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INSIDE
Tigers Advance To Championship 6A
Pollution Rules Split Administration 10A
Public Records 3B
Tax Update 4B
Phone Companies Feuding 5B
WT-Int. Crude - $21.28

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEEKEND
March 15-16, 1997
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38 Pages 50¢
Home of Susan Bigham

St. Mary will not submit lease proposal

By Wade Warren
Staff Writer

St. Mary Hospital is not interested in leasing Cogdell Memorial Hospital, an administrator with the Lubbock health-care facility said Friday.

"We will not be part of any negotiations involving a lease; we want to continue with our contract we signed with the hospital in January," said Bill Weldon, St. Mary vice president.

Weldon said St. Mary received a letter last month from Scurry County Judge Ricky Fritz, asking if St. Mary would be interested in making an offer to lease Cogdell, like Community Health Systems has.

Weldon said St. Mary president and Chief Executive Officer Charley Trimble sent the county a letter Wednesday which states that St. Mary is pleased with the current form of partnership.

Trimble's letter said St. Mary has a sincere desire to continue its relationship with the local hospital. The letter concludes, "We hope that our nine-year partnership will be considered as you deliberate its future."

Cogdell Hospital's board of managers approved a three-year management contract with St. Mary on Jan. 30.

That contract included an at-risk agreement whereby St. Mary will fund 50 percent of any operating loss incurred by Cogdell, up to $400,000. St. Mary would also share in any operating gain, again at 50 percent, up to $400,000. The agreement excludes tax funds and disproportionate share monies.

In his letter to Fritz, Trimble described the at-risk agreement as an "element of risk sharing which has bonded Cogdell Memorial Hospital and St. Mary closer than ever before."

Community Health Services has offered to lease Cogdell for a 30-year period with up-front payments totaling nearly $9 million.

The firm requested Scurry County Commissioners Court sign a due-diligence agreement earlier this month whereby the county would not negotiate with any other health-care firms for the lease of the hospital. However, the court felt St. Mary should be allowed to submit a proposal in light of the current contract. CHS agreed to this stipulation.

Lawyers and accountants representing Community Health Systems are expected in Snyder Wednesday for a detailed look at the financial records of the hospital.

Jeff Reecer, chief executive officer of Cogdell, said he and his staff have been busy compiling answers to some 200 separate requests for information from CHS.

"Each of the requests had many parts each, so we have a stack of records table-top high for them to examine," said Reecer.

The accountants and lawyers are expected to be at the hospital through Friday, said Reecer.

County will set proposal cutoff date

Monday's Scurry County Commissioners Court agenda calls for setting a closing date for the submission of proposals for the lease of Cogdell Memorial Hospital by Community Health Systems and St. Mary Hospital.

However, St. Mary officials indicated in a letter to the county this past week they are not interested in leasing the hospital, but want to continue with the three-year management contract signed in January of this year.

Accountants and attorneys repressenting CHS, the Tennessee-based firm which has offered to lease Cogdell for 30 years with up-front payments totalling nearly $9 million, are expected in Snyder Wednesday through Friday for a detailed look at the hospital's finances. A final offer from CHS is expected after information from this study is assimilated by CHS officials.

At Monday's 10 a.m. meeting, commissioners will also consider an agreement between West Texas Centers for Mental Health/Mental Retardation and the county concerning office space and related operational items such as utilities.

The court will also consider minutes of the January meeting of the Scurry County Library Board, the county's welfare board, the extension office's activity report for January and February and the county's historical commission activity report for last year.

Budget amendments and line-item transfers are also on the agenda.

Subsidy request prompts meeting

How much and in what way should Western Texas College help subsidize the Scurry County Museum is a question both the college and museum boards hope will be answered Monday evening.

The topic is the only item for a special meeting, set for 7 p.m. in the college board room.

Scurry County Museum board requested the joint meeting to propose a revision of the working financial agreement between the two institutions. The museum is located on the college campus.

Western Texas College currently contributes just over $16,000 to the museum annually. That amount includes employee benefits, almost $4,500 of which is benefits for two former museum employees, who are now retired.

The museum is proposing that the college increase the subsidy to $17,000 and have the museum pay current employee benefits. The college would still pay benefits for the retired workers. According to college administrators, that would increase the college's subsidy about $5,300 annually.

The museum has several resources for funds, including $36,861 from the county and $20,264 from the museum association. Its budget is a little over $73,000, most of which is salary and benefits for the administrator, classified-clerical staff and part-time help.

The college's subsidy does not include utilities, maintenance, custodial help, grounds maintenance or insurance for the museum, which is college property. Those items cost the college almost $60,000 annually.



BUNDLE UP — Girls softball fans Jodi White, Candace Barrow and Amanda Scott, from left, take in action during the Canyon Reef Spring Break Classic Tourney at Cates Field. Perfect weather Thursday was followed by a cold front Friday which dropped temperatures into the 40s with a stiff north wind. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "If you can't teach an old dog new tricks, get a new dog."

We remember hearing the grownups talking about it — how fast time flies.

That didn't make much sense when you were waiting for summer vacation, Santa's arrival or an important Little League game.

We've concluded that those adults knew what they were talking about. Although the school year just started the other day, spring break has ended and — according to our calculation — there are only 52 school days left.

And Thursday is the first day of spring...amazing!

Teachers tell their students they can be anything they set their minds to be — the president, a doctor, lawyer...

Milton Ham, a product of Snyder High School and TCU, said he received no encouragement to enter the medical field.

One of his early report cards indicated that he was absent a great deal, often trady, paid no attention in class, returned no homework and talked at every opportunity.

Forced to find something positive to say, a teacher noted that Milton's handwriting was excellent. That blew his chance to become a doctor.

Why work when you can sue?

We read about a woman in Wisconsin who is taking her shrink to court for malpractice.

The psychiatrist sent the woman's insurance company a bill for $300,000, which grabbed the attention of both the patient and her insurance carrier.

The doctor had an interesting explanation. The doc said the woman had 120 different personalities, and in treating her, he had to deal with each one. Therefore, it qualified the patient as "group therapy."

Aid for school construction proposed

WASHINGTON (AP) — School districts and states with crumbling or overcrowded schools would share $5 billion in construction seed money under legislation prepared by the Clinton administration.

Education Secretary Richard Riley provided details Friday of the bill, to be introduced next week in the House and Senate. If enacted, the measure would fulfill a campaign promise President Clinton made last year.

Many Republican lawmakers oppose using federal dollars for building or repairing local schools. They argue that federal construction would cost more because of the law requiring payment of union wages on projects financed by the federal government.

But Riley said the administration cannot stand by while millions of children crowd into old, often dangerous buildings, or jam into trailer classrooms in rapidly growing areas places like Broward County, Fla.

"Students who are forced to attend unsafe or overcrowded schools generally have a lower academic performance," Riley told reporters. "However, states and school districts are hard-pressed at this time of already tight budgets to develop adequate solutions to these problems."

In Broward County, where Clinton had planned to promote the bill before a knee injury forced him to cancel the appearance, voters rejected a penny increase in their sales tax two years ago to pay for schools. The last school bond issue approved was for $317 million in 1987.

The Broward school district, the nation's fifth-largest, could qualify for $16.4 million in federal money to support $70 million worth of building. The federal dollars would pay half the interest on borrowing for construction. The administration says that overall, the $5 billion would spur $20 billion worth of construction over two years.

Department officials could not say Friday whether the money would enable a district such as Broward to build new schools without raising the sales tax. But they did say it would lower the cost of financing, making it easier for voters to support school bond issues.

"This is designed not to replace what any county might do, but to say to that county, 'This is a very good time for you to go forward with it,'" Riley said.

A school district borrowing $1 million for construction now pays an average $2 million over 25 years, assuming a 5 percent interest rate, the department said. The subsidy would lower that overall cost to $1.5 million.

Of the money, $2.45 billion would go to school districts with large numbers of poor students. New York would get $287.3 million; Chicago, $117 million; and Los Angeles, $116 million.

Trial to begin in felony theft case

Jury selection in the 132nd District Court case of a Scurry County man charged with felony theft will begin at 9 a.m. Monday.

Forty-year-old Roy Starr of 1000 30th is charged with stealing a 1965 Chevrolet pickup from the front of John's Machine Shop on Oct. 6, 1996, stripping it, and selling the parts. The vehicle was owned by Gerardo Silva.

A Scurry County grand jury indicted Starr and another man, Eddie Glenn Mills, for the theft last November. Mills' case is pending.

Dana Cooley, district attorney, is prosecuting the case. Starr is represented by by Isaac Castro, a local attorney.

At VFW...

Martin to perform here

Singer and songwriter Michael J. Martin will perform April 1 at Snyder VFW in a benefit event for the Permian Basin Vietnam Veterans Memorial.

Admission is free; donations will be accepted.

Martin is a Vietnam veteran and was awarded the Purple Heart, Silver Star and Bronze Star. He is the founder of The Last Patrol organization and has logged thousands of miles walking across America to bring awareness to veterans rights and POW/MIA issues.

Martin has been performing for years, playing at major concerts in front of large crowds and at local hospitals for just a few. He has several albums, including Windmill, Take Me a Ride on the Moon, Skyline of Fort Worth and Off the Wall Songs, a compilation of hilarious tunes.

His songs have been recorded and performed by numerous artists, among them Larry Mahan, David Allen Coe, James Michael Taylor, Johnny Martinez and The Cumberlands.

The April 1 performance will begin at 7 p.m. Call 573-9216 for more information.

ASK US

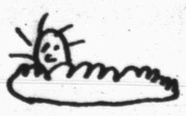
Q—How long does it take the medical helicopters to fly from here to Lubbock?

A—In ideal weather, from 35 to 40 minutes. Add another few minutes if it has to buck head winds of 30-knots as it did Friday, said an AeroCare pilot.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Friday, 48 degrees; low, 30; 7 a.m. Saturday, 30; no precipitation; total for 1997, 5.05 inches.

Area Forecast: Saturday night, mostly cloudy. Low in the lower 40s. Sunday, mostly cloudy. High in the lower 70s.



Betty Guerrero
Mostly Cloudy

Sunset: 6:52 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:52 a.m.
Of 73 days in 1997, the sun has shone 64 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Darkness can not drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.

Martin Luther King Jr.

MAR 16 1997

Mother Teresa's work will continue

CALCUTTA, India (AP) — Mother Teresa said Friday that she wants to set up homes for the poor in China, and her successor at the Missionaries of Charity pledged to continue the work that the Nobel laureate began.

"I have plenty of work to do," Mother Teresa said, a day after handing over leadership of the Roman Catholic order she founded almost 50 years ago to Sister Nirmala, an Indian nun.

Mother Teresa said she wanted to realize her longtime goal of opening homes for the poor in China. She joked with reporters: "You can come with me."

The order she started in Calcutta now has 568 houses and missions in 120 countries. So far, the Chinese government has not let her enter China.

Sister Nirmala, 63, said she would not change the order's main goal of helping the poor.

"I am not Mother Teresa. I am Sister Nirmala. We are doing the work for the glory of God and I will carry the work of the Missionaries of Charity," she said.

That work continued in Calcutta on Friday.

At Nirmal Hriday, a home for the destitute started by Mother Teresa, about 90 people were being cared for.

Karim Omar, a beggar rescued unconscious from a Calcutta sidewalk, lay on a mattress on the floor, sick and dehydrated from diarrhea. A German volunteer tended to him, and when he came to he was asked about the order.

"I don't know who Mother Teresa is," he said.

First Presbyterian Church
28th St. & Ave. R
"Let's Make A Deal"
John 12:20-33
"Over 100 Years in Snyder"
Pastor: Nan Crawford Swanson
Worship Sundays 11 a.m. Visitors Welcome

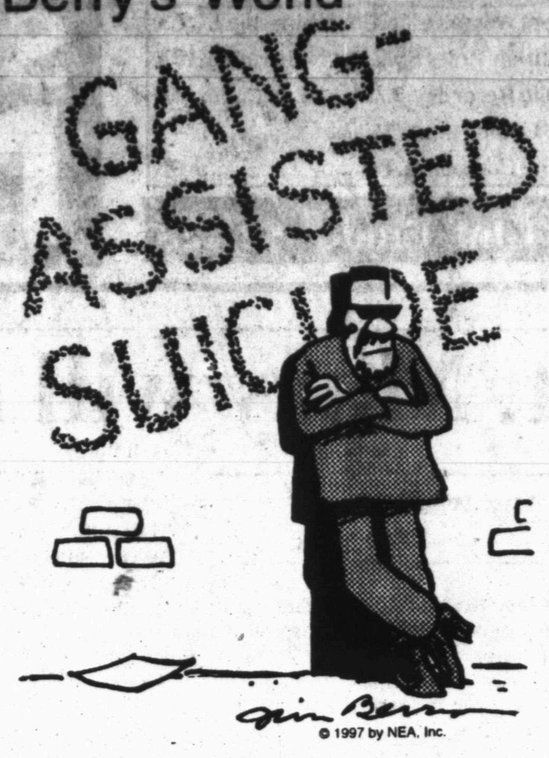
Bible Study:
"The Providentially Led Christian"
Hope for Life's Journey
"When God Went To Prison"
TCA Cable TV
Channel #2
Mon., Mar. 17, 1997, 7:00 p.m.

Carrasco named to Dean's List

Katrina Carrasco, a senior kinesiology major at Angelo State University, was named to the Dean's List for the fall 1996 semester.

To be eligible for the Dean's List, a student must be enrolled full-time and maintain a 3.25 grade point average.

Berry's World



Senior Center News

Senior citizens will celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a party starting at 11 a.m. Monday. Everyone is reminded to wear green in honor of the day.

The annual recognition banquet will honor volunteers on Friday night. Serving will begin at 6:30 p.m. There will be special entertainment and a drawing for door prizes. Persons planning to attend the banquet are to make reservations by Wednesday.

Because of the banquet, there will be no noon meal on Friday but there will be games and quilting as usual from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Entertainment during the week will include a musical program by Hoss Clayton and his band at 11 a.m. Tuesday and a performance by the Senior Saints at 11 a.m. Thursday.

Bridge games will begin at 9:30 a.m. Monday. 42 at 10 a.m. Tuesday, bingo at 10 a.m. Wednesday and bridge at 9:30 a.m. Friday.

The line dancing class will meet at 1:15 Wednesday afternoon and the Tri-Chem textile painting class at 9 a.m. Thursday.

The Scurry County chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons will meet at noon on Monday and the Golden K Kiwanis Club will meet at noon Tuesday.

The Senior Center serves a nutritious meal at noon Monday through Friday and has home delivered meals for senior citizens who are homebound and unable to prepare their own meals.

Volunteers deliver the meals and men and women of all ages who would like to help with the program are invited to contact the center.

3m to stop selling O-Cel-O sponges

MAPLEWOOD, Minn. (AP) — Government regulators have ordered 3M to stop selling its O-Cel-O brand sponges, saying they don't kill germs in the way advertisements claim.

"Consumers should be aware that these products have not been proven to kill germs or prevent food-borne illnesses like their labels claim," said Norman Niedergang, a regional director for the Environmental Protection Agency.

He said the company needed to register such a product with the agency.

The best thing about being young is that you eventually get over it.

Never eat in a restaurant where the cook brings his lunch from home.

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Maori to argue attack morally justified

AUCKLAND, New Zealand (AP) — The Maori activist who smashed the America's Cup with a sledgehammer will argue during trial that the attack was "moral" given the white exploitation of Maoris, his lawyer said Saturday.

A Maori separatist group claimed responsibility for Friday's attack on the 147-year-old silver trophy, and said more violence would follow until whites end the "illegal occupation of New Zealand."

The midsection of the sporting world's oldest trophy was flattened in the battering. It will be sent back to England for repair or replacement by the original foundry, as soon as it is no longer needed as evidence.

The Tino Rangitiratanga Liberation Organization, said to have only seven members, claimed responsibility in faxes sent to the media.

Benjamin P. Nathan, 27, was charged with criminal damage and trespass in a court hearing Saturday, and was ordered held without bail, partly because he was already wanted for failing to appear in court on a car theft charge.

If convicted, he faces up to five years in jail.

He did not enter a plea, but his lawyer, Lorraine Smith, said she would mount a vigorous political defense in a jury trial, in effect putting New Zealand's white establishment on trial.

The Maori, New Zealand's indigenous people and believed to be of Polynesian descent, make up about 15 percent of the country's 3.6 million people.

England colonized New Zealand in the 19th century and promised the Maori land rights, a pledge routinely ignored, leading to decades of battles between the Maori and the English colonizers.

"The America's Cup stands for everything my client's organization despises. He believes he had a moral right to do exactly as he did," Smith said.

Nathan is said to have walked into the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron clubhouse on Friday and asked to see the Cup, which is displayed in a glass case.

He then pulled a short-handled sledgehammer from a bag and swung repeatedly at the case, battering the trophy and trying futilely to pull it from the broken cabinet, said John Heise, the squadron commodore.

He was "in a frenzy" and was chanting in the Maori language during the assault, said Heise.



WINNERS — Truman Wilson, left, won first place and Pat Johnston won second place in the Eight Ball Tournament sponsored by the Senior Citizens Center. Matches are held throughout the year and top winners are determined by number of games won. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Workshop on grant funding planned

Texas Midwest nonprofit organizations and grant writers wanting grant funding should mark their calendars for Thursday and Friday when the Nonprofit Resource Center in Abilene is sponsoring a workshop, Keys to a Winning Proposal.

The workshop will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Career Stop, 809 North Judge Ely in Abilene. The cost is $108 for Center Partners and $135 for other participants, and materials are included. A $10 late fee will be added after Monday. Space is limited, so call the Center at 915-677-8166 (or fax to 915-676-4206) now to register or for more information.

Workshop presenters will not only "show you the money," but they will also show participants how to write proposals that will win grant funding plus provide time for writing and critiquing participants' proposals. By the workshop's conclusion, participants should have a good draft of an effective grant proposal.

This workshop will cover the entire grantsmanship process including researching funding sources, writing a proposal that will get the funder's attention and win the grant, packaging the proposal, managing the grant and finding funding alternatives. The workshop will focus on private foundation funding, but corporate and government funding and Internet access will be included.

In fact, participants will have the opportunity to access Internet resources at the workshop. Participants are encouraged to bring proposals in progress and/or ideas to be funded for revision, review and discussion.

Keys to a Winning Proposal is for nonprofit executive directors, other staff and board members who are involved in the grantsmanship process or who are interested in grant funding for their organization and individuals interested in writing grants.

The presenters include Dee Decker, the Director of the North Texas Center for Nonprofit Management in Wichita Falls; Norman Archibald, EdD, the Director of Planned Giving at Hendrick Medical Center Foundation; and Gail Kaiser, Director of the Nonprofit Resource Center.

Apple Computer to cut work force

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Stung by repeated financial losses and an eroding share of the market, Apple Computer Inc. is slashing jobs and thinning its Macintosh hardware and software lines to save itself.

The company said Friday it will cut 4,100 full-time and temporary jobs, about 30 percent of its 13,400-person work force. Last year, the personal computer pioneer laid off 1,500 employees, and a month ago announced it was consolidating several of its operations.

The goal, the company says, is a profitable, pared-down Apple.

"By narrowing our focus we can put significant muscle behind our priorities," Apple Chairman Gil Amelio said.

Saddled with high costs and falling sales, Apple has lost $936 million in four of the past five quarters, while its share of the personal computer market has fallen to just over 5 percent.

In addition to the job cuts, Apple will simplify its sometimes confusing choices of Macintosh computers and PowerBook laptops. It also will try to cut costs by using technologies developed by other companies instead of developing them itself.

Apple did promise to deliver its "next-generation operating system," called Rhapsody, as planned next year. But the company will reduce spending on future upgrades of the Mac OS, cutting new releases of the program by half to one each year, beginning in 1998.

Industry analysts said the changes made sense but were overdue.

"I still think they've got a rough road ahead, but I'm cautiously optimistic that they can cut costs and focus on their core businesses," said Tim Bajarin, president of Creative Strategies Research International in San Jose. "My big question, though, is why didn't they do this six months ago?"

The company released details of the reorganization after stock markets closed. Apple stock closed Friday at $16.56¼, up 18¾ cents, on the Nasdaq Stock Market.

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MAR 16 1997



BEAUCHAMP RECEIVES AWARD — Snyder Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Donna Fowler presented Snyder native James Beauchamp, a staff member for State Rep. David Counts, an award of appreciation at the chamber banquet Thursday. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



COUNTS GREETS BANQUET GUESTS — State Rep. David Counts greets several hundred people attending the chamber of commerce banquet Thursday evening at the Scurry County Coliseum. Counts was introduced by master of ceremonies David Holt. Others at the table include C.D. Gray, Donna Gray and James Beauchamp.

Ousted lottery director, GTECH plan to mediate

DALLAS (AP) — GTECH Corp. and ousted lottery director Nora Linares have reportedly agreed to mediation in order to settle a dispute.

Linares' lawyers blame GTECH, the state's prime lottery contractor, for her dismissal in January and have said they are prepared to sue the company for damages.

People familiar with the negotiations told The Dallas Morning News that both parties were headed for mediation. Buck Wood, one of Ms. Linares' lawyers, confirmed the reports.

"As you know, we stated that we intended to file a lawsuit," he said. "This has resulted in mediation."

He would not provide further details.

GTECH spokesman Bob Rendine wouldn't confirm or deny that the company had agreed to mediation. Ms. Linares was fired by the Texas Lottery Commission in January.

Attorneys for Ms. Linares say GTECH compromised her when they hired her boyfriend, Mike Moeller, as a $6,000-a-month consultant in New Mexico in 1992 without her knowledge.

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Hermleigh's one-act-play zone bound

Hermleigh's one-act-play entry for 1997 will be a comedy, "April Fish," featuring an Italian family pretending the husband is dead so the poor "widow" can get the bathroom wall plastered free of charge.

However, the workman realizes what is happening and turns the trick on them.

The zone contest is slated in Roby on Thursday. The district contest is set for March 24 in Westbrook.

The play will be presented for the community on Tuesday, beginning at 8 p.m. Ice cream will be served beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Mary Spieker is the director.

Cast members include Casey Frizzell, Ester Martinez, Larry Lambaren, Miranda Terry, Kara Engel-Webb, Kelly Gonzalez, Ricky Luna, Jared Higgins, TJ Wood, Jason Hernandez, Douglas Hughey.

Crew members include Gilbert Rios, chief; and Crystal Jackson, Johnny Garza, Joey Garza.



APRIL FISH — The cast and crew of Hermleigh's one act-play "April Fish" include from left, back row, Jared Higgins, TJ Wood, Jason Hernandez, Douglas Hughey; third row, Miranda Terry, Kara Engel-Webb, Kelly Gonzalez, Ricky Luna; second row, Casey Frizzell, Ester Martinez, Larry Lambaren, Gilbert Rios (crew chief); front row, Crystal Jackson, Johnny Garza, Joey Garza. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

No injuries in pipeline rupture

RYE (AP) — A ripped pipeline spewing flammable gases forced 250 people to evacuate a 50-acre area near the Liberty-Polk county line until Friday, authorities said.

Texas Department of Public Safety Trooper Richard Vasser said the pipeline, which ruptured Thursday, no longer was leaking. Residents were allowed to return to their homes late Friday.

No injuries were reported.

However, some residents had to be ferried by boat because heavy rainfall had flooded out the roadway to their subdivision.

Roads leading into the area about 40 miles northwest of Beaumont were closed as tons of propane, butane and ethane gases escaped from the 10-inch line, which runs from Carthage to Mont Belvieu and is owned by Panola Pipeline.

The pipeline, buried 38 feet underground, ruptured when Troy Construction Inc. subcontract workers installing an adjacent pipeline accidentally cut into it, authorities said.

Vapors immediately began gushing from the line, which is kept under 1,000 pounds of pressure, Department of Public Safety Sgt. Greg Arthur said.

Russian immigrant described as a wannabe gang member

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The young Russian immigrant who could face the death penalty if convicted of killing Ennis Cosby was an above-average student who struggled to fit in, aspired to be a gang member and spent time in a juvenile camp, classmates and school officials said.

"We just thought he was a little white boy who wanted to be a 'cholo' (gang member)," said Olga Medina, 18, a former classmate at Los Alamitos High School. "He was a wannabe, he wanted to be a gang member."

Mikail Markhasev, 18, was charged with murder Friday for the slaying of Cosby, 27, the only son of entertainer Bill Cosby. Markhasev was also charged with attempted robbery and use of a firearm during commission of a crime.

He did not enter a plea and will be held without bail until his next court appearance March 28.

Police say Markhasev randomly chose Cosby for a robbery attempt, shooting him as he was changing a flat tire near a freeway offramp on Jan. 16. Police say they have recovered the gun used in the slaying and a cap worn by the killer.

The allegation that Cosby was killed during an attempted robbery is a so-called "special circumstance" that, if upheld at trial, could allow prosecutors to seek the death penalty.

Markhasev and his mother came to the United States about eight years ago from Lvov, Ukraine, an industrial and cultural center of 800,000 people. He attended a number of Los Angeles-area schools.

Students at Los Alamitos High School in Orange County said Markhasev was called "Pee Wee" because of a perceived resemblance to the film and television character Pee Wee Herman.

Markhasev also had ties to the Varrio Los Alamitos gang, the Long Beach Press Telegram reported Saturday.

"He was promoting VLA as a big bad group," said Soda Davetas, 17, of Laurel High, near Los Alamitos High. "He was too fake. He walked around talking that big talk. It's not powerful when you talk like that."

Los Angeles school officials and Markhasev's boss at a North Hollywood plant store described him as an intelligent teen who didn't cause trouble. He earned a "B" average at Reseda High School, where he enrolled in 1993 after transferring from Los Alamitos.

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Computer Solutions expands Internet service in Snyder

Bullard's Computer Solutions, Inc. is substantially expanding their modems to keep pace with their rapid growth in customers.

"Our goal is in continuing to provide a fast, reliable, busy signal free service for our customers. Since Scurry County is our primary service area, all our attention is concentrated on keeping our local customers happy," said Drew Bullard, president of BCSI.

"If you have a question or problem, you can just pick up the phone and call us," Bullard added.

BCSI is a full service computer store. In addition to being an Internet provider, they design web sites for businesses large and small with a number of successful sites already to their credit.

"Web site design is a growing part of our business," said Bullard, "and we encourage anyone with an interest in establishing a presence on the Internet to contact us."

BCSI also sells new computers, upgrades and repairs old ones, sets up networks, and answers your computer related questions. If you have any computer needs, Computer Solutions can be reached at 573-4801 or you can come by their store located at 3405 College Avenue across from the Kwik Kar Lube and Tune.



HONORABLE MENTION — This painting by Michael Guzman of Hermleigh received honorable mention during the fourth annual West Texas Art Competition held at Western Texas College. He competed in Division 2, 11-12th grades, two-dimensional category. (Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

Acquittal stuns Philadelphia police force

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Police said the two men had admitted to raping and strangling the 26-year-old jogger, leaving her battered body in a stairwell of one of Philadelphia's more exclusive neighborhoods.

Jurors needed less than a day to acquit the men, with one juror saying the panel was convinced that police had lied and conspired to coerce the confessions. It was another blow to a department already reeling from a two-year corruption scandal.

Herbert Haak, 26, and Richard Wise, 20, showed no emotion Friday as they were found innocent of murder, rape and kidnapping charges.

"As much as Haak and Wise were on trial, clearly those police officers were also," defense attorney Jack McMahon said. "This was a complete rejection of the government's case."

The Philadelphia Police Department's corruption scandal has led to the dismissal of 283 cases so far.

Since last year, 10 current and former police officers have been charged with corruption and six are behind bars after pleading guilty to planting drugs on suspects and shaking down drug dealers.

In addition, the city has paid more than $3.5 million in the past year to people who filed lawsuits, claiming they had been wrongly prosecuted and imprisoned as a result of corrupt officers.

Haak and Wise were roommates in the neighborhood near Rittenhouse Square, where Kimberly Ernest's body was found Nov. 2, 1995 — an area with a reputation as one of the city's safest.

