INSIDE

Lottery
Sports
Midday
Business
What's Up

WT-Int. Crude - $26.23
WTIC Posted - $23.00
Natural Gas - $3.330

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
April 8, 2002
Vol. 53 No. 292
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Larry Neves

Light rain, small hail here...

Storms rake parts of Texas on Sunday

From staff, wire reports

Scurry County was spared severe weather over the weekend, with spotty rains and some hail reported.

The storms brought damaging winds, heavy rains, hail and some tornadoes to other parts of Texas as they moved across the state on Sunday.

In North Texas, a tornado was spotted in a field near Throckmorton Sunday afternoon. And around Ozona, two tornadoes were spotted in Crockett County, also in an open field. None of the tornadoes caused any damage, the National Weather Service said.

Snyder received an official .30 inches at the water treatment plant, and other totals were spotty.

Residents reported .80 inches at Loyd Mountain, a half inch at Ira and Inadale, and .25 of an inch north of Snyder.

Some pea-size hail covered the ground in Snyder, as well as at Loyd Mountain, Ira, Dermott and Union.

Runnels County had golf ball-sized hail and some downed trees. South of there in Menard County, 70 mph winds and golf ball-sized hail struck Fort McKavett, said Jonathan Brazzell, weather service meteorologist in San Angelo.

National Weather Service meteorologist Patrick McDonald said hail three inches in diameter was spotted in Del Rio, Brackettville and Uvalde in South Texas.

In North Texas, heavy rain pounded the Dallas area Sunday afternoon and some streets were flooded across the Dallas/Fort Worth area, said National Weather Service meteorologist Joe Harris.

"The water is very unpredictable," said Fort Worth Fire Department Chief Tim Johns.

In Haltom City, two anglers were rescued after getting tipped out of their boat by rising creek waters. They were in the water about 30 minutes before being rescued.

"It goes up quick," said Jeff Davis, one of the two rescued. "I mean you think it's just raining and coming down and before you know it you're going down the stream."

In Olney, two homes lost all or part of their roofs due to high winds, said Olney police department dispatcher Dorraine Slaughter.

"We had a lot of power poles snapped in two," she said. Slaughter said there were no reports of injuries.

In addition to all the rain, Olney had golf ball-sized hail.

"The golf ball-sized hail was going sideways instead of straight down," Slaughter said.

Harris said a line of thunderstorms extending from Wichita Falls to near Brownwood in Central Texas would be moving east across the state this evening.

"(The storms) will bring more heavy rain, some hail and high winds," Harris said. He said there is a 60 percent chance of more showers today in some parts of Texas.

He estimates that parts of North Texas got between 2-5 inches of rain over the weekend.

The daylong rain hampered sporting events, forcing the postponement of the Samsung/Radio Shack 500 at Texas Motor Speedway. NASCAR officials made the call about 2½ hours after the scheduled start. The 500-mile race was to resume today.

"We didn't get any practice (Saturday) and now we'll have to wait to race," said Winston Cup points leader Sterling Marlin.

THE GIFT OF LIFE — Snyder High School senior Maria Moran gives blood this morning with the assistance of Vera Barker of United Blood Services. Lubbock's UBS was on the SHS campus today to conduct its annual drive. (SDN Staff Photo)

Light voter turnout expected for runoff

A light turnout is expected Tuesday to decide runoff elections on both the Republican and Democratic tickets.

The polls open at 7 a.m. and remain open until 7 p.m.

County Clerk Joan Bunch said both parties will have only one polling place in Scurry County tomorrow, in the hallway on the third floor of the courthouse.

The GOP ticket has four runoff elections to be decided.

Republican voters will choose between Dale Wainwright and Elizabeth Ray for Supreme Court Justice, Place 2. Tim Taft and Tom Price are vying for Court of Criminal Appeals Justice, Place 1.

David Richards and Paul Womack are running for Place 2 Court of Criminal Appeals; while Cathy Cochran and Guy Williams are on the ballot for Court of Criminal Appeals, Place 3.

On the Democratic ticket, Ron Kirk and Victor Morales are in a runoff for their party's nod for U.S. Senate to replace Phil Gramm.

Bunch reminded voters who wish to cast ballots Tuesday that they must vote with the same party they voted for in the March primaries.

Persons who did not vote in the primaries may vote in either party's runoff.

The county clerk also said voters need to bring the registration card they used in the primary election.

FRIDAY MISHAP — Snyder police and paramedics responded to a two-vehicle accident Friday afternoon on north College Ave. Diane Fisk of 1387 Ave. N was driving the 1984 Buick and a passenger, Rosa Fisk of 990 College Ave. was injured and transported to Cogdell Hospital with minor injuries. Driver of the other vehicle, a 1996 Chevrolet pickup, was Terry Leatherwood of 2411 32nd Street. (SDN Staff Photo)

Iraq cutting oil exports

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — Saddam Hussein said today he is cutting Iraq's oil exports for 30 days or until Israel withdraws from Palestinian territories, an announcement that triggered an immediate increase in world oil prices.

However, analysts said an Iraqi boycott would not affect world oil supplies because most major members of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries have not followed Iraq's lead. An OPEC source said today the group would intervene if necessary to offset the shortfall in Iraqi shipments.

Oil ministers were conferring about what action to take once they learn details about the boycott, the source said.

OPEC has not received formal notification yet from Iraq about its embargo, and it was still unclear whether Iraq planned to halt all of its shipments, the source said, speaking on condition of anonymity from OPEC headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

Iraqi Oil Minister Amer Mohammed Rashid said the cutoff took place as Saddam spoke to the nation at about 2 p.m. local time, or 7 a.m. EDT. Gulsum Korkmaz, spokeswoman for the Turkish state-run pipeline company BOTAS, which transport's Iraq's oil, confirmed that Iraq had stopped exporting.

The United States and Europe are the major buyers of Iraqi oil. OPEC says Iraq has a maximum daily production capacity of 2.3 million barrels of crude oil.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said Iraq's boycott is "another sign that Saddam Hussein is willing to starve his own people. It's a reminder about the need for America to have an energy policy that is independent of such threats."

In London, May contracts of North Sea Brent crude shot up on news of Iraq's embargo by $1.44 to $27.43 a barrel on the International Petroleum Exchange. They settled back somewhat to $26.98, up 99 cents from Friday's close.

On the New York Mercantile Exchange, contracts of light, sweet crude for May delivery jumped to $27.20 before easing back to $26.88 a barrel, up 67 cents from Friday.

Saddam said Iraq's top leaders met earlier today and decided "in the name of the people of Iraq ... to stop exporting oil totally as of this afternoon through the pipelines flowing to the Turkish ports and the south for 30 days" unless Israel withdraws earlier.

SHS bands plan concert for tonight

The Snyder High and Junior High School bands will perform in a pre-UIL contest concert at 7 tonight in Worsham Auditorium.

The junior high band contest will be Thursday at Frenship High School. SJHS will perform at 10:30 a.m.

The high school band will compete at Wayland Baptist University in Plainview on April 18, starting at 1 p.m.

Donnie Reston directs the high school band and Kay Kennedy is the assistant director. James Romig is the junior high director.

For 7 p.m. meeting...

WTC board has lengthy agenda

Western Texas College board of trustees faces a lengthy agenda when it convenes at 7 tonight for its regular monthly meeting.

The agenda includes six new business items and nine for information and discussion.

The board will consider an order of cancellation for the trustee election after no contested races developed.

Incumbents Drew Bullard and Jackie Greene will be duly elected for new six-year terms.

An agreement with Borden County ISD to develop concurrent classes will be considered, as will be contract renewals for WTC employees.

The board is expected to reject a request for qualifications from Tamkin Development Corporation for new dorm construction.

A refund to Wilson Supply Company for overpaid taxes will be considered as will a resolution to exempt travel trailers from ad valorem taxes.

Information items include a fundraising report, pre-bid consideration for a book provider for the college bookstore and an updated map of new baseball and softball fields to be located on campus.

The meeting will take place in the boardroom of the administration building.

For SISD...

Volunteer banquet is Tuesday

Snyder ISD will honor volunteers during the 7th annual Golden Apple Awards banquet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Snyder Country Club. More than 200 volunteers are honored annually.

John Irvin of Tulsa, Okla., will speak about "hilarity therapy," that teaches humor techniques to relieve stress and to maintain a positive attitude.

Irvin is a certified professional speaker and trainer, wellness educator and author. He holds a degree from the University of Tulsa and has been active in creating opportunities for professional and personal growth for over 25 years.

Today, as creator of Lifestyle Enhancement Services Inc. Irvin shares from his work in corporate training, mental health, leisure sciences and health and wellness.

Each program Irvin presents sends the message that each of us is capable of achieving great things, that we can do more and be more than we are, and most importantly, we can have great fun doing it.

Individuals who have received an invitation and have not yet responded should call Mary Ann Juarez at 574-6012.

ASK US

Q—What is the legal speed limit on 37th Street after school is out?

A—The posted speed limit west of College Ave. is 30 mph, while east of College Ave. the speed limit ranges from 35 to 50 mph.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Saturday, 60 degrees; low, 50; high Sunday, 75; low, 46; 7 a.m. Monday 46; .30 of an inch precipitation; total for 2002, 5.67 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly clear; low near 45; NE winds 5-15 mph. Tuesday, mostly sunny, high 70-75. Tuesday night, partly cloudy, low mid 40s.

Anthony Lopez
Sunny

Sunset:
8:08 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:23 a.m.
Of 97 days in 2002, the sun has shone 92 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Above all, try something.
—Franklin D. Roosevelt

APR 08 2002

TEA to monitor discipline programs

DALLAS (AP) — School districts statewide will come under scrutiny when the Texas Education Agency starts a new system to reduce irregularities in how schools report discipline action.

School districts are required to report to the TEA any disciplinary action that results in a student being removed from the classroom and sent to a disciplinary alternative education program.

Billy Jacobs, senior director of the safe schools division at TEA, said reporting mistakes are sometimes to blame for data irregularities, but he's concerned that some schools may be too quick to push problem students aside by placing them in alternative programs.

"Some districts will remove a student ... for three tardies," he told Sunday's editions of The Dallas Morning News. "We see a trend where more students are going for minor things."

Jacobs said the new system will monitor alternative placement and look at whether special-education students and those belonging to minority groups are disproportionately placed in disciplinary alternative programs.

The system, set to start in about a month, will include letters sent to district to confirm data and to note any inaccuracies.

Agency officials then will follow up and visit some schools to ensure compliance.

Under state law, a student must be placed in a disciplinary alternative education program for engaging in conduct punishable as a felony, committing an assault, or illegal drug and alcohol offenses.

But they also may be placed there for code of conduct violations, such as repeatedly disrupting class or using tobacco. The referrals often come at the discretion of school principals.

The new system will target reporting problems, such as those at the Dallas Independent School District.

The district reported that it sent 1,960 students to alternative schools for disciplinary reasons during the 1998-99 school year. In 1999-2000, the figure reported by the district was 8,389 compared to 960 reported by Houston schools that year.

School officials said the discrepancy resulted from a coding error and the figure should have been about 2,700.

DISD officials said they think they have corrected their reporting problems.

Jacobs said about 20 to 25 districts are expected to receive site visits from the TEA.

Wetland restoration's first phase completed

HOUSTON (AP) — Restoration of a marsh that played a role in the defeat of the Mexican army at the Battle of San Jacinto is now half complete.

The marsh restoration project is part of a large-scale master plan to restore the San Jacinto Battleground to what it was in 1836, when forces of General Gen. Sam Houston rousted the 1,300 Mexican soldiers under the command of Gen. Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna.

The victory gave Texas its independence.

The restoration project was traversed by a 510-foot boardwalk completed during a ceremony Friday.

