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WT-Int. Crude - $29.77
WTIC Posted - $26.50
Natural Gas - $3.325

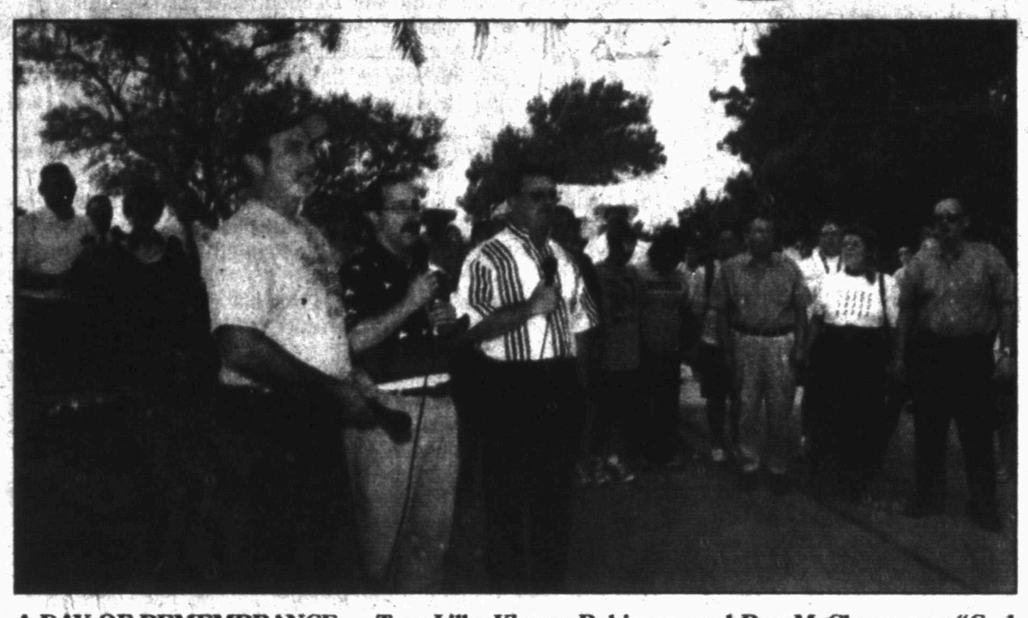
THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

Sept. 12, 2002
Vol. 54 No. 115
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Sherma Barham

9-11 ceremony...



A DAY OF REMEMBRANCE — Troy Lilly, Kinney Robinson and Ron McClung sang "God Bless America" at noon at WTC's and the Scurry County Museum's *A Day of Remembrance, Sept. 11* ceremony. Ray Newton, drama instructor, was emcee. Others on the program were Dr. Edward Barkowsky and Mayor Francene Noah. Law enforcement, fire and emergency medical personnel were recognized. A reception followed in the Scurry County Museum with refreshments furnished by the Daughters of the American Revolution. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Trustees have varied agenda

The leadership profile of the new superintendent of the Snyder Independent School District will be presented to the school trustees during a 7 p.m. meeting today.

Representatives of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB) were in Snyder last week meeting with various groups, including the school board, to formulate a profile to fill the superintendent's post on a permanent basis.

Jim Kirkland is serving as interim superintendent. He is filling the post vacated by Gayle Lomax who resigned prior to the start of the school year.

Trustees are also expected to formally act on the contracts for three teachers.

The contracts are for Susan Blackard, kindergarten teacher at West Elementary; Reagan Key, ISS teacher and coach at the junior high; and Janet Wesson, counselor at West Elementary.

Another personnel matter concerns para-professionals with 20-plus years of service who did not get a raise in this year's budget, although instructors with the same experience did receive a $500 raise.

Para-professional's salaries are tied to a pay scale of instructor's salaries with the same years of experience and have in the past received increases when the teachers did.

A number of informational items are on the agenda including a report on campus accountability ratings by Melissa Jones, a district-wide maintenance update by Mike Carter, and a resolution in support of legislative action on school finance.

Other discussion items include an upcoming compliance audit of administrative procedures, board training update, and a report on the start of the school year.

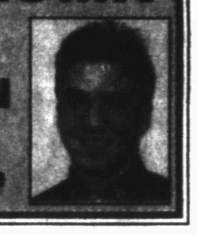
Jim Rosson, East Elementary principal, will be recognized as president-elect of an elementary principal's association for Region 14.

At 6 p.m., trustees will hold a workshop on the new Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test (TAKS). The workshop will be presented by the Region 14 Education Service Center.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Brian Brisendine



West Texans have had a unique opportunity this summer and it exists for only three more days.

Thirty-one artworks almost a millennium old went on display June 2 at the Museum of Texas Tech in Lubbock. The exhibit concludes Sunday, but we recommend you make the trip before it closes.

The artworks are frescoes from the 12th-14th centuries on loan from the Vatican Museum. The frescos, or murals painted on fresh plaster, were originally located in two Catholic churches in Rome.

We've always been a history buff so the chance to stand inches away from items created so long ago was a treat.

The audio tour explains each fresco and the story each piece told.

The works were created for reasons other than decoration. Back then, few folks could read so pictures were necessary to communicate with the general public and to pass on stories.

Several of the stories told were of saints in the Catholic Church and the deeds each performed to gain their sainthood.

Some of the frescoes were so badly damaged it's not known what story they were meant to convey or even who is responsible for the painting.

The damage was suffered during the process of removing the pieces from their original locations.

Common practice these days is to leave frescos where they're found and restore them there.

But these were discovered and removed in the 1800s with rather crude tools.

The narrator explained that cloth was glued to the face of the artwork, then the stucco they were painted on was separated from the wall using spatulas.

After laying them flat on the floor, another piece of cloth was adhered to the reverse side until it could be mounted elsewhere.

Finally the first cloth was removed from the front of the frescoes, again revealing the painting.

It's easy to see why many of them suffered serious damage during this rough process.

Some of the frescoes had large holes or whole halves missing while others on display were barely fragments of the original piece.

There was still enough in place though to make onlookers appreciate their value.

Unfortunately, time is running out for area residents to see the impressive pieces.

The final day of the Tech Museum's exhibit is Sunday and this group of frescoes won't be displayed again until 2025.

And even then they will be on display in Rome.

Our calculations tell us it's probably more economical to drag the family to Lubbock this weekend if you plan to view this set of paintings than it will be to get to Italy in 23 years.

But wherever you have to go to view the Vatican frescoes, they're worth the trip.

Other artworks are available for viewing a lot closer to home as well. Scurry County Museum is currently displaying paintings by local artists.

These pieces aren't as old or as famous as the Vatican frescoes, but they're still worth a look.

The best part of both exhibits — they're free!

Ammonium nitrate...

Theft not linked to terrorists

GEORGETOWN (AP) — One person was detained Wednesday night for questioning about the theft of 330 pounds of potentially explosive fertilizer from a facility in Georgetown, Williamson County Sheriff John Maspero said.

"I'd like to announce that I feel very certain now that the thefts of the explosives has no link to any type of terrorists," Maspero said.

"We feel it's very localized," said Wendy Denson, spokeswoman for the sheriff's department.

Denson said the man being questioned was taken into custody about 7 p.m. She had no other details.

Authorities say 11 small tubes of ammonium nitrate — a substance used in a 4,800-pound nitrate-fuel oil bomb in the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing — were reported missing early Monday from the Austin Powder Co. facility in Georgetown.

Austin television station KXAN reported that Maspero said authorities have a good idea of where the stolen capsules are.

FBI Special Agent Darren Holmes in San Antonio said the FBI has no evidence that the theft could be linked to a threat of terrorism.

Woman wants channel dropped

The Texas State Board of Education on Friday is expected to vote on a resolution requesting local school boards remove Channel One from public schools.

The resolution is sponsored by District 15 representative Judy Strickland of Plainview.

In a news release supporting the resolution, Channel One is described as an in-school TV program showing about ten minutes of news, and about two minutes of ads.

The program is shown in 12,000 schools each day, including Snyder High School and Snyder Junior High School.

Snyder High School...

Drama department opens season tonight

Snyder High School drama department's first production of the school year, *Rumors*, debuts at 7:30 tonight at Worsham Auditorium.

Additional performances of the Broadway comedy will be presented at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Tickets are $5 for adults and $4 for students.

"This play is exciting for many reasons," said Brad Vincent, drama director. "For one thing, we have many students with state (one-act play) experience. In addition, we have a student director, Tanner Beard. He plans on being a film director in the future, so this is a good start for him."

Beard agrees, "Yeah, I have never directed a play before, so this has been really different, but educational experience. This play is really funny and I've had a blast working with such talented and hard working actors."

Rumors depicts the hilarity, chaos and confusion that miscommunication can bring. The play features eight guests who show up at an anniversary party only to find that the hostess is missing and the host mysteriously has been shot.

Rumor upon rumor unfolds, each more unbelievable than the last, as the guests try to cover up what happened from the other guests.

Vincent said parental discretion is advised because *Rumors* contains mature subject matter similar to Thursday night TV programs like *Frazier* and *Friends*.

The cast includes Sara Cantu as Chris Gorman; Paul Jackson and Caleb Durham as Ken Gorman; Malorye Miller and Erin Cooley as Claire Ganz; Bobby Sands as Lenny Ganz; Clark Reed as Ernie Cusack; Rachael Cave as Cookie Cusack; Jeff Scott and Blake Robertson as Glenn Cooper; Nicole Sloboda as Cassie Cooper.

Jason Hook and Cole Welch will alternate playing Officer Welch and Officer Pudney.

The technical crew consists of Bret McClendon, production manager; Marissa Chaidez, house manager; Lacey Kincaid, stage manager and sound; Jeff Stanfield, stage manager and lights; Justin Cox, technical director; Jerry Ashley, set head; and Blake Robertson, costumes designer.

DEBUT —*Rumors*, a production of Snyder High School's drama department, debuts at 7:30 tonight at Worsham Auditorium. Ken Gorman, played by Paul Jackson, tries to call for help as everything goes wrong at a party. Malorye Miller as Caire Ganz shows Ken that the telephone cord is unconnected. Chris Gorman, played by Sara Cantu, is on the floor. Tickets are $5 for adults and $4 for students. Additional performances will be at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 2 p.m. Sunday. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

ASK US

Q—Why doesn't Snyder Junior High have cheerleaders?

A—SJHS Principal Kellye Starnes said the decision to not have cheerleaders came several years ago from the campus site-based committee.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 87 degrees; low, 65; 7 a.m. Thursday, 65; no precipitation; total for 2002, 15.29 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy; low 65-70; SE winds 5-15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy; 20% rain chance; high around 90; S winds, 10-20 mph. Friday night, partly cloudy; 40% rain chance; low 65-70.

Ricky de Luna
Rain chance

Sunset:
7:53 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:27 a.m.
Of 254 days in 2002, the sun has shone 247 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Happiness cannot come from without. It must come from within.