"It was obvious they were innocent," said Leonard Wise, the defendant's father. "I don't want this investigation to end. The killer is still out there."

Prosecutor Judith Rubino left the courtroom without commenting, and the victim's mother, Dorothe Ernest, refused to talk to reporters.

Prosecutors said Ms. Ernest was jogging when she surprised the men around 6 a.m. while they tried to steal a car. Police had claimed they beat her into semi-consciousness and dragged her into a car, where Wise raped and strangled her. Haak drove around looking for a place to dump the body, police said.

But Haak said he signed the confession after officers beat him and tortured him for six hours. He said he signed blank pages that authorities later filled in with his confession.

Wise, who didn't testify, did not complain of police brutality, but his attorney told jurors the confession was coerced.

One juror said 11 members of the panel were ready to acquit within minutes of beginning deliberations Thursday. John Sutton, the lone holdout, said he relented, "even though I was letting down all the law-abiding citizens of Philadelphia."

Sutton says his fellow jurors were "convinced of police conspiracy, misconduct, lying perjury, forgery, everything else." Sutton himself was the subject of a jury note saying that there was "a problem with a juror who is threatening other jurors and also trying to provoke jurors."

Lawyer hit with very large fine

SANTA MARIA, Calif. (AP) — A lawyer suing Michael Jackson was fined $28,350 for hiding evidence from the singer's lawyers during pretrial fact-finding.

The lawyer, Michael Ring, represents five former employees at Jackson's Neverland Ranch who claim they were harassed and wrongfully fired. He was fined $10,000 previously for concealing facts.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Sunday, March 16, 1997

Acknowledge brilliant concepts you get in the year ahead regarding new ways to add to your resources. You are quite lucky in this area and what you conceive could be useful.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) It is best to let your left hand know what your right hand is going today. If not, you might start shoveling out your resources as quickly as you take them in. Pisces, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your patience might wane as the day wears on and you could be rather harsh and abrupt with companions who do not respond immediately to your directives.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you're doing any traveling today, check your reservations and accommodations in advance; there might be some last-minute adjustments.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Someone you're involved with might be looking for a fee as intermediary today for helping you close a deal; wait until he or she produces.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Companions will be bitter today if you place your interests far above theirs. Do not alienate friends in order to accommodate yourself.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Have faith in your attributes and capabilities today. If you let self-doubt gain the upper hand, you'll be whipped before you begin.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Be sure you have the approval of a friend before making any commitments for him or her today. Your pal might not want any part of what interests you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Strive to be self-sufficient today, because the persons you are depending on might be hoping to lean on you instead and bring down the whole house of cards.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Today, you might be tempted to resent others for not taking care of something which you should be attending to yourself. Passing the buck won't work.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Have fun and enjoy yourself today, but make an effort to do it as inexpensively as possible. If you're too extravagant, spender's remorse might set in later.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Take your mate's wishes into consideration today before settling plans with others. If there is a disagreement, it could spoil the day for both of you.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) If you want peace of mind today, it's imperative you keep your priorities in order. Take care of responsibilities first and have your good times later.

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Your Birthday

Monday, March 17, 1997

Someone who has considerable confidence in you might help you put together something significant and impressive in the year ahead. Neither of you could do it without the other.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) You may feel that people or circumstances are closing in on you today; instead of planning work in the house or office, why not plan to do some outside work or errands. Major changes are ahead for Pisces in the coming year. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today. Mail $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper. P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Dealing with the public could prove to be an advantage today; your perception regarding their desires and requirements will be right on target.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) If you're involved in a new endeavor today, let others do the brawny stuff while you do the brain work. It should work out better for everyone concerned.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You could be particularly fortunate today where your material interests are concerned, so be alert for unique opportunities — at least two are possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Mobility and independence will be extremely important to you today, so avoid arrangements in which you could be controlled by outside forces.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Usually it's a bit foolish to depend too heavily on your intuition, but today might be an exception.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A brief recreational break could do you a world of good at this time, so try to participate in some kind of social involvement even if it is competitive.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Others will be closely observing and analyzing your behavior today, especially with regard to new responsibilities. Fortunately, you should score well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You might have some energy to burn today, and if you lack activity you may become negative; keeping busy, however, should have the opposite effect.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Associates will look for ways to share things with you today, especially persons you went out of your way to help recently. Good usually returns to its source.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Friends will want to be around you today because you'll instinctively know how to draw out others to make them feel important and special.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Being productive today will make you feel a lot better about yourself than goofing off will. Come out of your playpen and do something constructive.

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Yosemite Valley reopens after disastrous flooding

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK, Calif. (AP) — After a 2½-month shutdown, the natural beauty of Yosemite Valley still shines through, despite $178 million in flood damage, much of it still unrepaired.

"It doesn't look that much different today. It's gorgeous out here," Superintendent B.J. Griffin said Friday as the valley, the heart of Yosemite National Park, opened for the first time since torrential New Year's rains caused flooding.

"But take a closer look and you'll see heavily damaged campgrounds, roads, buildings, housing, overnight guest rooms, many of which were demolished by the flood," he said. "We have to admit that we took a big hit."

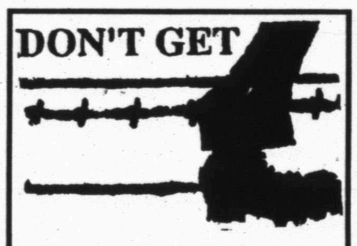
The closure was the longest in the 107-year history of the valley, home to majestic waterfalls and granite cliffs.

Visitors were greeted by a big increase in the entrance fee to one of the nation's most popular tourist spots. Admission is now $20, up from $5. The National Park Service raised fees in January but delayed the increase at Yosemite until the valley reopened.

Griffin said crews worked around the clock to restore enough services to reopen the valley, but much work is left to be done.

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573-7519
Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford, Carrie Fisher in
THE EMPIRE STRIKES BACK SPECIAL EDITION
Sat. Showtimes: 2:00, 7:00 & 9:25 Rated PG
Sun. Showtimes: 2:00 & 7:00
Matthew Perry in
FOOLS RUSH IN
Sat. Showtimes: 2:10, 7:10 & 9:10 Rated PG13
Sun. Showtimes: 2:10 & 7:10
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Sunday, March 16, 1997
"Tough Is Not Enough": Mark 10:35-40
Sunday, March 23, 1997
"High Noon In Jerusalem": Mark 11:12-19
Sunday, March 30, 1997
"The Crucified One Wins (And We Win With Him)": Mark 16:2-8
Dr. Tim Griffin, Pastor
Robert Bailey, Minister of Music
Sunday School For All Ages 9:50 a.m.
Morning Worship: 10:50 a.m.
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Marcia Sanders - John 3:16
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• Stable driving traction from wide foot print and interlocking tread elements
• Available in H, S, T, U, V and Z speed ratings
50000 MILE TREADLIFE WARRANTY — SAVE 25%
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185/70R13 $36.85
185/70R14 $41.90
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• S Speed Rated
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• Sport raised white letter or black serrated styling
GOODYEAR
ECONOMY PRICED PERFORMANCE RADIAL
EAGLE GT II
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MAR 16 1997

SPORTS

Andrews next...

Tigers rout Panthers to advance to finals

The Snyder Tigers have proven that the home field is an advantage.

The Tigers advanced to the championship game of the Snyder Baseball Tournament Friday night with a five-inning 12-2 rout of the Fort Stockton Panthers.

Kyle Beck proved fatal for Fort Stockton as he struck out 10 of the 17 batters he faced. Beck walked only one and gave up six hits.

The Tigers came out of the dugout in the bottom of the first and quickly sent a message to the Panthers. Snyder scored four runs in the first inning on seven hits to take a 4-0 lead.

Beck shutout Fort Stockton for the first four innings before the Panthers scored on a Tiger error and an RBI single.

Since the tournament is being run on an eight-run rule, Fort Stockton's last chance at a comeback came at the top of the fifth.

The Panthers flied out to left field on their first at bat, and hit into a 4-6-3 double play to end the game.

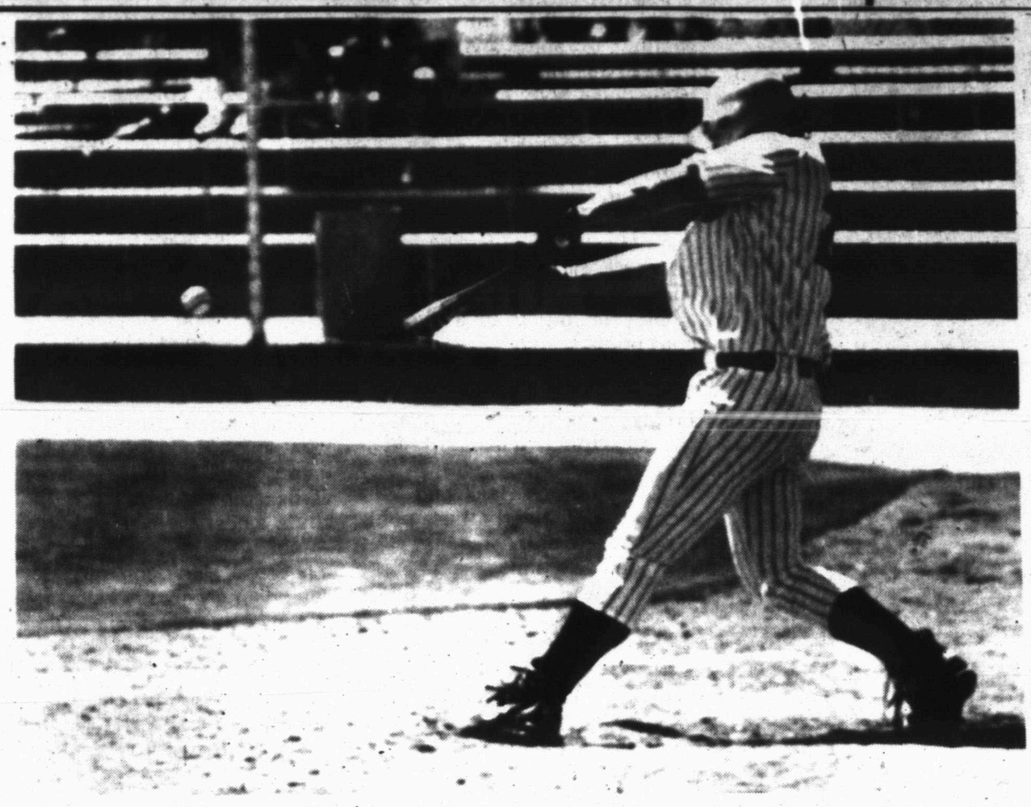
Patrick Cumbie hit one for one with a double and David Smith went two for three with a double. John Border hit three for three, while Clay Berryman went two for three. Sonny Cumbie hit two for three and Trevor Thompson hit one for three.

The Tigers were to face the Andrews Mustangs Saturday night at 7 at Moffett Field for the championship.

The Mustangs advanced to the finals with an 8-0 win over Roosevelt Friday.

In the consolation half of the draw, the Seminole Indians were to face the Denver City Mustangs at 2 p.m. Saturday at Moffett Field. Fort Stockton was to face Roosevelt at 4:30 p.m. Saturday at Moffett Field for third place.

Other scores from Friday: Sweetwater 11, Big Spring 9; Seminole 9, Huntington 1; Denver City 4, Colorado City 2; Abilene Wylie 7, Brownfield 3; Roosevelt 9, Big Spring 0.



LET 'ER RIP — Snyder's Kyle Beck rips a pitch in the Tigers' 12-2 win over Fort Stockton Friday. Beck also pitched for the Tigers, fanning 10 and giving up six hits. (Photo by Jamie Sharp)

Boniol headed to Philly

IRVING (AP) — Placekicker Chris Boniol, the offensive standout for the Dallas Cowboys last season, joined punter John Jett as an off-season, free agent defection Friday, taking a $2.45 million offer from the Philadelphia Eagles.

The Cowboys, who have salary cap problems, failed to match the four-year offer which gives Boniol $800,000 in 1997, including a $150,000 bonus. Boniol receives salaries of $500,000 in 1998 and 1999, and $650,000 in 2000.

Dallas had made a $361,000 offer so it would have the right to match any offers.

"Chris did a great job for us," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said in a statement Friday announcing the team's decision. "He was a big part of our success over the past three seasons, and we all wish him the best."

Dallas coach Barry Switzer said he hated to lose Boniol because "he's a great kid and a great pressure kicker, but that's more than we can afford to pay."

Boniol made 32 of 36 field goals last season including his last 27 in a row. He made an NFL record-tying seven field goals in a win over the Super Bowl champion Green Bay Packers.

Boniol also made the game-winning 29-yard field goal in overtime against San Francisco. Two years ago he made a dramatic 35-yard field goal as time expired, leading Dallas over the New York Giants.

Boniol made 81 of 93 field goals in his three-year career with the Cowboys, after joining them as a rookie free agent from Louisiana Tech in 1994.

The Cowboys lost Jett to the Detroit Lions. Jett also was Boniol's holder.

Dallas was about $900,000 under the $41.45 million salary cap and hope to sign fullback Daryl Johnston, who is a free agent.

Boniol said he understood his contract was just business.

Boniol also might miss Texas Stadium which provides more ideal conditions for a placekicker than windy and cold Veterans Stadium.

Freeman scores 31 in Texas' 71-58 win over Wisconsin

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Welcome back, Reggie Freeman.

Struggling down the stretch of the season, Freeman picked an unlikely opponent to come out of his slump — a Wisconsin team that has held others to 37 percent shooting this year.

Freeman scored 31 points as 10th-seeded Texas beat a sloppy Badgers team 71-58 Friday in the first round of the NCAA tournament's East Regional. He made 11 of 19 shots and seven of eight free throws.

"I had a lot of fun out there. ... I was able to do a lot of the things that I like to do. I could pull up and take the shot or get it to the open man," Freeman said.

Freeman made five of eight shots in the first half and scored 18 points in the second half after shooting just 27.6 percent in six previous games. Texas lost four of those games, including an 83-60 blowout against Colorado, another NCAA East Regional team.

"He presents a challenge because he's taller than most point guards. He has size and ability. he's a tremenous player and played a remarkable game," Wisconsin coach Dick Bennett said about Freeman.

Texas was the first team with 16 wins to get an at-large bid in tournament history. Coach Tom Penders insisted that a tough schedule including Rhode Island, Florida, Arizona and Utah earned the Longhorns their spot.

"Are we still on the bubble?" Penders asked.

Wisconsin point guard Ty Calderwood did not start because he slept through a team meal on Thursday. He fouled out and was hassled by the Longhorns in only 23 minutes on the court.

"I was late. Those are the rules," Calderwood said.

Bennett, in his first tournament appearance with the Badgers after three appearances with Wisconsin-Green Bay, pulled center and top scorer Paul Grant after Grant got his fourth foul with 11:55 left in the second half and the Badgers trailing 48-38.

Sean Daugherty's basket tightened the score at 53-45 midway through the half, but moments later the ball slipped out of the Wisconsin forward's hands on an open jumper and went out of bounds.

The seventh-seeded Badgers stayed within 10 for a while, but Freeman's consistent shooting kept them from closing the gap. His layup with 3:21 left gave Texas a 13-point lead.

"He's an exceptionally talented player, and being a taller guard he had an advantage on our defenders. We had to foul him most of the time, and he hit his free throws. We prepared for him, but we didn't stop him," Grant said about Freeman.

Texas (17-11) opened a 12-3 lead in the game's first 3:56 behind Kris Clack's seven points and aggressive defense that befuddled Calderwood's replacement, Henssy Auriantal. Clack finished with 15.

Penders is now 7-1 in the first round of the tournament, with five of the wins coming against higher-seeded teams. Texas made 19 of 21 second-half free throws and advanced to the second round for the fourth consecutive year.

NCAA BASKETBALL SCORES

All Times EST

EAST REGIONAL
First Round
At Lawrence Joel Coliseum
Winston-Salem, N.C.
Thursday, March 13
California 55, Princeton 52
Villanova 101, Long Island University 91
North Carolina 82, Fairfield 74
Colorado 80, Indiana 62
At Pittsburgh Civic Arena
Pittsburgh
Friday, March 14
Texas 71, Wisconsin 58
Coppin State 78, South Carolina 65
New Mexico 59, Old Dominion 55
Louisville 65, Massachusetts 57
Second Round
At Lawrence Joel Coliseum
Winston-Salem, N.C.
Saturday, March 15
North Carolina (25-6) vs. Colorado (22-9), 12:15 p.m.
California (22-8) vs. Villanova (24-9), 30 minutes after previous game
At Pittsburgh Civic Arena
Pittsburgh
Sunday, March 16
New Mexico (25-7) vs. Louisville (24-8), 2:20 p.m.
Coppin State (22-8) vs. Texas (17-11), 30 minutes after previous game

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL
First Round
At The Pyramid
Memphis, Tenn.
Thursday, March 13
Kansas 78, Jackson State 64
Purdue 83, Rhode Island 76, OT
College of Charleston 75, Maryland 66
Arizona 65, South Alabama 57
At Charlotte Coliseum
Charlotte, N.C.
Friday, March 14
Tennessee-Chattanooga 73, Georgia 70
Illinois 90, Southern California 77
Providence 81, Marquette 59
Duke 71, Murray State 68
Second Round
At The Pyramid
Memphis, Tenn.
Saturday, March 15
Kansas (33-1) vs. Purdue (18-11), 2:25 p.m.
College of Charleston (29-2) vs. Arizona (20-9), 30 minutes after previous game
At Charlotte Coliseum
Charlotte, N.C.
Sunday, March 16
Duke (24-8) vs. Providence (22-11), 12:15 p.m.

MIDWEST REGIONAL
First Round
At The Palace of Auburn Hills
Auburn Hills, Mich.
Thursday, March 13
Cincinnati 86, Butler 69
Iowa State 69, Illinois State 57
Xavier, Ohio 80, Vanderbilt 68
UCLA 109, Charleston Southern 75
At Kemper Arena
Kansas City, Mo.
Friday, March 14
Clemson 68, Miami, Ohio 56
Tulsa 81, Boston University 52
Temple 62, Mississippi 40
Minnesota 78, Southwest Texas State 46
Second Round
At The Palace of Auburn Hills
Auburn Hills, Mich.
Saturday, March 15
Cincinnati (26-7) vs. Iowa State (21-8), 4:40 p.m.
UCLA (22-7) vs. Xavier, Ohio (23-5), 30 minutes after previous game
At Kemper Arena
Kansas City, Mo.
Sunday, March 16
Tulsa (24-9) vs. Clemson (21-9), 2:25 p.m.
Minnesota (28-3) vs. Temple (20-10)

WEST REGIONAL
First Round
At The Huntsman Center
Salt Lake City
Thursday, March 13
Boston College 73, Valparaiso 66
St. Joseph's 75, Pacific 65
Kentucky 92, Montana 54
Iowa 73, Virginia 60
At The McKale Center
Tucson, Ariz.
Friday, March 14
North Carolina Charlotte 79, Georgetown 67

SDN Sports Week

Monday
WTC golf at Chaparral Invitational, Midland.
SHS varsity boys and girls golf at Levelland.

Tuesday
SHS varsity baseball at Andrews, 5:30 p.m.
SHS JV baseball hosts Sweetwater, 5:30 p.m., Moffett Field.
SHS varsity softball at Coahoma, 5 p.m.; JV at 5:30.
WTC golf at Chaparral Invitational, Midland.

Friday
SHS varsity baseball at San Angelo Lake View, 4:30 p.m.
SHS varsity softball hosts Midland Greenwood, 7:30 p.m., Dale Cates Field; JV at 5:30.
SHS varsity tennis at Hereford Tournament, Hereford.
SHS varsity boys track at Seminole Relays.
SHS varsity girls track at Abilene Classic.
Snyder Junior High track at Sweetwater.

Saturday
SHS varsity softball at Midland Christian, 2 p.m.
SHS JV softball at Clyde, noon.
SHS JV baseball at Sweetwater, 1 p.m.
SHS powerlifting at state meet, Houston.
SHS varsity tennis at Hereford Tournament, Hereford.
SHS varsity boys track at Seminole Relays.
SHS varsity girls track at Abilene Classic.

SDN Sports Briefs

Little League umpires meeting

The Snyder Little League umpires will meet at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at Moffett Field.

WTC All Sports Banquet

The annual WTC All Sports Banquet will be held at Rudy's Restaurant at 7 p.m. Thursday.

The banquet will honor athletes from the basketball, rodeo, golf and cheerleading squads. Tickets are $7.50 each.

WTC Booster Club meeting

The WTC Booster Club will meet at noon Monday at Rudy's Restaurant to plan for the upcoming year.

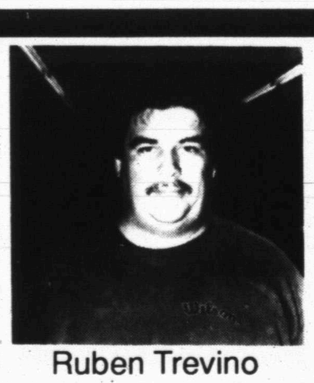
Century Club members may pick up their tickets for the All Sports Banquet at the door and if you have paid for your tickets, please RSVP.

Men's basketball tournament

The Hermleigh Booster Club will host a men's basketball tournament Friday and Saturday.

The cost is $100 per team. For further information, contact Chip Roemisch at 863-2241 or 573-4087.

Saturday Night Dance
9:00-1:00
BAREBACK
AMERICAN LEGION
1800 Ave R
Members & Guests


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Is Now Under New Management.
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$10 - Car Wash & Hand Dry, Vacuum & Armorall
$35 - Complete Detail
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NOW
TRY THE BEST!
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Senior Little League Signups
for ages 13-15
Tuesday, March 18
And Thursday, March 20
4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church
•Bring A Birth Certificate and Parent or Guardian
•Fee $40.00

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2519 College Ave. 915-573-2653
Come by and talk to Mary, Liz or Shunda About A Loan Today

Lady comp

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Saturday at 4 p.

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Charlotte
Cleveland
Indiana
Milwaukee
Toronto

WESTERN C
Midwes

x-Utah
Houston
Minnesota
Dallas
Denver
SanAntonio
Vancouver

Pacific

Seattle
L.A.Lakers
Portland
Sacramento
L.A.Clippers
Phoenix
GoldenState

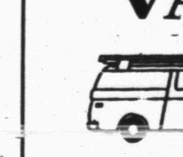
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Toronto 103, Sacrame
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Orlando 86, Charlotte
Miami 88, Vancouver
Seattle 97, Atlanta 91
Utah 105, Indiana 96
Washington 105, Milw
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San Antonio at Denve
Dallas at Phoenix, 8 p.

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Vancouver at Orlando
Boston at Minnesota 2
Seattle at Detroit, 6 p.
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Dallas at Sacramento,
Toronto at L.A. Laker


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SPORTS

Lady Tigers finding competition rough

The Snyder varsity and JV Lady Tigers are finding the competition a little tough at the Canyon Reef Spring Break Classic.

The varsity has won two out of four games and the JV has won one out of three.

The varsity Lady Tigers are in the Division I consolation portion of the draw. Snyder finished up pool play Friday with a 7-3 loss to El Paso Eastwood. The Lady Tigers finished fifth in Pool C.

The JV squad rounded out pool play with a 9-4 win over the Monahans Lady Loboes Friday. The Lady Tigers were second in Pool D.

The varsity started off bracket play with a 3-1 victory over the Van Alstyne Lady Panthers. Snyder was scheduled to face the Coahoma Lady Bulldogs Saturday afternoon at 12:30. The championship game in the Division I consolation draw will be played Saturday at 4 p.m at East Field.

The JV Lady Tigers fell 7-4 to the Abilene High JV Friday in their first game in bracket play.

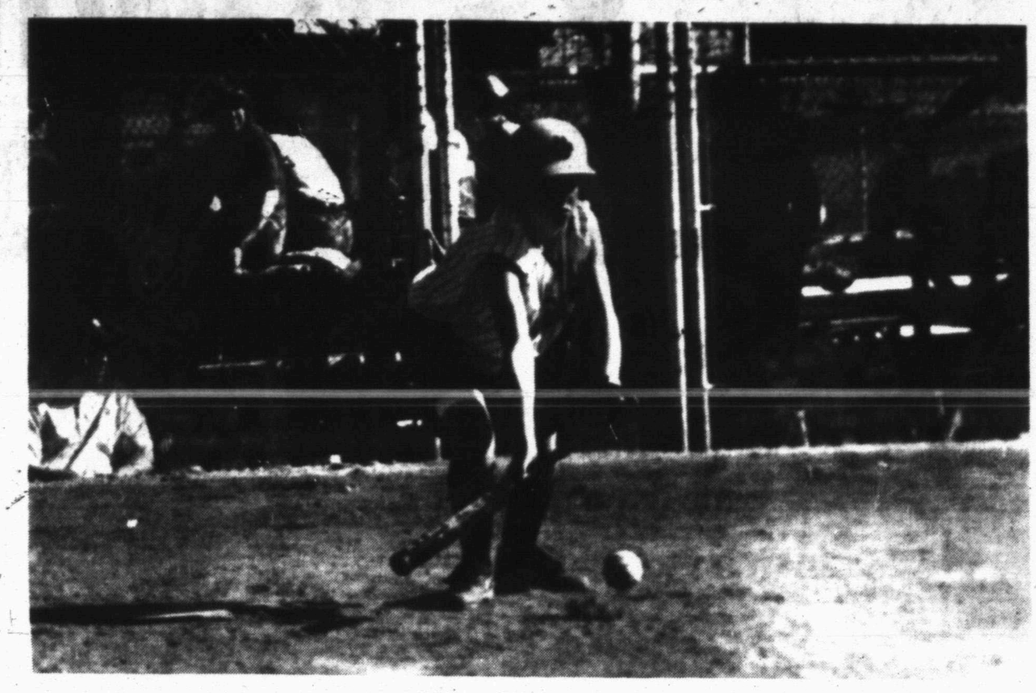
The JV was scheduled to face the Colorado City Lady Wolves Saturday morning for a place in the Division II consolation finals. The championship game in the Division II championship draw was to be played Saturday at 4 p.m. at West Field.

In the Division I championship portion of the draw, Abilene High edged Andrews, 2-1, Friday.

Games scheduled for Saturday were: Hawley vs. El Paso Eastwood, Lubbock Coronado vs. Breckenridge, Clyde vs. Midland Christian.

The championship game in the Division I championship draw was to be played Saturday at 5:45 p.m. at West Field

Other scores Friday: Abilene High 4, Midland Christian 2; Van Alstyne 6, Andrews 5; Coahoma 6, Andrews 0; Abilene Wylie 5, Godley 1; Abilene Wylie 10, Lubbock Coronado 10; , Lubbock High 13, Kermit 6; Hawley 6, Andrews 0; Monahans 15, Colorado City 6; Abilene High JV 4, Kermit 2,; Kermit 9, Hermleigh 6; Clyde 18, San Angelo Lake View 2; Coahoma 8, Van Alstyne 0; Lubbock Coronado 2, Godley 1; Breckenridge 8, Big Spring 7; Monahans 12, Lubbock Monterey 3.



LAYING DOWN A BUNT — Snyder's Amy Ricks lays down a bunt in the Lady Tigers' 7-3 loss to El Paso Eastwood Friday. Snyder was scheduled to face the Coahoma Lady Bulldogs Saturday morning. (Photo by Jamie Sharp)

Ticket prices going up for Dallas Cowboys

IRVING (AP) — Ticket prices are going up for the Dallas Cowboys.

The team announced the increase Friday.

For non-luxury suite seats at Texas Stadium, the average ticket price will be $43.58. In 1996, the seats cost $38.31.

Other single game ticket prices will change as follows:

—$55, up from $46, for lower level seats, between the 20-yard lines and the first 10 rows of the upper level.

—$50, up from $42, for all remaining sideline seats.

—$35, up from $33, for lower level end zone seats.

—$34, up from $32, for upper level end zone seats.