Hundreds of Mexican troops died 166 years ago trying to flee through the marsh, which effectively blocked their only escape route. Their remains are believed to still be buried there.

The marsh gradually disappeared because of subsidence. By the turn of the 20th century, it was almost covered by open water, taking with it wetlands that are habitat for a host of different species.

Seven years ago, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department began efforts in partnership with other governmental agencies and private individuals to save the wetlands.

Ted Hollingsworth, resource coordinator for the parks and wildlife department, said almost 300 species of birds have been observed at the park, many of them sighted in and around the marsh area. River otters and alligators also have been observed.

"Despite the naysayers who said we would only be creating a hatchery for mosquitoes, there are far fewer mosquitoes than there were," Hollingsworth told the Houston Chronicle in Monday's editions. "The marsh is full of fish and birds."

FFA CAREER DEVELOPMENT — Snyder High School students competed in the statewide FFA Invitational Development event on the campus of Tarleton State University. Jenna Neff (top photo) finished among the top 20 high individuals in the poultry judging contest. Neff was the eighth high individual among over 450 entries. Tarleton faculty member Dr. David Drueckhammer (right) was the contest director. In the farm business management contest, (middle photo) Marci Kruger, center, was the sixth high individual, and Jacinda Judah was 12th high individual. At left is contest director Dr. Frank Ewell, a member of Tarleton's agribusiness, agronomy, horticulture and range management faculty. (Bottom photo) Amanda Greenwood placed among the top 20 individuals in the entomology contest. She was the 11th high individual among over 50 participants. At left is contest director Dr. David Kattes, formerly of Snyder, a member of Tarleton's agribusiness, agronomy, horticulture and range management faculty. The Statewide FFA Invitational Development event featured 11 judging contests with the top 20 individuals in each event receiving a plaque, a T-shirt and a canvass bag. (Tarleton news service photos)

events

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — One ticket sold in Gun Barrel City matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $34 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 3, 25, 27, 41, 50 and 52.

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

Pick 3

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

7-9-6

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We often work in conjunction with other law firms on clients' cases.

Berry's World

Date Book

Monday, April 8, 2002

Today is the 98th day of 2002 and the 20th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1652, South Africa's Cape Town was founded by Jan van Riebeeck as a supply post for the Dutch East India Co.

On this day in 1973, Spanish painter and sculptor Pablo Picasso died in France at the age of 91.

On this day in 1990, Ryan White, the U.S. teen-ager whose battle with AIDS promoted public understanding of the disease, died at 18.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Buddha (563 B.C. — 483 B.C.), teacher; Sonja Henie (1912 — 1969), figure skater; Betty Ford (1918 —), former First Lady, is 84; Shecky Greene (1926 —), comedian, is 76; Jacques Brel (1929 — 1978), composer/singer; Kofi Annan (1938 —), United Nations Secretary-General, is 64; John Havlicek (1940 —), basketball star, is 62; Jim "Catfish" Hunter (1946 — 1999), baseball star; Gary Carter (1954 —), baseball star, is 48; Julian Lennon (1963 -), musician, is 39; Robin Wright Penn (1966 —), actress, is 36; Patricia Arquette (1968 —), actress, is 34.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1974, Hank Aaron hit the 715th home run of his career. The blast — hit off of Los Angeles' Al Downing — vaulted Aaron past Babe Ruth for the home run record.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Now this, monks, is the noble truth of the cessation of pain: the cessation without a remainder of craving, the abandonment, forsaking, release, and nonattachment." — Buddha, "The Four Noble Truths"

TODAY'S MOON: Between the last quarter (April 4) and the new moon (April 12).

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Man held hostage in Iran 20 years ago dies in crash

BOSTON (AP) — A former U.S. Embassy worker in Iran who survived 444 days of captivity after he was taken hostage in 1979, died in a two-car accident allegedly caused by a drunk driver.

Malcolm Kalp, 63, was pronounced dead at the scene Sunday after his pickup truck apparently was rear-ended by another driver, state police Trooper David Paine said. Kalp apparently lost control and the truck rolled over, Paine said.

Richard Clinch, 22, was arrested and charged with operating under the influence and motor vehicle homicide due to negligence. He was scheduled to be arraigned today in Stoughton District Court.

"Aside from all the things he did for his country, my husband was a very good, wonderful man. Life is often unfair," his wife, Marie Kalp, told the Boston Herald.

Kalp was the embassy's commercial officer when he and 51 others were taken hostage.

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National

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WICHITA, "healthy and s weeks, one of The babies, sarean section plets at anothe "The babies said in an inte 31-week-old ba The babies band Eldon, 3 of Rago, whic The Headri fertility drugs Mrs. Headri woman in the full pregnancy By Sunday, feeding tube. tors expected week, Dr. Kat The babies Edward, Jaycie Christi Region Bohman said. Only 96 se recording beg Mrs. Headri said they deci one of the bab Doctors had reduced by fo of survival. Bohman sai in the delivery tors outside of Each baby w 11 ounces and

Dear

By Abigail

Stepfa plot aft

DEAR ABBY: still alive, but my trying to decide when the time mother died six chased two bur could be laid to other. We even engraved with bo A few months ered that our st abused several o grandchildren young. We also paid my mother's Abby, we are t ing him with our ing the present replacing it with just her name on him to be buried We can't help fe our mother to ge Please advise us to do. — ANG IN KANSAS DEAR ANGR Your feelings ar and justified. Ho circumstances, stand why you fe ity for disposing o body "when the not a blood relati I have another are his legal next body to science. he can do some society.

DEAR ABBY: 30s, and this su married for the fi ents have been d years and are spl the wedding. My tributed $10,000. ed to be higher. M ried 15 years ago, stepfather can affo ance. The problem is my father's girlfrie have been togethe done everything get him to leave h Tess attends al day parties. I won' will be there — th days are ruined! I in getting her "uni then nobody will l

'Healthy, strong' sextuplets born to Kansas couple

WICHITA, Kan. (AP) — Sextuplets born to a Kansas couple are "healthy and strong" and should be ready to go home in four or five weeks, one of the doctors on the delivery team said today.

The babies, three boys and three girls, were delivered by Caesarean section Saturday afternoon, a day after the birth of quadruplets at another Wichita hospital.

"The babies are doing great this morning," Dr. Van R. Bohman said in an interview on CBS' "The Early Show." "They're acting like 31-week-old babies — they're just doing marvelously."

The babies are the children of Sondra Headrick, 33, and her husband Eldon, 32, who live about 40 miles west of Wichita in the town of Rago, which until Saturday had a population of 12.

The Headricks, parents of a 4-year-old daughter Aubrianna, used fertility drugs before conception of the sextuplets.

Mrs. Headrick carried the children for 31 weeks, the longest any woman in the United States has carried sextuplets, Bohman said. A full pregnancy is 40 weeks.

By Sunday, one of the babies was taking breast milk through a feeding tube. Four of the infants remained on respirators, but doctors expected to begin weaning them off the machines early this week, Dr. Katherine Schooley said Sunday.

The babies — Ethan Roy, Melissa Sue, Grant Douglas, Sean Edward, Jaycie Linette, and Danielle Patrice — will remain at Via Christi Regional Medical Center-St. Joseph for four to five weeks, Bohman said. Their mother is expected to go home in a few days.

Only 96 sets of sextuplets have been born worldwide since recording began in the early 1900s, doctors at the hospital said.

Mrs. Headrick had been in the hospital for 93 days, and doctors said they decided to go ahead with the delivery Saturday because one of the babies appeared to be "stressed" in the womb.

Doctors had told the couple the pregnancy could be aborted or reduced by four, giving the two remaining fetuses a better chance of survival.

Bohman said there were about 50 people, including 10 doctors, in the delivery room for the surgery, with another four or five doctors outside offering encouragement.

Each baby weighed between 2 pounds, 10 ounces and 3 pounds, 11 ounces and all squealed when they were born.

Spy plane expected back in service

MARIETTA, Ga. (AP) — A year after a collision with a fighter jet forced it to make an emergency landing in China, a U.S. spy plane that was picked over and cut apart is being put back together and could be back in the air next month.

The Navy EP-3 electronic surveillance plane is undergoing repairs at Lockheed-Martin in Marietta.

That work should be completed in May, when the plane is to be flown to a Raytheon Co. plant at Waco, Texas, for electronic updates, Navy spokesman Bob Coble said.

After that, the four-engine plane is scheduled to return to Navy service by the end of the year.

"The inventory of EP-3 aircraft is 11, so it's not like there's tons and tons of these things around," Coble said. "It's a surveillance and reconnaissance airplane, and we've got lots of missions for that kind of airplane."

The plane was flying over the South China Sea on April 1, 2001, when it collided with a Chinese fighter. The EP-3, with a crew of 24, made an emergency landing on China's Hainan island, where the crew members were detained for 11 days. The Chinese pilot was lost.

Each side blamed the other for the collision. China accused the U.S. plane of violating international law by landing without permission, and it refused to let American technicians fix it and fly it out. The U.S. crew destroyed much of the plane's sensitive eavesdropping devices, but China is believed to have removed some equipment when it seized the plane and may have gleaned some useful information.

Three months after the crash, the U.S. spy plane was released to the United States and, with its wings and tail cut off, loaded onto a cargo plane for the flight home.

The incident further strained relations between China and the United States which were already tense over issues including Taiwan, arms proliferation and human rights. China also has demanded $1 million to compensate for expenses related to housing the spy plane and its crew. It rejected a U.S. offer of $34,000 as unacceptable.

Coble said that because of security he couldn't discuss the repairs now being made or what the Chinese might have learned from the plane. But analysts say equipment left on board could have provided some information.

"What they would get most of all is a very, very powerful sense of what we are capable of listening to and what we are capable of finding out," said Bates Gill, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution. "I think they would be very interested to find that out."

The EP-3 is basically a "giant electronics signals vacuum cleaner" that can monitor communications data from telephones, radios and even walkie-talkies, said Gill, head of the institution's Center for Northeast Asian Policy Studies.

By monitoring radar, infrared and other weapons-tracking systems, it can determine how a country detects and then reacts to aircraft in or near its airspace, former military intelligence officer Roland Schumann said.

China would have been very interested to learn how the United States integrates the plane's various pieces of hardware, which can then communicate with submarines, ships and other planes and fuse intelligence gathered in the past with intelligence being gathered in real time, he said.

"The U.S. has spent an enormous amount of time and money to enhance and upgrade their intelligence systems, and any time an opposing force can get their hands on the end result of those years and money, it's in their best interest," he said.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Stepfather exiled from burial plot after discovery of abuse

DEAR ABBY: Our stepfather is still alive, but my family and I are trying to decide where to bury him when the time comes. When our mother died six years ago, we purchased two burial plots so they could be laid to rest next to each other. We even had a headstone engraved with both their names.

A few months ago, we discovered that our stepfather sexually abused several of the children and grandchildren when they were young. We also learned he never paid my mother's funeral expenses.

Abby, we are torn between burying him with our mother, or removing the present headstone and replacing it with a single stone with just her name on it. Most of us want him to be buried far away from her. We can't help feeling he married our mother to get to the children. Please advise us on the right thing to do. — **ANGRY DAUGHTER IN KANSAS**

DEAR ANGRY DAUGHTER: Your feelings are understandable and justified. However, under the circumstances, I cannot understand why you feel any responsibility for disposing of your stepfather's body "when the time comes." He's not a blood relative.

I have another suggestion: If you are his legal next of kin, donate his body to science. That way in death he can do something positive for society.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am in my early 30s, and this summer I'm to be married for the first time. My parents have been divorced for many years and are splitting the cost of the wedding. My father has contributed $10,000. The cost is expected to be higher. My mother remarried 15 years ago, and she and my stepfather can afford to pay the balance.

