposed the running airbattle in which the United States has conducted scores of strikes on Iraqi air defenses.