NBA at glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

	W	L	Pct	GB
EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division				
Miami	47	17	.734	—
NewYork	47	17	.734	—
Orlando	35	28	.556	11½
Washington	30	33	.476	16½
NewJersey	19	44	.302	27½
Philadelphia	17	46	.270	29½
Boston	12	53	.185	35½
Central Division				
x-Chicago	55	9	.859	—
Detroit	46	17	.730	8½
Atlanta	43	21	.672	12
Charlotte	41	23	.641	14
Cleveland	34	29	.540	20½
Indiana	30	33	.476	24½
Milwaukee	26	37	.412	28½
Toronto	23	40	.365	31½
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
x-Utah	47	17	.734	—
Houston	43	21	.672	4
Minnesota	31	32	.492	15½
Dallas	21	41	.339	25
Denver	18	45	.286	28½
SanAntonio	16	47	.254	30½
Vancouver	11	55	.167	37
Pacific Division				
Seattle	45	18	.714	—
L.A.Lakers	42	21	.667	3
Portland	37	28	.569	9
Sacramento	28	36	.438	17½
L.A.Clippers	27	35	.435	17½
Phoenix	25	38	.397	20
GoldenState	24	39	.381	21

x-clinched playoff spot

Thursday's Games
Seattle 108, Minnesota 92
Dallas 109, Boston 107
Detroit 102, Denver 82
Phoenix 112, L.A. Clippers 96
Toronto 103, Sacramento 96
Golden State 101, Cleveland 95, OT

Friday's Games
New Jersey 99, Chicago 98
Philadelphia 109, Minnesota 95
Orlando 86, Charlotte 81
Miami 88, Vancouver 82
Seattle 97, Atlanta 91
Utah 105, Indiana 96
Washington 105, Milwaukee 96
San Antonio 103, Boston 92
Portland 96, Cleveland 73
L.A. Clippers 97, L.A. Lakers 95

Saturday's Games
Toronto at Golden State, 2 p.m.
Charlotte at Philadelphia, 6:30 p.m.
Utah at Washington, 6:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Phoenix, 8 p.m.

Sunday's Games
New Jersey at New York, 1 p.m.
Houston at Miami, 1 p.m.
Indiana at Milwaukee, 1:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Orlando, 2 p.m.
Boston at Minnesota 2:30 p.m.
Seattle at Detroit, 6 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Clippers, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Sacramento, 8 p.m.
Toronto at L.A. Lakers, 8:30 p.m.

Transactions

By The Associated Press

BASEBALL
American League

ANAHEIM ANGELS—Assigned RHP Geoff Edsell, RHP Mike Freehill, RHP Fausto Macey and RHP Jeff Schmidt to Vancouver of the Pacific Coast League, and LHP Matt Perisho and C Bret Hemphill to Midland of the Texas League.

CLEVELAND INDIANS—Purchased the contract of LHP Noe Najera from the Cincinnati Reds for $25,000.

KANSAS CITY ROYALS—Claimed LHP Doug Johns off waivers from the Oakland Athletics.

OAKLAND ATHLETICS—Sent RHP Aaron Small outright to Edmonton of the PCL.

TORONTO BLUE JAYS—Moved RHP Bill Risley from the 15- to the 60-day disabled list.

National League

NL—Suspended St. Louis Cardinals RHP T.J. Mathews six games and fined him $2,000 for admitting to throwing at Cincinnati Reds 2B Bret Boone.

CHICAGO CUBS—Optioned RHP Steve Rain to Iowa of the American Association.

FOOTBALL
National Football League

ARIZONA CARDINALS—Re-signed FB Larry Centers to a three-year contract.

DALLAS COWBOYS—Announced they would not match the $2.45 million offer restricted free agent K Chris Boniol received from the Philadelphia Eagles.

NIT glance

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

First Round
Wednesday, March 12
Connecticut 71, Iona 66
Florida State 82, Syracuse 67
Michigan State 65, George Washington 50
West Virginia 98, Bowling Green 95
Pittsburgh 82, New Orleans 63
Notre Dame 74, Oral Roberts 58
Bradley 66, Drexel 53
Arkansas 101, Northern Arizona 75
Nebraska 67, Washington 63
Texas Christian 85, Alabama-Birmingham 62
North Carolina State 77, Southwest Missouri State 66
Nevada 97, Fresno State 86
UNLV 66, Memphis 62
Hawaii 71, Oregon 61

Thursday, March 13
Michigan 76, Miami 63
Oklahoma State 79, Tulane 72

Second Round
Monday, March 17
Michigan St. (17-11) at Florida St. (17-11), 7:30 p.m.
West Virginia (20-9) at North Carolina State (17-14), 7:30 p.m.
Pittsburgh (18-14) at Arkansas (16-12), 8 p.m.
Hawaii (21-7) at UNLV (21-9), 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday, March 18
Texas Christian (22-12) at Notre Dame (15-13), 7:30 p.m.
Bradley (17-12) at Connecticut (15-14), 7:30 p.m.
Oklahoma State (17-14) at Michigan (19-11), 9:30 p.m.
Nebraska (17-14) at Nevada (21-9), 10:30 p.m.

Players, owners sign agreement

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball finally has a new collective bargaining agreement, and it only took four years, three months and seven days.

Union head Donald Fehr and management negotiator Randy Levine signed the deal Friday, bringing an end to the most destructive of baseball's eight work stoppages since 1972. A 232-day walkout wiped out the final 7½ weeks of the 1994 season, the first three weeks of 1995 and the World Series for the first time in 90 years.

The deal runs through the 2000 season, and players have the option to extend it for an additional year.

"Our fans are assured there will be labor peace in baseball for at least five years," acting commissioner Bud Selig said. "The attention, focus and energy of everyone in baseball — management and players alike — swing to the rebuilding of our national pastime."

As part of the agreement, the minimum salary for the 1996 season retroactively increases to $150,000 as of last July 31. Players who were earning the old minimum of $109,000 last season and were on the roster for the final two months of 1996 must be mailed checks of $13,666.67 by next Thursday.

Players, who walked out on Aug. 12, 1994, ended their strike the following March 31 when U.S. District Judge Sonia Sotomayor issued an injunction forcing owners to maintain the work rules of the expired agreement.

As part of the agreement, the union has 60 days to ask the National Labor Relations Board to request that Sotomayor dismiss the case.

"These have been the most arduous negotiations," Fehr said. "In my judgment, the agreement reached, along with the cooperation between players and clubs that we contemplate, will play a major part in the explosion of popularity the sport is about to witness."

Levine, who was in his office in New York, faxed his signature to the players association, which is three blocks away. Levine's signature was faxed to Fehr, who was in Florida. Fehr signed the page and faxed it back to the union office, sealing the deal.

"We can concentrate on the game on the field, without the distractions of negotiations in the conference room," Levine said. "Today begins a new era of real partnership between the clubs and players."



HERE'S THE THROW — Snyder's Darcee Purell attempts to throw a baserunner out. A Snyder victory Saturday morning would put the Lady Tigers in the consolation finals at 4 p.m. Saturday (SDN Staff Photo)

Rain washes out second round of Honda Classic

CORAL SPRINGS, Fla. (AP) — Despite rain that postponed the second round and lingered into late evening, PGA Tour and tournament officials still want to play all four rounds of the Honda Classic.

How that's going to happen is anyone's guess.

"Obviously, we won't know that until we see the conditions," tour spokesman Lee Patterson said Friday night.

Paul Stankowski and Lee Janzen were tied for the lead at 5-under-par 67, the highest first-round score by a leader on the PGA Tour this year.

The Honda Classic moved this year to the TPC at Heron Bay, a flat course that uses 107 bunkers to tighten the landing areas and depends heavily on winds to keep scores respectable.

But an estimated 2½ inches of sain swamped fairways. Starting times were pushed back three times before the round was postponed.

"The greens and bunkers were excellent. The fairways were the only problems," PGA Tour tournament director Arvin Ginn said Friday. "We didn't have any choice."

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Are you interested in earning extra income? We are seeking experienced and highly motivated LVNs to do limited evening and weekend home health visits in Snyder and the surrounding area. This could be just the supplemental income you need.
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EOE/ADA
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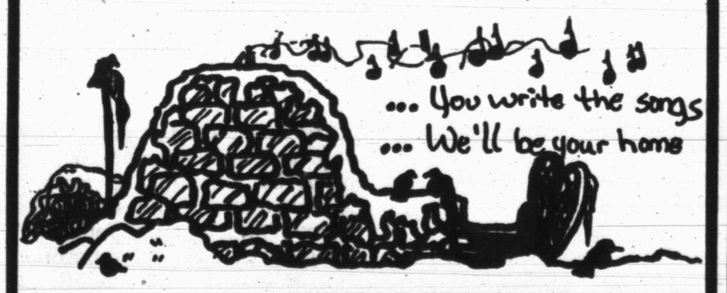
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28 X 44 1997 Palm Harbor double wide. $29,995 includes delivery, set up, a/c and 5 year warranty. J Hite, Inc. 1-800-378-0998.

$995 down and you own a new 1997 3 bedroom 2 bath Fleetwood home. $179 month, 9.75% apr var, 240 months. Call Tim, today. 2 left to choose from, special offer from the factory. Homes of America Odessa, TX 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881.

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Spectacular savings on this new 1997 Fleetwood doublewide, 1421 sq. ft., storm windows, island kitchen, oak cabinets, beautiful master bedroom with seated separate shower, garden tub, 3 spacious bedrooms, for as little as $342 month, 5% down, 9.25% apr var, 360 months. Ask for Joe Hernandez, Homes of America Odessa, TX 1-915-363-0881 1-800-725-0881.

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4502 Galveston din.-3-2-2	
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#3 HOUSE & LOT In Country $21,500
Roswell Rigsby Real Estate
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CUSTOM BUILT- Lovely 4-2 1/2-2 Formal din.-Breakfast area - Nice shop in rear - Near Schools - 3307 Irving.

COMPLETE UPDATE!- 3718 Dalton - New carpet, New paint, New kitchen, New roof, 3 bd., 2 bth-1 car gar. Only $35,500

PERFECT!- Just off Gary Brewer Rd. at 1868 Santa Fe - Nice 3-2 Huge family rm., Good storage - Nice shop + gar.

TWO TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY ESTATES- 3-5 bdrms - Natural wood-hardwood floors-West 32nd St.

COUNTRY COMFORT- 11 acre Homesite-Brick 3-2-lg. family rm. w/fpl.-Liv. rm-2 cp-Nice 20x40 shop-South Hwy. 350, $80's

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Outside City 3-2-2cp.	$86.5T
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4300 Ave. U 3-2-2	$59T
33 Acres Close In	$21.5T
3730 Ave. U 3-1	$31.5T
Com. Buildings on the square	
Country 2-1	$18T
640 Acres Cult. & Past., Tanks, creek, N. of Camp Springs	
160 Acres Deep Creek 4 yrs. left on CRP approx. 65 A Past.	
4502 Galveston Nice	$86.5T
2113 42 3-1-2cp CH/A	$36.5T
2100 42nd 3-2-1 2L.areas	52.5T
404 35th St. 3-2 CH/A	$35T
3001 34th 3-2	$59.9T
Lmsa.Hwy House Lg.Shp	$35T
2 Houses outside Snyder	$65T
1904 Ave. M 2-1-1	$25T
2903 36th 3-3-2 Red.	$82.5T
Bill Dryden	573-9739
Doris Beard	573-8480
Frances Stevenson	573-2528

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AUCTION

Saturday March 22 10 AM

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FROM Snyder, Texas at intersection of U.S. 84 and Hwy 180 (Rip Griffin Truck Stop), go **East** on Hwy 180 6 1/2 miles, turn left (north) on County Road 1101 go 2 miles, turn left (west) on Camp Springs Road go 1/2 mile, turn right (north) go 4 1/2 miles on right.

Saturday March 22 10 AM

4-24' Steel Cotton Trailers
4-28' Steel Cotton Trailers
16' Tandem Stock Trailer w/Electric Brakes
12' Tandem Utility Trailer
1-10' Utility Trailer
4-32' Steel Tandem Trailers (Excellent)
5' x 14' Tandem Stock Trailer
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1-Air Compressor (Brand New)
Gas Weed-Eater
1- Gasoline Weed Eater (Brand New)
Garden Tiller
1-Garden Tiller (Brand New)

1100 gallon Nurse Tank w/Gas Pump
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International #92 Air Planter
1 Anvil
1 Lot Misc. Sweeps
Solar Fence Charger
Shop Tool Box
Marquette "500" 180 Amp Welder

2-3 Row 21/4 Tool Bar
2-4x4x2 1/4 10 Row Wedgco Tool Bars
8 Hay Racks
2-3 Row IHC Cultivator Front Mount
2 Row IHC Cultivator Front Mount
Whirl Wind Terracer
2 Row Shredder

JD 2 Row Shredder
1418 JD 4 Row Shredder
McCormick 1 Row Ensilage Cutter
Transporter Round Bale Mover
10' Blade w/Cylinders (Excellent)
Hesston "1014" Hydra Swing Rower
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2-3 Row 2 1/4 Tool Bar
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2-8' Water Troughs
2 Row Rotary Hoe
Snap-on Duals
6 Row Plow Packer
1610 JD Grain Drill (Excellent)
8' Tandem Disk
10" MF 13 Shank Chisel
JD Hydraulic Post Driver 3 pt.
1 Lot 2/3/8" Tubing
ATC Big Red Three Wheeler
1 JD STX-38 Riding Lawnmower
15 Sacks Haybrazer Seed

MISCELLANEOUS:

1 Damascus Peddle Sewing Machine
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1 Singer "239" Electric Sewing Machine
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Brunswick "152" Radio (old)
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Dinette Table w/6 Chairs
Frigidaire Freezer
Frigidaire Refrigerator / Freezer
Hardwick Stove / Oven Combo
Bedroom Set
Bedroom Set (Blonde)
Magnavox 25" Color TV
1964 Tower Cap Shotgun
Remington 22 Automatic
Console TV
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Straight back Wooden Chairs
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6 Carrell Units
NCR Cash Register
34 Plastic Student Chairs
Wooden Chairs
Folding Chairs
Computer Monitors various makes / models
Computer Monitors Various Makes / Models
Computers Various Makes / Models
2 Murata Fax Machines
Keyboards
Electric Light Sign
Emerson Microwave
Minute Man Phones
Wing & Son Piano
3 Baldwin Pianos
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Filmstrip Projectors
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Typing Tables
Sony Stereo Cassette Recorder
Sony Video Camera w/Case
Technicolor Super 8 Instant Filmloop Player
Electrophonic Modular Stereo System
Singer Caramate
Bell & Howell Slide Master
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MAR 16 1997

Administration split over new pollution rules

WASHINGTON (AP) — While the Clinton administration was considering a plan to tighten air-pollution controls, agencies complained about costs, questioned whether it would significantly improve health and worried aloud that it could force millions to change their lifestyles.

Internal documents obtained Friday by The Associated Press indicate concern at high levels of the administration that was only slightly less intense than the criticism from industry groups, members of Congress and state officials.

Concerns about various aspects of the EPA proposal were raised by the president's Council of Economic Advisers, his science adviser, the Commerce, Treasury, Transportation and Agriculture departments and the Small Business Administration. Only the Interior Department gave an unequivocal green light.

Nevertheless, the costly plan, advanced by the Environmental Protection Agency, is expected to become final this summer. Its full impact is not likely to be felt for years.

The EPA argues that current federal health standards for smog-causing ozone and microscopic soot are inadequate to protect public health, especially for the elderly and those with respiratory illnesses, and that the latest science supports a tightening.

But the documents obtained by the AP show there was strong dissent within the administration as the EPA initiative was being developed last year.

The EPA issued a statement playing down the internal discord. "Major proposals such as this typically involve lively discussion ... and diverse opinions," said Loretta Ucelli, the EPA's associate administrator for public affairs. "The diverse views were considered ... and the decision was made to move forward."

Much of the disagreement focused on the EPA's aggressive timetable, its cost estimates and what some officials considered overly optimistic expectations on health benefits. White House Science Adviser John Gibbons, suggested the EPA could be moving too fast and that more time should be taken to shore up scientific support.

"I find it hard to believe that we would suffer more than we would gain by taking more time .. for further interagency review, consensus building and additional analysis," Gibbons wrote a week before the EPA announced its proposal last November.

Frank Kruesi, an assistant secretary at the Transportation Department, said in a memo he considered it "incomprehensible" that the EPA would pursue the tougher soot standards "without much greater understanding of the problem and its solutions."

He raised concern over the economic impact and about states being stripped of highway funds if they can't comply and feared that new pollution curbs may "require lifestyle changes by a significant part of the population."

Various industry groups had raised the "lifestyle changes" point earlier — saying the tougher standards could lead to banning barbecues, fireworks and power mowers. EPA Administrator Carol Browner had dismissed such fears as "nothing more than scare tactics."

A senior White House economic adviser accused the EPA of understating expected costs because it assumes many cities would not be able to comply fully. This "understates the true costs of stricter standards by orders of magnitude," wrote Alicia Munnell, a member of the president's Council of Economic Advisers, in a memo in mid-December.

She also challenged the EPA's health risk analysis, maintaining that benefits even to "sensitive populations are small" compared to costs her office estimated as possibly as high as $60 billion if all cities were to meet the new standards.

Munnell's memo, like the others from various agencies and departments, were sent to the Office of Management and Budget as part of a formal interagency review.

In the days before the proposal was announced in November, the White House Office of Science and Technology worried that the EPA might be overstating health benefits and should provide more time to develop scientific support.

"We should take advantage of every bit of time available to improve the administration's analysis on the (ozone standard)," Gibbons advised in a memo the day after the Nov. 20 meeting.

Pediatric formula of AIDS drug OK'd

WASHINGTON (AP) — AIDS-infected children got their first drugs from the powerful class of protease inhibitors Friday when the government approved two pediatric formulas.

Agouron Pharmaceuticals' Viracept is the first protease inhibitor to get simultaneous approval for sales to both adults and children. Taken in a cocktail with two older medicines, it can cut by about 98 percent the amount of AIDS virus in adult patients' blood.

The Food and Drug Administration approved Viracept, known chemically as nelfinavir, for use in children 2 and older, although the company cannot yet say how effective it is for them. That research is under way, but the FDA approves pediatric drugs if they are safe and early testing indicates they will work similarly in children and adults.

Also Friday, the FDA approved a year-old adult protease inhibitor for children's use, Abbott Laboratories' Norvir.

Protease inhibitors are the most powerful AIDS drugs yet developed, credited with saving thousands of lives. But last year, mothers protested that protease inhibitor makers were not working fast enough to create children's formulas.

Agouron, a small biotechnology company in La Jolla, Calif., became the first drug maker to seek simultaneous FDA approval to sell adult tablets and a child's powder, which is mixed into milk, baby formula, even pudding. Viracept became the fourth approved protease inhibitor Friday.

Abbott's Norvir brings the pediatric choices to two.

The Pediatric AIDS Foundation welcomed the news, but urged protease makers to quickly study newborns and infants so they too can use the drugs.

A little more than 10,000 of the nation's half a million AIDS cases have been in children and teenagers, and about 4,500 of them are still alive and in need of drugs.

Viracept was widely anticipated by adults, too. Although none of the newest AIDS drugs have been directly compared, doctors generally agree that Merck & Co.'s Crixivan is the most potent — and the only one proved to actually cut deaths in half.

But experts expect Viracept to prove similarly potent, and say it has some advantages: Its chief side effect is diarrhea, and it must be taken three times a day with meals. Crixivan, however, occasionally causes kidney stones, so all patients must drink lots of water. And Crixivan must be taken strictly every eight hours on an empty stomach.

Agouron said a year's supply of Viracept will cost about $3,000 for a young child, up to $5,650 for an adult. Agouron said it will provide the drug free for any child not covered by insurance and for certain impoverished adults.

For more information, call Agouron at 1-888-847-2237.

FDA advisers recommend brain implant

ROCKVILLE, Md. (AP) — Maurice Long's hands and arms shook so badly he had to drink coffee through a straw. But that was before he entered an experiment to see if electric shocks from an implant deep in his brain could stop the trembling.

The novel solution for Parkinson's disease and other tremor victims moved a step closer to the market Friday, as scientific advisers recommended the Food and Drug Administration approve Medtronic Inc.'s pacemaker-like brain implant.

"I can eat soup for the first time in 14 years," said Long, 72, of Hutchinson, Kan., who has a hereditary disease called essential tremor. "I can go out in public and enjoy life."

"It is a wonderful miracle," added Parkinson's patient George Shafer, 65, of Fort Myers, Fla., who once shook so badly he could not button his own shirt. "I even made a model airplane."

At least 500,000 Americans have Parkinson's, a degenerative neurological disease in which patients suffer uncontrollable shakes, rigid limbs and other worsening symptoms. About 2 million Americans have essential tremor, a little-understood disease that causes similar violent shaking but no other symptoms, said University of Kansas neurologist Dr. William Koller.

The drug L-Dopa helps some Parkinson's symptoms, although its effects wane over time. Only about 40 percent of essential tremor patients are helped by medicines.

The shaking is so debilitating — eventually destroying patients' ability to work, even feed themselves — that some undergo dangerous surgery to destroy a small part of the brain responsible for the trembling. But the surgery can cause permanent problems with speech, movement and swallowing.

Minneapolis-based Medtronic says "deep brain stimulation" from its Activa implant is far less risky. Doctors drill through the skull and implant an electrode into the thalamus, a walnut-sized region deep in the brain. The left side of the thalamus controls movement in the right side of the body, and vice versa.

A wire runs just under the scalp down to the collarbone, where a pacemaker-sized "pulse generator" is implanted. It sends electrical waves — custom set for each patient — to the electrode, which blocks tremors by emitting constant, tiny electrical shocks.

In studies of 120 patients here and in Europe, about half saw their shaking disappear, Koller told the eight-member scientific panel. Others had different ranges of improvement; only seven Parkinson's patients were worse a year later.

Unlike surgery, Activa is reversible: simply turn it off by running a magnet over the chest where the generator is implanted. Long did so Friday, and his hands immediately began shaking. Another swipe of the magnet to turn the system back on, and 10 seconds later his hands were steady again.

The effect was greatest for essential tremor, where testing showed patients could write, pour liquids without spilling and perform other tasks significantly better after the implant.

The implant does not help Parkinson's patients as much, the FDA said.

McVeigh defense team seeks dismissal or long trial delay

DENVER (AP) — Upset by two purported confessions attributed to Timothy McVeigh, defense attorneys have asked a judge to throw the case out of court or at least delay the Oklahoma City bombing trial for a year if not move it out of Colorado.

The attorneys contend the confessions reported by The Dallas Morning News and Playboy magazine in the past two weeks have jeopardized the jury pool.

"Misguided media representatives have stripped Mr. McVeigh of any vestige of a presumption of innocent, have poisoned the jury pool with extremely prejudicial news reports and have rendered impossible any opportunity for a fair trial," Stephen Jones wrote in a brief filed Friday.

Prosecutors immediately asked U.S. District Judge Richard Matsch to proceed with the trial as scheduled March 31, saying they believe prospective jurors will be impartial and pointing out that those summoned were warned last month to avoid watching or reading news accounts.

"I think nobody expects this case to be delayed for a year. We're pretty confident that our opposition to the motion will prevail," prosecutor Joseph Hartzler said.

If the case isn't dismissed or delayed, McVeigh's attorneys want the trial moved, recommending places Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands or Vermont as potential venues.

Both sides met with the judge in closed chambers Friday afternoon. It was not clear when Matsch would rule.

A spokeswoman for a bombing victims' group said the defense team's move was frustrating to survivors and relatives.

"Here the victims again have to sit and wait and we're at everybody's mercy," said Marsha Kight. "We need to look at the big picture here and I sure hope the judge does."

Playboy and The Morning News have published separate stories claiming that McVeigh confessed to bombing the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in 1995, killing 168 people and injuring more than 500.

McVeigh and co-defendant Terry Nichols are charged with murder, conspiracy and weapons-related counts. If convicted, they face the death penalty.

Researchers complete map of X chromosome

NEW YORK (AP) — Researchers have completed a high-resolution map of the X chromosome, one of the pair that determine whether a child will be a boy or a girl, The New York Times reported today.

The breakthrough, first reported Friday in the journal Genome Research, makes the chromosome the first to be mapped to the level of detail set by the Human Genome Project, said Dr. Eric Green of the National Human Genome Research Institute.

The project is a $3 billion effort to map the human genetic blueprint.

The map was assembled by a team of 25 biologists at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. It consists of a set of identifiable milestones at regular intervals along the chromosome, a giant molecule of DNA some 160 million chemical units in length.

Women have a pair of X chromosomes, while men have an X and Y chromosome. But the team's research is of particular interest to men because it is defective genes in X chromosomes that frequently cause conditions like hemophilia and color blindness.

Women who have such defective genes often can compensate if the counterpart gene on their second X chromosome is functional.

The Washington University team spent 10 years creating the map under the direction of Dr. David Schlessinger.

Dr. David Nelson, an X chromosome expert at the Baylor College of Medicine, told the Times that the map produced by Schlessinger's team is a "tour de force."

"(It) will greatly speed up searches for X-linked-disease genes and efforts to understand chromosome biology," said Dr. Huntington Willard, a geneticist at Case Western University.

The map will also allow other laboratories to chemically identify the DNA units in the regions between the map's milestones. By filling in these gaps, the full DNA sequence of the X chromosome can be determined, giving a complete picture of the genetic blueprint in at least one of the 24 chromosomes that make up the human genome.

1 arrested on warrant

One person was arrested Friday on a felony motion to revoke probation warrant.

Deputies arrested Michael Brent Howell, 34, at his residence at 202 34th street at 10:21 a.m.

Activity was light otherwise for law enforcement officials.

Norma Mayes requested to speak to a deputy at 4:50 p.m. in reference to the theft of a saddle from a barn on CR 4134.

Officers were called to Skinny's on Coliseum Drive at 6:50 p.m. in reference to a gas drive-off.

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010 LEGAL NOTICES

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Separate sealed BIDS for the construction of McCowen Street Paving will be received by Development Corporation of Snyder at the office of Developement Corporation of Snyder until 11:00 a.m. (Standard Time) March 25, 1997, and then at said office publicly opened and read aloud.

The CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be examined at the following locations: Development Corporation of Snyder

Copies of the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS may be obtained at the office of Freese & Nichols, Inc., located at 4055 International Plaza, Suite 200, Fort Worth, TX 76109, upon payment $50 for each set.

Any BIDDER, upon returning the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS promptly and in good condition, will be refunded the payment, and any non-bidder upon so returning the CONTRACT DOCUMENTS will be refunded $00.0.

BID NOTICE

D.M. Cogdell Memorial Hospital will be accepting sealed bids for the removal and replacement of approximately 615 squares of 300 wt. composition shingles. Bids are due by 12:00 noon March 28, 1997 at the Cogdell Memorial Hospital administration office, 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, TX 79549. Bid specifications may be obtained from Jay Wesson, Plant Operations Manager. Please call for an appointment to inspect the proposed project at (915) 574-7371. Cogdell Hospital reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Classified
The link between buyer and seller

Notice of Public Meeting
Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP)

The Texas Department of Transportation and the Abilene Metropolitan Planning Organization will hold a joint a public meeting in Abilene to obtain comments concerning the proposed 1998-2000 Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) for the Abilene metropolitan area and for the Abilene district.

The TIP is a three-year plan developed by TxDOT for Borden, Callahan, Fisher, Haskell, Howard, Jones, Kent, Mitchell, Nolan, Scurry, Shackelford, Stonewall and Taylor counties.
The TIP includes the following:
***A priority list of projects and project segments that will be carried out within the 3-year period, and**
***A financial plan that demonstrates how the TIP can be implemented, indicates resources from private (if any) and public sources that are reasonably expected to be made available to carry out the plan, and recommends any innovative techniques to finance needed projects and programs.**

The public hearing will be held March 27, 1997, at 7 p.m. in Conference Room #4 of the Abilene Civic Center (north end) at North 7th and Pine Streets, Abilene, Texas.