The problem is I intensely dislike my father's girlfriend, "Tess." They have been together 10 years. I have done everything I can think of to get him to leave her.

Tess attends all the family holiday parties. I won't go if I know she will be there — therefore, MY holidays are ruined! I did succeed once in getting her "uninvited," but since then nobody will listen to me. Tess will have nothing to do with me now. In fact, she looks right through me as though I am invisible.

Abby, I do not want Tess to attend my wedding and ruin my big day. I have demanded that my father not bring her, but he will not hear of it. He says since he is paying $10,000, he will invite whomever he wants. What can I do? How can I make this woman stay away? — **SUMMER BRIDE ON A BUMMER**

DEAR SUMMER BRIDE: You can't. Unless you welcome her warmly, you may experience a $10,000 shortfall. So sweeten up, grow up and accept reality. Your wedding can be the beginning of many new relationships.

**

DEAR ABBY: The letter from "Big Sister Sue," whose sister is marrying the ex-husband of another sister, reminded me of a similar situation in my family.

During a family gathering, I was catching up with two of my elderly female cousins whom I hadn't seen since my childhood. The older of the two was in her 70s. She remarked that she had been married multiple times and was now married to her younger sister's ex-husband.

I asked if the marriage had caused any hard feelings, and I still have to chuckle at her answer: "No hard feelings — he's a good man, so we decided to recycle him!" — **MARY HEDENSKOG, NORWOOD, N.C.**

DEAR MARY: Your cousin was a practical woman. "Waste not, want not."

**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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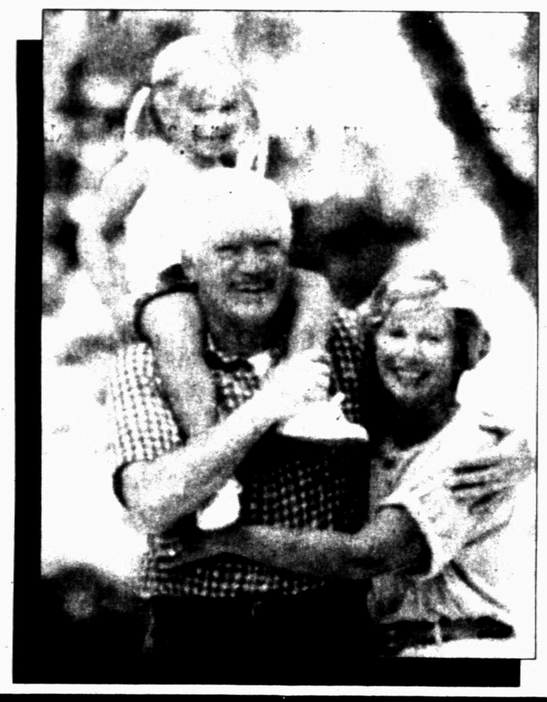

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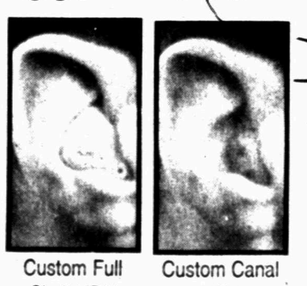

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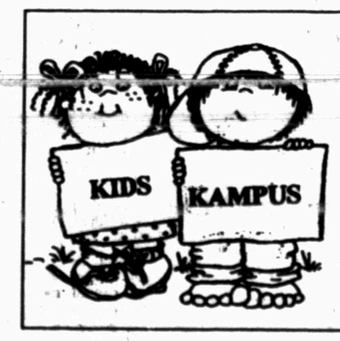

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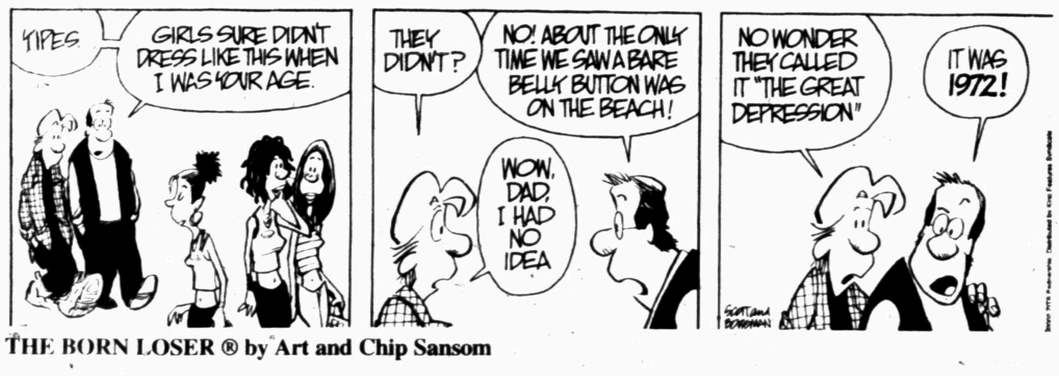

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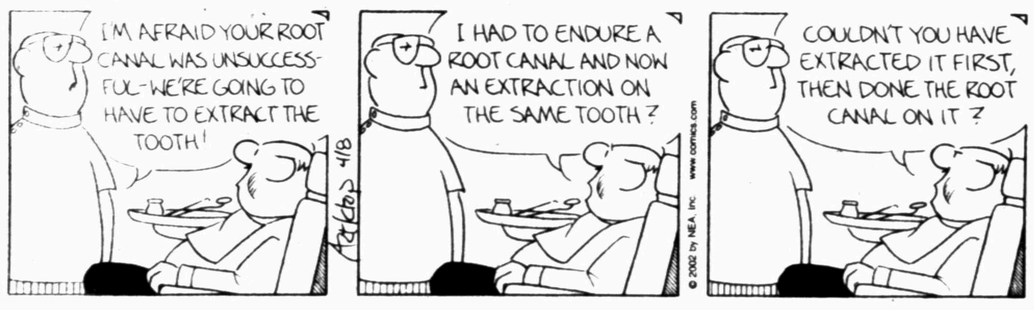

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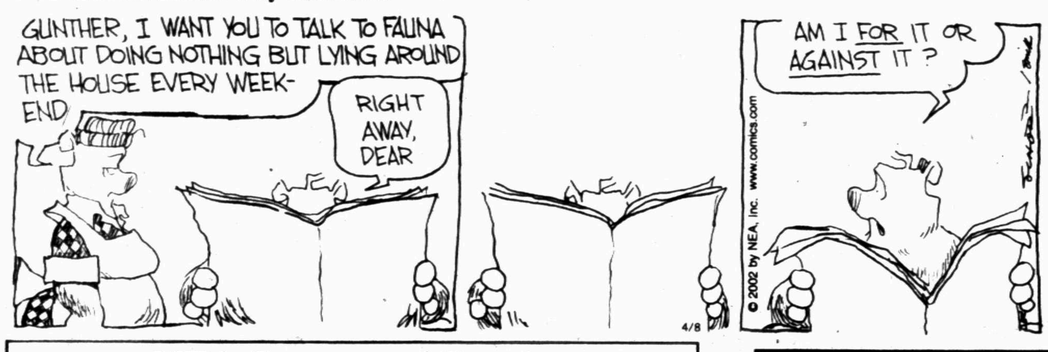

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Pause
5 Chatter
8 Get-up-and-go
11 Buckeye State
12 On the ocean
14 — — carte
15 Fill a pipe
16 Home, to Pierre
17 Box top
18 Some canines
20 Cocoon dwellers
22 Hobby shop buy
23 Fibbed, plus
24 Band instruments
27 Get dizzy
29 Flight dir.
30 Junk mail
34 Time limit
37 Corporate exec
38 Enjoy a novel
39 Airport exits
41 Business degs.
43 The lady's
44 Debutante's bow
46 Overjoy
49 Pub suds
50 Pizzeria need
52 Barn locale
54 Atlas abbr.
55 Close by
56 Tart
57 Be idle
58 Hog's abode
59 Sock parts

DOWN

1 Peppery
2 Pull a rabbit out of — —
3 Citrus tree
4 Midwest capital
5 Harbor sight
6 Fire residue
7 Ship's bottom
8 Faucet
9 Achilles' story
10 Earned
13 Flowering shrub
19 Polynesian plants
21 Small brook
24 Baseball great Williams
25 Employ
26 "— — doll and . . ."
27 Cape Town currency
28 Monsieur's summer
30 KGB opposite
31 After Sept.
32 "— whiz!"
33 Coast Guard alert
35 Mild expletive
36 School assignment
39 Toothpaste type
40 PLO leader
41 Vitamin lead-in
42 Mr. Musburger
43 Short-story writer O. —
44 Machine parts
45 Cousteau's middle name
47 Baja fast food
48 Huron neighbor
51 Feast
53 GPs

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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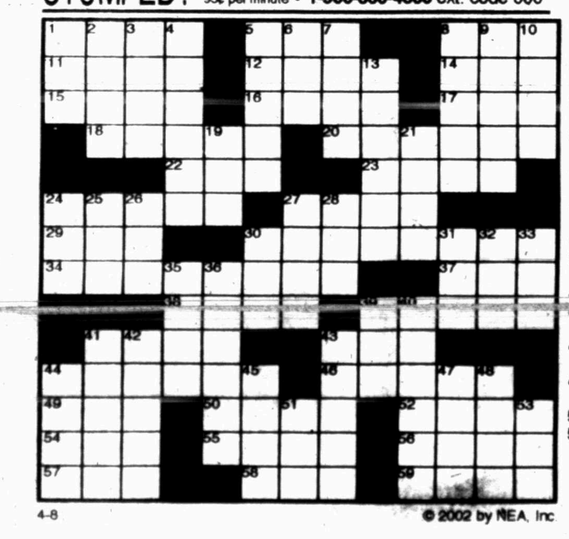

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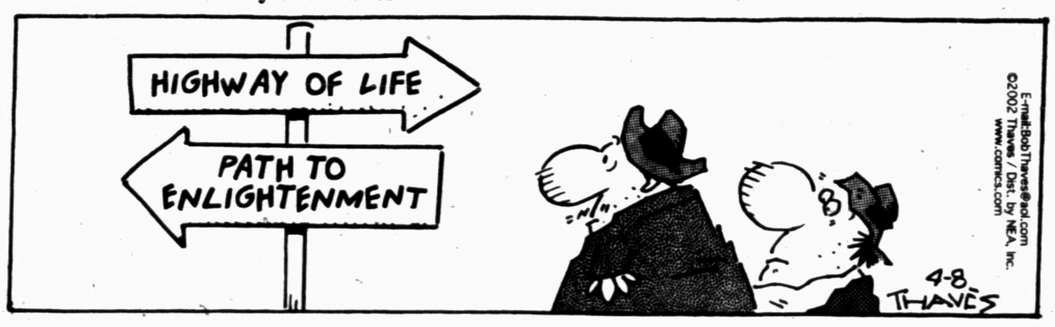

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"I'd let you talk more, but you're not as interesting as me."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

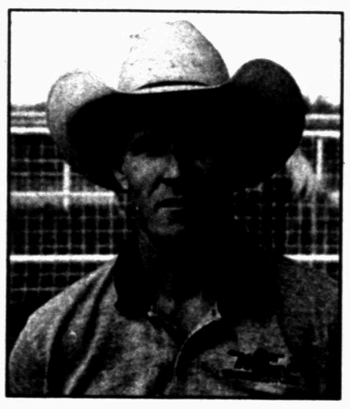
SPORTS

WTC men capture Canyon rodeo title

CANYON — One week before coming home to host their own event, the Western Texas men's rodeo team moved into position to grab the regional lead.

WTC captured the men's title at the West Texas A&M collegiate rodeo, bringing the Westerners to within 10 points of the lead in the Southwest Region.