—Helen Keller

SEP 12 2002

Flight diverted after weapons scare

HOUSTON (AP) — An American Airlines flight returned to Bush Intercontinental Airport Wednesday afternoon after flight attendants reported concerns about two passengers, including one man who had a comb that mistakenly was thought to be a weapon.

FBI officials initially reported the incident as a possible attempted hijacking.

One man, identified only as from England, was thought to possibly have a knife in his front pocket. It turned out to be a brown-colored folding comb, FBI spokesman Bob Doguim said.

Mark Mathews of London, a Pakistani, told Houston television station KRIV that he believes his Middle Eastern heritage was a "main contributing factor" in why he was considered suspicious.

"I'd like an American Airline agent or somebody to approach me and talk about the whole ordeal because I think it's quite unfair," he said.

"I got up to ask a question to the air stewardess and she thought that it was something threatening and I fumbled in my pocket for a comb..." Mathews said. "You open the comb to comb your hair, so it looks like a knife or something. So that's what triggered the whole event off."

Flight attendants thought another man from Dallas was acting suspiciously after he switched to a seat in the front of the plane that was not assigned to him, then refused to return to his original seat.

"For safety sake, they decided to come back," Houston Airport System spokesman Ernie DeSoto said.

No charges will be filed against the two men, who cooperated with authorities, Doguim said. Authorities did not release their names. No injuries were reported.

"We don't have any information to cause us to believe they even knew one another. They were in separate areas of the plane, one in the front and one in the back," Doguim said.

Flight 1702, with 50 passengers, departed Houston for Dallas at 12:28 p.m. but returned to Bush Intercontinental at 1:08 p.m. after reports of a disturbance on board. The flight's ultimate destination was Nashville, Tenn.

About 60 miles into the flight, the suspicious behavior was reported to the plane's captain, who decided to turn around.

The flight was escorted back to the airport by two F-16 fighters that already were patrolling the skies over Houston, said Col. Steve Jones, commander of the 147th Fighter Wing, based at Houston's Ellington Field.

"The decision to return to Houston was purely precautionary after a passenger began acting suspiciously," said American spokesman Todd Burke. "There was no overt threat on the flight, which had two federal air marshals on board."

"At this time, we've not had an opportunity to be briefed by the crew and will not be able to comment further," Burke said later.

The incident on the plane never escalated to the point where the air marshals needed to be called into action, Doguim said.

After the plane was searched and the two men questioned, the rest of the passengers were allowed to reboard. The two men were also allowed to go on their way but would not be on the same flight.

Reports of strange behavior sends 2 jets back to ground

FORT SMITH, Ark. (AP) — Reports of strange passenger behavior led two commercial flights to make unscheduled landings Wednesday. Three men on one of the jets were arrested, but authorities said neither incident appeared to be related to terrorism.

In Arkansas, Northwest Airlines Flight 979, with 94 passengers and a crew of five, was diverted to Fort Smith, Ark., because four men behaved strangely, authorities said.

U.S. Attorney Tom Gean said the men refused to obey the crew's orders. He wouldn't elaborate, except to say that two of them raised concerns by shaving on the flight.

After last year's terrorist attacks, documents found in the luggage of attack leader Mohamed Atta gave what appeared to be instructions for the hijackers: "The previous night, shave the extra hair from the body (and) pray."

Pilots of the Northwest jet, which was traveling from Memphis, Tenn., to Las Vegas, landed at Fort Smith as a precaution, the airline said.

Officials blew open a cardboard box that belonged to one of the men. Nothing extraordinary was found, Gean said, but he would not say what the box contained.

Three of the men will be charged with interfering with a flight crew, Gean said. The fourth was released. Gean did not release their names or nationalities, or say whether they were U.S. citizens. A Sebastian County jailer said two of the men were from India and the third was from Egypt.

The flight resumed its trip later Wednesday and arrived safely in Las Vegas.

In Texas, American Airlines Flight 1702, with 50 passengers on board, returned to Bush Intercontinental in Houston after a flight attendant mistakenly thought a passenger had a knife in his pocket, authorities said. It turned out to be a folding comb, FBI spokesman Bob Doguim said.

events

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — One ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $4 million.

The ticket was sold in: Austin

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 3-10-28-31-38-51.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $4 million.

Pick 3
(Day) 1-9-9
(Night) 6-3-4
Cash Five
7-12-21-26-34

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Saturday 7 am to Noon

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Daughter now in good hands because mom planned ahead

DEAR ABBY: I am a 14-year-old girl whose mother died 10 days after the attacks of Sept. 11. I never knew my father, so after Mom's death, I moved to Utah to live with my guardians and their three children.

My new family makes me feel comfortable and safe. I feel very lucky. The children are like my siblings. We all get along well, and I feel a real sense of belonging.

Although there have been difficulties adjusting to my new life, new school and new family, I have managed well with the help and support of my guardians — especially my new sister.

Recently an adult friend asked me for advice regarding her own children. She was worried that if anything happened to her and her husband, the kids would end up in foster care.

My recommendation to her and to any parent is this: If at all possible, find a place with family or friends that you know your kids would feel safe and comfortable. Let them know that they would live there and be taken care of if anything happened to you. Above all, let the kids know how much they are loved.

Thanks for letting me share this with your readers, Abby. I love your column. — **ALL SETTLED IN, SALT LAKE CITY**

DEAR ALL SETTLED IN: You are a courageous and mature young woman who has written a letter addressing a subject that's not often discussed because it's too painful. Your story is an important one. Sept. 11 has brought into focus the fact that the unthinkable CAN happen. All of us need to put our house in order — especially if the household contains children.

Parents who haven't already done so should see an attorney to put their child custody plans in writing.

**

DEAR ABBY: On Sept. 11, 2001, our granddaughter, Christine Morrison, watched the tragedy unfold on television with the twin towers collapsing into heaps of dust. She went into her bedroom and wrote the poem that I have enclosed.

Her fourth-grade teacher thought it was so special she sent a copy to President Bush. Christine received a very special letter from Mrs. Bush thanking her for the poem.

We are proud of our talented granddaughter and hope you will find her words meaningful. — **LARUE AND HERB MORRISON, SALEM, OHIO**

DEAR LARUE AND HERB: Your granddaughter embodies the determination of all our citizens to rebuild — both physically and spiritually — from the rubble of that horrific day. She's a strong and talented young girl who has already made a difference. **Read on:**

THE DUST OF SEPTEMBER
By Christine Morrison, Grade 4
The dust of September

The dust, the smoke, the clouds
from the dust of September.
The sadness, the sorrow, the darkness
from the dust of September.
The pretty sites are gone, the love, the death
from the dust of September.
The families, the lives taken away
by the dust of September.
Our country is sad, but our country still stands
in the dust of September.
Our flag still waves
through the dust of September.
We will never break, we will stand together
through the dust of September.
People hurt, hearts broken, but we survive
in the dust of September.

**

DEAR READERS: If Sept. 11 has taught us anything, it is how strong the people of this great country can be when they are called upon. To the families and friends who lost loved ones a year ago today, you are in the hearts of all Americans. Our prayers are with you.

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby, at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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*Call 57-FILMS for show times and prices

Texas remembers terror attacks on first anniversary

ROUND ROCK (AP) — With fervent patriotic songs and tearful moments of silence, Texans marked the first anniversary of the Sept. 11 terror attacks with hopes of spurring the nation toward a new year.

Across the state, a collection of local ceremonies were marked by crowds dressed in red, white and blue who sang "God Bless America," cried and prayed for the country and the victims who died at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and in Western Pennyslvania.

"We celebrate our national courage, our spirit and our future," Round Rock Mayor Nyle Maxwell told a crowd of about 9,000 gathered Wednesday night at the Dell Diamond baseball stadium.

Patricia McGuffee, whose 17-year-old daughter Megan enlisted in the Army after the terror attacks and was a flag-bearer at the Round Rock ceremony, said she believed the attacks brought neighbors closer together. She said she also felt a spirtual renewal within herself and the country.

"I pray more now more than ever," McGuffee said. "I feel a closer connection to God."

Set up inside the stadium were works of art produced by students from Texas and around the country. Some pledged to remember the victims. Others were patriotic urges for strength in responding to the attacks.

One fifth-grade drawing depicted a baseball game with Uncle Sam striking out Osama bin Laden. The score read "America 100, Osama 2."

The crowd gave a 30-second standing ovation to Wilbur and Lynn Chapman of Georgetown, whose son Sgt. 1st Class Nathan Ross Chapman was the first American soldier killed by enemy fire in Afghanistan.

At the Alamo, the embodiment of Texas liberty, San Antonio Mayor Ed Garza said the attacks united the country, but more must be done.

"It's important to move beyond the tragedy that is Sept. 11 ... and find ways to sacrifice and help others," Garza said.

But there was no escaping some hands-on reminders of what has changed.

In Austin, police still searched the bags of women who entered the state Capitol. It was the same at the baseball stadium in Round Rock as officer peaked in purses and backpacks.

Flags flew at half-staff at the Capitol. Attending the Round Rock ceremony, Gov. Rick Perry was presented with a Texas flag that had flown for 10 days over ground zero in New York.

Thousands gathered at the University of Texas' Main Mall under the 307-foot tower. Its clock, which was stopped at 7:46 a.m. to mark the time the first plane hit the trade towers, was restarted at 7:46 p.m. to symbolize moving forward.

Berry's World

Date Book

Thursday, Sept. 12, 2002

Today is the 255th day of 2002 and the 84th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1953, John F. Kennedy and Jaqueline Bouvier were married.

On this day in 1958, in Dallas, Texas, engineer Jack Kilby of Texas Instruments tested the first integrated circuit.

On this day in 1992, actor Anthony Perkins died of AIDS; he was 60.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: H.L. Mencken (1880-1956), journalist; Maurice Chevalier (1888-1972), singer and actor; Alfred A. Knopf (1892-1984), publisher; Irene Joliot-Curie (1897-1956), physicist; Ben Shahn (1898-1969), artist; Jesse Owens (1913-1980), track-and-field great.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1930, Brooklyn catcher Al Lopez hit Major League's last recorded bounce home run.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Penetrating so many secrets, we cease to believe in the unknowable. But there it sits nevertheless, calmly licking its chops." — H.L. Mencken

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Sept. 6) and first quarter (Sept. 13).

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Snyder, Texas 79549
Office: 915-574-2779
Fax: 915-574-1112

Lifestyle

COSMORAMA
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Gorman, Mar
Pete Laney, wi
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How

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COSMORAMA MEETS AT MAWC — Cosmorama began its club year with a social Saturday with the executive board, Jan Harrell, Jane Crenwelge, Pat Floyd, Millie Sentell, Nonnie Ward and Paula Gilbert, hosting. Looking over the yearbooks done by Floyd, second from left, are Durelle Gorman, Margaret Presswood and Bobbie Taylor. Nelda Laney, wife of Speaker of the House Pete Laney, will be the guest speaker at the Oct. 16 meeting. Mrs. Laney will have State Capitol Christmas ornaments to display and sell. Proceeds go to the renovation of the capitol building in Austin. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

How about apple pie in a glass?