A 10-day comment period following the public hearing will permit other interested persons to submit written comments to Maribel P. Chavez, Abilene district engineer, P.O. Box 150, Abilene, Texas 79604. All written comments must be received at the Abilene district office no later than Monday, April 7, 1997. Those desiring to make oral comments or presentations at the meetings may register starting at 6:30 p.m. Any interested persons may appear and offer comments, either orally or in writing. Comment cards will be available at registration. The TIP Proposal can be examined during business hours through April 30, 1997, at the Abilene district office, 4250 N. Clack, Abilene.

The civic center is handicap accessible.

Card Of Thanks



Thank You

To Our Many Wonderful Friends:

We thank you so much for your prayers, visits, words of comfort, food, flowers and every expression of love.

Knowing that you loved Troy and us, and really cared, helped us through this sad time in our life.

Thank you to Bro. Rhodes for the beautiful service, the CMH emergency room staff, EMS and Bell-Cypert-Seale Personnel.

The Family of Troy R. Green

Date Book

March 15, 1997

Today is the 74th day of 1997 and the 85th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 44 B.C., Julius Caesar was assassinated in Rome.

On this day in 1820, Maine became the 23rd state in the union.

On this day in 1958, Elvis Presley was drafted into the U.S. Army.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Andrew Jackson (1767-1845), U.S. president; Harry James (1916-1983), musician-bandleader; Norm Van Brocklin (1926-1983), football star-coach; Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1934-), Supreme Court justice, is 63; Judd Hirsch (1935-), actor, is 62; Harold Baines (1959-), baseball player, is 38; Terence Trent D'Arby (1962-), musician, is 35.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1962, Wilt Chamberlain scored his 4,000th point of the 1961-62 NBA season.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The individual who refuses to defend his rights when called by his government, deserves to be a slave, and must be punished as an enemy of his country and friend to her foe." — Andrew Jackson

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1936, a severe dust storm in southeast Colorado reduced visibility to less than 10 feet.

SOURCE: 1997 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: First quarter.

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March 16, 1997

Today is the 75th day of 1997 and the 86th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1827, America's first black newspaper, Freedom's Journal, was founded.

On this day in 1957, "The Gumby Show," a popular animated children's television program, aired for the first time.

On this day in 1968, American soldiers massacred 300 residents of My Lai and My Khe, two villages in Vietnam.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: James Madison (1751-1836), U.S. president; Georg Simon Ohm (1789-1854), physicist; Jerry Lewis (1926-), comedian, is 71; Daniel Patrick Moynihan (1927-), U.S. politician, is 70; Kate Nelligan (1951-), actress, is 46.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1956, former heavyweight-boxing champion Joe Louis made his debut as a professional wrestler.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I believe there are more instances of the abridgement of the freedom of the people by gradual and silent encroachments of those in power than by violent and sudden usurpations." — James Madison

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1959, snow fell in San Antonio, Texas, despite the temperature being 50 degrees.

SOURCE: 1997 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Day after first quarter.

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Three cosmic treats for stargazers due

MIAMI (AP) — In just six days, the moon will go into a near total eclipse, a giant comet will be within a few million miles of Earth and Mars will be in direct opposition with the sun, bringing a dash of red to the green holiday of St. Patrick's Day.

This cosmic triathalon — all of which can be seen without the help of a telescope — is just too much for veteran star watcher Jack Horkheimer.

"Few times will you have this many dramatic events visible to the naked eye in the heavens in such a short time period," said Horkheimer, who is the director of the Miami Space Transit Planetarium and the writer-host of the PBS show "Star Hustler."

The triple play in the heavens begins Monday morning, when Mars will be in a straight line opposite the Earth from the sun. The red planet will rise in the east at sunset, brighter than usual, and travel across the sky before setting in the west as the sun rises.

The star of the three-act show takes center stage the following Saturday, March 22, when the comet Hale-Bopp comes closest to the Earth — 123 million miles away, twice as far as Mars.

For the next few weeks, one of the brightest comets in modern history will be most visible to the naked eye, even in city skies awash with artificial light.

"It looks like a bright star with a fuzzy halo and stubby tail," said Horkheimer. "Expect a ghost star. If you expect a skyrocket or fireworks then comet watching is not your cup of tea."

The eclipse comes a day later, on Sunday, March 23. The moon will turn a rusty, reddish color at 11:40 p.m. EST; the Earth's shadow will cover 92 percent of the moon.

Hale-Bopp, which hasn't been to the solar system in 4,000 years, is already visible before dawn in the northeast sky about 10 to 15 degrees above the horizon. The comet will be visible in the northwest sky after sunset in most of the country, starting in about two weeks through mid-April.

"The head of Hale-Bopp is like a brilliant star, just like the Chinese depicted comets 2,000 years ago, as broom stars, sweeping the heavens," says Stephen O'Meara, a contributing editor of Sky and Telescope Magazine.

Those who haven't witnessed Hale-Bopp should take advantage of the next few weeks, astronomers said.

"A comet this large, coming to the inner part of the solar system is something that seems to happen every 200 years," said Brian Marsden, associate director for planetary sciences at the Smithsonian Astrophysical Observatory in Cambridge, Mass.

"The only other comets that compare with Hale-Bopp are the great comet of 1811 that came just about to the orbit of the Earth and before that, back to 1577."

Fans, kin see Selena movie after long wait

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — Family members and hundreds of crying, cheering fans turned out Friday night to see a Hollywood-style screening of the film "Selena."

The movie, which will be released nationally at theaters March 21, also attracted stars, musicians and the city's elite.

A parade of actors in the film — including Jennifer Lopez and Edward James Olmos — stepped from stretch limousines in formal black tuxedos and long dresses.

Lopez, who plays Selena in the film, dazzled the crowd in an embroidered mauve and sage Valentino gown. Stopping along a gauntlet of cameras and microphone-wielding reporters, she said she was happy to be a part of such an important film.

"I don't think I'll ever have a role like this again where I get to play such a beautiful person," said Lopez.

"It's hard to be somebody else, somebody who is so beloved. I knew I'd be under a lot of scrutiny. I tried to focus more on the person that I had to portray and all the wonderful things she was."

Selena's father, Abraham Quintanilla Jr., with his wife, Marcella, on his arm walked quickly passed the media without comment. The red-haired Marcella Quintanilla wore an elegant purple beaded suit. Selena's husband, Perez, told the media he would be seeing the film for the first time that night.

The movie traces the life of Selena Quintanilla-Perez from her childhood spent singing with the family's band to her ascent as a Grammy-winning Tejano star and her preparations to cross over to the American pop charts.

It also depicts her death at age 23 at the hand of her former fan club president, Yolanda Saldivar. Ms. Saldivar is serving a life prison sentence for fatally shooting the singer on March 31, 1995, at a Corpus Christi motel.

Corpus Christi was one of 13 cities nationwide selected to have a screening of the movie, which was filmed in the San Antonio area and in Corpus Christi.

Defense seeks FBI interview reports

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Attorneys for Unabomber suspect Theodore Kaczynski say they will need hundreds and perhaps thousands of files from prosecutors to if they are to properly defend their client.

Federal defenders Quin Denvir and Judy Clarke said they need the paperwork to back their motion to suppress evidence seized at Kaczynski's cabin in Montana. They've asked for an April 1 hearing on their request.

Kaczynski, 54, was arrested at the cabin last spring. He is accused in a 10-count federal indictment of four bombings that killed two people and maimed two others.

Kaczynski's trial is scheduled to begin in Sacramento in November.

He also has been indicted in New Jersey in a fatal explosion there, and prosecutors have said they believe he is behind all 16 of the bombings attributed to the elusive, anti-technology terrorist known as the Unabomber.

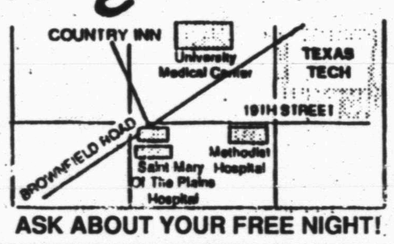
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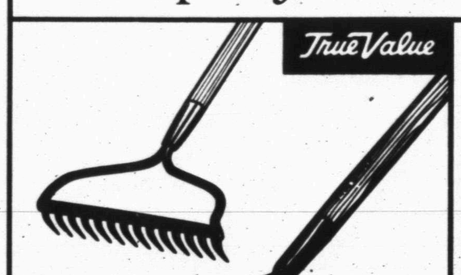
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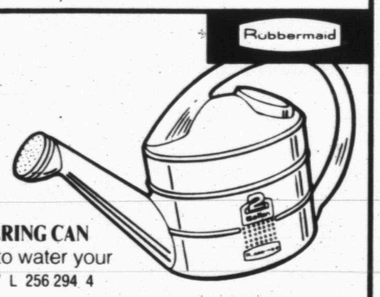
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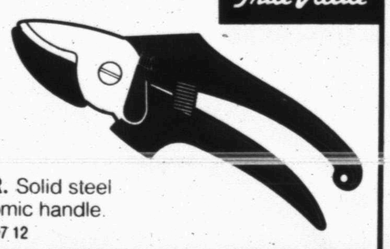
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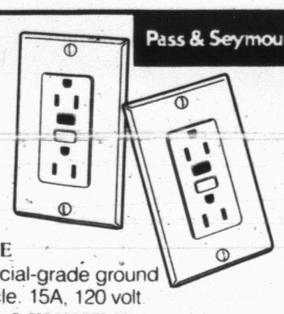
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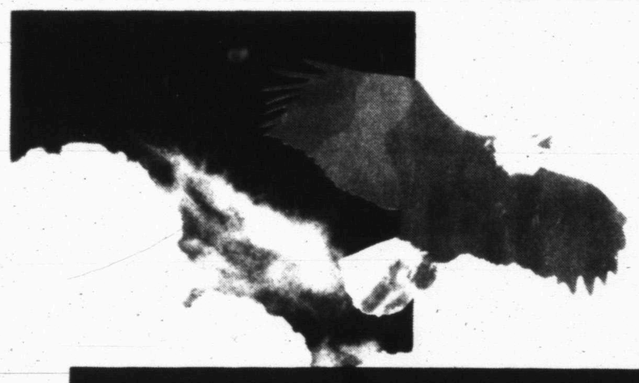
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MAR 16 1997

2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Clinton hospital stay expected to be brief

BETHESDA, Md. (AP) — President Clinton was being kept in the hospital Saturday while doctors adjusted his pain medication and began physical therapy to rehabilitate his right knee.

"The president is fine. He slept comfortably and is in good spirits," Dr. David Adkison said this morning. Filling in for Clinton on the president's weekly radio address Saturday, Vice President Al Gore also reassured the nation.

"The president's doing great. ... He'll be back on his feet — both of them — very soon," Gore said.

Still, Adkison, the orthopedic surgeon who led Friday's two-hour, four-minute operation to repair Clinton's torn tendon, noted that the procedure is excruciatingly painful.

He said physicians would spend Saturday weaning the president off the epidural that has been used to numb his lower body. Clinton was expected to be free of the epidural — and free to go home — on Sunday.

With the kind of tendon injury Clinton sustained, Adkison said, "it feels like every corpuscle of blood goes to your knee and it just goes 'Boom!' It throbs badly."

A physical therapist would also begin what Adkison called "rigorous and brisk" therapy. While many knee-surgery patients are put on a machine that bends the knee to maintain range of motion, Adkison said a doctor's hands are more gentle and discriminating.

"We don't trust this to a machine," he said.

Then it will be crutches and a thigh-to-ankle leg brace for a couple of months — no jogging and no golf for up to six months. But the president is expected to fully recover from his freak injury, doctors say.

"Don't worry about it," Clinton said from his bed at Bethesda Naval Medical Center, speaking by telephone to a hospital news conference shortly after undergoing surgery Friday. "I'll just spend a little time here and then go back to work."

Clinton is scheduled to leave on Tuesday for Helsinki, Finland, for a two-day summit with Russian President Boris Yeltsin, and his doctors said it appears he will be able to withstand the trip.

Kantor suggested college trust fund for Hubbel kids

WASHINGTON (AP) — Former Commerce Secretary Mickey Kantor is the newest addition to a list of President Clinton's friends who tried to give financial help to Whitewater figure Webster Hubbell.

Kantor said Friday he spoke to a longtime friend of Hubbell's in Little Rock, Ark., Mike Schaufele, about establishing a college trust fund because Hubbell was locked in a financially ruinous billing dispute with his former law partners.

"We were talking about setting up a trust fund to have money for their children's education," said Kantor, who served as both commerce secretary and U.S. trade representative in Clinton's first term.

Asked whether the fund was actually established, Kantor referred all questions to Schaufele, who did not return phone calls. Telephone calls left for Hubbell's lawyer also were not returned.

Kantor's comments are the latest in a string of recent disclosures about the efforts of Clinton's friends to aid Hubbell financially in the months leading up to his guilty plea in the Whitewater investigation.

Prosecutors are investigating whether the payments to Hubbell — reportedly as much as $400,000 — have anything to do with his failure to recall key events as a cooperating witness in the Whitewater probe.

Kantor said his efforts, which were first reported by the Los Angeles Times in Friday editions, occurred before he knew Hubbell was under criminal investigation.

He said he also telephoned the chief executive officer of the Federal National Mortgage Association, James Johnson, and recommended Walter Hubbell for a job. Hubbell got a job at the association's marketing department.

Obituaries

Rhonda Hester

1952-1997

Service for Rhonda Janell Hester, 45, of Snyder was to be held at 2 p.m. Saturday in the chapel of Griffin Funeral Home in Hobbs, N.M. Burial was to follow in Praire Haven Cemetery in Hobbs.

Mrs. Hester died Thursday, March 13, in an automobile accident. She was 45.

Born on Feb. 13, 1952 in Snyder, Mrs. Hester was an employee of A&M Composites in Coahoma.

Survivors include her husband, Ron Hester of Snyder; one daughter, Damona Goss of San Angelo; two stepchildren, Angie Morris and Justin Hester, both of Snyder; her mother, Evelyn Windham of Menard; a sister, Rosie Comer of Big Spring; and a brother, Randy Lawson of Menard.

Emma Morris

1903-1997

ROBY — Funeral service was set for 3 p.m. Saturday in the Weathersbee Funeral Home Chapel for Emma Lloyd Morris, 93, of Flower Mound. Burial was to follow in the Roby Cemetery.

The mother of Orlena Lay of Snyder, Mrs. Morris was a former resident of Roby and died Thursday, March 13, in a Grapevine hospital.

Born in Paris, Tex., she moved to Fisher County in 1912. She married Joe Morris in 1925 in Roby, and he preceded her in death.

A homemaker, Mrs. Morris had moved to Flower Mound in 1991. She was a member of the Order of Eastern Star and the First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include two other daughters, Mineola Parker of Roby and Natalie Gribbins of Flower Mound; a brother, Ed Neves of Big Spring; eight grandchildren; 14 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

John Blake

1913-1997

BIG SPRING — Funeral service was held Saturday in the Myers and Smith Chapel for John M. Blake, 83, who died Thursday, March 13, in a Big Spring hospital.

The Rev. Arnold Tonn, pastor of Spring Tabernacle Church, officiated, and burial followed in the Mount Olive Memorial Park.

Born in Franklin County, he had farmed in the Knott community and had been a resident of Big Spring since 1934. He also did carpentry work, and was a Baptist. Mr. Blake had also lived in Snyder for five years.

He was preceded in death by a son, Charles Ray Blake in 1976; two brothers; and four sisters.

Survivors include a son, Dean Blake of Big Spring; two daughters-in-law, Patsy Anderson of Big Spring and Betty Smith of Stanton; two sisters, Hattie Brack of Commerce and Gladys Hambrick of Winsboro; six grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Stephen Holmes

1956-1997

BIG SPRING — Graveside service was held at 4 p.m. Saturday in Mt. Olive Memorial Park for Stephen P. Holmes, 40, who died Wednesdsay, March 12, in a Big Spring hospital following a sudden illness.

He was the brother of Tina White of Snyder.

Born in El Dorado, Kan., he grew up in Big Spring and married Denna Maness in 1980. After living in Fort Worth, he moved back to Big Spring in 1993.

Mr. Holmes worked for B&E Roustabout Services in Sand Springs, and he was a Baptist.

Survivors include his wife, Denna Maness of Big Spring; two daughters, Kayla Maness and April Dawn Holmes, both of Big Spring; a son, Stephen Jones Jr. of Big Spring; eight other sisters, Mary Driver of Kingsland, Paula Underwood, Jo Vann, Kay Box, Sherry Holmes, Tracy Johnson, all of Big Spring, Lori Hodges of Comanche and Jackie Wells of East Texas; a brother, Michael Holmes of Bedford; and two grandchildren.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

What's Up?

AARP chapter to meet

The local AARP chapter will meet at noon Monday in the Senior Center. Cogdell Hospital administrators Jeff Reecer and Jerry Vestal will be the guest speakers. A board meeting will follow.

Bible study video tapes

Bible study video tapes are airing on TCA Cable TV Channel 2. They are followed by a new series titled "Hope for Life's Journey." The fourth Bible tape, "The Providentially," will air at 7 p.m. Monday. It will be followed by "When God Went to Prison."

Satellite town meeting

Snyder citizens are invited to participate in a satellite town meeting on "School-to-Work Opportunities: Workplaces as Learning Environments" at 7 p.m. Tuesday on Channel 32. Viewers can call the program using a toll-free number to ask U.S. Secretary of Education Richard W. Riley questions.

Grief support group

The grief support group meets at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the First Presbyterian Church.

Hermleigh Booster Club

Hermleigh Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the high school.

Boys & Girls Club meeting

The Boys & Girls Club board will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday at the club, 1500 28th Street. Agenda items include summer fund-raising events, employee salaries, building renovations, adding additional board members and United Way. Visitors are welcome.

Ministerial Alliance to meet

The Ministerial Alliance will meet at 10 a.m. Thursday at Rudy's.

Skate Night planned

Snyder Noon Kiwanis will sponsor Skate Night from 6-9 p.m. next Saturday at Scurry County Coliseum. Admission is $2 for skaters and $1 for spectators. Concessions will be available. All ages are welcome. Bring your own skates.

Art and writing contest

Area schools are invited to participate in the 11th annual Texas Wildflower Program at Scurry County Museum. The program will feature creative art and writing. Projects will be accepted March 24-27. The display will open April 7 and close May 9. For information, call 573-6107.

Ira gospel singing

Ira First Baptist, Church of God, Church of Christ and United Methodist are hosting a community singing at the Ira School Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, March 29. Call Judy Smallwood at 573-5785 or Linda Darnell at 573-9527 to have your group placed on the program. Everyone is invited.

Easter sunrise service

East Side Church of Christ invites everyone to a sunrise service to be held March 30 at the J.R. Cave Ranch, approximately five miles south on Highway 208. More detailed information is forthcoming.

Senior Swimnastics

Senior Swimnastics is held each Tuesday and Thursday at the Western Texas College pool from 2:15-3:45 p.m.

Free tax help provided

An AARP tax aide is available Wednesdays at the Senior Center from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-3 p.m. to help middle and low income older taxpayers prepare their personal income taxes. For information, call 573-4035 or 573-3822.

Wildflower tours available

Scurry County Museum will be conducting wildflower tours from April 7-30. Tours should be scheduled at least five days in advance by calling 573-6107. The tours will be given by Western Texas College botany students.

SNS needs financial help

Snyder Neighbors Sharing, which repairs homes of persons over 65 or disabled, is in need of donations for the April 26 workday. Donations can be mailed to SNS, P.O. Box 541, Snyder, or dropped off at Sam Robertson's Insurance or the West Elementary School office.

Adult education classes

GED and ESL classes are available at Western Texas College. Times are 8-11 a.m. Tuesday through Thursday and 6-8:30 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays. Contact the college continuing education department for more information.

Cash 5

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

5-16-24-28-33

(five, sixteen, twenty-four, twenty-eight, thirty-three)

Pick 3

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

1-8-2

(one, eight, two)

Evangelist's wife acquitted of obstruction

DALLAS (AP) — The wife of a former evangelist has been acquitted of charges that she tried to obstruct the federal investigation that led to her husband's imprisonment.

Brenda Grant, wife of ex-evangelist W.V. Grant, was acquitted Friday after jurors deliberated for nearly four hours.

Mrs. Grant would have faced up to 10 years in prison if she'd been convicted. She had originally pleaded guilty to the obstruction of justice charges in exchange for probation, but changed her mind in favor of a jury trial before U.S. District Judge Joe Kendall.

Hamburger Happy Meal



Every Tuesday 4:00 til Closing
In Store Only

99¢

Snyder, Texas
Colorado City, Texas

McDonald's

Call Us For Your Birthday Party
573-7732

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District VIII convention set

The spring convention for District VIII Texas Garden Clubs Inc. will be held in Coleman on Friday and Saturday, March 21-22.

Coleman Town and Country Garden Club, Ballinger Civic Garden Club and the Cross Plains Garden Club will host this event. Convention chairmen are Joe Hemphill and Nan Markland.

Pre-convention activities will be a 6:30 p.m. Dutch treat dinner at Collum's Restaurant in Cross Plains. Reservations are necessary by March 17 by calling Paunece Oglesby at 817-725-6772.

Registration will begin Saturday with a coffee and an executive board meeting at 8:30 a.m. in the Coleman High School auditorium, 201 West 15th.

The general assembly and business meeting will be at 9:30. Lunch will be served at the high school cafeteria. A program, "Everything is Coming Up Posies," will be presented by Hazel McCoy from Goldthwaite, horticulturist and past president of Texas Garden Clubs Inc.

Addresses needed for class of 1947

Snyder High School Class of 1947 needs addresses for three classmates to plan its reunion. The class needs to contact Juanita Green, June Lewis and Gwen Mitchell. Anyone having information may call Durelle Gorman at 573-9087 or Raye Sterling at 573-7338.

Kite lecture, workshop set

Gary King, a kiting professional for 15 years, will present a kite demonstration on March 21 at the Scurry County Museum from 5 to 6 p.m.

The demonstration will be held outdoors, weather permitting. King's "Kite Talks" will include historical scientific and technical kiting information.

On Saturday, March 22, King will conduct a kite making workshop from 9:30 to noon at the museum. Kite kits may be built and flown as part of the program for $1.50 each.

To reserve a place in the workshop, call the museum at 573-6107.

Scurry County Library News And Views

Scurry County Library has an outdoor book drop located in front of the building and books may be returned any time. However, the library staff reminds patrons that the book deposit is locked only on holiday weekends.

They also ask that tapes not be placed in the drop due to heat, cold, and damage from heavy books.

BOOK FEATURE

What Falls Away," by Mia Farrow.

Mia Farrow's story is ultimately one of hope and courage in the face of difficulty. Told with grace and deep understanding, as well as humor, "What Falls Away" goes beneath the surface of her life to expose the inner workings of her mind. We are introduced to the extraordinary landscapes of her life to see the incidents that shaped the unique individual Mia Farrow became.

NEW NON- FICTION

"Wall Street Journal Lifetime Guide to Money."

"The Male Body," by K. Winston Caine.

"Clearing for the Millennium," by Albert Clayton Gaulden.

"Afraid to Eat," by Frances M. Berg.

NEW FICTION

"3001: The Final Odyssey," by Arthur C. Clarke.,

"Three to Get Deadly," by Janet Evanovich.

"Tycoon," by Harold Robbins.

LIBRARY HOURS

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.: Mon., Wed., Fri. & Sat.

10 a.m. to 9 p.m.: Tues. & Thurs.

Evening nuptials unite Jayme Gregory and Steven Olsen in a Dallas church

DALLAS — Jayme Leigh Gregory and Steven Dale Olsen, both of Dallas, were wed in a 7 p.m., Nov. 23, 1996 ceremony held in Prestonwood Baptist Church.

Dr. Jack Graham, pastor of the church in Dallas where the couple are members, officiated the double-ring rites.

The bride is the daughter of Clinton and Shirley Gregory of Andrews, formerly of Snyder. Her grandparents are Kenneth and Edna Gregory of Snyder, and the late James Stansell of Fluvanna.

Jim and Sherry Olsen of Dallas are parents of the groom. His grandparents are Mrs. Elva Noffsker and Mrs. Bryce Olsen, both of Clovis, N.M.

An ivory colored, gold lame banner with "Lord, Jesus, Christ" embroidered vertically, centered the altar area. On either side of the banner were two four-foot columns topped with fresh white gladiolas, and white Queen Anne roses in a white urn. Two double candelabras flanked the columns. Tulle and gold lame were draped around the columns and candelabras.

Linda Jackson of Dallas sang "How Beautiful," "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" and "The Wedding Prayer." Kay Chaffin of Dallas was organist.

The bride was given in marriage by her parents and escorted by her father.

She wore a dress of ivory taffeta adorned with beads and sequined silk schiffili lace. The basque bodice featured a Victorian neckline inset with sheer English net. A sheer butterfly back was encircled with lace accents.

Sleeves, puffed at the shoulders and accented with beaded lace, tapered to a wedding band point at her wrists. The full skirt had a schiffli border lace, and a peplum topped the chapel length, scalloped train. Her gown was designed by Lady [illegible] New York.

The bride wore a ba[illegible]ed headpiece accented with beads and sequins. She carried a bouquet of Arianna, Tieneke and champagne roses, accented with tuberose.

Tricia Gregory, sister of the bride from Irving, was maid of honor. Bridesmaids included Sherri Horstman of Dallas and Rebecca Moreland of Fort Worth. Attendants were identically attired in black and ivory tea-length dresses. Ivory lace adorned the bodice; skirts were of black watered silk. They carried a clutch bouquet of Nicole roses.

Best man was Wesley Jobe of Lubbock and groomsmen were Brent Elliot of Clovis, N.M., cousin of the groom, and Cary Crawford of Amarillo. David Holmes of Justiceburg and Mark Stansell of Fluvanna, both cousins of the bride, and Brandt Brown, brother-in-law of the groom from Plano, were ushers.

The groom wore a black tuxedo with a white paisley vest and black bow tie. The couple's fathers, groomsmen and ushers wore black tuxedos with black paisley vests and black bow ties.

Vickie Bawcum, sister of the bride from Rowlett, registered guests at a table decorated with the bride's throw bouquet of Arianna roses and tulle.

The reception was held in the Fireside Room of the church where harpist Barbara Kerchoff from Dallas played a variety of melodies.

The wedding cake, lemon layers with cream cheese frosting, centered the serving table. Tiers of the cake were twisted and decorated with the same roses in the bride's bouquet. Also on the table were a silver punch bowl and the groom's double layered German chocolate cake. The layers were separated with chocolate mousse and sliced strawberries, and the cake was topped with chocolate covered strawberries which cascaded to the base. The groom's cake was made by Thuy Kelp and Shanna Roberts, professional chefs at Eatiz in Dallas and friends of the bride and groom.

Serving were Kelp, Roberts, Leslie Knox, Danise Faulk and Laura Glaser, all of Dallas.

The groom, a graduate of West Texas A&M, is employed by Advanced Artificial Intelligence Systems in Dallas. The bride is a 1987 graduate of Snyder High School and a graduate of Texas Tech University. She is employed by Richardson Independent School District. The bride and groom reside in Dallas.



Mr. and Mrs. Steven Dale Olsen
(Contributed Photo)

Share A Hug With Kids Easter Cards at 99¢!

Kids love sending and receiving these value-priced cards. Their envelopes wear a special Easter design, too! Look for the big 99¢ sign in our store.





Remember, Easter is March 30!

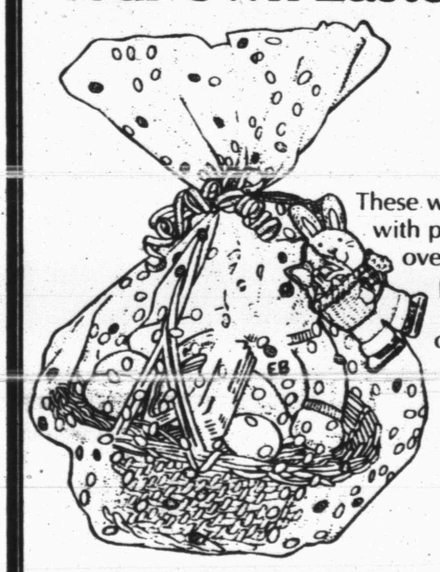
$7.95

Cheribina Bunny makes a heavenly gift.