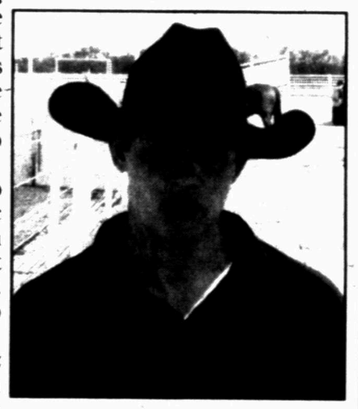
WTC hosts its annual rodeo starting Thursday at Scurry County Coliseum, and Coach Greg Rhodes couldn't think of a better venue for his squad to compete in.



Greg Rhodes

"The guys just keep plugging away and chipping away at the regional lead," said Rhodes. "At one time, we were 500 points behind the leaders. Now we're only 10 back. Being able to take over the lead at our own rodeo would be great."

Western Texas swept the top two spots the saddle bronc event with Sam Spreadborough finishing tops on the short round and in the average. J.W. Todd was third in the finals to finish as the overall runner-up.



Sam Spreadborough

Calf roper Joseph Gernentz used a third-place showing in the short round to push him to the lead in the average.

Tyson Thompson, who was second in the finals, was third in the overall standings of the bareback riding, and Steven Turner was second in the short round of the steer wrestling.

On the women's side, the Lady Westerners finished sixth while Tarleton won the rodeo.

"Overall, I'm pleased with how our women performed," said Rhodes. "It was just one of those rodeos where things didn't go our way."

The Western Texas College collegiate rodeo gets underway at 7 p.m. Thursday at Scurry County Coliseum. Performances continue at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday.

Slack is scheduled for 1:30 p.m. Friday and 9 a.m. Saturday and the exceptional rodeo is set for 9:30 a.m. Friday.

Ward's homer rallies Astros

HOUSTON (AP) — The high fly to right field that Daryle Ward hit in the bottom of the 12th inning only took two or three seconds to come down. It seemed like an eternity to him.

When it finally landed, it hit the right-field foul pole and Ward had a home run that gave the Houston Astros a 7-6 victory over the St. Louis Cardinals on Sunday.

"It seemed so long," Ward said. "I was just praying that it didn't go foul. It was hooking and I just wanted it to hit the foul pole. I was waiting to exhale ... and I got to."

It was the second home run of the year for Ward, who is starting full-time for the first time because Moises Alou left in free agency. And it came on an 0-1 pitch leading off against Luther Hackman, whom Ward had never faced.

"The first thing that came to my mind was I didn't want it to be a judgment call by the umpire," Ward said. "I wanted it to clearly hit the pole so there would be no doubt.

"It shocked me that I got such a good pitch to hit. After the first-pitch strike, I knew I had to be ready. To see the ball out over the plate like that made my eyes get real big."

It did the same for his teammates.

"This was a big win for us," said Jeff Bagwell, whose RBI single in the ninth helped fuel a three-run rally. "Instead of being 2-4, we're 3-3. More importantly, it showed us that we have a little bit of perseverance and that we can come back."

Hackman (0-1) had no excuses about his pitch to Ward.

"It was just a mistake pitch and he hit it," Hackman said. "It was a fastball middle in. I was trying to throw a sinker away.

"I hadn't faced him before but I know he has power. If I make my pitch, I still get him out. But I didn't and he hit it."

The Cardinals still took two of three in the showdown of teams that tied with 93-79 records last year.

"We played one bad inning," manager Tony La Russa said. "Three days here and we never took anybody cheap. With that club's potential to score, that says a lot."

Ricky Stone (1-0) pitched two hitless innings and struck out three for the victory.

The Astros rallied for three runs in the ninth off Mike Timlin to tie it at 6.

Bagwell hit an RBI double with two outs and Lance Berkman was intentionally walked to load the bases. Richard Hidalgo followed with a two-run single to tie it, then Ward grounded out to send the game into extra innings.

Jim Edmonds hit a two-run homer for the Cardinals and also stole home as part of a ninth-inning double steal.

J.D. Drew hit an RBI single in the eighth off Octavio Dotel to put St. Louis ahead 4-3, and the Cardinals added two runs in the ninth off Billy Wagner.

Edmonds singled, advanced on a sacrifice and a groundout and came home as Eli Marrero swiped second. Edgar Renteria doubled in a run for a 6-3 lead.

Edmonds continued his hot hitting in Houston. He is 27-for-62 with six home runs and 14 RBIs in 16 games at Astros Field.

Then in the 11th, he caught Hidalgo's fly ball and threw out Jose Vizcaino at the plate to keep it tied.

Cardinals starter Darryl Kile allowed two runs and five hits in five innings. He is 2-4 with a 4.19 ERA in eight starts against his former team.

Astros starter Wade Willer gave up three runs and six hits in seven innings. He also went 2-for-3.

Fernando Vina's RBI single put St. Louis ahead in the third, but Houston took the lead in the bottom half on Vizcaino's RBI double and Gregg Zaun's run-scoring single.

Texas looking for offense

ARLINGTON (AP) — The thumpers in the Texas Rangers lineup know they'll eventually pile up big numbers. The question is, when?

Texas didn't get a chance Sunday as its game against Anaheim was rained out. With the Rangers off Monday, they have plenty of time to think about a 1-5 start — the team's worst since 1987 — that can be blamed more on meek hitting than weak pitching.

Alex Rodriguez, Juan Gonzalez, Rafael Palmeiro, Ivan Rodriguez and Carl Everett are a combined 27-for-130 (.208) with four homers, 13 RBIs and 16 runs. As a team, the Rangers are hitting .225 with 22 runs.

"Our guys know that at some point we're going to put it together," manager Jerry Narron said. "A lot of clubs have had slow starts and put it together. We think we will."

The big breakthrough almost came in the ultimate fashion Saturday night: Bottom of the ninth, two outs, bases loaded and Alex Rodriguez at the plate. He drove the ball to left field and was so sure it was gone that he started celebrating as soon as he left the batter's box.

But wind from the same storm that lingered Sunday got hold of Rodriguez's high fly and dropped it into deep left field, where Garret Anderson was waiting for the final out in a 6-3 victory.

"That's as good as I can hit a ball," Rodriguez said Sunday. "Some of the guys in the bullpen said it went over the fence and actually came back in. But those are the breaks. It would've been a great game-winning home run. The way things have been going, it turned out to be a loss."

Rodriguez had been 1-for-18 before going 2-for-5 Saturday night, including a first-inning homer.

"I knew I wasn't going to go the whole season without hitting a home run," he said.

While there's plenty of time to reach or surpass last year's numbers (.275 with a majors-best 246 homers), Texas better get clicking soon if it's going to relinquish the grip on last place in the AL West that it's held the last two seasons.

"We know we're a good team," Ivan Rodriguez said. "Right now we just don't hit like it."

SHS track teams close out non-district slate

BIG SPRING — Snyder High School track teams can finally turn their focus toward this week's District 4-4A meet.

The Snyder boys finished tied for fourth and the Lady Tigers were fifth Saturday at the Big Spring Relays.

The competition was the final tune-up prior to the district meet scheduled for Thursday and Friday at South Plains College in Levelland.

"We had quite a few competitors score some points for us, so maybe this will be a springboard for district," said SHS girls coach Todd Pollard. "It's going to be a very competitive district meet, and we're looking forward to it."

The Lady Tigers posted 54 points to finish fifth, while the Tigers garnered 72 points to tie with Andrews for fourth.

The boys were anchored by Jason Guynes' first and second-place finishes in the 110 and 300 hurdles respectively.

Charles Kerry was third in the 3,200 and Rudy Martinez was third in the 1,600. Kerry was also fourth in the mile.

The Tigers' best showing in the field events came in the high jump where Jammall Pruitt took third.

On the girls side, Loryn Brown was second in the 300 hurdles and fourth in the 100 hurdles. Snyder took third in the sprint and 800 relays.

In the field events, Brown took fourth in the triple jump and Ashley Tuttle was fourth in the high jump to pace the squad.

The top two finishers in each event at district advance to the regional meet in San Angelo.

Knight takes book tour to Indiana

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP) — Only a few minutes into Bob Knight's book signing here Sunday, the former Indiana coach showed a flash of the volatility that made him loved, hated and eventually fired.

To keep the line of more than 1,200 moving, bookstore employees were writing names down on note paper so Knight didn't have to ask for them. He apparently wasn't pleased with the penmanship.

"Let's get this straightened out right now," Knight snapped, causing one young employee to turn an eerie shade of white. "I can't even read some of this stuff."

The writing quality improved — quickly— as did the coach's demeanor.

Otherwise, Knight didn't speak at the book signing, except to exchange pleasantries with those who'd bought his $25.95 book.

Fans started gathering at Bloomington's Barnes & Noble bookstore nearly 12 hours before Knight's evening arrival. They came to get the silver-haired coach's signature on copies of "Knight: My Story," co-written with Bob Hammel, a former sports editor at The Herald-Times in Bloomington.

While fans weren't exactly clamoring for the coach during the Hoosiers' run to the NCAA championship game, the truly devoted were more than happy to spend a sunny Sunday waiting for their man.

"I've been a Bob Knight fan from day one," said Janice Furnish, wearing a Knight T-shirt, button and even a pair of round earrings made of photographs of his face.

She was getting 10 books signed for friends and relatives. Her copy will likely wind up in the Bob Knight shrine she's constructed in her home, which includes a Bob Knight doll, Bob Knight bookends and a Bob Knight paper cut-out figure, which Furnish says is "very rare."

"He's just a great man," she said. "I can't find any fault with him whatsoever."

He's since moved on to Texas Tech. Judging from the vast array of Texas Tech hats, sweatshirts and buttons worn by the people in line, he's taken plenty of fans with him.

"You can still be an Indiana fan and a Bob Knight fan," Stephen Anderson said as he waited.

Sports Briefs

WTC Men's Golf Association

The Men's Golf Association of Western Texas College holds a weekly play day Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

SCGA weekly events

The Scurry County Golf Association holds a weekly scramble Tuesdays at 5:30. The Men's Golf Association holds a weekly event each Thursday.

WTC athletic fundraiser

The Harlem Entertainers basketball team will take on several local teams April 16 at 7 p.m. at the SHS gym. The event is a fundraiser sponsored by the WTC Athletic Committee.

Chances will be offered on a variety of items during the game. Tickets at the gate are $15 for adults and $10 for students. Advance tickets can be purchased for $10 and $7 at Barbee Medical Supply, Teachers' Credit Union, Purple Sage Motel, Snyder Daily News, KSNY and the WTC administrative offices.

For more information, call the college at 573-8511 or click on the activities link at the WTC Web site www.wtc.cc.tx.us.

Sunday couples tournament

A couples golf tournament will be held the first Sunday of the month at 1:30 at the country club golf course.

Girls basketball camp scheduled

The Snyder Tiger girls basketball camp is set for May 28-31 at the SHS gym. The camp is for incoming third through ninth graders, and cost is $60, which includes a camp T-shirt.

Registration forms are available at the elementary and junior high schools, or can be picked up at the SHS girls basketball office. Players can pre-register through May 15.