Bananas and ketchup sandwiches, spaghetti and eggs for dinner, peanut butter, granola, honey and bananas, bundled in a bowl for breakfast, with a little molasses and milk to wash it all down. Whatever will we think of next?

How about apple pie in a glass...of milk, or apple sauce, milk and bananas, that's what some kids are experimenting with today. To start mixing it up, here are some creative recipes using Mott's Applesauce and milk. Go ahead, shake it up and gulp it down, it's easy, it's fun and it's good for you.

For more great recipes and to submit your own edible concoction of Mott's Applesauce and Milk check out www.motts.com. You could win a $5,000 college scholarship, a trip for four to the Big Apple (New York City) and a year's supply of Mott's Fruitsations.

APPLE PIE IN A GLASS

Yield: 1 serving
1 cup low fat milk
1 4-ounce container Mott's Apple Sauce
¼ teaspoon cinnamon
1½ teaspoons sugar

Shake all ingredients in a container with tight-fitting lid or stir in glass until well blended.

BANANA-PEANUT BUTTER FLIP

2 4-ounce containers Banana Mott's Fruitsations
1 cup milk
1 cup ice
1/3 - ½ cup peanut butter

Combine all ingredients in blender. Blend on high until smooth.

Makes approximately 3¼ cups.

STRAWBERRY CHOCOLATE CHIPPER

2 4-ounce containers Strawberry Mott's Fruitsations
1 cup milk
½ cup vanilla ice cream or frozen yogurt
3 rounded tablespoons mini-chocolate chips

Combine all ingredients in blender. Blend on high. Stir mixture well before pouring.

Makes approx. 2 2/3 cups.

STRAWBERRY-LEMON SURPRISE

2 4-ounce containers Strawberry Mott's Fruitsations
1 cup milk
1 cup ice
4 tablespoons lemonade concentrate

Combine all ingredients in blender. Blend on high until smooth.

Makes approx. 3¼ cups

For more recipes using applesauce log onto motts.com.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North ♠ K ♥ 6 3 ♦ A K Q J 10 9 8 ♣ Q 5 2	09-12-02
West ♠ 9 8 7 6 4 ♥ A 10 7 5 ♦ 5 2 ♣ J 4		East ♠ J 5 3 2 ♥ K Q 4 ♦ 7 4 ♣ A 7 6 3
	South ♠ A Q 10 ♥ J 9 8 2 ♦ 6 3 ♣ K 10 9 8	

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
		1 ♦	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 9

Thursday, Sept. 12, 2002

Count your winners, and be careful

By Phillip Alder

This week, we have been examining in which hand and with what card to win the first trick. But we mustn't ignore the defenders. In this deal (which I believe I spotted in one of Eddie Kantar's books), you are sitting East, defending against three no-trump after the declarer (South) first bid hearts. Your partner leads the spade nine. Declarer wins with dummy's king, cashes all seven diamond tricks, then calls for the club two. What five discards would you make, and how do you plan the defense?

First, read partner's lead.

The spade nine is top of nothing, meaning that declarer started with the ace-queen-10 of spades. Next, check each side's winners. South has won the first eight tricks. So, place partner with the heart ace, since if declarer holds that card, he is home free. To defeat the contract, your partnership must take either four hearts and one club, or three hearts and two clubs.

This means that you must keep all three hearts and the club ace. Discard two clubs, echoing encouragingly with first the seven, then the three, before letting go of those useless spades. West should ditch spades and the club four.

At trick nine, rush in with the club ace. Then, cash the heart king and heart queen before continuing with your third heart. As long as West kept all four hearts, the contract is defeated.

Finally, North will ask his partner why he didn't overtake the spade king with the ace at trick one and cash the spade queen before running the diamonds

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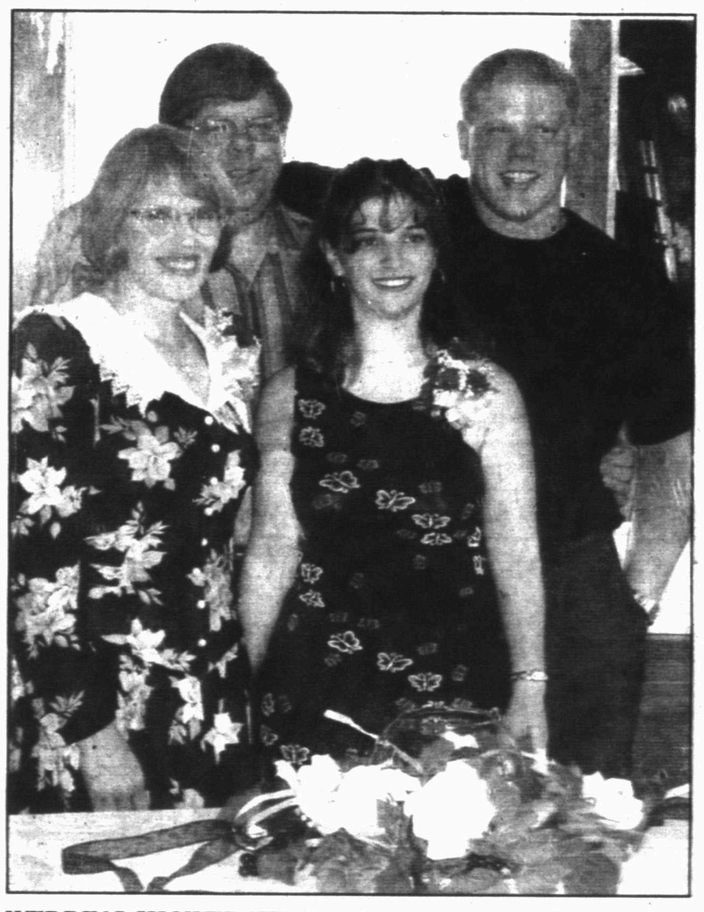

WEDDING SHOWER HELD — A wedding shower was held for Jeremy and Mary Jo (Bonato) Beard in the home of Larry and Norma Thompson on July 26. The couple married May 11 in Trinidad, Colo. At left are Darlene and Jerry Beard, mother and father of the groom from Snyder; and the honored couple from Colorado Springs. Other hostesses included Johnnie McNew, Dorothy Rosson, Barbra Jones and Sadie Mae Vandiver. (Contributed Photo)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; at the coliseum annex; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-8015, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 5731141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Defensive Driving Course; no reservations needed and for more information call 573-2850; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

From hot summer, designer looks to an even hotter fall

This year's autumn and winter creations are likely to make one want to head right into the excitement of fall fashion.

Celebrity stylist Phillip Bloch predicts that style for the cool seasons will be all about multiculturalism, mixing, matching, and fresh talent. "Fall is always such an exciting time in fashion," he says. "I love what I see from the usual big names, but it's even more fun to see the wave of new faces and ideas."

Here are Bloch's key trends for expressing fashion diversity, and some of his favorite new designers:

The newcomers. New York City's Fashion Week shined with more new design talent than ever before. Thanks to Italian winemaker Ecco Domani, five new designers-including Zac Posen, Mark Kroeker, Tess Giberson, Peter Som and the design collective As Four-were awarded $10,000 each and the opportunity to show during Fashion Week. The Ecco Domani Fashion Foundation will return for the Fall 2003 shows and applications for the new designer competition can be found on www.eccodomani.com beginning in September 2002.

Pants. The tighter, the better! Gone are the days of wide and full-legged trousers. Look for narrow cuts that tuck into boots, cropped pants-calf- and knee-high-as well as the classic jodhpur style.

Prints. Why not add a little flower power to the season-sheer florals are going to be big and bright. Also look for patterns in zigzags, paisleys and pucci-like swirls.

Black. While bright patterns make a winter comeback, you can't go wrong wearing or pairing with black. Black is hot and black is cool. Black is chic and black is urban. Most importantly-black is back.

Accessories. It is about staying warm and this year, the way to do so in style is with shawls, scarves and mufflers. Wear them floaty, embellished, jeweled, short or long and don't be afraid to put with everything from coats to evening dresses.

Whether experimenting with new designers, mixing black with pucci, or trying the dress-over-pant look, fall dressing is about fusion. Don't be afraid to put together individual items and pieced-together patterns and fabrics. Get ready for fall fashion-this season, it's going to be hotter than a summer day!

Fire department suspects dog did it

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich. (AP) — A Fire Department investigator trying to find out what sparked a $5,000 kitchen fire has come up with a beastly suspicion: the doggie did it.

Pablo Martinez believes a trash-loving chocolate Labrador retriever named Brooke started the fire by turning on the stove while jumping to get at a garbage can.

Martinez talked with tenant Tracy Jonas and asked her to retrace some of her actions before the fire.

Jonas and a friend had cooked hamburgers Monday night. They put the fat in a resealable plastic bag and placed the bag in the trash can, where they also discarded the meat wrapper.

Hopeful donations will inspire others

TOPEKA, Kan. (AP) — Churches don't have to pay taxes, but one congregation decided to tax itself anyway.

Members of the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of Topeka, spurred by budget shortfalls and tight dollars for educating children, decided to pay taxes on the church, collecting $1,323 for the Topeka School Fund.

Fellowship members said they hoped their donation inspires other groups to kick in for education.

The Topeka School Fund is a nonprofit foundation that supports public education, raising money to pay for projects and programs that ordinarily wouldn't be funded by the school district.