Children of every age will love this angel bunny. Be sure to come in and see our Happy.Easter cards, too!

Easter is March 30!

We Can Help You Design & Personalize Your Own Easter Basket



These wicker baskets come with paper grass, cellophane overwrap and ribbon, a perfect nest for Easter Bunny treats. Ask about our cute basket tie-ons, too—

Easter is March 30!

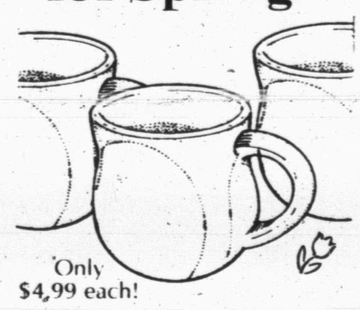
You'll be soft on these cuddly charmers. Floppy-eared Lil' Ritzy is dressed in lavender and white. Buffy Bunny—everybody's favorite—is in rich pastels.

Just $9.99 each!



Our Easter bunnies are honeys!

Our tulip mugs are in full bloom for Spring!



Only $4.99 each!

Share a garden of spring warmth with mugs inspired by tulips in full bloom. Choose from four colors; microwave and dishwasher safe.

Hallmark COLD CROWN

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The Pleasure's Mine

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MAR 16 1997

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 03-18-97
♠ Q J 10 9 7
♥ ---
♦ 8 6 5 3 2
♣ Q J 2

West
♠ 4 3
♥ Q J 10
♦ A K 9 7 4
♣ 8 7 3

East
♠ 2
♥ A K 9 8 5
♦ Q J 10
♣ 10 9 5 4

South
♠ A K 8 6 5
♥ 7 6 4 3 2
♦ ---
♣ A K 6

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ K

Please move through 90 degrees

By Phillip Alder

Yesterday I described a deal in which a defender had to cash a winner before getting a trump promotion. When the defender didn't take his winner, the declarer got home via a loser-on-loser play.

There is a situation in which the declarer should cash a side-suit winner or two — or three! — before moving into the main stream of the deal.

Here, how would you play in both six spades and seven spades after West leads the diamond king?

This is a tough bidding hand. North's jump to four spades is preemptive, showing a weak hand with a lot of spades. South might cue-bid or take a punt at a slam (bidding six spades immediately), but it would be a gamble.

You can ruff five hearts in the dummy and five diamonds in hand. That is 10 tricks. So, in six spades, you need two club tricks. However, if you are in seven spades, you need three club tricks. The crux in both cases is that you must cash those tricks *before* crossruffing.

In seven spades, cash three club tricks, then carry out the perfect crossruff. Afterward, thank West for not leading a trump. In six spades, you should cash just two club tricks. If you try for the third club trick, an opponent might ruff in and return a trump, killing the contract.

What happens if you crossruff the first 10 tricks? Both opponents will be unloading clubs. Then when you try to cash your club tricks, you will get only one. West will claim the last two tricks with his trumps.

Cash side-suit tricks before embarking on a crossruff.

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Landscaping: small yard looks larger

By Greg Philby

Ask David Copperfield. You don't really have to saw a person in half. You just make it look as if you did. And in small-space landscaping, the yard doesn't magically grow bigger. It just looks that way.

"Illusion of space is one of the things that I use, making space feel larger than it is, similar to theater props," says Wisconsin landscape architect Bill Wandsnider. "I start by looking at borrowed space—what's beyond the property line. Your eye doesn't obey property lines."

The first thing Wandsnider does is divide the large space up into small spaces, adding interest, creating views, and putting square inches to well-rounded uses. His "magic" consists of 73 space-stretching tricks of the trade, described in detail in the award winning article. The following are some highlights from that piece.

-Eliminate some deck railings if your deck is less than three feet, or choose a railing element, such as narrower slats of a coated wire, with less visual weight.

-Prune trees high, or choose small-leaf species, such as honey locust, flowering cherry, or Japanese maple.

-Mix the geometry of angles, circles, and lines into structures, paths, borders, and fence lines to create fresh perspectives at every step.

-Use color. Red draws closer: blue fades away.

-Add motion, such as a wind chime or ornamental grasses.

-Build raised beds. They bring plant material higher, allow material to drape casually down and, like a bookcase, create a display.

-Layer plantings, Create a lot of action in a small space by planting big bulbs under small bulbs. Grow perennials and annuals on top, and let a vine or shrub stand above the entire vignette.

-Espalier small trees into space-smart shapes.

-Create one or two focal points (a birdbath, artwork, or attractive plant) for each seating area.

-Choose trees with foliage, fruit, bark, or branching habits that inspire you to look up.

-Plant along the side of the house. Trellis some vines, plant some containers, and use a path.

-Create views from inside, such as a covered bench or pond that looks great from your window.

-Paint cumbersome structures a neutral color to downplay them.

-Use lighting to highlight the best features and to draw the eye to the far end of the property.

Above all, do what you enjoy. If the space has personality and you like it, it won't seem small. Says San Francisco landscape architect Bruce Torell, "I have all my points of interest, but nothing's very big. People are pleasantly surprised with what they can have in a small space."

The above is excerpted from an article that was selected winner of the newly-established Herald Award for creativity in communications, sponsored by the American Association of Nurserymen.

Greg Philby is editor of "Garden, Deck & Landscape Planner," a quarterly magazine published by Better Homes and Gardens Special Interest Publications. This article was based on article published in the summer 1996 issue of the Planner. For more information or a copy of the magazine—or to subscribe—write to Garden, Deck & Landscape Planner, 1716 Locust St., Des Moines, Iowa 50309-3023, or call them at 1-800-678-2872, option #4.

How to make your own peanut butter

2 cups dry-roasted shelled peanuts
1 tablespoon peanut oil
½ teaspoon salt (omit if salted peanuts are used)

Place ingredients in blender. With lid secured, blend until mixture becomes paste-line or spreadable (3 to 4 minutes). If necessary, stop the machine and use a rubber spatula to scrape mixture from the sides of the container and back into contact with the blades. Continue blending until desired consistency is reached. Store in tightly closed jar in the refrigerator; stir before serving.

Note: For chunky-style peanut butter, stir in ½ cup chopped, roasted peanuts after blending is complete.

Makes 1 cup smooth or 1½ cup chopped, roasted peanuts after blending is completed.

Makes 1 cup smooth or 1½ cups chunky peanut butter.

Mall site for college classes

By The Associated Press

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. (AP) — Add college classes to the list of things you can get at the Mall of America.

National College started classes Monday morning at the megamall in this Minneapolis suburb. It offers 17 courses in accounting, marketing, human resources, computers, business and other subjects.

Fifty students have enrolled for this quarter's classes.

The mall was chosen for its potential to draw from its 11,000 employees and millions of visitors each year, said Jerry L. Gallentine, president and chief executive officer of the National College System, based in Rapid City, S.D.

The Mall of America is National College's first location at a shopping mall. It has eight other sites across the country.

Woman arrested

NEW YORK (AP) — A woman who called police for help after getting locked in her bedroom was arrested when officers found 195 marijuana plants in her home.

The 39-year-old Staten Island woman, who was not identified by police, called for help before 2 a.m. Monday, said police spokesman Officer Dennis Laffin.

Officers responding to the woman's call for help noticed the marijuana plants "in plain view," Laffin said.

They freed her from the bedroom and arrested her on charges of possessing marijuana and drug paraphernalia.

Snyder Duplicate Bridge Scoreboard

FRIDAY

At the Snyder Country Club, seven tables of Duplicate Bridge Club were directed by Jane Hinton.

N-S

1. Mary Bast, Johnye Van Dever.
2. Charles Blakey, Rube McKinley.
3. Ann Davis, Monte West.

E-W

1. Sandra Rhodes, Dee Sterns.
2. Frances Stevenson, Malven Stevenson.
3. Marjorie Brown, Jane Hinton.

SUNDAY

Three tables were directed by Dot Casey.

1. Dora Blakey, Shirley Stewart.
2. Charlie Blakey, Shirley Stewart.
3. Dot Casey, Louise Thompson.

TUESDAY

Four tables were directed by Jane Hinton.

1. Rube McKinley, Louise Thompson.
2. Margaret Birdwell, Dorothy Rosson.
3. Mippie Brownlee, Margaret Presswood.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

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

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

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

Stargazers, Family Community Education Club, 3117 Ave. T; for more information, call Pauline Broyles at 573-5144; 7 p.m.

Delta Kappa Gamma; Zeta Lambda Chapter; MAWC; 7 p.m.

Alateen; Park Club at Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-8971 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 573-9458, 573-8626 or 573-8929; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Art Guild Study Club; MAWC; 6 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Winston Park Club; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 6 p.m.

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

Hermleigh Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Lodge; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizon Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-1141 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956, 573-2101,573-1141 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Altrurian Daughters Club; MAWC; 11:30 a.m.

Cosmorama Study Club; meet at Cullifer's Corner Greenhouse; 4:15 p.m.

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary; board room; all members are urged to attend; 10 a.m.

Upper Colorado SWCD meeting; country club; noon.

Al-Anon meeting (smoke free), noon to 1 p.m., brown bag. Park Club in Winston Park. For information call 573-4203 or 573-5525.

TOPS TX56, (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; 2501 35th. For information call Peggy Eubank at 573-6509.

Hermleigh Community Center Family Night; 6:30 p.m.

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

Codependents Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-7358; 7 p.m.

Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star; Masonic Hall, 1912 35th; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizons Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club Addition in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349 or 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointments; 573-9742 or 573-2763.

NA Anonymous; Snyder Park Club; for information call 573-3667, 573-1579 or 573-0949; 6 p.m.

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-8626, 573-9458 or 573-8929; 8 p.m., open meeting (last Friday of the month is the birthday meeting, pot luck at 7 p.m.).

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for information call 573-3956 or 573-2101; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; Horseshoe Courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome; 3 p.m.

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

Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for more information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County Alcoholics Anonymous; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 863-2349; 10 a.m.

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

Narcotics Anonymous Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101, 573-0949, 573-3667 or 573-1579; 5 p.m.

Beginners Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous; Park Club at Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 7 p.m.

Senior Center Menu

MONDAY
St. Patrick's Day
Chicken Strips
Cream Gravy
Mashed Potatoes
Black-eyed Peas
Tomato Wedges
St. Patrick's Cookies
Ice Cream

TUESDAY
Ham and Pinto Beans
French Fried Potatoes
Turnip Greens
Green Onions
Corn Bread
Cherry Turnover

WEDNESDAY
Lasagna
Whole Kernel Corn
Sliced Beets
Tossed Salad
White Cake w/Strawberries

THURSDAY
Hamburger Steak
Whole Sliced Potatoes
Mixed Vegetables
Stuffed Celery
Banana Pudding

FRIDAY Evening
Recognition Banquet
Grilled Pork Chop
Glazed Sweet Potatoes
Italian Green Beans Almondine
Deluxe Tossed Salad
Dinner Roll
Coconut Pie

Hermleigh School Menu

BREAKFAST
All breakfasts are served with milk.

MONDAY
Fruit
Fried Ham
Biscuits

TUESDAY
Juice
Cinnamon Rolls

WEDNESDAY
Fruit
Buttered Oatmeal
Toast

THURSDAY
Juice
Cheese Toast

FRIDAY
Fruit
Waffles/Syrup

LUNCH
All lunches served with milk.

MONDAY
Irish Stew
Buttered Spinach
Corn Bread
Pink Applesauce

TUESDAY
Barbecued Hamburger Patties
Potato Salad
Cole Slaw
Hot Rolls
Fruit Jello

WEDNESDAY
Sloppy Joes
Macaroni & Cheese
Carrot Stickes
Hot Rolls
Chilled Pears

THURSDAY
Pinto Beans
Mixed Vegetables
Corn Bread
Chilled Pineapple

FRIDAY
Hamburgers
Burger Salad
Tater Tots
Sugar Cookies

Crime in action photographed by 7 bandits

By The Associated Press

ALBANY, Ga. (AP) — Police say they bagged some bandits who were budding shutterbugs.

The friends would take pictures of themselves and practice the crimes, said Capt. Chuck Faulk of the Dougherty County Sheriff's Department.

One picture shows a smiling man pointing a shotgun at another with the word "carjacking" scrawled underneath. Another shows a woman posing with a shotgun in an apparent imitation of a character in the robbery film "Set It Off."

"They even had them put up on the wall," Faulk said.

They saved their targets from practicing their marksmanship.

Police arrested seven people last week and said more are expected as investigators look into the possibility that the group was involved in more than the three bank and three business robberies to which all but one of the suspects have confessed.

Bridal Registry

Melanie Thompson and Michael Alarcon
Shanda Bowlin and Gary Whisenhunt
Holly Barkowsky and Bart Bynum
Juli Lay and Eric Springer
Amy Eicke and Scott Ellis
Angie Robinson Key and Reagan Key
Kim Adcock and Mitchell Page
Gaylene Dobbs and John McMackin
Cinimin Carney and Jeremy Paden
Carrie Perkins and John Erwin
Christie Devers and Rick Clark
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Public Records

New Vehicle Registrations

Curry Auto Leasing, 1997 Chevrolet Suburban from Big Country Autoland.

Sierra Well Service Inc., two 1997 Chevrolet pickups from Big Country Autoland.

Mary Lou Rodriquez, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Cora Lee Hedges Trust, 1997 Buick from Big Country Autoland.

Joe and Linda Klattenhoff, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big County Autoland.

Joyce and Joe Groves, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Grimmett Bros. Inc., 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Donald Hager, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Associates Leasing Inc., 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

John Foley, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Dennis Wyatt, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Clayton Darnell, 1997 Ford from Wilson Motors.

O.A. and Abilene Rannefeld, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Fred T. Nobles, 1997 Chevrolet Tahoe from Big Country Autoland.

Donald L. Hall, dba Hall's Garage, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

Mike N. Crunk, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Kimberly Click and Mel Coffman, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

John C. Wilson, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Jack Nail, 1997 Chevrolet from Big Country Autoland.

Wanda Wolf, 1997 Chevrolet Tahoe from Big Country Autoland.

Jared Dennis, 1997 Dodge from Snyder Chrysler.

Electric Submersible Pumps Inc., 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Bill Forbes, 1996 Chevrolet van from Big Country Autoland.

Jerry D. Pace, 1997 Dodge pickup from Snyder Chrysler.

Manley Burrow, 1997 Mercury from Wilson Motors.

Luis Rocha, 1997 Ford pickup from Wilson Motors.

R. Phillip Kincheloe, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Larry A. Snipes, 1997 Chevrolet pickup from Big Country Autoland.

Marriage License

Miguel Ortegon and Evelia Martinez, both of Snyder.

Juan Cuellar Rodriguez of Snyder and Margarita Gonzalez Aguinaga of Colorado City.

Filed in District Court

E.L. Green and Mattie Lee Green vs. Dr. Carlos Garza; Dr. Robert P. Hayes; Malone and Hogan Clinic, Methodist Malone and Hogan, aka Methodist Hospital; Scenic Mountain Medical Center; Scenic Mountain Medical Clinic, aka Big Spring Hospital Corporation; Teresa Ragland, R.N.; Outreach Health Services; R. Sriramamurthy Subbaraman; Jarra Medical Group, Subbarman Family Investments; Dr. James E. Matthews; Nurse Froman; Nurse Wharton; Nurse Rowland; Nurse Walker; Nurse Lang; and Nurse Jane Doe, suit for negligence.

Action in District Court

In the marriage of Laurie Ann Jordan and Paul Daune Jordan, divorce granted.

In the marriage of Mary Louise Kiker and George Wesley Kiker, divorce granted.

Deed Records

Grady Carl and Nona Williams to Foy Dewaine and Jo Ann Williams, the north one-half of the southwest one-quarter of Section 25, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Andrea J. Garcia to Lynn Fenton, the west 5 feet of Lot 10 and the east 37 feet of Lot 11 in Block 51 of the Wilmeth Addition.

Foy Dewaine and Jo Ann Williams to Grady Carl and Nona Williams, tract one being the northwest one-quarter of Section 70, Block 2, H&TC survey; tract two being 10 acres in the northeast one-quarter of Section 73, Block 2, H&TC survey.

Terry Lee, individually and as independent executor of the estate of Verdi Juanita Kimbro, to Wallace H. and Barbara E. Jones, all of Lot 8 in Block 12 of the Highland Addition.

Madeline Mildred Wilson, individually and as independent executrix of the estate of Ira Luther Wilson, to Keith L. and Temi T. Matthies, all of Lot 3 in Block 2 of the Kittrell Heights Addition.

Walter D. and Leila B. Darlin to Charles Ray and Walter Bruce Darlin, 8 acres in the southwest one-quarter of Section 299, Block 97, H&TC survey.

T&K Dairy Farm, a general partnership, to T&K Dairy Farm, a limited partnership, 88.596 acres in the northeast part of Section 35, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Joe Mireles to Ted Mireles, all of Lots 1-4 in Block 55 of the Original Town of Hermleigh.

Theodore Vasquez Jr., to Russell Jones Jr., all of Lots 1-4 in Block 21 of the Mandry Addition.

Bertha Deere to Leonard Deere, tract one being Lot 27, Second Replat of Block 3, Section 1, Parkway Addition; tract two being Lots 7-9, 11 and 12 in Block 74, original town of Fluvanna; tract three being the northwest one-quarter of Block 75 and all of Lots 4-6, original town of Fluvanna; tract four being Lots 1-5, 7, 11 and 12 in Block 92, original town of Fluvanna; tract five being Lots 10-12 in Block 136, original town of Fluvanna; tract 6 being Lots 8 and 9 in Block 73, original town of Fluvanna; tract seven being the southeast one-quarter of Block 75 and Lots 10-12, original town of Fluvanna; tract eight being the northwest one-quarter of Block 97, original town of Fluvanna.

John W. and Willa Mae Bennett to Ronnie Lewis, tract one being the north 100 feet of the west 45 feet of Lot 3 in Block 38 of the Blankenship addition; tract two being the south 50 feet of the west 90 feet of Lot 3, Blankenship addition.

David Franklyn Fisher and Michael Franklin Fisher, individually and as successor trustees of the Billy Franklyn Fisher Trust, to Mike H. and Elaine Whitfill Bragg, all of Lot 16 in Block 25 of the Winston Co. Replat of the Colonial Hill Addition.

Caroline Chorn, independent executrix of the Thomas Hilliard Chorn Trust, to the Thomas Hilliard Chorn Testementary Trust, an undivided interest in 307 acres out of the north one-half of Section 59, Block 3, H&TC survey.

Can incumbent president be charged with a crime?

By LAURIE ASSEO
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — It would be an unprecedented sight, straight from the plot of a B movie: a president of the United States being tried on criminal charges, perhaps even attempting to perform his duties from a prison cell.

Could it happen? Not likely, legal scholars say. But possible.

The question is being debated anew as special prosecutor Kenneth Starr weighs evidence in the Whitewater case.

Experts disagree whether an incumbent president could be indicted or whether criminal charges would have to wait until he left office — either by impeachment, resignation or after his term was completed.

"When ... the president is being prosecuted, the presidency itself is being prosecuted," Yale law professor Akhil Amar and Yale law student Brian C. Kalt wrote in arguing against allowing presidents to be indicted while in office.

"If he is arrested, so too is the executive branch of the government," they wrote recently in the journal Nexus of the Chapman University School of Law in Anaheim, Calif.

But former federal prosecutor Joseph diGenova says, "I just don't see any prohibition in the Constitution, no matter how you read it. ... As a matter of law, you don't have to impeach first."

The Supreme Court has never addressed the question, although the justices are expected to decide by July whether a sex-harassment lawsuit against Clinton should be delayed until he leaves office.

Here is what the Constitution has to say about impeachment:

"Judgment in Cases of Impeachment shall not extend further than ... removal from Office, and disqualification to hold and enjoy any Office of honor, Trust or Profit under the United States: but the Party convicted shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgment and Punishment, according to Law."

In other words, the impeachment process is a political one, not to be confused with indictment and trial in criminal court. A federal official can be subjected to both.

But the Constitution does not really spell out whether criminal charges can be filed before someone is removed from office.

Courts have ruled that federal judges can be criminally prosecuted without first being removed through impeachment. But some legal experts contend the presidency is different because all executive power rests with one person.

"Respect for the office and its unique functions make it appropriate to follow the only path the Constitution has laid out for removing a president," which is the impeachment process, said University of North Carolina law professor Eugene Gressman.

The nation's most recent brush with the issue came during the Watergate scandal, when special prosecutor Leon Jaworski decided not to seek an indictment of President Nixon while he was in office. Nixon resigned in 1974 to avoid impeachment and later was pardoned by President Ford.

State department outraged by diplomat's public dissent

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department says it was "outrageous" for a U.S. diplomat to write that the United States could adjust to an independent Quebec if the province were to secede from Canada.

Spokesman Nicholas Burns said Thursday he believes David Jones, recently returned from Canada, should be disciplined for deviating from the official U.S. policy of strong support for a united Canada.

Writing in the Washington Quarterly, Jones acknowledged that a united Canada is in the U.S. interest. But, he said, "It is equally clear that the United States could live with a disunited Canada."

Jones said the dangers of Quebec independence have been exaggerated.

An independent Quebec would pose no security threat to the United States, would be wedded to democratic principles and is large enough to be viable, he said.

"In short, Quebec would not be Mozambique, Chad, Bolivia, Nepal or some other developing world basket case," wrote Jones, who served as minister counselor for political affairs in Ottawa.

Burns said it was wrong for Jones to go public with his dissent.

"If you have a political argument with your superiors, you keep it private. You do not stand up on a soapbox ... and assert your own private views.

"Mr. Jones in publishing this article does not speak for the secretary of state or for the rest of us in the State Department."

He said Jones works in the Freedom of Information section of the State Department. A reporter who called that office was told there was no official there by that name.

The last time the question of Quebec independence came to a vote, in October 1995, secessionist forces were narrowly defeated.

In his article, Jones said Canada is "virtually irrelevant to the average citizen of Quebec — and particularly so to the unilingual French speaker and to those outside the Montreal metropolitan area."

He said he doubts that the breakup of Canada would bring unrest elsewhere in the country.

"Such explosive violence might be American, but it is not Canadian," Jones wrote.

Group reports sport utility vehicles do not measure up

DETROIT (AP) — Despite their tough appearance, none of the most popular midsize sport utility vehicles performed well enough in front-end crash tests to earn even a "good" rating from an insurance group.

The Insurance Institute for Highway Safety said its crash tests of the 1997 Nissan Pathfinder and 1996 Mitsubishi Montero were as disappointing as those done last year on six other midsize sport utility vehicles.

None of the truck-like vehicles received the group's "good" overall safety rating. Four received "acceptable" ratings, two were rated "marginal" and two were listed as "poor."

"Given the size of these vehicles, they don't do as good a job of protecting occupants and managing crash energy as they should," institute president Brian O'Neill said Thursday.

The institute, based in Arlington, Va., is financed by the insurance industry.

Midsize sport utility vehicles have become extremely popular, representing about one in every eight new vehicles sold last year, the group said.

Its test involves driving a vehicle at 40 mph into a stationary barrier that contacts only the front driver's side. The barrier is made of a material that gives somewhat on impact, like another vehicle might.

The institute's test tries to gauge lower body injuries to a greater extent than the government's test, which uses a full-width, solid barrier. Some automakers have criticized the institute's test, contending it does not reflect common, real-world crashes.

In the latest tests, the Nissan Pathfinder rated "marginal" overall, with a "poor" rating for structural integrity; the front end crunched into the passenger compartment, trapping the test dummy's foot.

A luxury version of the Pathfinder is marketed as the Infiniti QX4; they are structural twins.

The Montero was rated "acceptable" overall. The test showed too much upward movement of the steering column, which could contribute to a higher risk of head or neck injury, the group said.

Nissan spokesman Fred Standish said the automaker had not yet reviewed the institute's test data and could not comment. Mitsubishi did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

O'Neill said sport utility vehicles generally are safer than cars because of their larger size and weight. He said the fatality rate for midsize sport utility vehicles is about 20 percent below the average for passenger cars in all crashes, and even lower in multiple-vehicle crashes.

The institute says automakers should design sport utility vehicles with front ends that better absorb crash energy.

O'Neill said consumers considering a sport utility vehicle should look at those that the institute rated "acceptable." Those include the Montero, the Ford Explorer and Mercury Mountaineer twins, the Land Rover Discovery and Toyota 4-Runner.

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Angie Robinson Key & Reagan Key
Christie Devers & Rick Clark
Shanda Bowlin & Gary Whisenhunt
Renee Matthews & Rayland Goswick
Jenny Anthony & Lee Haddox
Cathrine Hoyle & Joey Hammit
Emilee Taylor & Joe Don Marrow, Jr.
Kim Adcock & Mitch Page
Amy Eicke & Scott Ellis
Catherine Hoyle & Joey Hammit
Jody Miller & Rodney Foster
Barbara Chapman & Terry Leatherwood

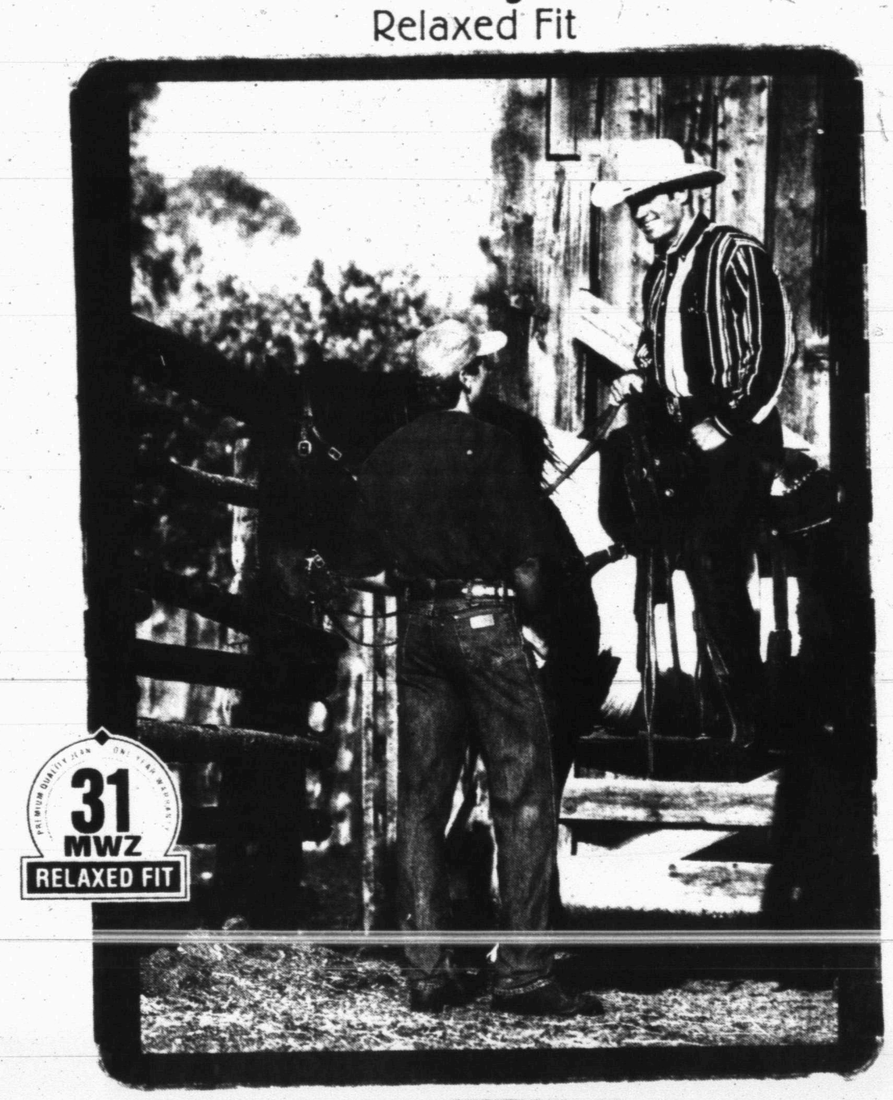
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John Flores & Brandi Cortez • Winnie The Pooh
Curtis & Veronica Westbrook • Disney Brites
Bryan & Karri Brunson Boy • Bears & Primary Colors
Paul & Gina Jones Girl, Bears
Charles & Kaila Bethel Boy, Blue
Todd & RexAnne Clark *Looney Tunes, Loveables
Michael & Lisa Steadham *Primary Bears & Balloons
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MAR 16 1997

Studies back possibility of Martian microbes

WASHINGTON (AP) — A rock from Mars never got too hot for life, according to two studies supporting a theory that the rock may have harbored primitive microbes before it was blasted from the red planet and sent sailing toward Earth.