Major League Baseball

National League
By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	3	3	.500	—
Florida	3	3	.500	—
Montreal	3	3	.500	—
New York	3	3	.500	—
Philadelphia	3	3	.500	—

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	4	1	.800	—
Cincinnati	3	3	.500	1½
Houston	3	3	.500	1½
St. Louis	3	3	.500	1½
Milwaukee	2	4	.333	2½
Chicago	1	4	.200	3

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	6	0	1.000	—
Arizona	4	2	.667	2
Los Angeles	3	3	.500	3
Colorado	2	4	.333	4
San Diego	1	5	.167	5

Saturday's Games
Montreal 5, Cincinnati 2
Pittsburgh 6, Chicago Cubs 1
Florida 7, Philadelphia 3
San Francisco 4, San Diego 1
N.Y. Mets 11, Atlanta 2
Arizona 6, Milwaukee 3
St. Louis 8, Houston 4
Los Angeles 9, Colorado 2

Sunday's Games
Atlanta 5, N.Y. Mets 2, 14 innings
Cincinnati 6, Montreal 5, 10 innings
Philadelphia 3, Florida 2, 11 innings
Arizona 2, Milwaukee 0
Pittsburgh at Chicago Cubs, ppd, rain
Houston 7, St. Louis 6, 12 innings
San Francisco 10, San Diego 1
Los Angeles 6, Colorado 4

Monday's Games
Cincinnati (Dessens 0-1) at Pittsburgh (Wells 1-0 or Villone 0-1), 1:35 p.m.
Houston (Oswalt 1-0) at Colorado (Neagle 1-0), 3:05 p.m.
Arizona (Anderson 0-0) at San Diego (Lawrence 0-0), 6:05 p.m.
Montreal (Armas Jr. 0-1) at Florida (Burnett 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Millwood 0-1) at Philadelphia (Padilla 1-0), 7:05 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
N.Y. Mets at Chicago Cubs, 2:20 p.m.
Atlanta at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at St. Louis, 8:10 p.m.
Houston at Colorado, 9:05 p.m.
Arizona at San Diego, 10:05 p.m.
Los Angeles at San Francisco, 10:15 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	5	1	.833	—
Boston	3	1	.750	1
Tampa Bay	3	3	.500	2
Toronto	2	3	.400	2½
Baltimore	1	5	.167	4

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	5	1	.833	—
Minnesota	5	1	.833	—
Kansas City	2	3	.400	2½
Chicago	2	4	.333	3
Detroit	0	6	.000	5

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	5	2	.714	—
Anaheim	3	2	.600	1
Seattle	3	3	.500	1½
Texas	1	5	.167	3½

Saturday's Games
Minnesota 7, Toronto 5
N.Y. Yankees 3, Tampa Bay 0
Boston 4, Baltimore 2
Cleveland 5, Detroit 3
Chicago White Sox 14, Kansas City 0
Anaheim 6, Texas 3
Oakland 8, Seattle 3

Sunday's Games
Minnesota 10, Toronto 6
N.Y. Yankees 7, Tampa Bay 2
Boston 4, Baltimore 1
Cleveland 5, Detroit 1
Kansas City 9, Chicago White Sox 2
Anaheim at Texas, ppd., rain
Oakland 6, Seattle 5

Monday's Games
Minnesota (Milton 1-0) at Cleveland (Drese 1-0), 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (D.Wells 1-0) at Toronto (Prokopec 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Wright 0-0) at Detroit (Sparks 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Abbott 0-0) at Anaheim (Washburn 0-1), 10:05 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Kansas City at Boston, 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Toronto, 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Detroit, 7:05 p.m.
Oakland at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Seattle at Anaheim, 10:05 p.m.

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-New Jersey	49	28	.636	—
x-Boston	45	32	.584	4
Orlando	41	34	.547	7
Philadelphia	40	36	.526	8½
Washington	35	42	.455	14
Miami	33	43	.434	15½
New York	29	47	.382	19½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Detroit	46	30	.605	—
Charlotte	41	35	.539	5
Milwaukee	39	37	.513	7
Toronto	38	38	.500	8
Indiana	37	39	.487	9
Atlanta	31	45	.408	15
Cleveland	27	49	.355	19
Chicago	17	59	.224	29

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Dallas	52	23	.693	—
x-San Antonio	52	24	.684	½
x-Minnesota	47	29	.618	5½
Utah	42	34	.553	10½
Houston	27	48	.360	25
Denver	24	52	.316	28½
Memphis	20	56	.263	32½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Sacramento	57	19	.750	—
x-L.A. Lakers	54	23	.701	3½
x-Portland	46	30	.605	11
Seattle	43	34	.558	14½
L.A. Clippers	38	39	.494	19½
Phoenix	34	43	.442	23½
Golden State	20	56	.263	37

x-clinched playoff spot

Saturday's Games
San Antonio 89, Dallas 87
Cleveland 120, Chicago 101
Charlotte 93, Atlanta 86
Washington 88, Memphis 85
Minnesota 108, Phoenix 104
Portland 113, Golden State 86

Sunday's Games
Philadelphia 89, Milwaukee 87
Toronto 94, Indiana 84
L.A. Lakers 96, Miami 88
Boston 102, New Jersey 90
Sacramento 116, New York 82
L.A. Clippers 97, Denver 75

Monday's Games
Houston at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Atlanta at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Indiana, 8 p.m.
Boston at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Portland at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Dallas at Utah, 9 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Minnesota at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Charlotte at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Houston at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
Denver at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Philadelphia at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Portland at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Seattle at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

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Airline service continues to improve

WASHINGTON (AP) — Airlines' efforts to bring back passengers after the Sept. 11 attacks are being helped by more on-time arrivals, less luggage lost and fewer travelers being bumped, said a study released Monday.

The annual study by two professors found that customer service was improving even before the terrorist attacks, and continued as airlines scheduled fewer flights when business dropped off following the attacks.

"They were doing pretty good before they got to Sept. 11," said study co-author Dean Headley, an associate professor of marketing at Wichita State University. "After Sept. 11, with a more rational system — fewer passengers, fewer airplanes, fewer flights — it worked better."

Rather than canceled or delayed flights, passengers instead face increased security, sometimes being told to arrive two hours before their scheduled takeoff because of lines at screening checkpoints.

The report, issued by Headley and Brent Bowen, director of the aviation institute at the University of Nebraska at Omaha, was funded by the universities.

Based on data collected by the Transportation Department, the study found that last year:

—Flights of 11 carriers were on time 77.4 percent of the time, up from 72.6 percent in 2000.

—The Transportation Department received 2.11 complaints for every 100,000 passengers, a decline from 2.98 in 2000.

—For every 1,000 bags checked, airlines mishandled or lost 4.55, down from 5.29 in 2000.

—The rate of passengers being bumped from flights against their wishes dropped to 0.86 per 10,000 from 1.04 in 2001.

Alaska Airlines was rated highest for passenger service among the airlines surveyed. The airline finished second last year, behind Delta, which was rated fifth this year. TWA, which has since been taken over by American Airlines, was rated last. America West, which received the lowest rating in 2000, was rated seventh this year. All the airlines except Delta had higher overall scores than in 2000, the study said.

United Airlines spokeswoman Susana Leyva said the study shows that the airlines were serious when they promised to improve customer service.

"When you look at the experience on the ground, the experience in the air, we are moving in the right direction," she said. "When certain lawmakers were looking at legislating customer service, the airlines said let a voluntary approach happen. You're seeing the benefits of that voluntary approach."

With Congress considering legislation in 1999, the airlines and the Transportation Department instead agreed on a package of voluntary standards. Last year's airline quality study found no improvements, and lawmakers resumed talking about passing a bill aimed at improving customer service.

The issue quickly faded as the terrorist attacks changed the debate from airline service to security. With air travel still down, fewer passengers and fewer flights have reduced overcrowding, delays and complaints.

Passenger levels won't return to pre-Sept. 11 levels until next year, the Federal Aviation Administration said last month. Air travel is expected to increase steadily thereafter, it said.

Wichita State's Headley said the airlines need to prepare for the return of passengers.

"Unless they've learned from this pause, we're going to be right back where we were in another year or so," he said.

Weekend rallies supported both sides in Mideast crisis

NEW YORK (AP) — The escalating violence in the Middle East spurred heated demonstrations across the nation, with protesters on either side of the conflict screaming chants, torching flags and even scuffling over their beliefs.

"This is to show support to Israel and to demonstrate against worldwide terrorism," said Lenny Brafman, 46, holding a banner made of American and Israeli flags at a rally Sunday near the United Nations.

One sign read: "Arafat Osama Terror," equating Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat with Osama bin Laden, the suspected fugitive leader of the al-Qaida terrorist network.

The New York rally came a day after hundreds of people marched across the Brooklyn Bridge to City Hall to demonstrate against Israeli actions in the occupied territories. Protesters carried signs and yelled chants that compared Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to Adolf Hitler.

In Los Angeles, about 2,000 demonstrators chanted "Arafat's a Terrorist!" outside a federal building Sunday. At one point there was a tussle between pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian demonstrators, but police said there were no reports of major disturbances.

A day earlier, a pro-Palestinian rally in the same location drew hundreds of protesters.

In San Francisco, close to 500 pro-Palestinian demonstrators took to the streets near San Francisco State University for several hours Sunday, yelling chants, burning paper Israeli flags and grabbing an Israeli flag out of the hands of a passing motorist who lofted it from her sunroof.

"Sharon, Sharon you can't hide, we charge you with genocide!" they chanted to a chorus of honks and beeps from passing cars. One Israel supporter carrying the country's flag charged the crowd, prompting police to break up a brief scuffle.

About 100 pro-Palestinian demonstrators and a larger contingent of supporters of Israel traded taunts in Ohio at a rally in Blue Ash, a Cincinnati suburb.

The Arab American Anti-Discrimination Committee of Cleveland planned a vigil today night to protest what it calls "the military siege in Bethlehem."

In Boston, about 3,000 people gathered downtown Sunday for a "Stand with Israel" rally. The demonstrators, some with signs that read "America and Israel united against terrorism," marched toward the New England Holocaust Memorial. The crowd sang songs, read poems and listened to religious and political leaders.

A day earlier, about 1,000 Palestinian supporters had marched past Israel's downtown consulate in Boston. Some carried signs reading "Zionism Nazism," and others denounced support of Israel.

About 2,000 people gathered at a Minneapolis temple Sunday to show support for Israel. Many signed letters to President Bush urging him to "stay strong and steadfast in your support for Israel."

Rallies also were held Saturday in Miami and Crawford, Texas, where 1,200 people gathered blocks from where President Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair held a news conference insisting Israel halt its escalating offensive in the West Bank and withdraw troops.

Koch settlement in Corpus Christi remains unspent

CORPUS CHRISTI (AP) — A year after Koch Petroleum Group was ordered to pay $10 million for environmental projects, the money remains unspent.

The Wichita, Kan.-based company, now known as Flint Hills Resources, pleaded guilty in April 2001 to covering up environmental violations at its Corpus Christi west plant.

A federal judge ordered Koch to pay $10 million toward environmental projects, plus $10 million in fines.

Prosecutors said the company had installed equipment to control benzene-contaminated wastewater but then disconnected a device used to control benzene emissions without telling federal or state regulators.

Company officials said people and the environment weren't harmed. Their Corpus Christi complex employs more than 900 and can process 300,000 barrels of oil per day.

Under terms of the order, the environmental fund must be used for air and water quality projects.

Koch paid the fines immediately, absolving itself of any further monetary liability. Two cashier's checks totaling $20 million were turned over to the court.

"We did everything at that moment," company attorney Tony Canales said in Sunday's editions of the Corpus Christi Caller-Times.

Since then, the funds have remained in limbo while various agencies and groups submit proposals for how to spend the money.

The Environmental Protection Agency, the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission and the Environmental Crimes Section of the U.S. Department of Justice all have submitted proposals.

TNRCC spokeswoman Adria Dawidczik said some plans were approved and sent to U.S. District Judge Janis Graham Jack, who heard the case, in October.

But so far, court records show no judgments have been made. Jack refused to comment to the newspaper.

Suzie Canales of Citizens for Environmental Justice said they submitted a $1 million plan to fund studies of the effects of benzene on the community.

"We thought the money was going to be disbursed last summer," she said. "I don't know why it is taking so long."