Remember
Growing old is mandatory—
Growing up is optional.
Happy 40th Greg

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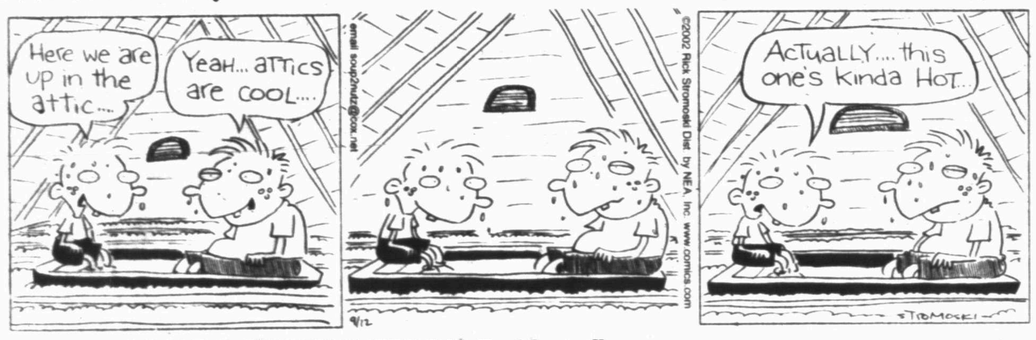
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

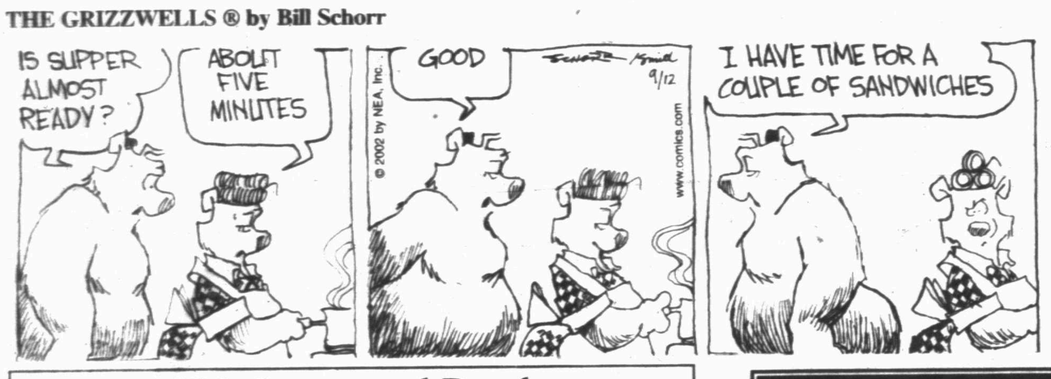
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

MONTY ® by Jim Meddick

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"Why can't you use your imagination and stick a few peas on there?"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Fiber- — cable
6 Bride's destination
11 Wrestling locale
12 Attic end
13 Tricking
15 Sets free
16 Item to dunk (2 wds.)
18 West Coast hrs.
19 "Aladdin" prince
21 Part of WWW
22 Kind of collar
23 "Fish Magic" artist
25 Swell, in space (hyph.)
28 Flagpole topper
30 Go by swiftly
31 Form 1040 expert
32 Prefix for cycle
33 Subzero comment
35 Wading bird
37 Qty.
38 Simmer
40 Queue
41 Princess disturber
42 Magazine fillers
43 Thoughtful murmur
46 Said in fun
48 Fled to wed
50 Laid low (2 wds.)
54 Kauai hello
55 Baseball's Pee Wee —
56 1917 newsmaker
57 Fouled up

DOWN

1 Klutz
2 Old hand
3 Cowhand's nickname
4 First
5 Sugar source
6 In a dither
7 Thai neighbor
8 Cook's meas.
9 Pub pints
10 Crash, so to speak
14 Stare stupidly
15 Tag
17 Steeples
19 Put on guard
20 On the up-and-up
22 Goat cheese
24 Potato bud
25 Bitter
26 Unwraps
27 Petruchio's intended
29 Recede
34 Competed in a rodeo
36 More pleased
39 Strip of wood
43 Get better
44 Srta., in Paris
45 Romantic sight
46 — -Luc Picard
47 Gael republic
49 Sweater letter
51 Above, to Tennyson
52 Employ
53 Koppel of the news

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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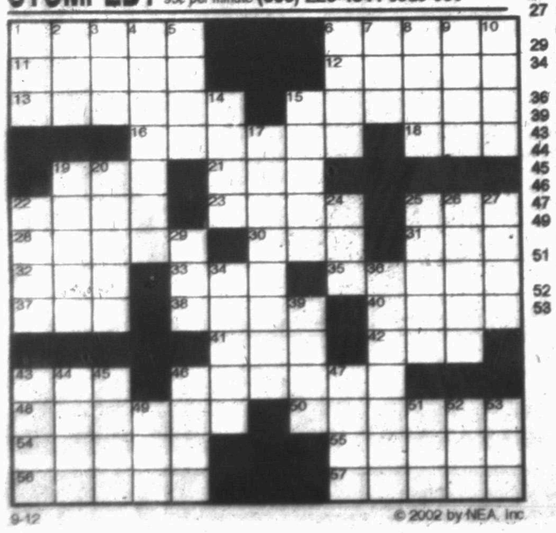

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"THAT REMINDS ME... I FORGOT TO BRUSH MY TEETH."

SPORTS

Ira looks to get back to basics against Benjamin

After falling 69-22 to defending state champion Whitharral, Ira head coach Toby Goodwin is ready to get back to the basics.

"We're looking to improve on our fundamentals," he said. "The effort was there (against Whitharral) but we had some fundamental breakdowns, and when you do that, it makes good teams look very good."

The Bulldogs hope to use those fundamentals to get their first win of the season against a young Benjamin team when the two play Friday night at 7:30 on Ira's home turf..

"We're looking forward to getting that first win and getting back on track," Goodwin said, adding that the team isn't looking past Benjamin to next week's showdown with rival Borden County.

"There's no way we are looking past Benjamin," he said. "We have to take this season one step at a time, and they are the next step."

Goodwin said the loss to Whitharral did not dishearten his team so much as show them where they are and where they need to be.

"It opened our eyes to that next level that we need to reach," he said. "We gained a lot of respect from Whitharral in that game, despite the final score."

Goodwin said the game might have had a different tone had his team played the game the way they had practiced the week leading up to the contest.

"It might have made a difference," he said. "We didn't execute on a lot of plays, and we had a lot of missed assignments that we think we fixed this week. The guys just need to do their jobs, so to speak."

Goodwin said the Benjamin game would be a good starting point for his squad to correct the errors that they had on containment in the backfield against Whitharral.

"I expect the entire to team to step up this week and execute properly and make plays."

Hermleigh ready to go against Moran Friday

The Hermleigh Cardinals football squad may have endured a lopsided loss to Lueders-Avoca last week, but one would never know it from the attitude of the players.

"The attitude is great and their spirits are good," Head Coach Don Jones said. "As long as we keep that, somewhere down the line we are going to be successful."

Hermleigh hopes to bounce back Friday night when they travel to Moran, to take on the Bulldogs at 7:30 p.m. Jones said if both teams stay healthy, "we should be in for a good ballgame."

Jones said the team initially took the loss to Lueders-Avoca hard. "It was a tough loss, but this team never gave up," he said. "They were kind of down on Monday, but by Wednesday they were ready to go."

The Cardinals played a Raiders team that had nine juniors and six seniors, and Jones has used that fact to keep his team's focus on the next opponent instead of the last.

Hermleigh lost more than the game to the Raiders, though.

They lost their starting quarterback for the season. Johnathan McClure suffered a dislocated hip in the third quarter of the blowout loss, causing Jones to scramble his already thin roster to try to fill the void.

"We can fill in the position, but he is our future," Jones said. Jones moved Terrel Culp from center to quarterback, and will rely more on running back David Duck this week with McClure out.

"We'll have success," Jones said. "We are ready to play."

Texas plays spoiler, down M's again

ARLINGTON, Texas (AP) — Long after the game, Bret Boone sat at his locker mumbling to himself. How could he make such a dumb mistake when so much is on the line for the Seattle Mariners?

Boone's baserunning blunder cost the Mariners a chance to score despite two doubles in the ninth. And Seattle's playoff hopes took another blow when Todd Greene led off the bottom of the inning to give the Texas Rangers a 4-3 win Wednesday night.

The Mariners try on Thursday to avoid a four-game sweep at last-place Texas. They are six games behind Anaheim in the AL wild-card race with 17 games to play — all against AL West opponents.

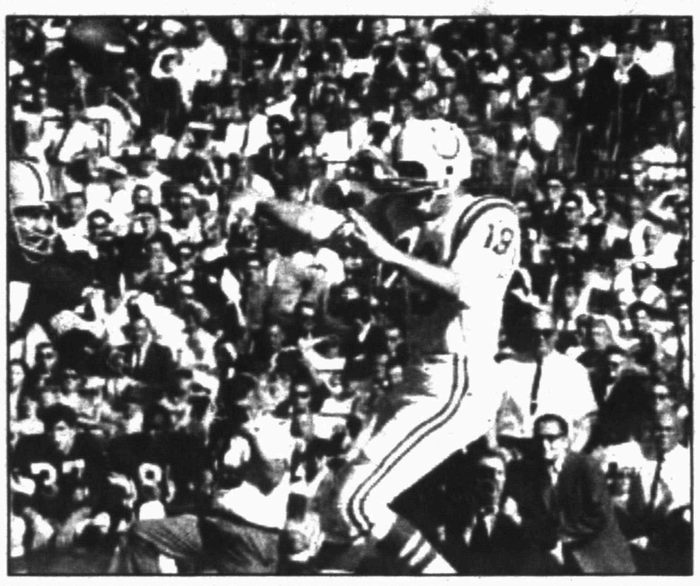
"It's getting down to the nitty gritty, and we can't do this," Boone said. "There's no die in this team, but this is not good at this stage."

Boone led off the ninth with a double, then got only to third on Carlos Guillen's hit off the outfield wall. Boone was fooled by left fielder Todd Hollandsworth, who held up his glove as if he had a play.

"It's a highly effective play," Hollandsworth said. "I knew I couldn't get myself under it. So I could either make an attempt to make a catch running into the wall, or go back hard and act like I was going to catch it."

Instead of going halfway, Boone broke back to second to tag up, expecting to go to third after the catch.

"He made a great deke, but it doesn't matter," Boone said. "I'm not going to say we lost because of that play, but that play was big and I know better than that. I don't know if I've ever done that on such a textbook play."



THE GREATEST QUARTERBACK EVER — Johnny Unitas throws a pass against the Packers on Oct. 28, 1964. Considered by many to be the greatest QB of all time, Unitas led the Colts to three NFL championships and held nearly every professional passing record when he retired. Untias died Wednesday at age 69. (AP Photo)

Astros fall 6½ behind Cardinals after loss

HOUSTON (AP) — Aaron Cook pitched six strong innings Wednesday to lead the Rockies to an 8-6 victory over the Houston Astros.

Cook (2-1) was promoted to the big leagues Aug. 9 after going 4-4 with a 3.78 ERA at Triple-A Colorado Springs. It was his second promotion this year — he started out at Double-A Carolina and was 7-2 with a 1.42 ERA.

He was supposed to pitch only in relief to get a feel for the majors. But he pitched well enough that the Rockies sent down Shawn Chacon Aug. 23 and placed Cook in the rotation.

The 23-year-old Cook allowed three runs on six hits and struck out four while walking only one.

"I just went after guys with what I have," he said. "I challenged them to see what they would do with my stuff. I don't want to change anything until I see they can hit it."

Cook never appeared nervous while winning his second straight game in only his fourth start in the major leagues.

"Each time out, I feel more comfortable," he said. "I prefer to start. I have always done that in my career."

Though the timetable moved up, Cook was bound to get to the majors.

"If we hadn't sent Chacon down, he would have forced the issue some way," Hurdle said. "We would have found a way to get him some starts. He deserved the opportunity and it's good that he's gotten his feet wet now."