Researchers at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and at the California Institute of Technology, in studies published Friday in the journal Science, said the research did not prove that there was once Martian life in the rock. But the work removed one challenge based on the temperature history of the potato-size chunk of Martian rock.

"We have ruled out the high temperature hypothesis" that would have made life impossible, said John W. Valley of the University of Wisconsin. "I still don't have final answers. There should still be skepticism."

Wisconsin scientists determined the range of temperatures the rock was exposed to by analyzing the ratios of carbon and oxygen isotopes. At Caltech, researchers traced the temperature history by measuring magnetic fields within the rock.

Scientists at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration last summer claimed that small globules of carbonate found inside a Martian meteorite were the fossilized remains of microbes or bacteria that lived on the red planet more than 15 million years ago.

Based on a microscopic and chemical analysis of the globules, the NASA team theorized that the microbes lived and died in the rock, leaving behind organic chemicals and fossilized remains. The rock was then blasted from the Mars surface by a meteorite impact, spent thousands of years wandering in space and then fell to Earth in the Antarctic. The rock was recovered from an ice field and identified by chemical composition as coming from Mars.

A major challenge to the theory has been that the carbonate globules actually were formed by inorganic processes at temperatures of more than 1,200 degrees, far too hot for life.

But the new studies show that temperatures of the globules never exceeded 212 degrees — scalding, but still within the living range of known life forms.

"Our work shows that there are no show stopper lines of evidence in the temperature," said Valley. There are other reasons to be skeptical, however, he said, "and it will be difficult to convince the world one way or the other."

"Our results don't prove there was life," said Joseph L. Kirschvink, head of the Caltech team. But the finding proves that the possibility of life cannot be eliminated because of temperature, he said.

Kirschvink said his team found that after the rock cooled from a melt some 4 billion years ago, it was never again heated to a temperature lethal to all life.

The Caltech study also showed that early in the history of Mars, the planet had a magnetic field similar to that of Earth. Kirschvink said this means the planet probably had an atmosphere. A strong magnetic field allows a planet to retain an atmosphere.

Over billions of years, however, Mars has lost its magnetic field and most of its atmosphere, he said.

Kirschvink said the magnetic studies also show that the sampled part of the Mars meteorite never heated up as it entered the Earth's atmosphere and smashed into the Antarctic. This suggests that microorganisms could survive a trip from Mars to Earth.

"An implication of our study is that you could get life from Mars to Earth periodically," he said. "In fact, every major impact could do it."

Kurt Marti, an expert on the chemistry of the solar system at the University of California, San Diego, said the two new studies may lay to rest temperature challenges to the Mars life theory. But he said there are other objections.

"These all have to be addressed one by one," he said. "Until that is done, we have to be careful about accepting or rejecting this theory."

Tax-exempt group helps U.S. firms

WASHINGTON (AP) — A tax-exempt group that pays for congressional trips to Asia is underwritten by U.S. companies with high-stakes interests in the region, according to interviews and documents.

In its most recent trip, the Asia Pacific Exchange Foundation sent four House Republicans to Burma in December as guests of the country's military rulers. On the agenda: a tour of the remote mountains where U.S. oil company Unocal and its French partner Total are building a $1.2 billion natural gas pipeline.

The project, Burma's largest foreign investment deal, could be in jeopardy because of possible U.S. sanctions against the southeast Asian country. Rep. Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., who went with an aide to visit the site, said it was helpful to see it firsthand.

The delegation, which made other stops in Hong Kong, China and Singapore, also included House Majority Whip Tom DeLay of Texas, New York Rep. Bill Paxon and Ohio Rep. Deborah Pryce.

The president of the tax-exempt foundation, Richard G. Quick, declines to say where its money comes from. But Unocal acknowledged it is among the foundation's sponsors.

By donating to Quick's foundation, Unocal could claim a tax deduction for underwriting a congressional fact-finding trip to its pipeline, in effect using a taxpayer subsidy to lobby against U.S. government policy.

Congressional aides who went on other trips the foundation sponsored last year said they included meetings with Chinese automakers and a tour of an aircraft plant that is a joint venture between China and Boeing. Ford Motor Co. and Boeing both are sponsors of the foundation.

In an interview, Quick denied that his group, which has the tax status of a charity, is a lobbying arm for its corporate donors.

Itineraries for trips are set to meet the interests of the lawmakers and their aides, he said. "If that coincides with the interests of one of the contributors, so be it," he said.

Frances Hill, a University of Miami law professor who specializes in tax-exempt groups, said it appeared that the foundation was used to "put some distance" between lawmakers and the corporate sponsors of a lobbying trip.

"What this reveals is that there are a lot of ways to lobby," she said.

The Clinton administration is considering whether to cut off investments in Burma, where generals canceled the democratically elected government in 1990 and put its leader, Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, under house arrest. A law Congress passed last year permits sanctions if repression worsens.

Unocal spokesman Barry Lane declined to say how much the company has paid to Quick's foundation. The donations make business sense because "part of their charter is to improve relations, and we're very heavily involved in Asia," Lane said.

Unocal has put much of its energy into expanding business ties in Burma, and would be the most affected by any ban on U.S. investment. The pipeline would move natural gas from offshore wells across a mountain range to Thailand.

In addition, the company announced three weeks ago it had signed a deal with Burma's rulers to greatly expand its offshore gas development, paying them several million dollars as a signing bonus.

The State Department and human rights groups say Burma's military rulers are guilty of widespread repression and human rights violations, including use of forced labor to build the pipeline. The oil companies deny the charge.

At the sites he was shown, Hastert said, he saw no evidence of human rights abuses. Instead, there were well-paid villagers operating heavy equipment.

"It was a good insight for me," he said.

Founded in 1987, Quick's foundation has become known on Capitol Hill for its Asia trips. It raised $576,000, the bulk from corporate sponsors, in 1995, the most recent year for which figures are available.

Last year, the group sent at least 30 lawmakers and aides on trips to China, Japan, Hong Kong and other Asian destinations, at a cost of $162,000, making it one of the most active sponsors of private congressional travel.

Quick is a former congressional aide, a businessman, and a brigadier general in the Army Reserve who carefully guards his privacy. His phone number is unlisted, and his group's name is missing from the building directory where he rents office space.

The Burma trip was front-page news in the state-controlled newspaper. A photo showed the delegation meeting with top generals. The government sponsored a dinner for the group, which included the spouses of DeLay and Pryce along with two aides, and they stayed at a government-owned hotel.

The State Department was given no advance notice of the trip, which came at a tense time of student unrest. The department had issued a travel warning on Dec. 9 because of the potential for street violence.

The group made no effort to meet with opposition leaders, Quick said, because the lawmakers expressed no interest. Another lawmaker, Rep. John Porter, R-Ill., was denied a visa when he sought a visit at about the same time to explore human rights issues.

Once there, the group did invite a U.S. Embassy official to go along on its pipeline and drug interdiction forays, Quick said.

Official accused of tampering with test results gets to resign

FAIRFIELD, Conn. (AP) — A principal accused of erasing wrong test answers and filling in new ones to get higher scores agreed to retire from an elementary school ranked among the nation's best.

The Board of Education board voted 7-2 Friday in favor of its settlementt with Roger Previs, the principal of Stratfield School since 1979. He steps down July 1.

"I didn't do anything. I'm not going to walk away with any cloud," said Previs, who has worked in the Fairfield school system for 34 years and has been staunchly defended by parents throughout the ordeal.

Terms of the settlement were not disclosed. Previs said he agreed to it in order to avoid costly litigation and spare parents and teachers further turmoil.

"I'm terribly sad that it's come to this. I believe in his innocence 100 percent," said Gayle Kraus, who has sent three children to Stratfield and was one of about 40 parents who attended the meeting. "He loves the children, and it shows in everything at the school."

Board chairman John Madeo said he hopes the settlement will allow the school and the community to focus on education and put the scandal behind them.

"It's unacceptable to us as a Board of Education; it's unacceptable to us as a community," he said.

Previs was suspended by the board Feb. 19 and faced termination after the school board concluded that test results for both the Iowa Test of Basic Skills and Connecticut Mastery Tests had been tampered with at Stratfield.

The board said its investigations showed that Previs was the "party responsible" for the tampering.

Parents were stunned when the tampering was discovered almost a year ago. The school has won numerous academic awards, including two blue ribbons from the U.S. Department of Education.

School administrators noticed an abnormally high erasure rate on the 1996 Iowa tests taken by third- and fifth-graders at Stratfield.

Riverside Publishing Co. said it found "clearly and conclusively" that tampering had occurred. The publisher said it found an erasure rate on Stratfield answer sheets that was three to five times higher than the rate at two other top-performing Fairfield elementary schools. Of the answers that were erased, 89 percent were changed from the wrong answer to the correct answer.

Tax Update

By The Associated Press

Taxes: Getting help.

WASHINGTON (AP) — When it comes to tax-filing assistance, the Internal Revenue Service is trying to persuade Americans to let their fingers do the walking.

To save money, the agency last year closed 93 offices offering walk-in help and trimmed the hours of assistance at some of the remaining 442. It plans no further reductions this year. But the IRS still hopes taxpayers, instead of dropping by in person, will use a computer or telephone.

Your chance of talking to a live person who can answer tax questions improved last year, but still isn't great. The IRS answered 20 percent of calls, up from 8 percent.

This year, according to IRS spokesman Frank Keith, the agency will have more telephone lines to its toll-free help number, 1 (800) 829-1040, and more service personnel answering calls.

You may be able avoid a call with a careful reading of your tax instruction booklet or by looking for answers in the IRS's 328-page Publication 17, "Your Federal Income Tax: The 1996 Tax Guide for Individuals." It's the basis for most of the commercial tax guides available at newsstands and bookstores.

For most taxpayers, it's as good as a commercial guide. It has plenty of examples, decision flowcharts and filled-out forms. But, keep in mind, it reflects official IRS policy. In gray areas, where case law is still in flux, it gives the benefit of a doubt to the agency rather than the taxpayer.

If Publication 17 doesn't have the answer, the best time for calling is first thing in the morning or late in the day and on Thursdays and Fridays. And the agency is stressing that it has separate toll-free numbers for checking the status of refunds and obtaining tax forms.

The number for checking refunds is 1 (800) 829-4477. That's also the number for recorded tax information, some of it in Spanish, on about 150 topics.

You also can read information on the 150 topics and answers to frequently asked questions on the IRS homepage on the Internet's World Wide Web at http://www.irs.ustreas.gov.

For the first time this year, you can get copies of any of the 150 topics faxed to you by calling 1 (703) 487-4160. Use the voice unit of your fax machine and follow the recorded instructions. The IRS also is offering 115 forms and instructions (double the number available last year) by fax.

Forms and publications (which themselves are listed in Publication 910) also can be obtained at IRS walk-in sites. Some publications are available in Spanish.

Post offices, libraries and some banks have copies of commonly used forms and instructions. Many libraries have a reference set of IRS publications, which can be copied. Or get forms, instructions and publications mailed to you by calling 1 (800) TAX-FORM.

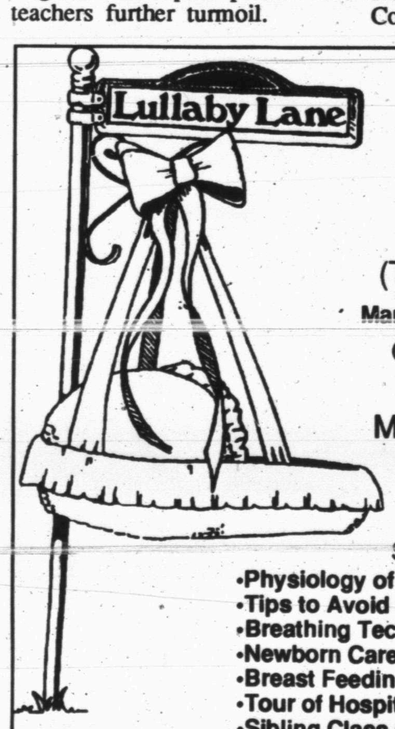
For computer users, tax forms can be downloaded from IRIS (the Internal Revenue Information Services) on FedWorld, a government bulletin board. Call it directly at 1 (703) 321-8020. Or connect through the IRS' Internet homepage. Technical advice on accessing IRIS, but not tax help, is available at 1 (703) 487-4608.

Tax forms in braille can be obtained through regional libraries for the visually impaired in conjunction with the Library of Congress' National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, 1 (800) 424-8567. Publication 1614 has large-print copies of many forms and instructions.

Help for the hearing impaired is available by calling the IRS at 1 (800) 829-4059 using a TDD (telecommunication device for the deaf).

The IRS runs two programs, staffed by volunteers at more than 19,000 sites, which served 3.5 million last year. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program at no charge helps prepare returns for poor people, the handicapped, students, military personnel and non-English-speaking people.

The Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) program sends volunteers to help people age 60 and older, especially shut-ins and nursing-home residents.



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Local, long-distant phone companies feuding

WASHINGTON (AP) — A politician in a dark suit steps up to a microphone and says "moo." An announcer asserts that local telephone companies see their customers as cash cows and are overcharging them by $14 billion. "Stop being milked," the ad declares.

MCI's 30-second spot is its first TV commercial and the latest shot in an ad war between local and long-distance companies aimed at influencing a government decision that could affect what customers pay.

MCI's new batch of print and TV ads, unveiled Thursday, prompted immediate attacks from local companies, which called the ads inaccurate.

The United States Telephone Association is running a campaign to counter the ads on behalf of the local companies, including the regional Bell companies.

The Federal Communications Commission is examining ways to lower some of the $23 billion in fees, called access charges, that long-distance companies pay to local companies. The agency has said it will make a decision in May.

Long-distance companies want the FCC to cut the fees by half, saying they are well above the cost to local phone companies of handling the calls. They say they will pass the savings to their customers.

Local phone companies say the fees accurately reflect their costs and should remain about the same.

A portion of the fees is used to keep local phone rates affordable for low-income customers and people who live in high-cost areas. If the fees are cut too deeply, local phone rates could go up.

On Monday, USTA will launch a national ad campaign that does not specifically mention access charges, but will feature a toll-free number people can call to get more information.

The announcer in the MCI ad says: "Cows. That's how the big Bell monopolies see you. Big fat cash cows. The local phone monopolies overcharge you by $14 billion dollars. They call it access charges. You're a human being. Demand that the big Bell monopolies stop their access charge ripoff." The ad closes with the on-screen message: "Stop being milked."

"I think it's really deceitful," said USTA spokeswoman Elizabeth Brooks. Local phone companies do not determine the fees, as the ad implies, she said. Regulators set them. Long-distance companies pay the fees to local companies for using their networks and pass the costs to their customers, she said.

"They got $9 billion in reductions, and they haven't passed that on," Brooks contended. "Their basic rates keep going up."

MCI chief policy counsel Jonathan Sallet defended the accuracy of the ads. "There's nothing misleading in them. We want to educate consumers about the burden that's being placed on them so that they can decide on their own what needs to be done," he said.

But Bell Atlantic President James Cullen wants the ads stopped and is considering legal options. "It's a totally preposterous, inaccurate, unnecessary, stupid thing for a responsible company to do," he said in a telephone interview.

Long-distance companies are not required to pass along such access charge savings, but they insist they have. Local companies contend that long-distance providers usually pocket most of the savings.

MCI is running the ad in Austin, Texas; Washington, D.C.; Atlanta; Sacramento, Calif.; Albany, N.Y.; and Springfield, Ill. Other markets are planned.

Congress, Clinton spar on paying debt

WASHINGTON (AP) — Like spouses arguing over a charitable contribution, the Clinton administration has pledged money to the World Bank and other international organizations but Congress is refusing to honor that commitment.

The United States owes $1 billion to the World Bank and about $600 million to five regional development banks. That is on top of its more than $1 billion debt to the United Nations.

Congress says it will not pay without U.N. reform and more efficiency at the banks.

No other major industrialized country owes money to the World Bank.

The chairman of the House Appropriations foreign operations subcommittee, Rep. Sonny Callahan, R-Ala., says the World Bank could be more efficient. He and other members express concern over a bank reorganization plan that includes costly payments to employees who take early retirement.

Other legislators such as freshman Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., want to go deeper and look at which bank programs work and which do not. They ask what the bank's role should be in developing countries now that private capital flows to these nations largely surpass what the World Bank, regional development banks and bilateral government aid provide.

The World Bank uses the funds it receives from member nations to make interest-free loans to the world's poorest countries, where many families exist on less than $1 a day. The regional banks finance specific projects in Asia, Latin America, Africa and Eastern Europe.

The budget the administration has submitted to Congress calls for the United States to pay its current assessments to the financial organizations and repay its arrears over a three-year period.

Once it is clear the United States will pay arrears of $235 million to the World Bank and its regular contribution of $800 million, then U.S. companies may again be able to bid on some contracts in developing countries these loans finance.

European and Japanese countries blocked U.S. bidding for contracts when the United States fell behind in its payments, an action that infuriated Congress.

World Bank President James Wolfensohn said the loans the bank makes "are not charity but self-interest" because "developing countries are the fastest-growing market for U.S. exports ... and this means jobs here in the United States."

Treasury Secretary Robert Rubin told Congress that U.S. leadership in international organizations would be at risk if the United States refuses to pay its bills or attaches conditions to the payment.

He said the banks were moving forward with reforms.

Rubin said the banks "were reducing overhead, becoming more open, doing more to prevent corruption and promote the private sector and becoming more sensitive to environmental concerns. They are providing us with better value for the money than at any time in history."

Most of the focus on U.S. debts to international organizations has been on the United Nations, to which the United States owes nearly $1 billion, according to the administration, or $1.6 billion, according to the United Nations.

Some members of Congress say it is the United Nations that owes the United States money because the country does not get credit for airlift, communications and other logistical support for peacekeeping operations.

Algeria dangerous place for journalists

WASHINGTON (AP) — Twenty-seven journalists were killed in 1996, and 24 countries held a record 185 reporters in prison at the end of last year, the Committee to Protect Journalists said Friday.

Turkish prisons held 78 journalists, 27 more than in 1995 and more than a third of the 1996 total.

It was the third consecutive year Turkey held more journalists than any other country. More journalists were jailed in Turkey jails than in the next five combined: Ethiopia, 18; China, 17; Kuwait; 15; Nigeria, eight; and Burma, eight.

The previous record for jailed reporters around the globe was 182 in 1995.

"Turkey is once again the most egregious example of a government that criminalizes independent reporting," said the committee's annual report. It said the committee was petitioning each of the 24 governments for the immediate release of the journalists.

A group of current and former foreign correspondents founded the private, New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists in 1981 to monitor country-by-country abuses against both local and international reporters and to promote press freedom.

CPJ documented 27 work-related deaths of journalists, fewer than half the 57 deaths reported in 1995. Seven were committed in Algeria, where 59 journalists have been killed since 1993.

"Algeria ... remains a horrific and dangerous place, with reporters working and living in bunker-like isolation, in many cases under the vigilance of military guards, who are themselves no friends of the press," the report said.

Six journalists were killed in Russia, four while covering the war in Chechnya.

The dead also include Irish crime reporter Veronica Guerin, shot last June in Dublin. The committee called her murder "one of the most shocking deaths of the year" and the first such murder in Western Europe in many years.

One of the deaths was accidental, that of a journalist who was among 34 people killed with former Commerce Secretary Ron Brown in a plane crash in Croatia.

In addition to the 27 confirmed deaths, CPJ is also investigating eight other killings suspected to be linked to the victims' work as journalists.

The committee said almost all the 185 imprisoned journalists were jailed for critical or candid reporting.

In Turkey, most were guilty of reporting openly and often critically about the government's 11-year-old war against insurgent Kurds in the country's southeast.

The report said it was a "point of shame, but ... also potentially CPJ's most important point of pressure" that three solid U.S. allies — Turkey, Ethiopia and Kuwait — are among the top jailers on its list.

CPJ also criticized Congress' Intelligence Authorization Act for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, which contains the first specific congressional sanction of using journalists as CIA agents. The committee said it will fight for the policy's reversal.

FBI officials struggle to solve high count of bank robberies

DALLAS (AP) — A recent rash of bank robberies has Texas FBI officials bracing for what could be a record year for heists and bank officials around the state rethinking their security measures.

But FBI officials say determining why robbing banks seems to be in style will have to take a back seat to solving the crimes.

"Right now, the pressure is on to put these guys behind bars," said Dallas FBI spokesman John Skillestad. "As soon as other people see that they're not getting away with it, hopefully we'll see a decrease."

Since the beginning of this year, the FBI reports there's been 49 robberies in the North Texas area — almost three times ahead of last year at this time. The regions surrounding Houston and San Antonio also have reported a big jump in robberies since the year began.

Dawn Duplantier, a spokeswoman for Texas Bankers Association, said the FBI and state bankers are planning a meeting to discuss the upswing of robberies.

"We just want to talk things over with them and make sure we're doing everything we can to keep these things from happening and reacting well when they do," Ms. Duplantier said.

NationsBank spokeswoman Pam McQuitty said the company is reviewing its policies.

"Ultimately decisions will be made on what best meets the needs of customers," Ms. McQuitty said. "If that means we need to make changes, we'll make those changes."

Some customers don't seem to be alarmed by the rising number of crimes.

"You still have to go to the bank, no matter how much it happens," customer Julie Elestan said as she went into a Fort Worth NationsBank branch. "I'm sure things will go back to normal."

The Texas trend comes at a time when bank robberies nationwide are on the decline. National FBI statistics show the crime has dropped annually between 1992 and 1995, the most recent year for which statistics are available.

Most heists in Texas have been low-key affairs in which a gun was never exposed and a threatening note was handed over the counter, law enforcement officials say.

But the growing frequency of the robberies around the state has drawn attention.

Last week, three men stormed into a Houston bank wielding rifles but were thwarted when an off-duty police officer opened fire on them. Two of the men escaped but were arrested Wednesday night after an anonymous tip.

In the Dallas area, four banks were robbed on March 5 within hours of each other. Police are still searching for suspects in two of the robberies.

FBI agents believe one of two Grand Prairie men arrested for robbing a Nations-Bank on March 3, may also have committed two of the March 5 robberies.

On March 11, a Frozen Food Express Credit Union in Lancaster was robbed by a man claiming to have a bomb in his briefcase. No arrests have been made.

Statistics for the region surrounding Houston are recorded on a fiscal year system beginning every Oct. 1. For 1996, the FBI recorded 139 robberies. Already there have been 79 in the 1997 fiscal year.

In San Antonio, FBI spokesman Darren Holmes said his officers can barely get back in the office from the scene of one robbery, before being called out on another one.

"To say we're pretty busy would be an understatement," Holmes said.

In Central Texas, 17 robberies have been reported since Jan. 1. FBI figures show the region had 32 all of last year.

Holmes said many of this year's crimes may be multiple strikes by serial robbers.

"We think what we're seeing is a few guys who think they can beat the system more than we have a bunch of people all of a sudden deciding to do this," Holmes said.

Even though FBI statistics show that about 85 percent of all bank robbers in Texas are caught, Skillestad said the lure of banks will always draw criminals.

Neurologists worried about 2nd impact to injured brains

ATLANTA (AP) — Warning coaches not to hurry athletes with head injuries back into competition, government researchers said a second concussion shortly after the first can be fatal.

"We simply don't know how many young athletes are returned to play without a proper evaluation," said Dr. David Thurman, an epidemiologist with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

About 100,000 football players receive head injuries each year, said Drs. James Kelly and Jay Rosenberg, whose diagnosis and treatment guidelines for sports concussions appeared this week in the journal Neurology.

Thurman estimated sports-related head injuries at 300,000 a year. Besides football, soccer, field hockey and wrestling are sports in which head injuries are common.

Not all concussions cause unconsciousness. Thurman cited the case of a 17-year-old high school football player who and told a teammate about a head injury, but not his coach.

The player returned to the game but collapsed on the field after several blows to the head during routine blocks and tackles. His brain swelled, and he died four days later.

An athlete who loses consciousness momentarily should not compete again for at least a week, and one who remains unconscious for several minutes should stay on the sidelines for two weeks or more, Thurman said Thursday.

If an athlete is knocked unconscious a second time, regardless of how long after the first injury, he should stay out at least a month, he said.

Trainers must assess any athlete who might have a head injury, and an athlete who seems confused, dizzy or unsteady must be examined by a physician, Thurman said. If the problem doesn't clear up within 15 minutes, the athlete should not be allowed back in the game.

Asking an athlete if he remembers his name or the day of the week is not good enough, Thurman said. "The athlete should be asked to remember a list of three objects, then asked five minutes later what the objects were."

Coaches and trainers who allow athletes to return to the field might not do so if they knew how dangerous concussions can be, Thurman said.

"If they occur too close together, brain injuries can have a devastating effect. Even if they are spaced out, they can have a cumulative effect."

If tests reveal brain swelling or brain contusions, an athlete should be discouraged from participating in contact sports, the guidelines say.

Concussions have become increasingly common in the National Football League, which this year launched its own study of the problem.

New York Jets wide receiver Al Toon sustained at least 12 concussions before they forced him to retire in 1991. St. Louis Rams quarterback Chris Miller retired at age 30 after five concussions within 14 months. Last season, doctors benched San Francisco quarterback Steve Young after he suffered two concussions in three weeks.

In pro hockey, the Buffalo Sabres' Pat LaFontaine had been sidelined since Nov. 7 after the fifth concussion of his 14-year career. He practiced Thursday, but took part only in non-contact drills and still doesn't know when, or if, he'll be back in the lineup.

The state flower of California is the golden poppy.

ABSOLUTE SALE

NEW 1997 MODEL

SINGER SEWING MACHINES

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The PICTORAL PATTERN SELECTOR makes it simple to select any stitch needed for easy garment construction; or to select a stitch for quilt and craft or other hobbies. PLUS FEATURES on these genuine Singer Machines include: Professional serging stitch, one or two needle operation, touch & wind bobbin system, Electronic Control, jam free rotary sewing. The combination system allows it to be used as a portable or cabinet model. It CUTS AS IT SEWS with the optional cutter.

SINGER SALES COMPANY demonstrator on site. Demonstration starts over approximately every 30 minutes. Machines are at location. You can pay in full and take one home. Singer Nationwide Warranty. A complete instruction book and a 1-800 assistance number is included. This model is not available at department stores.

With the UNIVERSAL PRESSURE SYSTEM it's a breeze to sew multiple layers of denim, leather, or a single layer of sheer nylon.

QUALITY SINCE 1851

Total Price with this ad is $186

Availability and Price are guaranteed on this model.

Without this ad pay $439

Your check, MC, Visa, Discover, Lay-a-way welcome.

Other models may be available at similar savings.

No phone calls please.

ONE DAY ONLY!

THURSDAY MARCH 20 ONLY 10 AM TIL 5 PM

Nathalie's Craft Mall

1803 25th St. (North Side of Square) - Snyder

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MAR 16 1997

Ladies, it's time for a change in our thinking

Deanie Francis Mills

Some women friends and I have been talking a lot lately about the effects of stress in our lives, and how women's stress is different from men's, and how, if we're not careful, it can destroy our health, our marriages, and our lives.

It's not that men don't feel stress in their lives, but I think they are better at compartmentalizing it than women are. They can go play a round of golf, or go fishing or hunting or have a beer with the guys, and during that time, they can let go of their problems. Women think more globally, and they are so used to taking care of everybody and everybody's mama that they can't let it go.

Women'll play a round of golf, too, but while they're waiting their turn to tee up, they're reminding themselves to pick up a graduation gift for their niece, make sure their kid's soccer uniform is clean for the game, call their mom and see if she's feeling any better, and set out the roast to thaw for supper. Oh, and finish those lesson plans before Monday.