Pat Suter, chairwoman of the Corpus Christi Sierra Club, said she believes part of the money should go toward installing air monitors surrounding the plant.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Are the elderly shortchanged medically?

DEAR DR. GOTT: My wife and I are in our 90s and have been distressed that doctors tend to view our ailments as due to old age and, therefore, not worthy of treatment. I know that many seniors are being over-tested and over-treated, but I believe that the reverse may also be true. Is this a "hidden epidemic"?

DEAR READER: I hope not. However, judging from the mail I receive, the lack of medical enthusiasm in aggressively addressing health issues in the elderly is of widespread concern.

On the one hand, the aging process does bring with it incontrovertible and unavoidable consequences, which I shan't enumerate because you already know what they are. In the main, these consequences can be judiciously managed by medication, special equipment (such as eyeglasses and hearing aids) and other therapy. These age-related phenomena come with the territory and, in my practice, I constantly strive to maintain an oldie's quality of life without going overboard in ordering dangerous, painful testing or risky medication.

On the other hand, some senior citizens seem shocked and surprised that they cannot function at the same level they enjoyed 40 or 50 years ago. They want to look young and somehow cheat the clock. This attitude can drive doctors to distraction. For example, I have a 92-year-old widow who shows up in my office at least once a month to complain that she has age-spots on her skin, cannot walk outside without a cane and needs to turn the volume up on her TV. While I repeatedly attempt appropriate treatment, she believes that medication and physical therapy are "for sissies," and she steadfastly refuses to acknowledge that her body is, yes, wearing out. She has difficulty adapting to a normal, lower level of function. None of my reassurances (that she does, indeed, enjoy a relatively independent, pain-free life) makes the slightest difference. It's Tuesday, and she's here again.

Once doctors get to know their elderly patients, it's a lot easier to work with them. The knowledge of underlying medical conditions and a patient's expectations and wishes can make all the difference in the world in terms of maintaining quality of life, independence and enjoyment. So that's how I see my role: attempting to help my elderly friends cope with and get through the years that remain. And I believe that's how most doctors feel. The approach does, on occasion, need fine-tuning. At these times I welcome a patient's input, and we can sit down for a periodic strategy session. So don't be afraid to talk to your doctor about your concerns and listen to his responses. That's what he is paid for.

A NOTE TO READERS: For an updated and revised Health Report on "Losing Weight" (formerly Winning the Battle of the Bulge) that includes my No Flour, No Sugar diet send $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title. Also, be on the lookout for more updated Health Reports.

DEAR DR. GOTT: What is your opinion of traveling ultrasound clinics, such as Life Line Screening, that claim to be able to diagnose various diseases in their earliest stages?

DEAR READER: With the use of painless and safe ultrasound techniques, these clinics usually test for abdominal aortic aneurysms, carotid artery blockage and peripheral vascular disease. In my experience, this screening (which is generally less expensive than the same service provided by hospitals) is accurate and beneficial. I encourage people to use it.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

	North	04-08-02
	♠ A Q 9 8 3	
	♥ 10 4	
	♦ 10 4	
	♣ K Q 10 7	
West		**East**
♠ J 10 6		♠ K 7 5
♥ 3		♥ A J 6 5
♦ J 7 5 3		♦ K Q 9 8
♣ A J 8 6 5		♣ 9 2
	South	
	♠ 4 2	
	♥ K Q 9 8 7 2	
	♦ A 6 2	
	♣ 4 3	

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
	Pass	1 ♠	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ 3

Monday, April 8, 2002

From giving deals to watching deals

By Phillip Alder

Most of the time, I teach bridge classes, giving students deals on which to practice. However, occasionally I watch them shuffle and play. In some ways, this is more instructive for me because I see the types of mistakes they make. In February, two tables were in action, and they produced eight wild deals. This week, let's look at six of them. There were five women and three men playing, but as I will be rotating deals, and so players' positions, I am going to use "he" to refer to everyone.

Here is deal one. At the first table, North passed in second position, so East opened one diamond. Then South produced a textbook two-heart weak jump overcall, buying the contract. There were several routes home, and South found one of them.

At the second table, North opened his hand. I do not mind light openings, however, this collection suffers from one major drawback: the rebid. It is all right if partner responds one no-trump, two clubs or two spades, but when South bid two hearts, North had no good call, his chosen two spades suggesting a six-card suit.

West led his fourth-highest diamond, South ducking his ace in the hope of ruffing his diamond loser in the dummy. However, East accurately shifted to the ace and another heart. Declarer's only way to make the contract now was to play low from hand, finessing East for the jack. But who would do that? And when South won with his heart king, he couldn't recover. Try it and see.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp		24.23	23.90	23.95—.81
AOL TimeWrn		22.25	21.51	21.64—.78
AT&T Corp s		15.00	14.82	14.93—.09
Albertsons		33.88	33.44	33.65—.20
Alltel		54.66	53.98	54.48—.38
AmEl Pw		47.08	46.67	46.82
AndarkPtr		56.50	54.65	54.88 + .65
ATMOS Egy		23.77	23.64	23.72 + .07
Aviall		8.32	8.26	8.26—.39
BP PLC		52.56	51.86	52.40 + .56
BakerHughes		36.60	35.04	35.10 + .25
Bank of Amer		69.32	67.80	69.10 + .18
BellSouth		35.52	35.15	35.16—.54
vjBeth Steel		.41	.39	.41 + .01
BurlNoSFe		28.74	28.44	28.72—.21
Caterpillar		57.36	56.43	57.05—.31
ChevronTex		88.95	87.60	87.61 + .47
Citigroup		48.65	47.83	48.40—.27
CocaCola		52.75	51.54	52.70 + .52
ColgatePal		57.60	57.06	57.52 + .16
ComclMetals		43.50	42.93	43.50 + .15
CooperIn		41.40	41.15	41.30—.10
DaimlrChry		43.60	43.20	43.43—1.27
DeltaAirl		28.94	28.40	28.77—.84
Dillards Inc		23.58	23.19	23.39—.24
DowChem		31.70	30.90	31.67—.31
DuPont		46.40	45.76	46.21—.29
EastmanChem		47.55	46.85	47.09—.46
EstKodak		31.15	30.92	30.99—.16
EDS Corp		50.95	49.00	50.15—2.70
Entergy		43.80	43.48	43.72 + .06
ExxonMobil s		43.69	43.10	43.12 + .49
FstBksAm		41.00	40.80	40.80—.20
FootLocker		16.40	16.06	16.38 + .08
GenDynam		94.65	93.75	94.20—.44
GenElec		36.89	36.00	36.51—.59
GenMills		49.14	48.80	48.94 + .04
GenMotors		60.17	59.37	59.99—.02
GaPacific		28.23	27.80	28.19—.05
Goodrich		32.20	31.87	32.13—.02
Goodyear		22.40	22.11	22.20—.81
GtAtlPac		27.50	27.10	27.11—.54
Halliburtn		17.00	16.70	16.84 + .18
Hanson ADS		36.70	36.50	36.70 + .13
HarteHanks		31.65	31.11	31.30—.72
HomeDepot		49.24	48.30	48.99 + .22
HoneywellIntl		37.98	37.26	37.50—.48
IBM		88.50	85.00	85.75—11.50
IntlPaper		41.25	40.80	40.94—.59
JohnsonJn s		63.54	62.55	63.28 + .23
vjK mart		1.25	1.20	1.20—.08
KinderMorg		48.88	48.50	48.65 + .05
Kroger Co		22.05	21.83	21.99—.01
LockheedM		59.59	58.90	59.38 + .29
Lowes Cos s		43.99	43.30	43.80 + .30
Lubys		6.48	6.41	6.48—.04
LucentTech		4.44	4.30	4.33—.20
MarathonOil		28.72	28.35	28.49 + .43
MayDeptStr		35.43	34.82	35.20 + .23
Medtronic		44.40	43.95	44.26 + .26
Motorola		13.50	13.21	13.41—.39
NCR Corp		42.24	41.54	42.05—.69
Navistar		44.95	44.50	44.65—.74
PNM Rescs		26.95	26.65	26.70—.29
Penney JC		20.47	20.09	20.39 + .61
PepBoys		15.99	15.80	15.85—.18
PepsiCo		51.12	50.32	50.88 + .27
Pharmacia		43.07	42.69	42.92 + .11
PhelpDodge		39.45	39.00	39.35—.08
PhilipPet		62.01	61.44	61.44 + .80
PilgrmPrd B		14.05	14.01	14.01—.05
Praxair		57.23	56.10	56.76—.27
ProctGamb		90.16	89.25	90.00 + .20
RadioShack		29.39	28.94	28.97—.42
ReliantEngy		24.42	23.97	24.22—.68
RoyalDut		53.10	52.76	52.80—.12
SBC Comm		37.00	36.60	36.71—.36
SaraLee		21.38	21.09	21.32 + .11
Scripps EW		83.22	83.09	83.20 + .21
SearsRoeb		50.29	49.12	49.75—.25
SherwinW		28.61	28.29	28.48—.27
SouthernCo		26.69	26.45	26.46—.23
SwstAirl		18.32	18.06	18.32—.19
SprintFON		15.10	14.88	15.06 + .05
SprintPCS		11.60	11.25	11.37—.14
Sunoco Inc		40.15	39.48	39.48 + .50
TXU Corp		55.28	54.87	55.00—.05
TempleInland		56.38	55.70	56.27 + .16
TexInd		41.80	41.13	41.13—.75
TexasInst		32.52	32.05	32.25—1.17
Textron		50.19	49.53	49.97—.28
TriconGlbR		58.99	58.15	58.98—.17
TrinityInds		24.80	24.40	24.57—.20
TylerTech		5.60	5.40	5.50—.10
UnionPacif		58.11	57.40	57.60—.73
USSteel		18.50	18.23	18.24—.34
UnitedTech		73.25	72.14	73.10 + .30
Unocal		38.35	37.65	37.70 + .52
VerizonComm		44.93	44.50	44.52—.29
WalMart		59.69	58.52	59.32 + .18
WellsFargo		49.39	48.50	49.14 + .17
WstnGasRs		38.43	37.98	38.20 + .39
WinnDixie		16.11	15.72	15.90—.23
Xerox Cp		10.55	10.40	10.44—.08

APR 08 2002

Motion to dismiss lawsuit halting merger is delayed

WILMINGTON, Del. (AP) — A Delaware state court judge needs more time before he can decide whether to throw out a lawsuit filed by dissident Hewlett-Packard Co. director Walter Hewlett that seeks to halt that company's merger with Compaq Computer Corp.

If Chandler doesn't dismiss the lawsuit, a non-jury trial will start April 23.

In an unusual Sunday morning hearing, Chancellor William B. Chandler III heard more than two hours of arguments from lawyers for HP and Hewlett.

Nearly 100 people, including arbitrageurs and law professors, were in the courtroom to hear HP's motion to dismiss the lawsuit before it moves to discovery and trial.

A company director and son of HP's co-founder, Hewlett has fought a high-profile battle against the deal since the $18.6 billion merger was announced in September. The suit, filed March 28, claims HP improperly enticed a big investor to back the deal and the company misled investors about the progress of plans to integrate the two computer giants.

Votes continue to be counted after five months of debate between Hewlett and merger supporters. HP chief executive Carly Fiorina claimed a small but sufficient margin shortly after the end of a shareholder meeting on the $19 billion merger. According to papers filed by Hewlett, the winning margin is less than 1 percent of the nearly 2 billion shares voted.

Steven M. Schatz, a lawyer for HP, said the results should be certified within 10 to 12 days.

Neither Hewlett nor Fiorina were at Sunday's hearing.