Cook has also started against the Giants and twice against the Padres. So he said it didn't bother him to face a player like Jeff Bagwell, who hit two home runs Wednesday, one off Cook.

"I felt the same against him as facing Barry Bonds and Ryan Klseko," Cook said. "I know they're good hitters. They just make you focus that much more."

Lone Star Senior ladies' semi-final round results

Snyder's Peggy Hardin defeated Annie Ward 3-2 in the third flight semi-final match at the Western Lone Star Senior Ladies' Tournament Wednesday at Canadian.

In the second flight, Suzy Reed won her consolation match 7-5, and Esther Guelker took her sixth flight consolation match 7-6.

Defending club champion Anita Talbott was beaten in the first flight consolation match by Margaret Adams, 3-2.

In the sixth flight semi-final match, Juanita Hester lost 7-8 and Jo Sterling was defeated 3-4 in the consolation match.

The tournament is scheduled to run through Saturday.

Johnny U. dead at 69

BALTIMORE (AP) — Johnny Unitas, the Hall of Fame quarterback who broke nearly every NFL passing record and won three championships with the Baltimore Colts in an 18-year career, died Wednesday at age 69.

Unitas had a heart attack while working out at a physical therapy center in the Baltimore suburb of Timonium, said Vivienne Stearns-Elliott, a spokeswoman for St. Joseph Medical Center in Towson.

Unitas underwent emergency triple-bypass surgery in March 1993 after a heart attack.

"Johnny U," with his trademark crewcut and black hightops, captured the public's imagination and helped drive the growing popularity of professional football.

He led the Colts to victory over the New York Giants in the 1958 NFL championship game, an overtime thriller that was essential in building the league's fan base.

A pure dropback passer with an uncanny knack for making the big play, Unitas was the first to throw for 40,000 yards. He now ranks seventh, surpassed by a group of quarterbacks who played after him, with rules that make passing easier.

Unitas retired after the 1973 season with 22 NFL records, among them marks for most passes attempted and completed, most yards gained passing, most touchdown passes and most seasons leading the league in TD passes.

"Johnny Unitas will always be a legendary name in NFL history," league commissioner Paul Tagliabue said. "One of the greatest quarterbacks to ever play the game, he epitomized the position with his leadership skills and his ability to perform under pressure."

Unitas completed 2,830 of 5,186 passes for 40,239 yards and 290 touchdowns. He completed at least one touchdown pass in 47 straight games, a record not challenged since it was set from 1956-60.

Unitas was Most Valuable Player in 1964 and 1967 and played in 10 Pro Bowls. He led Baltimore to the NFL championship in 1958 and 1959 and the Super Bowl in 1970.

"He was one of the toughest competitors I ever knew, and overcame tremendous odds to become one of the greatest players in NFL history," said Don Shula, Unitas' coach from 1963-69.

On the NFL's 50th anniversary in 1969, Unitas was voted the greatest quarterback of all time. He also was selected at quarterback for the NFL's All-Time team in 2000 by the 36 Pro Football Hall of Fame voters.

"Johnny Unitas is the greatest quarterback ever to play the game, better than I was, better than Sammy Baugh, better than anyone," Sid Luckman, the great Chicago Bears quarterback of the 1940s, once said.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Football: Ira JV at Dawson, 6:30 p.m.
Football: Snyder freshman at Lubbock Cooper, 7 p.m.
Football: Ira junior high, split squad, 6 p.m.
Football: Borden County junior high and JV at Ropes, 6 p.m.
Volleyball: Snyder junior high at Midland Christian, 5:30 p.m.
Rodeo: WTC at Lovington.

FRIDAY

Football: Benjamin at Ira, 7:30 p.m.
Football: Ropes at Borden County, 7:30 p.m.
Football: Hermleigh at Moran, 7:30
Baseball: Howard JC at WTC, 2 p.m.
Volleyball: Snyder JV at Lamesa Tourney.
Rodeo: WTC at Lovington.

SATURDAY

Volleyball: Snyder JV at Lamesa Tourney.
Volleyball: Snyder varsity and 9th vs. Colorado City, noon.
Rodeo:WTC at Lovington.

MLB Standings

National League
All Times EDT

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Atlanta	92	52	.639	—
Florida	71	74	.490	21½
Montreal	71	75	.486	22
Philadelphia	71	75	.486	22
New York	69	76	.476	23½
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	84	61	.579	—
Houston	78	68	.534	6½
Cincinnati	71	74	.490	13
Pittsburgh	64	82	.438	20½
Chicago	62	84	.425	22½
Milwaukee	51	95	.349	33½
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	90	56	.616	—
Los Angeles	83	62	.572	6½
San Francisco	83	62	.572	6½
Colorado	66	80	.452	24
San Diego	61	85	.418	29

x-clinched division

Wednesday's Games

Pittsburgh 4, Cincinnati 1
Atlanta 8, N.Y. Mets 5, 1st game
N.Y. Mets 5, Atlanta 0, 2nd game
Chicago Cubs 6, Montreal 3
Los Angeles 7, San Francisco 3
Philadelphia 9, Florida 2
Colorado 8, Houston 6
St. Louis 4, Milwaukee 3
Arizona 6, San Diego 5

Thursday's Games

N.Y. Mets (Middlebrook 1-3) at Montreal (Ohka 13-7), 7:05 p.m.
Florida (Tejera 8-7) at Philadelphia (Roa 3-3), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Smyth 1-3) at Cincinnati (Estes 5-12), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Finley 5-4) at Houston (C.Hernandez 7-5), 8:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Daal 11-7) at Colorado (Stark 9-3), 9:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Jensen 11-8) at San Diego (Ol.Perez 3-3), 10:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

N.Y. Mets (Thomson 9-11) at Montreal (Colon 8-3), 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Maddux 13-5) at Florida (Pavano 4-10), 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Fogg 12-11) at Philadelphia (Duckworth 6-9), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Wood 10-9) at Cincinnati (Haynes 14-9), 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis (Simontacchi 10-5) at Houston (Oswalt 19-6), 8:05 p.m.
Los Angeles at Colorado, 9:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Rusch 9-13) at Arizona (Helling 8-10), 10:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Ortiz 11-10) at San Diego (Lawrence 12-10), 10:05 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	92	53	.634	—
Boston	82	62	.569	9½
Toronto	66	80	.452	26½
Baltimore	64	80	.444	27½
Tampa Bay	48	97	.331	44
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	85	61	.582	—
Chicago	71	75	.486	14
Cleveland	64	81	.441	20½
Kansas City	56	89	.386	28½
Detroit	52	94	.356	33
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	91	54	.628	—
Anaheim	90	55	.621	1
Seattle	84	61	.579	7
Texas	68	77	.469	23

Wednesday's Games

Minnesota 8, Detroit 2
Toronto 6, Cleveland 5, 11 innings
Boston 6, Tampa Bay 3
N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 4, 11 innings
Texas 4, Seattle 3
Kansas City 9, Chicago White Sox 6
Anaheim 6, Oakland 5

Thursday's Games

Chicago White Sox (Garland 10-11) at Kansas City (Asencio 3-5), 2:05 p.m.
Boston (Wakefield 9-5) at Tampa Bay (V.Zambrano 6-7), 2:15 p.m.
Seattle (Franklin 6-3) at Texas (Park 8-6), 3:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Mays 3-6) at Cleveland (Sabathia 11-10), 7:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Douglass 0-2) at N.Y. Yankees (D.Wells 16-7), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Mulder 17-7) at Anaheim (Washburn 17-5 or Callaway 1-0), 10:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

Baltimore (Lopez 14-7) at Boston (Fossum 4-3), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Sosa 2-7) at Toronto (Halladay 15-7), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Suppan 8-15) at Detroit (Cornejo 1-4), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Milton 13-8) at Cleveland (Mulholland 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Biddle 1-3) at N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 16-9), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Benoit 3-3) at Anaheim (Washburn 17-5), 10:05 p.m.
Seattle (Valdes 8-10) at Oakland (Zito 20-5), 10:05 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Youth bowling league

The Synder Youth Bowling League begins Saturday at 10 a.m. at Snyder Lanes for bowlers age 3 to 21. The league will meet each Saturday. Call 573-4438 for more info.

Men's club championship

The Scurry County golf course will host a men's club championship Saturday and Sunday at 1 p.m. Cost is $20 per man. Call the pro shop at 573-7101 to register.

Snyder softball tournament

The Jesters will hold their inaugural U.S.S.S.A.-sanctioned softball tournament Sept. 20-22 at Winston Park. Entry fee is $125 per team. Contact David at 574-1729 or Henry at 573-4199.

Flag football

Any teams interested in playing TAAF flag football should contact Earl Ware at 573-0800 before Oct. 7.

Stackhouse headed for Wizards

WASHINGTON(AP) — The Detroit Pistons sent shooting guard Jerry Stackhouse, forward Brian Cardinal and center Ratko Varda to the Wizards for shooting guard Richard Hamilton, forward Bobby Simmons and guard Hubert Davis.

Heisman winner Crouch retires

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Eric Crouch, the Heisman Trophy winner last year for Nebraska who tried to make the switch from quarterback to receiver with the St. Louis Rams, has decided to retire.

Two suspended for substance abuse

NEW YORK (AP) — Atlanta Falcons cornerback Ray Buchanan and Chicago Bears safety Damon Moore were suspended for four games each for violating the NFL's substance abuse policy.

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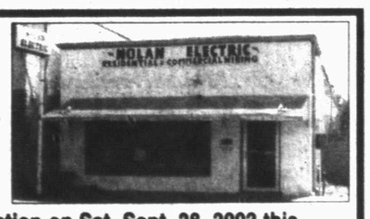

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North Afghan farmers will harvest marijuana plants

KHANA ABAD, Afghanistan (AP) — Obeying a Taliban edict, many marijuana cultivators in Afghanistan stopped growing their crops when the hardline Islamic militia was in power. Now some of those farmers are back in business.

They're so open about it that fields of sturdy marijuana plants, some nearly seven feet tall, line part of the main road leading west from Mazar-e-Sharif, the biggest city in northern Afghanistan. Resin from the plant, also known as cannabis, is concentrated to make hashish.

With the main harvest expected in one to two months, growers in the roadside village of Khana Abad, 20 miles from Mazar-e-Sharif, say they'll ignore government warnings to tear up their crops.

"Maybe it isn't good for our people, but we have to do it because of our economic problems," said Rouzudin, a farmer who said he heard the warnings broadcast on the radio only after investing a large sum in his plot.

Rouzudin might just be able to harvest his leafy, dark green crop without state intervention. Since the Taliban were ousted in a U.S.-led war last year, Afghanistan's new government and the United Nations have focused anti-drug efforts on eradicating opium-bearing poppies, which are used to make heroin.

Afghanistan was once the source of 70 percent of the world's opium, much of it originating in the south of the country.