And all this time, their husband is standing right there waiting his turn, too, and he's thinking, "Gee, I wonder if those Spalding balls really are better for getting out of sand traps?"

As an autnor, working out of a home office, I am well-acquainted with all the elements necessary for success in the publishing business: drive, self-discipline, determination, hard work, and so on. What I'm not so well-acquainted with is what it takes to handle the pressure — relaxation. When you work at home, you feel guilty about what you're NOT doing, no matter what you ARE doing. There's no escape from work of one kind or another.

And that's the classic conundrum: many women work two jobs — one at the office or school or wherever, and one at home. But you know what? And this will come as a surprise to those of you who know that I consider myself a feminist: It's not the guys' faults.

Not completely.

Plenty of times, men offer to help around the house. Women respond by going on the defensive: "I WOULD have cleaned it up, but I've been so BUSY!" They get angry at the inference that they can't keep a clean house. Or, they will relent and assign a task to their guy, only to criticize him and come along after him re-doing it. Or — and this is TRULY classic — they won't tell him what they want done. They think he should be able to figure it out for himself, through osmosis or something, and they seethe inside when he doesn't.

What most women need to realize is that, again, men think compartmentally. They think along the lines of management structure. She's the house manager. If she wants him on the cleanup task force, all she needs to do is give him an assignment and a deadline and he'll do it. And if it's not done her way, so what? She delegated the responsibility, didn't she? So she should forget about it.

Most of the stress that women deal with is stress that they put on themselves, in many different ways. First they place impossibly high expectations on themselves, and berate themselves for falling short. Second, they worry excessively about things that, chances are, will never come to pass anyway. And third, they worry waaaay too much about what other people think.

No, I don't cook a nice hot supper every single night. Yes, my house looks like people live in it. But you know what? I write books. Can you do that? Or, let me put it this way: Can you do that AND cook hot meals every night AND keep a spotless home AND be sexy for your spouse AND keep yourself fit and healthy AND raise two kids? If not, well then, go away and leave me alone until you can.

Now, I'm teasing here, but you know what I mean. That old saying, "Don't sweat the small stuff," was never truer for American women. We need to learn to be focused. We need to line up our priorities: If some demand or other doesn't make it into the top three — throw it out! We need to learn to compartmentalize, the way the guys do. And we need to relent, let down that I Can Do It All facade and say ...HELP ... now and then. And then sit down and shut up. Let him — and the kids, too, help. (Well, okay, MAKE the kids help. And remember: bribery is not as bad as the experts say it is.)

Nowadays, the truth is that nobody really EXPECTS us, as women, to do it all. I've noticed even among my mother's generation, a sort of trade-off often taking place. When the husband retires, the wife gets very active with her crafts or church or a part-time job, and the husband takes over the cooking and some of the housekeeping, even — and is surprised to find how much he enjoys it — while she's having the time of her life.

Being in constant control of every single aspect of our lives extracts a high price — the breakdown of our health, crippling depressions, divorce. Let's just forget about the standards we think other people think of us, or that we expect of ourselves. Let's set new standards altogether.

Right now, the algerita is in bloom and the evening air is perfumed with its fragrance.

Have you noticed?

Letters to the Editor

Step by step

Dear Editor:

With all due respect to Ms. Cole's dilemma in her dealings with Snyder Laundry, and Dave and Melissa Wickline, I would like to shed some light on the subject based on facts rather than opinion.

I have worked with Dave Wickline for over 5 years and from my first day of employment the most important subject for him has been "customer service." He stressed to his counter help that when a customer walks through the door, they should be assisted with priority over any paperwork that employee may be involved in. I cannot count how many times I have heard the line, "I need help on the front."

If there is a complaint with service, Dave goes the extra mile to please his customers. Whether it is lack of service, a problem with a statement, settling a claim, or treating a stain, the man tries to make the whole world stand still until that customer gets what he or she wants.

That's not to say he hasn't encountered some problems satisfying everyone. Overall, however, I have seen few businesses that take such a personal involvement in dealing with customer problems. Although we have each been trained well in dealings such as this — nobody does it like Dave. If you haven't met him yet, you need to come by and chat with him. I am certain there is no one like him in Snyder — and I mean that respectfully. (ha)

Although we anticipated that we would create excitement at the purchase of the land between Anthony's and Taylor Food Mart, it has not been of the nature that we predicted. I have gotten feedback from some customers that Dave is building the new cleaners with the customers' claim money. That is far from the truth.

Dave cannot begin construction until the insurance pays his claim. Therefore, all customer claims will be settled long before we open the doors to the new Snyder Laundry. If Dave was attempting to "sidestep" the responsibility of settling these claims, he would never have made the decision to rebuild — he would have left Snyder, which he had the option to do when his livelihood here was destroyed.

I am not without compassion for the people who lost clothing in the fire that touched so many in this city. I realize the delay in settling these claims has been hurtful and frustrating. I, as manager of Snyder Laundry, have been trained that when customers are as upset as some with whom I have spoken, I could "fix it." In this case, however, settling the claims is out of our hands.

The reason for the lag lies with the insurance company, and they don't seem to be in a hurry. That doesn't mean that Dave Wickline isn't in a hurry — and he isn't going to give up. He will continue to fight to get his customers what they want, just like he's done since the first day I met him.

I know it is difficult to see the stress Dave and Melissa are undergoing because their uplifting personalities won't allow them to show that side to the public. They have gone from a full-production laundry, dry cleaning and linen supply, to a pick-up station, and there is nothing any of us want more than to be able to give the service that we offered our customers in the past.

The first step in accomplishing this dream will be paying the losses on the clothing that was destroyed in the fire.

I heard a song on the radio that reminds me of Dave Wickline and his manner of handling challenges. The name of the song is "Step by Step," sung by Whitney Houston. I can't listen to it without tears coming to my eyes because it does so remind me of Dave and Melissa.

They have taken a much needed spring break this week and have no idea that I am writing this letter — but the record needs to be set straight. They are hard-working people in this community and deserve a lot of respect for how they have handled this tragedy.

Oh, and if you haven't heard the song "Step by Step" by the time we have the grand opening of the new Snyder Laundry and Dry Cleaners, come by — I may just have it playing as loud as Dave will allow me.

Patti McKinney

It's your hospital

Dear Editor:

Many people are discussing options for Cogdell Hospital. Most of the people are saying they have not studied the issues enough to make a decision. This is understandable. These people will study the issues in the future and come to a decision.

What I don't understand is a few people who do not seem to care what happens to the hospital. They will say something like "Let them fight it out, I am not going to Cogdell Hospital."

If there were no medical emergencies we could go to the hospital of our choice when the need arose. Unfortunately there are accidents, heart attacks and other medical emergencies. In times like these you just want to get to some hospital to help you; you really aren't that particular, you just want to live.

Cogdell Hospital is an excellent facility for stabilizing patients who must be transferred to larger hospitals. They work over you in an efficient but gentle manner. I know from my medical crisis in December of 1987 that the hospital is very capable. They started blood transfusions and stabilized me to be transferred to Scenic Mountain Hospital in Big Spring. I stayed there several days and returned to Cogdell Hospital under the care of Dr. Cooper and several good nurses. They all did a good job.

We need to keep our hospital as efficient as it was the day I was rushed there to the trauma unit.

To those who care about what happens to the hospital I would say, let's study the options carefully, so that we can make the right decision. Our lives may depend on the decision we make.

To those who don't care I would say, if an emergency occurs, it may be your hospital, whether or not you want it to be, so think of is as your hospital and help us make our decision.

Betty Boyd
Snyder

Letters policy

Letters to the editor must be signed and must give the address of the writer. Letters should be of reasonable length. The newspaper reserves the right to refuse letters if they contain libelous material or information deemed in poor taste.

Following a long-standing policy and practice, Snyder Daily News does not publish letters pertaining to a candidate or issue once an election has been called.

Opinions in favor of or in opposition to an issue or candidate may be published in paid political advertisements.

Letters to be published in the weekend edition must be submitted no later than noon Friday.

Hats off to Greenwich

Bill McClellan

Hats off to Greenwich, Conn.!

Perhaps you saw where that affluent community wanted to spruce up its shopping area with quaint street lamps, fancy benches and new sidewalks.

City leaders learned they could have $500,000 from the federal government to help with the project. The money was theirs for the asking.

They turned it down, calling it a waste of tax dollars.

They what?

That's right, they turned down a half-million dollar handout.

Citing the huge federal deficit, town legislator James G. Boutelle said, "We've got to draw the line somewhere."

Interestingly, Boutelle was the 1992 state chairman for Ross Perot's presidential campaign.

The monies were available under the Federal Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act. Through it, communities can apply for funds toward the improvements of highways, streets and transit systems. Some of the funds are tied to income level, but other monies are available to rich communities like Greenwich.

You won't see many communities turn down federal dollars. Hats off to Greenwich, Conn.

A bill before the Legislature which would speed up the adoption process in Texas should get quick passage.

The legislation, SB34, is good for children and adoptive parents alike.

Statistics indicate that children spend an average of almost 41 months in the system before adoption is complete. The payout on a 1997 vehicle is quicker.

Furthermore, each child averages spending time in four temporary homes during that time.

That's far too long and far too traumatic for young children.

"What we have learned over the years is that the greatest problem related to foster care is that the children age out of the process," said Sen. Judith Zaffirini, D-Laredo, the chief sponsor of the bill.

In addition to putting children into adoptive homes earlier, the bill would shorten the time needed to terminate parental rights and provide more security that adoptions won't be challenged later.

It's good for couples looking to adopt. It's good for children needing a loving home. And it's good for Texas.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

Cloning of a sheep

The Herald, Everett, Wash.

You might call it the bleat heard round the world. The cloning of a sheep in Scotland has touched off responses on every talk show and from the White House.

Given the dramatic scientific advances, including work on rhesus monkeys in Oregon, President Bill Clinton was on firm ground in calling for an immediate ban against any federal support for research into human cloning. The issue, as the president noted, raises profound moral questions. At the minimum, the questions should not now be decided in favor of cloning by federal support. ...

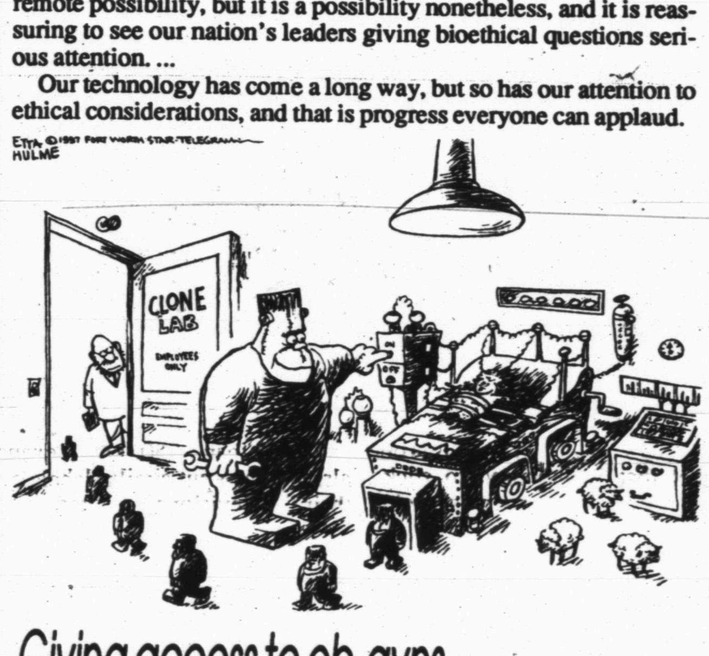
The dangers of cloning

The Times-Picayune, New Orleans

Today's headlines about sheep cloning and other scientific breakthroughs sound more like yesterday's science fiction titles, calling to mind everything from Aldous Huxley's nightmarish vision of a world populated by engineered carbon copies to that B movie staple, The Evil Twin.

The brave new world envisioned by Mr. Huxley may still be a remote possibility, but it is a possibility nonetheless, and it is reassuring to see our nation's leaders giving bioethical questions serious attention. ...

Our technology has come a long way, but so has our attention to ethical considerations, and that is progress everyone can applaud.



Giving access to ob-gyns

The Fort Worth Star-Telegram

Every female Texan over the age of 18 should say "thanks" to state Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, and state Rep. Patricia Gray, D-Galveston.

Both women filed bills that will make direct access to gynecologists and obstetricians possible for woman with health benefit plans without having to get a referral from a primary-care physician.

For many women, their ob-gyn is in reality their primary-care physician. Early education and awareness have increased women's knowledge about diseases related specifically to the female anatomy, and many women start seeing a gynecologist on a regular basis long before they need a general practitioner for the occasional pulled muscle, backache or bout of the flu.

Some insurance plans allow women to undergo at least one well-woman visit a year without having to get a referral from a primary-care physician. But Shapiro, whose bill passed in the Senate on Wednesday and goes to the House for consideration, wants women to be able to go straight to their ob-gyns whenever they need care related to a pregnancy or an active gynecological condition. Gray's bill wants ob-gyns to be able to refer patients directly to a specialist if a health problem that needs additional follow-up care is discovered during a gynecological visit.

With one out of every nine women in this country at risk for breast cancer, health maintenance organizations should welcome the opportunity to make it easier for women to see their gynecologists. Prevention and early detection save dollars — and lives.

Abortion bills off target

The Austin American-Statesman

Abortion bills that seem unlikely to achieve their purported intent and quite likely to generate a variety of negative consequences are being seriously considered by Congress and the Legislature.

In Congress, proponents of prohibiting physicians from using a particular abortion method are resuming efforts to enact their proposal. A bill banning the procedure — intact dilation and evacuation, or "partial-birth abortion" — was vetoed by President Clinton after being passed by both houses of Congress last year. Now, amid a flurry of distracting controversy over statistics and political tactics, the bill is back, and appears likely to be approved by Congress.

In the Texas Legislature, two bills dealing with abortions sought by minors have been approved by the Senate Health and Human Services Committee. Senate Bill 86 by Sen. Florence Shapiro, R-Plano, the bill given the best chance before the full Senate, would require physicians to inform by telephone or letter the parents of a patient under age 18 who intends to seek an abortion. ...

All three proposals would create unwarranted, unwise intrusions by government into medical decisions best left to physicians and their patients. Worse yet, they add emotional fuel to the larger abortion debate while doing little to resolve it. ...

This is a case in which more law will not be better law.

Ex-recruiter given 15 years

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A former Army recruiter has been sentenced to 15 years in prison following his conviction on 16 charges, including rape, sexual harassment, sodomy and adultery.

Sgt. 1st Class Brett Wright, 37, was accused of victimizing five women who had gone to the recruiting station for information about joining the Army.

In addition to the prison term, Wright was given a dishonorable discharge and reduced in rank to private. He also must surrender all pay and allowances while serving his sentence.

Court-martial panel members deliberated about four hours Thursday before returning a verdict. They announced their punishment findings Thursday night.

Wright was charged with numerous charges, all sexually related. Before the trial, he pleaded guilty to one count of wrongful use of cocaine.

The former recruiter was convicted on a charge of raping a potential recruit at her home.

He was acquitted of another rape charge in which the alleged victim, a former soldier, said he threw her to the floor of the recruiting station and tried to sodomize her. Her case was hurt by the testimony Wednesday of a defense witness who said she had bragged about getting promotions in return for sexual favors.

Defense lawyer Capt. Chris Callen argued during closing arguments Thursday that the five women lied about the events. Callen said an investigator pressured them into testifying against Wright.

"We are not saying this was a grand conspiracy," said Callen. "But due to his (investigator's) lack of experience and lack of training, he put words in their mouths."

He said there was no physical evidence to support the allegations.

A local rape expert who testified for the prosecution said the relationship between Wright and the victims is similar to that between drill sergeants and recruits involved in a highly publicized case at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds in Maryland.

"This man really thought he could get away with whatever he wanted and just went after it," said Deb Knickerbocker, client support service director for the Rape Crisis Center in San Antonio.

"He really knew how to pick his victims, people in real bad financial troubles who really needed to get into the Army.'

Volunteers rescue elusive manatee from strangulation

CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP) — After eluding her would-be saviors for nearly two years, an elusive manatee that was slowly being strangled by a piece of cord fell for gobs of lettuce and let down her guard long enough to be captured.

Biologists on Thursday cornered the 360-pound manatee and removed the ring of cord that had somehow gotten wrapped around her body. They also realized that the beast they had nicknamed Phil was really a Phyllis.

Scientists have been working for years to save the manatee, an endangered species. The gentle, walrus-like animals, which can reach up to 12 feet and 500 pounds, are found primarily off the waters of Florida, the West Indies and Belize.

About a dozen rescuers from Miami Seaquarium, the Florida Marine Patrol, and other agencies took part in getting Phyllis out of a canal in a ritzy Coral Gables neighborhood.

Veterinarians feared the cord, used to bind newspapers or shipping material, would have eventually squeezed 2-year-old Phyllis to death as she grew. There were already signs of infection as the cord cut into her skin.

"If we hadn't gotten her she certainly would have died this winter," said University of Miami veterinarian Greggory Bossart, who examined the mammal.

"This is what man is doing to the manatee," Bossart said. "We're killing off the species."

She was being held in a holding pool while tests were done on her. Eventually, she is to be released back into the wild if she's well enough.

Manatees are known to be sluggish but Phyllis was fast enough to avoid capture since she was first sighted with the cord around her abdomen when she was a calf.

Sightings of Phyllis increased in the last few weeks, and her plight has generated lots of publicity. In fact, a rescue try on Wednesday failed when onlookers and news helicopters converged on the area and Phyllis fled.

Biologists returned to the scene again Thursday and found Phyllis back frolicking with her herd. This time, they took advantage of the sea cow's weakness for lettuce and netted her before she had a chance to get away.

The manatee is coming off a deadly year. Marine officials counted 2,639 of them last year.

House panel moves to bolster ban on doctor-assisted suicide

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Texas lawmaker is asking colleagues to bar the use of federal tax dollars for physician-assisted suicide — something that is already illegal.

Rep. Ralph Hall, D-Texas, said a new law is needed to close any loopholes that may result from pending Supreme Court cases or an Oregon law permitting assisted suicides in certain circumstances.

The House Commerce subcommittee on health and the environment approved Hall's bill by voice vote Thursday and sent it to the full committee.

"Currently, the Supreme Court is deliberating cases arising from lawsuits brought in New York and Washington state regarding assisted suicide," said Rep. Mike Bilirakis, R-Fla., the subcommittee chairman.

"If any of these cases results in a ruling that legalizes assisted suicide, federal funding may be used to pay for this procedure," Bilirakis said. "Federal dollars appropriated for such programs as Medicaid, Medicare and Public Health Service programs could be used to promote death instead of preserving life."

Most Democrats voted against the measure, noting it is already illegal for health care providers to use federal money for criminal offenses — including assisted suicide, euthanasia and mercy killing.

Led by Rep. Sherrod Brown, D-Ohio, Democrats unsuccessfully tried to amend the measure to require medical schools to teach future doctors how to spot depression in terminally ill and disabled patients and how to relieve their physical pain.

"Regrettably, ... (the bill) does not address the real issues of assisted suicide. Today there is no question that assisted suicide is illegal in most states," said Rep. Henry Waxman, D-Calif. "If, as I suspect, this legislation is actually intended as a congressional condemnation of assisted suicide, I cannot support it."

Democrats also expressed concern that despite the bill's exemption for pain-relieving care, it could frighten some doctors out of providing powerful drugs that lessen the pain but shorten the lives of dying patients.

Noting that his 92-year-old father died a few months ago, Rep. Ted Strickland, D-Ohio, said "it really bothers me that we may do something that would interfere with a loving family and a compassionate doctor's ability to treat people the way they ought to be treated."

The bill is H.R. 1003.

Security stickers on cars can help trace ownership

HOUSTON (AP) — This is one label that is supposed to stick.

An anti-theft group is urging Texans to buy permanent identification labels for their cars as part of the new Protect Our Parts program. Its goal is to improve the recovery of stolen cars and parts.

The labels are placed under the hood or on the inside of a door, as well as on stereos, car phones, speakers or wheels, said Charity Judah of the nonprofit Texas Action Council on Theft.

They list the owner's driver's license number and the car's vehicle identification number.

"The important part of these labels is the part that you don't see," Ms. Judah said Thursday. "If this label is removed from your car stereo, your car phone, your seats, your door, it actually leaves behind a footprint (with) the 800-number to the database and the identification number identifying this as your property."

That "footprint" can be seen with an ultraviolent light.

Car owners can purchase 10 security labels, along with two window decals, for $8.30. The decals warn that the car is protected through a permanent marking system.

"A window decal is the first line of defense," she said. "With the window decals on the car, they'll move down to another car with no window decals."

Nearly 105,000 cars were stolen in Texas in 1995.

More than 250,000 Texans already have put similar labels on their televisions, computers, stereos or other valuables.

They have helped in recovering items or catching thieves who try to pawn the valuables.

The council, which has planned events around the state to announce the new program, consists of insurers who work with police.

More than 36,000 Texans have registered in another anti-theft program that uses window decals.

Participants in the state program, called Help End Auto Theft, give police permission to stop their vehicles between 1 a.m. and 5 a.m. or at the Texas-Mexico border to check on vehicle ownership. It costs one cent to register for four years.

For information on the Texas Action Council on Theft's programs, call 1-800-286-9801. Those who want to know about the state auto registration program can call 512-424-2483.

Scurry County Service Men & Women

Editor's Note: Citizens are invited to write their servicemen and servicewomen stationed stateside and overseas. Anyone having additions, changes or corrections to the list should submit them in writing to Snyder Daily News, P.O. Box 949, Snyder TX, 79550 or bring them by the office at 3600 College Ave. Sorry, no addresses will be accepted over the telephone.

Marisa Barrera:
PFC Barrera, Marisa
263 Mt. Co.
Box 78
Ft. Hood, TX 76544

Ward & Rachel Baze
Ward & Rachel Baze
1506 Bundrane Apt. 119
Killeen, TX 76543
Delta Company
1st Battalion
22 Mechanized Regiment
4th Infantry Division

Scott M. Cole
RM3 Scott M. Cole
USS Safeguard ARS 50
FPO AP 96678-3221

Cole Drum:
QMSN Delton C. Drum II
MCM Rotational Crew Golf
463-29-0621
Unit 60535
FPO AE 09501-4507

Tony & Robin (Rogers) Ferard:
Tony & Robin Ferard
1925 D AMA R.D.
AMR
Honolulu, HI 96818

Cory & Jamie Fisher:
Cory & Jamie Fisher
101 South Reynolds St.
Apt. H
#406
Alexandria, VA 22304

Amadeo Garza
Capt. Amadeo B. Garza
CJSOTF/ILIZDA Complex
Operation
Joint Endeavor
APO AE 09780

Scott & Amy Graham:
Scott & Amy Graham
29 Ridgecrest Dr.
Hope Mills, NC 28348

Michael D. Long
Sgt. Michael D. Long
C-Trp 1/4 Cav.
CMR464 Bx. 306
APO AE 09226

Ross Hill:
Pvt. Hill, Michael R.
ALPHA Co. 10th Signal BT.
10640 South Riva Ridge Loop
Ft. Drum, NY 13602

Ed Neeley:
AIC Neeley, Ed
3128 Postal Service Cntr.
Nellis AFB
NV 89191-0041

Melchor Parra:
Melchor Parra
2/1 Weapons CO. 81 PLT
Camp Pendleton, CA 92055

Michael A. Perez:
Michael A. Perez
HHC 2-35 INF. 25 ID
Schofield Barracks, HI 96857

Brad Pilgrim
SRA Pilgrim, John B.
40 AS/DELTA (Deployed)
APO AE 09012

Mark & Stacy (Wright) Pilgrim:
Mark & Stacy Pilgrim
1006 C
Pinehurst Estates
Lakehurst, NJ 08733

Angie Ramirez:
Angie Ramirez
Avi Dept. b-4 Div.
USS-Wasp (LHD-1)
FPO AE 90 556-1660

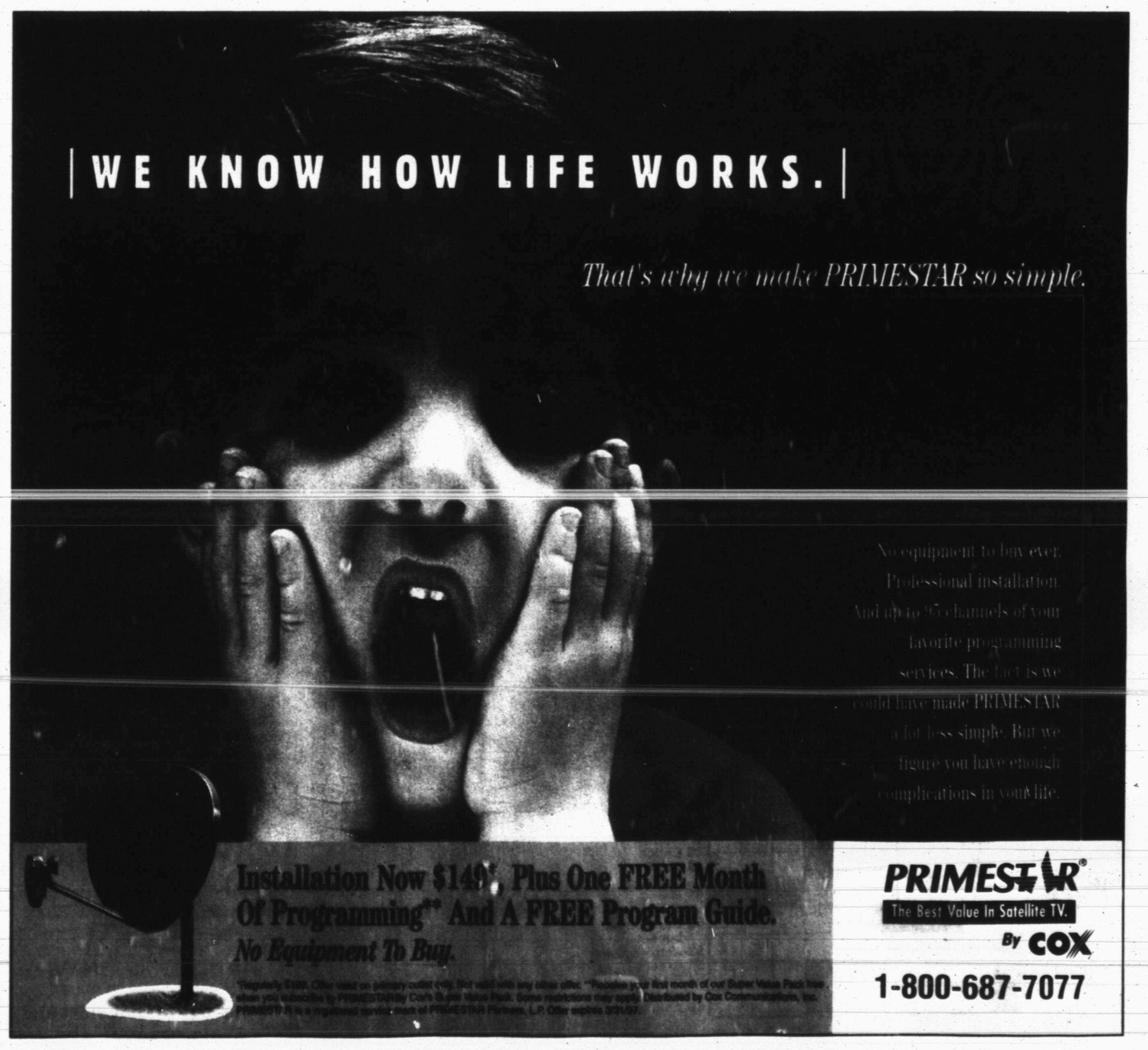
Adam Scott:
Scott, Jonathan A. (Adam)
721 Delaware Ave.
P.O. Box 2657
Holloman AFB
NM 88330-2657