Hewlett claimed that HP's management illegally bought votes from shareholder Deutsche Bank just days before the shareholder vote by closing on a multibillion dollar line of credit in which the bank participated. Hewlett claimed that the bank, which owns slightly more than 1 percent of HP's outstanding shares, decided to vote 17 million of its shares in favor of the merger at the last minute to avoid jeopardizing its future business dealings with HP.

"The company put the arm on Deutsche Bank," Hewlett's lawyer, Lawrence C. Ashby, told the court.

Lawyers for HP argued that Hewlett's lawsuit is a "last gasp attempt by the apparent loser of a proxy battle to obtain from the court what he could apparently not win at the ballot box."

HP argued that the concept of vote buying is a relic from the early 1920s. There hasn't been a finding of illegal vote buying for more than 25 years, said HP lawyer Donald J. Wolfe Jr.

He said there was no legally binding agreement between HP and Deutsch Bank about voting the shares, nor was there any consideration between the parties. Wolfe hypothesized that a shareholder could put his votes for sale on eBay and under the current laws that wouldn't constitute vote buying.

"It's a dinosaur," Wolfe said.

Rate of violent crime against Hispanics fell 56% in 7 years

WASHINGTON (AP) — The rate of violent crime against Hispanics fell 56 percent over a seven-year period in the 1990s and is now similar to that against whites, the government reported Sunday.

The decrease for Hispanics coincided with a steep drop in violent crime against all U.S. residents and against whites, blacks and American Indians, according to the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics.

In 1993, the violent crime rate for Hispanics was closer to that for blacks, who experienced 70 violent crimes per 1,000 people. But by 2000, it was closer to that for whites, who experienced 27 violent crimes per 1,000 people.

"It seems to have flipped" for Hispanics, said the report's author, Justice statistician Callie Rennison.

There were 28 violent crimes per 1,000 Hispanics older than 11 in 2000, compared with 63 in 1993, the report found. For other ethnic groups, the comparable 2000 figures were 34 per 1,000 for blacks, 52 per 1,000 for Indians and 8 per 1,000 for Asians.

Lisa Navarrete, a spokeswoman for the National Council of La Raza, attributed the decrease for Hispanics, at least in part, to a concerted effort in police departments across the country to change attitudes toward Hispanics and build trust. Many police officers have taken to handing out bilingual cards, Navarrete said.

The report was the first study in nearly two decades to look in detail at violent crimes specifically against Hispanics, Rennison said.

The rate of violent crimes, which included rape, sexual assault, robbery, and simple and aggravated assault, fell across almost all demographic categories for Hispanics. The drops were particularly pronounced among women and those living in rural areas.

The statistics were gleaned from interviews with more than 730,000 people over age 11, meaning the estimates include crimes that are reported to police as well as the many more that are not.

The report defined a Hispanic as someone of any race with Spanish origin, while those identified as other races refer only to non-Hispanic people of that race.

Murder, by far the least frequent but best reported of major crimes, does not show up in the report because the survey records only crimes reported firsthand by victims it interviews.

Rennison said Hispanics were victimized in urban areas at a lower rate than were blacks and whites. But in rural areas, Hispanics were victimized at higher rates than either whites or blacks. In suburban areas, the rate for Hispanics was similar to that for blacks but higher than that for whites.

"There were three very distinct patterns," Rennison said.

In 2000, Hispanics were the victims of 690,470 violent crimes. or 11 percent of the total — an amount roughly proportionate to Hispanics' representation in the total population. Most were simple assaults.

In 1999, the most recent year for which data are available, there were 2,864 Hispanic murder victims, according to a separate report from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

In every category, including the total crime rate, the per capita crime rates were lowest for Asians.

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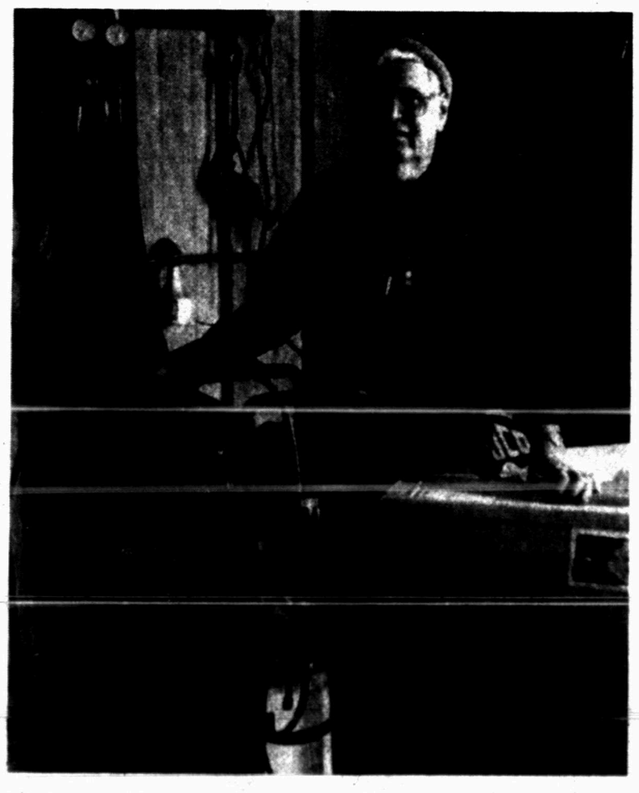

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Enron lawsuit on behalf of workers to name banks as defendants

HOUSTON (AP) — Attorneys for Enron Corp.'s workers are widening the blame for the bankrupt energy company's downward spiral.

Seattle attorney Steve Berman is naming several investment banks and a law firm that advised Enron to its list of defendants in an amended complaint to be filed today.

"There were certainly rotten apples at Enron, but they couldn't have done it without the active participation of professionals — lawyers, accountants and Wall Street," Berman said.

He called the banks, which invested in partnerships later credited with fueling Enron's downfall, "the brains behind the structuring."

Berman and other attorneys representing employees filed numerous lawsuits against Enron, its officials, and Arthur Andersen LLP before and after the energy trader filed for bankruptcy Dec. 2. today's amended complaint will consolidate most of them.

Andersen Worldwide, as well as Andersen partners worldwide, are also being added as defendants in the amended complaint.

Andersen Worldwide spokesman Charlie Leonard said the global organizations "continue to believe that they do not have liability with respect to the claims against the U.S. member firm, particularly those in Enron matter."

The investor case focuses on losses sustained by large institutions, such as the University of California and several state pension funds.

But the employee case is seeking compensation for thousands of Enron employees and retirees left with depleted retirement nest eggs in the wake of the collapse. It also targets Enron officials and outside companies that administered those plans.

Those plaintiffs include Charles Prestwood, a pipeline operator for 33 years, first with Houston Natural Gas and then Enron. As he approached retirement in 2000, he watched Enron's stock price rise and exuded pride in his employer.

When Enron shares reached $90 in August of 2000, Prestwood's stock-loaded retirement fund was worth about $1.3 million. That dropped to a few thousand dollars when Enron crashed.

Banks named as defendants in the 294-page amended complaint include Merrill Lynch & Co., J.P. Morgan Chase & Co., Credit Suisse First Boston; and Citigroup Inc.

Houston firm searching for diamonds

MURFREESBORO, Ark. (AP) — After nine years, a Texas company persists in its quest to find diamonds near the Crater of Diamonds State Park.

Others have tried and quit.

But Star Resources Corp. of Houston says it will drill new exploratory holes this month on land the company owns near the park.

The sites are not as widely known as the crater, a tourist attraction famous for a 40-carat diamond that set the North American record. But they hold the same diamond-bearing rock.

Star was one of the companies that partnered with the state to determine if the crater could be mined successfully. The final report in 1997 concluded mining the crater was not commercially viable.

But "we are still very encouraged," said Mark Jones III, Star's president and chairman. Jones said he believes the earlier diggers just missed the target.

Diamonds are produced primarily in South Africa, Australia, and Russia, and recent finds have made Canada a major producer.

The Arkansas prospect is one of only two commercial diamond mining ventures in the United States. The other is the Kelsey Lake diamond mine in the Colorado Rockies near the Wyoming border.

Star Resources has been exploring at the park since it changed its focus from gold and silver to diamonds. Although Star declined to provide its latest financial statements, it piled up $26 million in losses by 1998, according to a statement the company filed that year with the Arkansas Department of Environmental Quality.

With no operating revenues to offset the mounting losses, Star operates on a "funds-available basis." At times, the concern dwindles to a single paid employee, bringing in independent contractors and consultants as developments may require.

Star, known as Texas Star Resources until a 1996 name change, trades on the Canadian Venture Stock Exchange. The company has supported its operations by selling stock and debentures in private placements.

More minorities are appointed by Perry

AUSTIN (AP) — Blacks and Hispanics are more likely to apply for an appointed post under a Democrat governor than under a Republican governor, according to a review of gubernatorial appointment records by the Austin American-Statesman.

Democrat Ann Richards topped the chart with minorities representing 38.6 percent of applicants for appointments from 1991 to 1994, based on a review of more than 11 years of records.

Since 1995, when Republicans George W. Bush and Rick Perry have made the appointment decisions, the percentage of minority applicants dropped to 17.4 percent.

The appointees come from an applicant pool that includes two types of job aspirants — those who are asking for posts and those who have been asked to seek appointments.

The appointees include utility regulators, judges, university board members and commissioners for state agencies.

Texas governors are granted limited powers so the appointment process often becomes the most high-profile way to leave their political imprint.

"Republicans have to work harder (to find minority applicants), but once you identify quality individuals, it may even be easier to get them to serve," said Ray Sullivan, who served as Perry's deputy chief of staff before moving to the governor's political office last week.

Since taking office in December 2000, Perry has put 631 people in appointed posts. Of those, 11 percent were black, and 17 percent were Hispanic. Sixty-five percent of the Perry appointments went to males.

During Bush's five years in office, 9 percent of his 3,259 appointees were black, and 13 percent were Hispanic. Sixty-three percent were male.

Richards, whose administration marked the high point for minority appointees, made 2,453 appointments during her four years on the job. Of those, 13 percent were black, and 18 percent were Hispanic.

Fifty-nine percent of the Richards appointees were male.

According to the 2000 census, 32 percent of all Texans identified themselves as Hispanic, and 11.5 percent called themselves black or African American.

Females made up 50.4 percent of the state's population.

Some of Perry's minority appointments have included former Secretary of State Henry Cuellar, ex-public utility Commissioner Max Yzaguirre and Walter Criner, a black named to the Texas Lottery Commission.

The appointments, however, blotched his record when all three quit unexpectedly.

Another Perry top pick, Texas Supreme Court Justice Xavier Rodriguez, was defeated last month in the GOP primary despite the party's effort to get him to the November election. Another black Perry appointee to the high court, Wallace Jefferson, won a nomination.

Perry added to his list of Hispanic appointees last month when he picked Felipe Alanis to be state education commissioner and broke the lock of white males on the job.

The selection of Alanis came as statistics showed that under Republicans Bush and Perry, minority applicants had a better chance of getting appointed than did whites.

Under Perry, 35.4 percent of the nonwhite applicants got jobs, while only 27 percent of the white applicants were picked.

Under Bush, 45.8 percent of the nonwhite appointees got jobs, compared with only 29 percent of the whites who applied.

The Richards record shows that 38.4 percent of the nonwhite appointees got jobs, compared with 48 percent of the white applicants.

Antonio Gonzalez, president of the William C. Velasquez Institute, a public policy group, said minority appointees are important on the symbolic and real-world levels.

"It sends a wrong message when the people are not reflected in their socio-economic and ethnic makeup in government," he said. "And beyond that, there is a public policy implication when you have government appointees that reflect the diversity of the population."

Air-and-sea search to rescue dog ends in failure; boat sinks

HONOLULU (AP) — A $50,000 rescue operation to save a dog left alone aboard an abandoned Indonesian oil tanker off Hawaii ended with organizers saying the ship apparently sank.