The Taliban successfully banned poppies in 2000, but farmers quickly planted them again after their ouster. During the harvest earlier this year, the government offered compensation money to farmers who abandoned opium, but many reaped their harvest anyway.

Marijuana plants are less of a priority, even though Afghanistan, especially the northern part, is a major producer. Consumption of hashish, the plant's concentrated resin, is widespread in the country, and smugglers ferry it through Iran and to markets in the Persian Gulf, Europe and beyond.

The United Nations has conducted surveys of poppy crops, but has not done so for marijuana plants. The focus on poppies possibly reflects the view of international donors that highly addictive heroin is the more urgent problem.

Marijuana plants are widely grown in at least three of the 16 districts in Balkh province, which is home to Mazar-e-Sharif. Local authorities have sent letters to villages urging farmers to stop growing the illegal crop, but they have yet to decide how and when they will crack down.

"The farmers have planted this stuff like smugglers," said Saheed Azizullah Hashmi, head of the province's agriculture department. "We don't know how much there is out there."

He said many people associated with the hashish trade were linked to the Taliban and Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida network.

House, Senate remember victims of Sept. 11 attacks

WASHINGTON (AP) — Waving American flags, Congress gathered outside the U.S. Capitol for a reprise of "God Bless America," one year after singing it defiantly the night of the terror attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

But this time senators and representatives sang in honor of the Sept. 11 victims and in gratitude to the heroes of Flight 93, whom lawmakers believed saved their lives by crashing their plane in Pennsylvania.

"These terrorists who brought down the World Trade Center thought they could shake the foundation of this country," Senate Majority Leader Thomas Daschle, D-S.D., said Wednesday. "They didn't understand that the foundation isn't concrete and steel, it is our people, it is our commitment, a commitment to freedom and democracy and to each other."

A year ago, House and Senate members stood in stunned confusion outside the Capitol looking at the black plume of smoke rising from the Pentagon across the Potomac River.

On Wednesday, lawmakers visited the site of the Pentagon attack for a memorial service with President Bush. Upon their return to the Capitol they praised last year's heroes, remembered the victims and vowed vengeance on the terrorists.

House Majority Leader Dick Armey of Texas could barely hold back his tears as he promised that America would forever pursue the perpetrators.

"Let me just say to those of you who are still out there plotting and scheming: Do not underestimate our American heroes," said Armey. "They are young, they are bright, they are strong, they have courage and they will in fact bring you down."

Congress capped its day by singing "God Bless America" on the steps of the Capitol.

Only hours after being forced to evacuate last year, House and Senate members returned to the Capitol. After listening to defiant speeches by the House and Senate leaders, the gathered politicians burst into song.

On Wednesday, they sang again, with some members waving American flags this time in tribute to the day's heroes and victims.

"I think 'God Bless America' has become our national song. Not the national anthem, but the national song," said Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan. "As we gather again today as members of Congress on the steps of the Capitol and sing it as we did on Sept. 11, joined together ... perhaps today it will become officially so."

Ask Hollywood by Holly Wood

Lights, camera — read

Q: Whom do I contact in hopes of getting a TV-show idea accepted? How do I contact them? Do you have any advice to better my chances of getting an idea accepted? Is there a trick to getting creative control over a TV series? (I don't want it to end up like "Sliders.") **— H.P., Lavaca, Ark.**

A: I'm not a scriptwriter, so any advice I give you would be second-hand, but I can recommend a great Web page designed to help people looking to break into the entertainment industry. Visit NBC's web page at www.nbcjobs.com/How_to_be_a_TV_Writer.html, which answers frequently asked questions and has an extensive suggested-reading list. One book it recommends is "Hollywood 101, the Film Industry: How to Succeed in Hollywood Without Connections," by Frederick Levy (Renaissance, 2000). The site also has links to other online resources.

The best advice I can give is that you have more than a good idea — have a great idea that's well thought out. As for creative control, those are treacherous waters that you'll have to tread for yourself.

Q: Where can I write to actor and composer Paul Anka? **— R.H., Erie, Pa.**

A: You can write to Anka at 433 N. Camden Drive, No. 960, Beverly Hills, CA 90210.

Q: Long before "Austin Powers," there was another spy-movie spoof made in the late '60s. It had David Niven and Peter Sellers. I can't remember the title, what it was about and who else was in it. **— S.R., Lindsay, Calif.**

A: Making fun of Bond flicks is almost as much fun as watching the real thing. You're thinking of "Casino Royale," which was released in 1967 and starred Ursula Andress, Orson Welles, Woody Allen, Deborah Kerr, John Huston and William Holden. Like most Bond movies, Niven's (who plays Bond in this parody) job is to save the world. Along the way, he has to dodge bad guys and Bond girls. It's very silly, but fans of 007's films (and of spoofs in general) might enjoy it.

Q: I'd like to get some information about a couple of movies I have seen recently on television. The first one is "Our Son the Matchmaker." It is a Hallmark movie, I believe, and Ann Jillian is in it. I want to know, who is the actor who play's the son's father? He seems familiar, but I can't think of his name.

The second movie is "Two of Hearts." I saw it on The Family Channel, and it was made in 1999. The stars are Gail O'Grady and Rob Stewart. I'd like to know what else these two actors have been in. They were very interesting in this movie. **— C.W., Chattanooga, Tenn.**

A: The role of Steve Carson, the baby's father, was played by David Andrews.

O'Grady is best known for her work on the TV series "NYPD Blue" from 1993 to 1996, and Stewart has appeared in the movies "Operation Delta Force," "An American Affair" and "The Pawn."

TRIVIA: Ann Jillian is fluent in Lithuanian.

(Send your questions to Ask Holly Wood, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016, or write to HollyWood85@hotmail.com. Because of the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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New York's lottery pops up 9-1-1 on attacks anniversary

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — On the anniversary of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, a date often repeated as 9-11, the numbers that popped up for the New York Lottery were 9-1-1.

"The numbers were picked in the standard random fashion using all the same protocols," said Lottery spokeswoman Carolyn Hapeman. "It's just the way the numbers came up."

Lottery officials expected to know late today how many people picked those numbers and how much they won, Hapeman said.

She said the number of winners must be high because the 9-1-1 combination reached the lottery's set limit for combinations and sold out. On any given day, seven to 10 sets of numbers are "closed out," she said.

Geoff Cook, a clerk at an Albany-area convenience store, said he sold 20 to 25 tickets with those numbers.

Another Albany-area clerk, Farzad Khosravi, said people seemed reluctant about betting, and possibly winning, on tragedy.

"I think some people were disgusted with the idea of playing that number because it represents a black day in the history of America," he said.

For the evening drawing, the state lottery uses numbered balls circulating in a machine. When three levers are pressed, three balls pop up into tubes randomly, Hapeman said Wednesday was the first time in more than a year that the 9-1-1 combination came up.

SEP 12 2002

Treasury wants to send ATF to Justice

WASHINGTON (AP) — The agency responsible for tracking guns and bombs should be moved to the Justice Department, Bush administration officials say.

All or part of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms — which also collects excise taxes on all three — would be transferred from its current home at the Treasury Department, a senior Treasury official said Wednesday.

Treasury is pitching the idea to Congress, which would have to approve such a change, said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill supports the change, the official said.

The recommendation follows a proposal by President Bush to roll two other high-profile Treasury units — the Customs Service and the Secret Service — into a new Cabinet agency for homeland security.

On Capitol Hill, the bill creating the Homeland Security Department, once predicted to pass quickly and easily, is bogged down in the Senate amid an increasingly partisan dispute over worker rights in the proposed Cabinet agency.

Moderate senators of both parties searched for compromise on the sticky personnel issues as debate ground to a halt Tuesday.

Kathleen Kiernan, ATF's assistant director of public and governmental affairs, says her agency would not object to moving to Justice, but stressed that the agency should be moved in its entirety.

"It makes good sense for good government, unity of direction and partnering appropriate resources together," she said. "The proposal would partner us with traditional law enforcement agencies under Justice, including the FBI and DEA. ... eliminating duplication of efforts.We have strong partnerships with them now. Interagency jealousies are giving way to unity of direction."

Kiernan didn't know whether ATF might lose people under such a reorganization.

At the Justice Department, reaction was muted. "We will analyze the circumstances and make our recommendation to the president," said spokesman Mark Corallo. "Ultimately, it is his decision."

Gordon Johndroe, spokesman for the White House's Office of Homeland Security, said only: "I can tell you that the ATF was not part of the president's homeland security proposal, and we will work with Congress as they discuss these issues."

When Bush earlier this year proposed creating a new department to thwart terrorist attacks on U.S. soil, ATF wasn't included in the plan. White House officials had said ATF's functions weren't considered primarily a homeland security mission.

Privately, O'Neill at the time supported moving ATF either to the new department or to Justice as long the change would complement ATF's law enforcement activities and create more efficiencies, Treasury officials said.

Senate Judiciary Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., had proposed moving ATF into the new Homeland Security Department, said spokesman David Carle, who said he didn't know Leahy's position on moving ATF to Justice.

Asked whether ATF would prefer becoming part of the new Homeland Security Department, Kiernan said: "It's pretty clear from the White House and the Department of Treasury that the best fit for us is the Department of Justice."

ATF has participated in high-profile investigations involving terrorist attacks in recent years.

The agency played key roles in the 1993 World Trade Center bombing case and the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing probe. Since Sept. 11, ATF has taken steps aimed at reducing the chance of terrorists obtaining handguns or explosives and tightened rules on foreigners buying guns.

Even under a Homeland Security Department, Treasury would keep its core duties in the United States' financial war on terrorism, including anti-money laundering activities, tracking and blocking terrorists' assets and tax evasion schemes, the senior Treasury official said.

Street gang founder may be executed

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — A convicted killer who co-founded the Crips street gang and later became a Nobel Peace Prize nominee has been cleared for execution by a federal appeals court.

Stanley Williams could be executed by injection as early as next year unless the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reconsiders its decision, the U.S. Supreme Court intervenes or the governor grants him clemency.

Williams and a high school friend, Raymond Washington, created the notorious Crips gang in Los Angeles in 1971. Hundreds of spinoffs and copycat gangs have since emerged across the nation.

Washington was killed in a gang fight in 1979. Williams, "Big Took" to his fellow gang members, continued his violent ways and transformed the Crips into a national enterprise.

Williams, now 48, was convicted of killing four people in 1979. While appealing his death sentence, he has spent time writing children's books and coordinating an international peace effort for youths — all from his 9-by-4-foot cell at San Quentin State Prison.

The work has landed him Nobel Peace Prize nominations the last two years, but his efforts haven't swayed prosecutors and police groups who believe he should remain behind bars.

Surgery for early prostate cancer can save lives

By JANET McCONNAUGHEY
Associated Press Writer

A new study suggests that men who undergo surgery for prostate cancer can significantly reduce their chances of dying from the disease, although there was no meaningful difference in terms of overall survival.