Roy Tavarez:
Roy Tavarez
WPNS Co. 3/3 DRAGONS
MCBH
Kanoehe Bay, HI 96863

W.S. Warren
SSgt. W.S. Warren
PSE 559 PO BX 5530
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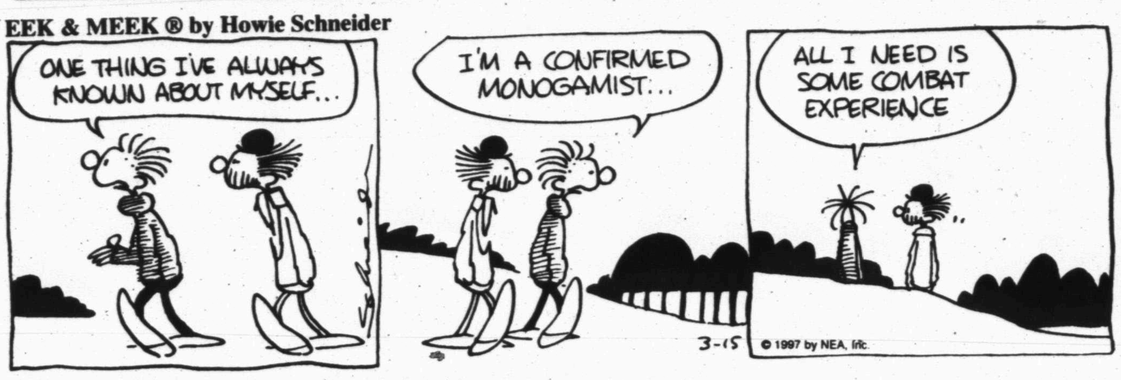
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BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Dance
4 — on (acts like a grandparent)
9 Edge
12 Edible tuber
13 Capacious
14 Individual
15 Jewish holy day (2 wds.)
17 Malaga Mrs.
18 Slow creature
19 Doll's House author
21 Of a lung membrane
25 Sail
28 Grafted, in heraldry
29 First-rate (2 wds.)
33 — — Clear Day
34 Let fall
35 Foot parts
36 Musical sound
38 Copycat
40 Negatives
41 Large knife
42 Yearn
43 Chemical suffix
44 Revolved
47 Deluge
50 Number
54 Hardware item
55 Type of school for canines
59 Mineral
60 Coin of India
61 — Lingus (airline)
62 Tiny
63 Step
64 Prefix for cycle

DOWN

1 Ecstasies
2 Holy image
3 Explorer Vasco da —
4 Used a boring tool
5 Alley —
6 Spinning toy
7 Flightless bird
8 Middle Eastern nation
9 H. — Perot
10 Regarding (2 wds.)
11 Intend
16 Gym feat
20 Cry of a lamb
22 Preoccupied
23 Ideal place
24 Feel regret
25 Notes
26 — — the ground floor
27 Cause of distress
30 Mrs. Charles Chaplin
31 Inert gas
32 Abstract being
37 Architect Saarinen
39 More slender
45 Smells
46 Gambler's cube
47 Run
48 Entice
49 Curved molding
51 Flying creature
52 Champagne bucket
53 Actress Garr
56 Except
57 Environment agcy.
58 Agnus —

Answer to Previous Puzzle

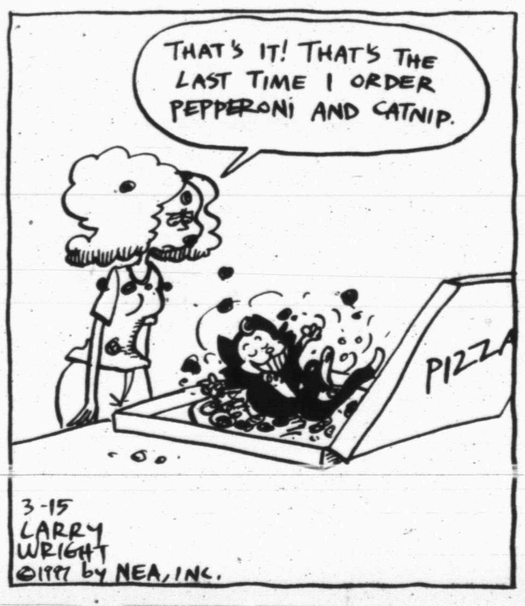
G	N	P		W	H	E	E		W	H	E	N
E	Y	E		H	O	E	D		H	O	L	E
E	E	R		O	G	L	E		E	A	S	E
S	T	U	P	E		S	N	E	E	R	E	D
			E	V	A		S	A	L			
B	A	D	N	E	S	S		R	E	S	E	T
E	V	E		R	H	E	A		D	O	Z	E
N	I	S	I		Y	E	G	G		R	I	N
E	D	I	C	T		P	E	N	S	I	O	N
			E	A	T		D	A	P			
B	A	I	L	O	U	T		W	Y	A	T	T
L	U	N	A		B	A	R	I		G	I	G
A	T	O	N		E	L	O	N		E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

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KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



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"WOW! I WONDER WHAT KIND OF BAIT HE'S USING?"

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Cigarettes are always harmful

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 47-year-old brother suffers from emphysema, yet he continues to chain-smoke. He says that his doctor told him that the cigarettes don't matter because his lung condition will kill him before the tobacco will. Why would a doctor offer such advice?

DEAR READER: Beats me.

Cigarette smoking will not only worsen your brother's emphysema but will also reduce the ability of the lungs to fight infection, leading to a high risk of bronchitis and pneumonia, not to mention lung cancer.

Even if the patient has a severe degree of emphysema, cigarettes are harmful because they make matters worse. In my experience, such patients will experience up to a 20 percent improvement in respiratory efficiency once they stop smoking, regardless of how advanced the emphysema is.

I believe that the doctor's conclusion was not only irresponsible, but cruel and misleading. Your brother can undoubtedly save himself years of dependency and discomfort if he were to forswear smoking immediately. And his life might be prolonged if he put himself under the care of a pulmonologist or another physician who better understands the relation between tobacco smoke and serious lung disorders.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm an active 71-year-old golfer and bowler. Following an operation 50 years ago to drain an abscess in my groin, I have a scar. For the past year or two, I've noticed a distinct "pulling" sensation in the scar when I exercise. Is the discomfort from a groin pull or from the scar?

DEAR READER: I don't know. Perhaps you should check this out with your own doctor. The discomfort could arise from either.

Strained groin muscles are a common consequence of many sports. Usually the pain, which responds to heat, will disappear during periods of rest.

Thus, if your symptom is caused by a pulled muscle, it should improve if you forgo golf and bowling for a couple of weeks.

On the other hand, scar tissue tends to contract with time, and it's possible that you may have stretched this tissue during strenuous exercise, leading to an uncomfortable sensation. Again, heat and rest may help, but I suspect that renewed activity will produce a consistent pulling sensation if the scar is to blame.

In either case, your health will not be impaired, so it's all right for you to put up with the sensation and continue moderate exercise.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am 65 years of age and had a knee replaced last year. At that time, my blood sugar was 240. Diagnosing diabetes, my doctor put me on an 1,800-calorie diet without concentrated sweets. He also gave me pills to take.

Three months later, my sugar was 112. He stopped the medicine and told me to continue dieting, which is hard for me because I crave sweets. Do I really have diabetes or was my sugar elevated from the stress of surgery? My last sugar was 115.

DEAR READER: I suspect that you are, indeed, a diabetic. The disease is mild (diet-controllable) but was worsened by both the stress of knee-replacement surgery and your affection for sugary foods.

Now that the stress is behind you and you are not eating sweets, your blood-sugar level is acceptable (normal fasting value: up to 120 milligrams per deciliter).

Many people, as they age, show high sugar levels. The reasons for this are complex: imprudent diet, lack of exercise, overweight, genetic factors, excess alcohol consumption, and so forth.

It seems to me that you are getting things under control, with your doctor's help. Continue the diet. Have periodic blood-sugar determinations. Use sugar-free products to satisfy your sweet tooth. Exercise regularly. Follow your physician's advice. If you continue to eat sensibly, your diabetes may never progress to the point where you need prescription medicine.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am taking Lozol, a diuretic, for hypertension. I believe that the drug is causing me to experience atrial fibrillation. My doctor dismisses this. I wrote to the Food and Drug Administration to express my concern but was told that there is no concrete evidence that Lozol does this. I believe that this cardiac reaction should be publicized so that other elderly patients won't get into trouble.

DEAR READER: In the first place, Lozol is a drug used to lower cholesterol. It is not a diuretic and has not been reported to cause atrial fibrillation (irregular, uneven pulse).

True, a small percentage of patients on Lozol may experience occasional disruption of the normal heart rhythm, but this is not considered by authorities to be particularly important, in comparison to the enormous benefits of the medication.

In the second place, atrial fibrillation has many causes, ranging from coronary-artery disease to hyperthyroidism and hypertension. Therefore, I am not sure why your heart is beating unevenly. This is a condition that your doctor should address and treat.

As you know, all medicines have the potential to cause harm of one kind or another. In deciding whether to prescribe a drug, both the doctor and patient must carefully weigh the risks vs. the benefits.

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Judge gives HM0s protective order sealing court documents

AUSTIN (AP) — Most of a court fight between the Texas Department of Insurance and a health maintenance organization won't be public, a judge decided.

The ruling came in a lawsuit filed by Kaiser Foundation Health Plan of Texas against the Texas Department of Insurance. Kaiser is seeking to prevent state regulators from making public details of a potentially damaging report.

State District Judge Paul Davis ruled Thursday that any document to be filed in the case that contains or refers to confidential information would be sealed. Attorneys filing the confidential documents must notify the other side, which has the opportunity to appeal the documents' status as confidential.

If deemed confidential, the information would be discussed in the judge's chambers and the records would be sealed.

"This is the best that I can do at balancing the various interests," Davis said.

The decision was the second in favor of Kaiser. On Tuesday, Davis ordered depositions in the case remain confidential.

A hearing on a temporary restraining order against the department has been pushed back to April 18.

"Our viewpoint is that the entire case should be tried in public," Texas Department of Insurance spokesman Jim Davis said.

"We believe there is a process outside of the courthouse whereby the Department of Insurance and Kaiser, or any other company, can take action and will get a fair hearing and that's (the State Office of Administrative Hearings)."

A temporary restraining order was issued two weeks ago after Kaiser Permanente, as the HMO and its network of doctors are collectively known, argued that by releasing the report, the HMO would be "irreparably harmed by the publication of confidential information, a loss of goodwill, loss of reputation and likely loss of enrollees..."

The Insurance Department, in its draft report, criticizes Kaiser Permanente for how it advises HMO patients to seek emergency room care and file claims, according to Kaiser spokesman David O'Grady.

O'Grady said the report, which followed a review of the HMO in January and February, contained information told by patients to doctors in confidence.

Kaiser Permanente is a partnership of the Dallas-based health plan and the Permanente Medical Association of Texas.

East Texas...

Chicken pits creates furor

DAINGERFIELD (AP) — Some Northeast Texans are fuming over the stench from a pit that serves as the final resting place for hundreds of carcasses from a nearby chicken farm.

The Northeast Texas Municipal Water District has received dozens of complaints this month, alleging the pit in southern Morris County is making them sick and polluting their water.

"A few years ago, East Texas was considered the place to retire, but now there are times at night when the odor literally makes you sick," said M.L. Alexander, who lives near the chicken farm, about 35 miles north of Longview.

Billy Clement, another neighbor of the farm, said the odor is drawing flies.

"When they started burying (chickens) within 50 yards of the fence line, the fly infestation was incredible, and the smell was horrible," Clement said. "You don't open your windows around here. During the summer, it gets into your air conditioner, and it's pumped right into your house. You can't escape it."

But the pit does more than just offend the senses.

Eight neighbors of the farm say the pit has contaminated local water wells.

The owner of the farm did not return phone calls from the Longview News-Journal requesting comment.

In response to complaints, the Northeast Texas Municipal Water District proposed legislation that would outlaw the pits and regulate the spreading of poultry litter.

The bill would have to be introduced by Friday, the last day for proposing legislation for the current session. However, state Sen. Bill Ratliff, says he won't push for it.

"For me to pass something now that says no more burying of poultry, if the result is to send all that to Mount Pleasant for rendering at an already overloaded facility, that's a very mixed bag for the people in Mount Pleasant," said Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant.

A rendering plant processes dead animals into feed. A Mount Pleasant rendering plant, owned by Pilgrim's Pride Corp., has been cited repeatedly for air pollution and has been a smelly thorn in the side of Titus County residents for more than 15 years.

"There might be some ways to require disposal otherwise, but I have to safeguard against what I've just described," Ratliff said.

Lt. Gov. thinks sports 'out of hand' in Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Football may be king in Texas, but the Texas Senate's presiding officer is no fan.

"I just think that sports has gotten completely out of hand in our state and other states," said Lt. Gov. Bob Bullock, a critic of a legislative plan for public funding for sports facilities.

"They'll be breeding professional athletes before long. They'll be picking out a momma and daddy and hiring them to breed together to have these ballplayers," Bullock said Thursday. "There's something going on, folks, about this thing that just repels me."

Regarding the bill that would allow cities, with voter approval, to raise a variety of taxes to help fund sports facilities, Bullock said: "It offends me, to be honest about it, that we'd be putting millions and millions of dollars into a sports arena for people that are tremendously wealthy and own these franchises."

Yet, he predicted the measure would pass.

"We've done a lot of goofy things here before. Let's just add this one to the list of them," said Bullock, who also described multimillion-dollar contracts for ballplayers as "obscene."

Asked if his remarks would offend "Bubba" — Texas' Everyman — Bullock responded by taking aim at the Dallas Cowboys.

"I think Bubba is just about as disgusted with some of the things he's read about the Dallas Cowboys as I am. I mean, can any of you hold up your head and say you're proud of some of those things? I can't. I don't believe Bubba does either," he said.

Cowboys spokesman Brett Daniels had no comment.

Not only that, Bullock suggested the nation's best sports franchise may not be anywhere near Texas.

"That might be the best franchise of all, Green Bay. It's owned by people, not just in the hands of one or two tremendously wealthy people," Bullock said.

That appeared to be the crux of Bullock's opposition to public funding of stadiums.

"Tremendously wealthy people own these franchises, and they're looking for public monies to build a stadium where their franchise can play in that stadium," he said. "It's just corporate welfare."

Mayors of Texas cities with professional sports teams have voiced support for the sports facility funding bill, citing ball teams' economic impact.

"I don't think it's an accident that all those cities in the East — that we thought were dying, that we thought weren't going to come back — are now going through what we call a renaissance," Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk said Wednesday.

"The essential element has been their ability to bring their sports franchises not only back to the city but back to their downtown."

Bullock said he wasn't concerned about sports teams that might leave the state, adding that Texans should be more concerned about education.

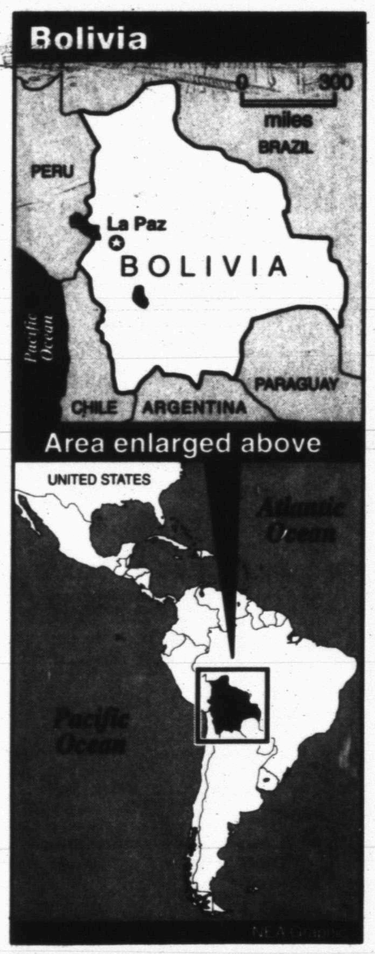
"Do you have any idea ... with this same amount of money, what you could do with schools in Dallas or in Houston or in San Antonio? Think about it," he said.

"I mean, there's a lot of bond issues that are voted down periodically, yet it seems like people will vote for something that has sports written across it."

Bullock readily admits he doesn't have much interest in sports. He said the last football game he attended was the Sugar Bowl two years ago, and he doesn't remember the last time he was at a pro game.

"I watch it occasionally on television if I have absolutely nothing else to do," he said. "I mean, if it's absolutely nothing to read in the house, I'll watch it."

The stadium funding bill is HB92.



The heaviest rains in decades have inundated much of the Amazonian lowlands of northern Bolivia. The deadly flooding has cut off transportation and destroyed most of the region's crops.

Subsidiary fined

HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam (AP) — Local authorities have fined Philip Morris Vietnam $2,700 and have confiscated Marlboro posters, lighters and cigarette cases because the company violated a ban on tobacco advertising.

The state-run Saigon Times Daily reported Friday about the symbolic fine against the Vietnam subsidiary of the U.S. tobacco giant. About 800 Marlboro posters and 800 lighters and cigarette cases also were confiscated.

It was the first time local officials in Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, enforced the ban.

Prime Minister Vo Van Kiet outlawed tobacco and most liquor advertising in January as part of a nationwide campaign to curb smoking and drinking. Only beer ads are permitted. More than 70 percent of adult men smoke in Vietnam.

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Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

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Seniors taking many drugs may be at risk for addiction

DEAR ABBY: I have been married for 14 years. Every time my husband and I attend a social function, he leaves me for sometimes hours while he flirts with other women. This flirting includes touching and hugging, and he doesn't seem to care whether I (or their husbands or boyfriends) see what's going on.

He also never introduces me to anyone — even if I am standing right next to him. I wait for him to introduce me, and when he doesn't, I introduce myself.

Abby, I have told him several times how hurt I am, but he continues this behavior and never apologizes to me. I don't understand why he acts this way, knowing how hurt and embarrassed I am. Others have noticed this and mentioned it to me. I try to laugh it off, but it is affecting our marriage. How can I have romantic feelings for a man who treats me this way? He expects me to jump into bed with him after he has ignored me and flirted with every woman in the place.

Please let me know what you think. I am ...

OUT OF IDEAS IN MICHIGAN

DEAR OUT OF IDEAS: You already know that you are married to an insensitive, selfish man who has little regard for your feelings. You do not indicate that you have children, so I assume that you have none — which baffles me as to why you've tolerated this kind of behavior your entire married life.

I urge you to seek joint marriage counseling. And if he is unwilling to go — go without him.

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DEAR ABBY: I found this little poem about volunteering in The Bulletin of the Athens County (Ohio) Historical Society and Museum. I thought you may want to share it with your readers. I think it is wonderful. The author is unknown.

BOB BIGLEY, CINCINNATI

DEAR MR. BIGLEY: I think it's wonderful, too — and well worth sharing with my readers.

VOLUNTEERS

Many will be shocked to find,
When the day of judgment nears,
That there's a special place in
Heaven
Set aside for volunteers.
Furnished with big recliners,
Satin couches and footstools,
Where there are no committee
chairmen,
No yard sales or rest area coffee to
serve,
No library duty or bulletin assembly,
There will be nothing to print and
staple,
Not one thing to fold and mail,
Telephone lists will be outlawed.
But a finger snap will bring
Cool drinks and gourmet dinners
And rare treats fit for a king.
You ask, "Who'll serve these privileged few
And work for all they're worth?"
Why, all those who reaped the
benefits,
And not once volunteered on
Earth.

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

DEAR ABBY: My mother is a drug addict. Now, before you picture a swinging party animal, you need to know that she is 80 years old.

Mother is addicted to narcotics prescribed by a specialist in geriatric medicine. The drugs are not very effective in reducing her aches and pains (she says), so she takes more than the prescribed dosage. As this point, I'm not sure when she is truly in pain or just needs "a fix."

Her friends try to help by giving her some of their prescription drugs, so she's combining pills with no knowledge of the hazardous side effects and the danger of overdose. Her doctor is not aware of the amount of drugs my mother is taking.

Abby, I am hearing more and more about elderly people being overmedicated by their doctors, and I am appalled! Senior citizens must be monitored carefully. Some have heart problems, high or low blood pressure, or other serious ailments. They can also have failing memories and may become confused. Consequently, they may take their medications more often and in higher dosages than prescribed. Their equilibrium can be affected, causing falls that produce bruises, broken bones and gashes requiring more pain medication. My mother has already fallen several times.

I don't know what I can do to help her. She's too stubborn to listen to me or change her ways. Abby, it would be a kindness on your part to print this letter as a warning to those who are beginning to fall into this vicious trap.

There is too much pill-taking in this country, legal and illegal. We don't seem to be winning the war on illegal drugs, but perhaps we can do something about the overuse of legal ones, especially by our elders who depend on us to care for them in their "golden" years.

CONCERNED DAUGHTER

DEAR CONCERNED DAUGHTER: Take it upon yourself to inform your mother's doctor that she has increased dosages on her own and that she's trading medication with others. Her welfare could depend on it.

Insist that she make an appointment with her doctor immediately. Brown-bag all her medications, including over-the-counter drugs, and accompany her to the appointment so both you and she can discuss with the doctor drug interactions and potential dangers from overmedication. Since organs become less efficient at ridding the body of toxins as one ages, a dosage that is appropriate at age 65 or 70 may be too strong at 80.

I was surprised to learn that while citizens over 65 constitute less than 13 percent of our population, they consume roughly one-third of prescription medications. It is estimated that, on average, a senior citizen will fill 15 new prescriptions a year. The potential for becoming addicted is frightening.

It is difficult to know how many seniors abuse medications because many see a number of doctors for a variety of problems, and sometimes fill prescriptions at several pharmacies. Addicted seniors are rarely questioned because we commonly think of "addicts" as younger people who buy their drugs on the street — not elderly people filling prescriptions at pharmacies.

Geriatric specialists are beginning to explore drug addiction problems among seniors. However, it's important for family members to consider this possibility if their parents or older relatives begin to display symptoms of confusion, depression or changes in behavior, so that doctors and pharmacists can review medical records with an eye toward heading off potential addiction before it can become a destructive "habit."

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

Army: inspector general will review all harassment cases

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army's inspector general will review accusations of misconduct by the service's criminal investigators looking into sexual harassment cases, Army Secretary Togo West says.

West, in comments Thursday before a House National Security subcommittee, tried to reassure lawmakers that the military's justice system can investigate fairly all issues in cases alleging sexual harassment.

On Tuesday, five female soldiers asserted that Army investigators had attempted to get them to falsely accuse their superiors of rape.

The women were questioned as part of an Army investigation into widespread sexual misconduct at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

West told lawmakers that at the conclusion of several upcoming cases at Aberdeen, he will ask the Army inspector general to review the outcome to "protect the rights of all."

Meanwhile, Gen. Dennis Reimer, the Army's top general, said he is not aware of any misconduct on the part of the Army investigators looking into accusations of sexual harassment.

"No, I'm not aware of any pressure tactics at all," Reimer told reporters at the Pentagon.

The general said that while he is not familiar with the specific cases, he is aware of the quality of the people who serve as investigators and the training they receive at the service's Criminal Investigative Command.

"I'm sure that the investigators were thorough in their investigation and they asked questions to determine what really took place. That's their job," Reimer said. He added: "It's supposed to be thorough, and they are supposed to be fair, and I have every confidence that they were."

At the Capitol Hill hearing, West said that the military officer already in charge of the sexual harassment investigations has the power to issue subpoenas, take testimony under oath and interview witnesses — including alleged victims and Army investigators.

"The fact is the best person situated to investigate ... is the general court-martial convening authority that has jurisdiction," he said.

"There is no way that these charges will not be investigated thoroughly soon," West told lawmakers.

On Wednesday, West rejected a call by the NAACP and the Congressional Black Caucus for an outside probe of assertions by the five white female soldiers at Aberdeen that Army investigators had tried to get them to falsely accuse their superiors, many of whom are black, of rape.

Rep. Steve Buyer, R-Ind., who is leading a militarywide investigation of sexual harassment and misconduct, supported West at a news conference. He said outside intervention — including from Congress — could jeopardize the legal cases.

"At this point, it's not necessary for a full committee hearing to beat them up .... We have their (the Army's) attention," he said.

Buyer and his colleagues have visited more than half a dozen bases, including Aberdeen. He planned Friday to lead a three-member delegation to Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., a training site where more than two dozen men are under investigation.

Since the accusations were made public in November, at least 50 female recruits have made official complaints of sexual abuse at Aberdeen. The Army has acted against 14 servicemen accused of rape, assault and other sex crimes.

The scandal sparked investigations at installations around the world. A hot line set up to monitor sexual harassment complaints has received 1,172 calls. Of those, 297 have resulted in ongoing criminal investigations and 372 cases have been closed, the Army said Thursday.

Officials have referred 233 cases to other agencies for further review and 270 are still in a preliminary inquiry phase officials said.

Dr. Laura's visit offends Dallas people

DALLAS (AP) — A syndicated radio therapist known to scold weak and self-pitying callers started crying on her show the day after a columnist called her snooty.

Laura Schlessinger, author of "Ten Stupid Things Women Do to Mess Up Their Lives," broke down Wednesday and confessed to having a "personal and spiritual crisis."

The admission came after Ms. Schlessinger, known as "Dr. Laura" to listeners, was upbraided in The Dallas Morning News by columnist Maryln Schwartz for her actions while addressing the women of the Jewish Federation of Greater Dallas. In a second column Thursday, Ms. Schwartz said some of the behavior could be attributed to Ms. Schlessinger's allergies.

Several of the 1,300 people who attended the function told Ms. Schwartz they were appalled by the popular broadcaster's actions.

"I was never so insulted in my life," Myra Cohen said. "She was nasty, arrogant, insulting. Her remarks were disgusting. She was putting down everyone in that audience."

Terrell Manley added: "At the dinner, she wouldn't even speak to people who spoke to her."

Ms. Schlessinger rejected three rooms at the Grand Kempinski hotel before accepting one at the four-star Mansion on Turtle Creek, the columnist wrote.

She also rejected a host's ride to the event, decided to take a cab, and hailed several before finding one that was acceptable, Ms. Schwartz reported. Ms. Schlessinger also left behind gifts that had been given to her and her son, Ms. Schwartz said.

On her show, Ms. Schlessinger cried on the air about the column. She said she's been shaken "personally and profoundly" but donating her $30,000 appearance fee to charity "took much of the pain and ugliness of the experience away."

She said she spent two hours on the phone with her rabbi trying to cope with the criticism.

Ms. Schlessinger declined to comment through her assistant Thursday.

House approves phony liens bill

AUSTIN (AP) — A bill making it a crime to file phony property liens and voiding all such liens currently filed against Texas property has cleared the state House.

But an official with the so-called Republic of Texas says the bill violates the state Constitution and would have no effect on members of the Republic.

The organization claims the state was illegally annexed in 1845 and remains an independent republic.

Richard McLaren, the group's ambassador, said the state Constitution bars legislation against the right of filing property liens and could lead to Republic court action against lawmakers who have approved it.

"If any citizen of the Republic of Texas are damaged by this I'll guarantee you that they will be sued (in Republic courts)," McLaren said. "We'll file judgments against them and run their asses out."

The bill not only would make it a crime to file a false lien but also would make it easier for Texans facing such liens to have them removed from their property records.

Property liens, legal or not, can cause financial and legal difficulties when property owners attempt to sell those properties or list them as assets in other financial deals. Even if bogus, it generally takes court action to remove them.

An amendment by Rep. Ron Clark, R-Sherman, would remove such liens already filed if they came from any court not established by the state or by Congress.

"This is just one more barrier," Clark said.

Attorney General Dan Morales has won a state court order against such liens. But Morales on Thursday said phony liens continue to be filed.

"The objective of these guys is to gum up the courts and tear down government," Morales said. "We'll use all the tools the Legislature gives us to effectively enforce our state statutes."

Rep. Allen Hightower, D-Huntsville, sponsor of the bill, said people and organization who file phony liens have waged "paper terrorism" against Texans and public officials.

Under his bill, filing such a lien would be a crime punishable by up to two years in state jail and a $10,000. The bill also would make it a Class A misdemeanor to issue a false court complaint, judgment or summons.

The bill, approved 142-0, goes to the Senate.

The phony liens bill is HB1185.

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