The study published in the New England Journal of Medicine reported that the risk of dying from prostate cancer fell from 9 percent to 5 percent during the six years after surgery.

However, deaths from all causes were similar between the men who got prostate surgery and those who did not. The researchers said it could have been a matter of chance that those who escaped cancer death were somewhat more likely to die of other things.

"We now have better evidence that radical prostatectomy diminishes your risk of prostate cancer recurrence. And so we have a possibility to alter the natural course of the disease by radical surgery," said Dr. Lars Holmberg, lead author for the paper that focused on 695 men in Sweden, Finland and Norway.

The question of whether to remove cancerous prostates in early-stage disease has been hotly debated because the cancer typically grows slowly and strikes older men, who may die of other causes before it spreads.

Moreover, removal of the prostate — a doughnut-shaped gland which surrounds the male urethra — can cause serious side effects, including impotence and incontinence.

A companion study also published in today's issue of the journal found no difference in quality of life between the groups, though it suggested a longer study might find such differences.

The cancer spread elsewhere in the body in 35 of the men whose prostates were removed immediately, compared to 54 in the group that did not have the surgery, Holmberg wrote.

But, although the total number of deaths was slightly lower among the treated group — 53 to 62 — it wasn't a big enough difference to be statistically meaningful, wrote Holmberg, an epidemiologist at the regional cancer center at University Hospital in Uppsala, Sweden.

Dr. Patrick Walsh, director of urology at Johns Hopkins University, called Holmberg's work a landmark paper.

"It was surprising to see an effect from cancer deaths so early," Walsh said. "It's certainly too early to see an overall effect on survival," But, he said, he thinks such an effect is likely with longer follow-up.

It may be the first study for any cancer in which patients were assigned at random to get surgery or no treatment — what doctors call "watchful waiting" or "expectant observation," he said.

Walsh is an advocate of early surgery and developed a technique used to preserve the nerves that control the penis's ability to become erect.

And, even if the death rate difference doesn't grow, just reducing the number of deaths from prostate cancer is worth it, he said.

What the study doesn't show is which patients would benefit most and least from the operation, said Dr. John Wasson of Dartmouth University, who believes prostate cancer is an overtreated disease.

Fewer men older than 80 or who have other diseases which are likely to kill them are getting radical prostatectomies than did a decade ago, he said. But, he said, 20 percent of Medicare payments for tests to find the cancer early — prostate-specific antigen tests, or PSAs — are still for men in those two groups.

"About 20 percent of the Medicare expenses are going toward men for whom you'd really say 'What are we doing?' So we still tend to go overboard," he said.

What the new study shows, he said, is that "men in good health between the ages of 50 to 75 who choose to have a PSA test at least now know that if prostate cancer is found, an effective treatment is available."

On the Net:
New England Journal of Medicine: http://www.nejm.org
Prostate Cancer Research Institute: http://www.prostate-cancer.org

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Chewing tobacco and cervical cancer

DEAR DR. GOTT: Here is a question that I have asked many doctors, but they simply don't know the answer. Perhaps you can help me.

My husband chews up to three cans of tobacco a day. I am concerned that the carcinogens from the tobacco may enter his semen and cause me to get cervical cancer. It seems logical to me that nicotine would be distributed in his body fluids and eventually pass to me. He refuses to stop chewing, despite the gum, patches and pills. Am I at risk?

DEAR READER: I doubt that you are. For one reason, although you are correct that nicotine disperses when it enters the body, its concentration in body fluids — such as semen — is miniscule. More important, it's not the nicotine that causes cancer; the culprits are the coal tars and other constituents in the tobacco, which are trapped by cells in the throat, mouth and lungs, thereby increasing the risk of cancer in the user, not his partner.

Although I am far from being an authority on this subject, I am unaware of any significant medical study proving that the partners of tobacco-chewers suffer untoward effects, such as cervical cancer. Of course, "second-hand" smoke is another matter; smokers do put their families at risk for pulmonary problems. I'm afraid that you will have to find a different compelling argument to encourage your husband from chewing so much wad.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Help II: Mental/Substance Abuse." Other readers who would like a copy should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a man, 71, an ex-smoker with end-stage emphysema. Are you aware of any breakthrough new treatments for this disease?

DEAR READER: Emphysema is marked by destruction of the alveoli, the tiny feathery lung compartments where oxygen and carbon dioxide are exchanged. As the alveoli collapse, they tend to coalesce, leading to larger and larger pockets of stale air. These are called bullae. Not only are these highly inefficient areas of air exchange, they tend to expand over time and press on what normal pulmonary tissue remains. This further comprises breathing.

I've given you this brief description so you will realize that emphysema is a mechanical, irreversible condition unlike, say, asthma or pneumonia.

Although medical treatment — including supplemental oxygen, avoidance of air pollution and tobacco smoke, antibiotics (sometimes), respiratory therapy, steroids, bronchodilators, and other medications — may assist emphysema patients to breathe more easily, the fundamental affliction is permanent and, in many cases, progressive.

It is for this reason that doctors sometimes opt for surgery to remove the bullae. This allows the remaining relatively normal pulmonary tissue to function more efficiently.

I do not know if you are a suitable candidate for this operation. Such a decision requires input from a pulmonologist and a thoracic surgeon. Ask your primary care physician to consider referring you to the proper specialists for an opinion.

I am certain there is considerable on-going research with respect to emphysema, but I am not aware of any new, stunning medical advances. If, however, surgery is a possibility for you, the procedure could significantly improve your independence and mechanics of breathing.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Sept. 13, 2002

Something might occur in the year ahead which would take you off into an entirely new field of endeavor. This opportunity might come about through an old business relationship.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — There is nothing wrong with being protective of your personal interests, but today take care not to do so in ways that others might find offensive. If they do, countermeasures might result. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — It pays to be a good guy/gal, but today others could take advantage of your good nature and palm off their responsibilities onto you. Don't be a patsy.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Even though neither you nor a friend would want to deliberately do anything to hurt the other, doing business with a pal may inevitably turn out that way. Be careful today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Being realistic regarding your goals and objectives today is a must if you hope to achieve what you desire. If you distort the picture, the day could end in disappointment.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Poor planning on your part today may result in encountering more obstacles than usual along your path. Unfortunately, they will be of your own making.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Don't let yourself be manipulated today to a point where you are forced to take a position that opposes the will of the majority.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Independent endeavors are far more likely to be successful for you today than involvements that require a collective effort. Be your own person whenever possible.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Approach your tasks today with a negative attitude and distasteful jobs could be made to appear even more difficult. Instead, take pride in whatever you put your efforts to.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Unfortunately, those assignments you delegate to others could go awry today. It would be far better to maintain control over situations by doing important personal matters yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You may not be in the mood today to pamper anyone, but it will make your life far easier if you do so anyway, especially if that person is your mate. You'll get what you give.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Comments you make about others today, even if they are true, could be carried far and wide and get distorted or taken out of context. It's best to keep your thoughts to yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Because you can be a bit of a risk taker from time to time, today you should be cautious, especially in your financial affairs.

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NEW BOOKS

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Snyder Daily News
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Unofficial results: McBride leads Reno

MIAMI (AP) — Florida gubernatorial candidate Bill McBride had an 8,000-vote lead over Janet Reno in the Democratic primary early today, but was holding off on declaring victory as the state sorted out a race that has brought back memories of the 2000 presidential election.

With all precincts reporting, McBride had 600,425 votes, or 44.5 percent, compared with the former attorney general's 592,434 votes, or 43.9 percent. Miami Sen. Daryl Jones had 156,165 votes, or 11.6 percent.

Although all precincts had reported results, Orange County was still reviewing some ballots that did not scan properly.

McBride's campaign wanted the state Division of Elections to make his victory official before he set his sights on Republican Gov. Jeb Bush. Meanwhile, Reno's campaign was mulling its options — including a recount request or a lawsuit to overturn the results — amid claims that thousands of voters were turned away at the polls.

A final margin within 0.5 percent of the total votes cast, or about 6,700 votes, would automatically trigger a recount. According to the unofficial results, the margin was 7,991 votes out of more than 1.3 million cast.

Reno's campaign complained about polls opening late or ignoring Bush's order to stay open an extra two hours, election workers struggling with new touchscreen voting machines, and voter confusion about polling places because of new precinct boundaries.

The voting machines had been introduced as part of an effort to avoid a repeat of the debacle in 2000.

Nation looks ahead after remembering

NEW YORK (AP) — The words came from the president, from the families of those killed on Sept. 11, from people who watched the attacks unfold on television. Again and again on a day of memorials that marked the first anniversary of the terrorist attacks, Americans vowed to move on in tribute to the fallen.

"Each of us has had our hearts torn apart, but we can take those pieces and put them back together," Harold Lutnick, the chief executive of Cantor Fitzgerald, said at a service for the firm's 658 employees who died at the World Trade Center. Lutnick's brother was among those lost.

"Together we will create something new," he said.

President Bush capped the remembrances Wednesday night with an address from Ellis Island, using the Statue of Liberty as a backdrop. He told a nation still battling terrorism that "a milestone has passed, and a mission goes on."

Most Americans went to work and school Wednesday, but it was far from business as usual.

Authorities stayed on alert for another attack. Dust stirred by a gusty wind swirled around mourners at the trade center, doves fluttered from a Pennsylvania field and patriotic songs rang out at the Pentagon. Once evening fell, candlelight vigils nationwide carried messages of hope.

Silent tributes were held from Maine to Hawaii. Telemarketers cut back on their phone calls, politicians kept campaign ads off the air and baseball games paused at 9:11 p.m. At Yankee Stadium in New York, a memorial inscribed "We Remember" was unveiled beyond the center field fence.

"Let us live for what they died for — the United States of America," Carson Howell, who lost a brother in the Pentagon crash, said on the steps of the Idaho Capitol.

At the New Mexico State Fair, 46-year-old Keith Powell remembered the attacks with an American flag shirt. "It's a sad day, but we have to go on," he said.

Bush presided at the Pentagon ceremony, then flew to southwest Pennsylvania to help honor the 40 people killed when United Flight 93 crashed near Shanksville. The passengers and crew were hailed by Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge for struggling to take back their hijacked plane and avert a possible attack on the Capitol or White House.

"If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate," said Sandy Dahl, wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl.

Around the world, some of the most profound moments came silently as perhaps millions of people paused for prayer or meditation. After two minutes of silence in Copenhagen, Denmark, the city's Lord Mayor Jens Kramer Mikkelsen declared: "We will not allow fear to overtake us."

At California State University in Fresno, hundreds of people gathered to plant trees in memory of two former students who died in the attacks: Navy Lt. Cmdr. Vincent Tolbert, who died at the Pentagon, and Todd Beamer, who was aboard Flight 93 and uttered the now-famous words, "Let's roll."

"My brother-in-law lived life by a motto, 'Live life to its fullest. I'd rather burn out than fade away.' And that's what he did," Laurie Tolbert told the crowd.

A booming rendition of the national anthem set the tone for morning commemorations at the Pentagon, where 184 people died when American Flight 77 smashed into the building. U.S. military bases in Afghanistan also held memorial services.

Another Sept. 11 finds U.S. on high alert at home, abroad

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans at home and abroad were on high alert for new attacks today, the anniversary of the most deadly terrorist assault on U.S. soil.

The White House homeland security director, Tom Ridge, spent the day monitoring developments around the country after he returned from a memorial service in Shanksville, Pa.

"So far, so good," he said.

Among things that he was watching was the case of a ship headed for the United States that was ordered back to sea after radioactivity was detected in its cargo.

Overseas, envelopes containing suspicious powders were delivered to U.S. diplomatic missions in Germany, Denmark and Italy, sparking scares across Europe. But the substance at one location in Germany was quickly determined to be just sugar, Bush administration officials said.

The American military command in charge of operations in the Middle East and Central Asia moved to the Pentagon's highest security level — known as "Delta" — after receiving credible threats from more than one country, officials said, declining to elaborate.

The order followed one by the Bush administration on Tuesday that the color-coded domestic alert be raised to its second-highest level — to orange from yellow — based on new intelligence warning of possible strikes, mostly overseas.

Two government sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said today that the information prompting the alert across America came from Omar al-Farouq, a senior al-Qaida figure captured in Asia.

Al-Farouq, an Arab who was described as an al-Qaida operations chief in Southeast Asia, has been in U.S. custody since this summer and provided his interrogators specific information suggesting that terror cells in the region were planning attacks on U.S. facilities, the sources said.

Other unspecified intelligence appeared to corroborate al-Farouq's claims. He had been based in Indonesia. Al-Farouq's name was first reported by The New York Times.

Round-the-clock combat patrols — which flew for months after the Sept. 11 hijackings and resumed Friday over Washington and New York — were expanded to include about 10 more cities, defense officials said. Fighter jets also were on alert on airstrips at more than a dozen other locations, ready to scramble if needed. Missile launchers deployed around Washington were armed with surface-to-air missiles.

Overseas, nine U.S. embassies remained closed today.

The envelopes with suspicious powder were received by the consulates in the German cities of Munich, Hamburg, Leipzig, Dusseldorf and Frankfurt, and at the embassies in Rome and Copenhagen, Denmark.

Divided GOP in Congress considering more tax cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Absent clear direction from President Bush, Republicans in Congress are divided about whether to push for another round of tax relief as an election-year response to continued economic weakness and investor losses.

In the crush of last-minute business facing Congress before adjournment, it seems most likely that no bill will become law.

Bush's enthusiasm in August for more tax relief appears to have waned amid White House disagreement about its political and economic wisdom. One senior administration official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the plan was "on life support," although a White House spokeswoman insisted the president was still examining options.

"The president has not made any decisions," said spokeswoman Claire Buchan. "He continues to review ideas."

Some key lawmakers, notably House Majority Leader Dick Armey, are arguing to press ahead with a measure that would center on two key items.

One would increase the amount of capital losses that can be deducted on tax returns, now limited to $3,000. The other would allow people to save more in 401(k) accounts and other retirement plans — many depleted by the stock market swoon — and raise the age threshold, currently 701/2, at which people must begin withdrawals from these accounts.

"I am just talking about what helps real people in their real lives," said Armey, R-Texas.

Others, including House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Bill Thomas, have reservations about whether such a proposal would be large enough to do much good.

Officers arrest two in Snyder

Arrests

DPS troopers arrested a 24-year-old man on U.S. 84 Wednesday morning on an outstanding warrant for Class A theft by check.

A 22-year-old man was taken into custody at 1 p.m. Wednesday for the use of inhalants.

Assault

A woman requested officers at her residence on Ave. A early Wednesday and reported she was assaulted by her boyfriend. Officers responded and advised an offense report for family violence would be submitted.

Thefts

Betty Campbell reported the theft of her wallet from her residence Wednesday morning and a report for burglary of a residence was filed.

Barrie Bowlin reported inspection stickers and money was stolen from Bowlin Automotive over several weeks, but requested a report not be filed.

Close patrol

A woman in the 3100 block of Ave. V reported at 12:30 a.m. today that someone was breaking into her vehicle. Officers arrived and found that no entry had been made into the car and initiated a close patrol of the area.

Fire reports

Snyder firefighters responded Wednesday to two fires, but both were extinguished before firemen arrived.

At 2:30 p.m. the department was dispatched to an oil pit fire on CR 267.

A fire department spokesman said chemicals mixed to clean the pit ignited.

At 8:40 p.m. firefighters responded to Snyder Country Club after a stove fire was reported.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Head Start program

Scurry County's Head Start program still has openings for children. For information, call 573-7403.

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

Scurry Lodge #706

Scurry Lodge will have an awards night beginning at 7 this evening. All Masons, their families and friends are invited. Refreshments will be served.

Scholarship fundraiser

Borden County Parents Club will sell Krispy Kreme donuts at Wal-Mart starting at 8 a.m. Saturday.

Country and gospel music

There will be country and gospel music played beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday at the senior center.

FFA lamb, goat clinic

Warren Beard will hold a lamb and goat clinic for Snyder FFA exhibitors at 2 p.m. Sunday at the SHS ag shop. Do not bring animals, but be prepared to take notes. For information, call 574-6046.

Support groups

Adult family violence support group and children's family violence support group meets at 6:30 p.m. each Monday at Gateway Family Service. For information call 573-1822.

Central Elementary Scholastic book fair

Central Elementary's book fair begins Monday and continues the entire week. Times are 7:45-9 a.m. and 3:15-4 p.m.

Alzheimer's support group

An Alzheimer's meeting for caretakers, family members and interested persons will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the library of Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

Farm Bill computer training

The training session will be held at 1:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Workforce Training Center at WTC. For an appointment call 573-5423 by 5 p.m. Monday. Dr. Jackie Smith will answer questions about the farm program. Bring accurate figures and appointments will be made to speed the process.

Gospel concert

Toney Brothers Quartet will present a Gospel concert at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the First Baptist Church in Hermleigh.

Sgt. Troy Wilson reception

There will be a reception for Department of Public Safety Sgt. Troy Wilson from 10 a.m. until noon next Thursday at the DPS office at 909 25th St. Sgt. Wilson is being transferred to San Antonio as a Texas Ranger.

Stanfield Elementary garage sale

Stanfield will hold a garage sale from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Friday, Sept. 20. Follow the signs on campus. Donations will be accepted through next Thursday at the school office. Proceeds used for out of town field trips. This is being held in conjunction with the second grade study project, "needs and wants" - ways to make money. First graders will be selling lemonade.

Guadalupe Church Jamaica

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will hold its Jamaica celebration Sunday, Sept. 22. The event will start at 8 a.m. and conclude at 8 p.m. There will be food, volleyball, live music and the event is a fundraiser for the church.

Bible school

Son Canyon River Adventure Bible School will be held at Trinity United Methodist Church from 6:30-8 p.m. every Wednesday in September, and on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Open to all children from infants to 7th grade. Call the church office at 573-3988 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Wednesdays.

SHS homecoming parade

The homecoming parade is Thursday, Sept. 26. The SHS student council invites all local organizations to enter the parade. Entry fee is $15 for floats, $10 for vehicles and $5 for golf carts. Cash prizes will be awarded for best overall, most creative and best Tiger spirit. Contact Christy Smith at SHS to enter.

Tiger homecoming fajita dinner

The annual homecoming fajita dinner will be from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Sept. 27 at First Christian Church. Everyone is invited to park their cars at the church and enjoy the meal before the game.

SHS class of 1988 homecoming

The SHS class of 1988 will meet at 5 p.m. for the before game booster meal at the high school and then attend the game between the Tigers and Ft. Stockton on Sept. 27. There will be a get-together after the game. Call Meredith at 254-223-3193 for more information.

Lord's Acre fish fry

First United Methodist Church's Lord's Acre fish fry is 5-7 p.m. Oct. 1. Adult tickets are $7 and children's tickets – 10 and under – are $3.50. Tickets available at the church office or at the door.

Trains and things

Scurry County parks department is looking for loans of model trains and railroad-related items to be displayed during the Oct. 12 White Buffalo Festival. Items are needed by Oct. 7.

Call to poets

Mesquite Country Writers Guild, publishers of the poetry newsletter, *Bards of a Feather*, request poems for publication in the Winter issue 2003, one poem per contributor, 20 words or less. Theme: Winter, New Year, Valentine, March winds. Deadline is Nov. 1. Payment, one copy of *Bards*. Send poem to Pam Mauldin, Box 237, Ira, 79527 or e-mail to upside@netwest.com.

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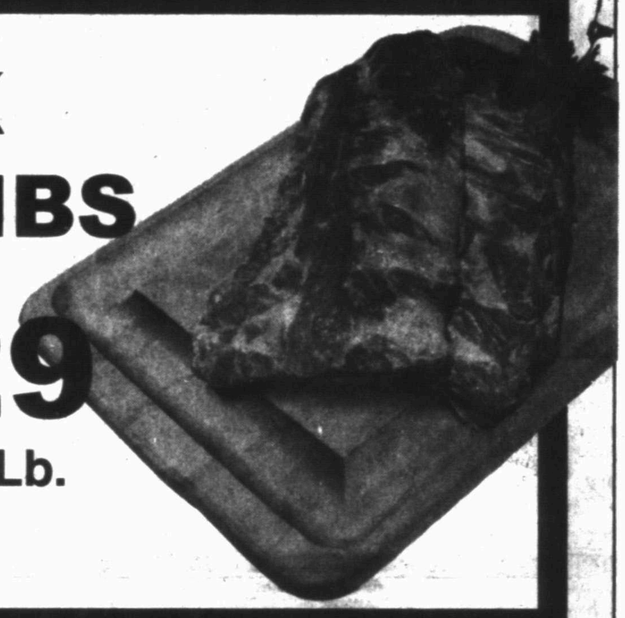

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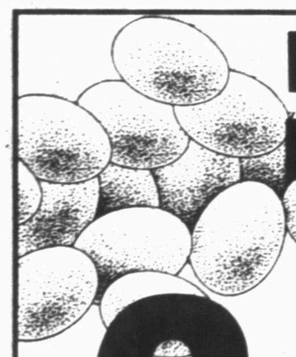

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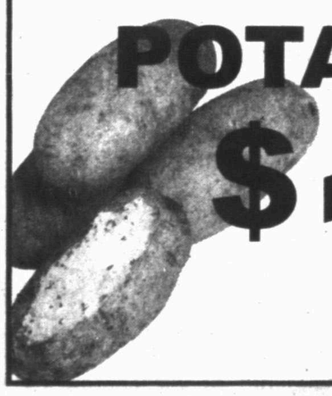

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