"We are deeply saddened to report that Forgae, the 2-year-old dog left on board a crippled tanker after its human crew was rescued, has apparently been lost at sea," Pamela Burns, president of the Hawaiian Humane Society, and Martha Armstrong, senior vice president of the Humane Society of the United States, said in a joint news release Sunday.

The two groups organized the air-and-sea operation after learning the dog remained aboard the Insiko 1907 when its captain and 10 crew members were rescued Tuesday by a luxury liner about 230 miles southwest of Hawaii.

Nearly three weeks earlier, a fire killed a crew member and left the ship without power or communications. The body was left behind.

The tanker captain, Chung Chin Po of Taiwan, wasn't allowed to bring his dog with him on the luxury liner Norwegian Star, the Hawaiian Humane Society said.

A salvage tug hired to find the tanker reached the search area early Sunday morning and was joined later in the day by a plane with two observers aboard.

The effort was called off when the tanker couldn't be found after more than 1,000 square miles of ocean was searched, the society said.

"We had the best surveillance equipment available, searched the most probable locations and beyond, and we believe the Insiko 1907 has sunk," said Scott Vuillemot, president of American Marine Corp., owner of the tug American Quest.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, April 9, 2002

It might behoove you to occasionally let events run their course in the year ahead. Even when things take a direction you don't choose, they are likely to turn out to your advantage.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Unfortunately, there's a chance you could experience a bit more stress than usual in financial involvements with others. Don't blow things out of proportion. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Some unexpected resistance might come from people who usually don't take dissenting positions. It's a momentary condition for them; don't take it personally.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You might find that something personally important to you could be in the hands of another. Stay cool, be patient and things will work themselves back into your care.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Be firm if you find yourself being pressured into doing something that you know will not serve your best interests. Don't succumb.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — If people start to think you're too self-serving, they will do what they can to trip you up. You may not be able to achieve your objective if this happens.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — A troublemaker you know could cleverly interrogate you about confidential information he or she is trying to get a hold of. Be careful, and watch everything you say.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Don't let anyone convince you that you should share your hard-earned money with someone who was physically present, but had no hand in its attainment.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You may have a great need to express your independence, so it behooves you to avoid dictatorial types. Someone who starts barking orders won't sit well with you.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — This may be the day of reckoning when those unfinished tasks you've swept under the rug begin to trip you up. Be prepared to stop what you're doing and take care of them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — When participating in competitive social activities, you'll be judged more by the sportsmanship you display than by how well you play the game. Win or lose with grace.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Objectives that may be important to you might not be equally so to other members of your family. Don't make a scene if they don't share your enthusiasm.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Even though you will easily get along with almost anybody you meet, some know-it-alls could exceed your patience and tolerance. Be careful.

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Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Sharp Image Energy Inc. will drill the No. 1 Falls, a 7,000-foot wildcat located 10 miles southwest of Snyder. Location is in the Kirkland and Fields survey.

Borden County

Western Reserves Oil Co. Inc. will drill the No. 1-466 Guthrie, a 6,800-foot wildcat located 15 miles northeast of Gail. Drill site is in Section 466, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Garza County

Roger D. Hair has completed the No. 14 Stoker in the Garza field, three miles southeast of Post. The well was finaled to produce 25 barrels of oil and 70 barrels of water. Perforations wee from 2,694-876 and location is in Section 50, Block 5, GH&H survey.

Roger Hair has completed the No. 13 Stoker in the Garza field, three miles southeast of Post. The venture was finaled to produce 20 barrels of oil and 80 barrels of water. Perforations were from 2,690-911 feet, and location is in Section 50, Block 5, GJ&H survey.

Howard County

Westport Oil and Gas has completed the No. 39 Kloh in the Howard-Glasscock field, 11 miles southeast of Big Spring. The venture was completed to produce 17 barrels of oil and 217 barrels of water. Perforations were from 2,270-585 feet, and location is in Section 13, Block 33, T2S, T&P survey.

Wesport Oil and Gas has completed the No. 40 Kloh in the Howard-Glasscock field, 11 miles southeast of Big Spring. The well was completed to produce one barrel of oil and 456 barrels of water with perforations from 2,230-250 feet. Location is in Section 13, Block 33, T2S, T&P survey.

Fisher County

Walsh and Watts Inc. will drill the No. 11-D Boyd in the Judy Gail field, four miles northwest of Hamlin. Planned for a depth of 4,800 feet, location is in Section 190, Block 1, BBB&C survey.

Sinclair Oil Corp. will drill the No. 1 T.L. Dickerson in the Rough Ride field 11 miles southwest of Roby. Planned depth is 6,200 feet, and drill site is in Section 56, Block Y, T&P survey.

CKG Energy Inc. will drill the No. 1 McCoy in the Rough Ride field, five miles southwest of Longworth. Planned for a depth of 6,200 feet, location is in Block 9, Gillespie CSL survey.

Sunstore Energy will drill the No. 1-A James Cave, a 7,500-foot wildcat located eight miles southwest of Roby. Drill site is in Section 117, Block 3, H&TC survey.

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Snyder Daily News

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Gusty winds may further delay launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — With a leaky line repaired, NASA fueled space shuttle Atlantis again today even though stiff wind threatened to further delay the space station construction mission.

The forecast called for gusts of up to 35 mph at the pad, right at the safety limit for launch.

As the sun rose, NASA began pumping fuel into Atlantis' external tank. Less than three hours later, the tank was filled and all of the plumbing held, unlike last week.

NASA kept the 4:39 p.m. launch time a secret until late Sunday afternoon, under a new policy intended to protect the shuttle and its seven astronauts from terrorist attack. No-fly and no-sail zones were in effect throughout much of the day.

The astronauts' activities today also were not being televised live, as usual, because of the new security policy. The crew was not to be seen by the public until reaching the launch pad, under protection by fighter jets and attack helicopters.

The cracked pipe on the pad sent clouds of hydrogen fuel billowing into the air Thursday and forced a four-day delay.

Over the weekend, technicians working 37 feet above the pad welded clamshell-type pipes over the cracked hydrogen vent line, located on the exterior of the Apollo-era launch platform. The crack occurred on a weld in a 16-inch-diameter aluminum pipe, which is believed to be at least 20 years old.

Engineers believe the weld broke because of the shock of cold hydrogen vapors flowing through the pipe from Atlantis' external fuel tank. The patched line was tested with dye and nitrogen, and passed.

Aboard Atlantis is the newest piece of the international space station, a 44-foot girder that will form the foundation for a framework that eventually will stretch longer than a football field.

Andersen injunction hearing postponed

HOUSTON (AP) — An attorney for Arthur Andersen LLP said today that an effort by a group of insurers to block the firm from selling assets could scare off potential buyers.

The insurers, led by Galveston-based American National Insurance Co., are among plaintiffs in a securities fraud lawsuit against Enron Corp. officials, Andersen and others. They want U.S. District Judge Melinda Harmon to enjoin Andersen from selling assets.

They also want Harmon to stop Andersen from transferring assets to foreign subsidiaries or affiliates without the court's permission. They allege that if Andersen is allowed to do so, it will have nothing left for plaintiffs to collect.

But Andersen attorney Sharon Katz said such a move would prevent Andersen from taking steps to survive the exodus of clients and global partners in the fallout of the Enron scandal.

"Over time, the assets of this company are losing value," Katz said today. "But if they cannot act quickly, they will not be able to do any of these transactions and the value will be lost."

Harmon postponed the hearing to April 17 when attorneys said Andersen needed time to respond to a similar request filed by the University of California, the lead plaintiff in the securities lawsuit, given developments in settlement talks over the weekend. No agreement has been reached.

"They are suggesting that because of developments over the weekend, it would be best to give them time to respond," said Justin Campbell, a Houston attorney who represents shareholders in the lawsuit.

Powell: Israelis must withdraw

AGADIR, Morocco (AP) — Secretary of State Colin Powell, after meeting today with Morocco's moderate King Mohammed VI, demanded "a clear statement from Israel that they are beginning to withdraw" from Palestinian territories and "to do it now."

Powell said he had asked the king to counsel Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to halt violence against Israelis. The secretary said he hopes to see Arafat later in the week.

Israel's military presence on the West Bank is having "a significant and severe" impact, Powell declared. "We have a very difficult situation in front of us. ... We want to see this operation brought to an end as soon as possible."

Mohammed, the first leader to meet with Powell as the secretary began a trip aimed at halting the violence between Israelis and Palestinians, assured Powell that Morocco will be ready to act on a land-for-peace proposal "without any prior conditions" as soon as Israeli troops withdraw from the West Bank.

In Washington, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said President Bush conferred today with Powell and that envoy Anthony Zinni would meet later in the day with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to reinforce U.S. demands for an immediate withdrawal from the Palestinian territories.

"This is a serious message from the president; he means what he said and he expects Israel to act," Fleischer said. "The president expects results."

The king, long viewed as a moderating force in Israeli-Palestinian relations, urged Powell to spare no effort in seeking withdrawal of Israeli troops from the West Bank and suggested he should be focusing on putting more pressure on Israel.

"Don't you think it was more important to go to Jerusalem first?" the king asked Powell during a photo session.

Powell told Mohammed "we considered all options" but he wanted to go to Spain Wednesday to meet with European ministers before going to Jerusalem to hold talks with both Israelis and Palestinians.

Several arrests made for alcohol during weekend

Arrests

Officers arrested a 36-year-old man Saturday morning for public intoxication.

Just after midnight Sunday, officers were called to the 4400 block of Ave. U to a disturbance. and two subjects were taken into custody.

A 30-year-old man and a 33-year-old man were arrested for public intoxication.

At 1 a.m. Sunday, a 28-year-old woman as taken into custody from the same location for public intoxication.

9-1-1 operators received a call at 4:15 a.m. Sunday reporting domestic violence from a residence on 27th Street. Officers responded and a 34-year-old woman was arrested for Class A family violence.

Snyder officers arrested John Bernal Jr., 31, of 2307 Ave. I at 1 a.m. today at 26th Street and Ave. L for felony driving while intoxicated. He was transported to jail and his vehicle was towed.

Accident

Officers and paramedics responded to a two-vehicle accident on College Avenue Friday afternoon and one woman was transported to Cogdell Hospital.

Injured in the mishap was Rosa Fisk, 29, a passenger in a 1984 Buick driven by Diane Fisk, 48, of 1387 Ave. N.

The driver of the second vehicle, a 1996 Chevrolet pickup, was driven by Terry Leatherwood, 29, of 2411 32nd Street. Two street signs were damaged in the wreck. Rosa Fisk was taken by ambulance to Cogdell Hospital by Snyder EMS.

Criminal mischief

Whittney Criswell Sunday reported damage done to a residence on Ave. N. and a report for criminal mischief was submitted.

Burglary

Virginia Howard of 208 35th Street Saturday reported items stolen from her residence and a report for burglary was submitted.

Oven fire

Snyder firefighters were dispatched to 317 32nd Street at 7:20 p.m. Saturday after a pan of grease caught fire at the home.

The fire was extinguished upon arrival and the home, owned and occupied by Gloria Lopez, received light damage.

Gas drive off

A clerk at Rip Griffin's Truck Stop reported a gas drive off Saturday evening in the amount of $12.30.

Arlington one-acts advance

Snyder High School hosted the Area 2-5A competition one-act play Saturday.

Advancing plays included two presented by school from Arlington. James Martin High School's *The Voice of the Prairie* and Arlington High's *Lady Windermere's Fan* advanced to regional set for April 19 at Texas Tech University.

The alternate play is Lubbock High School's *Our Country's Good.*

Eric Genslar of Arlington Martin was named best actor and best actress honors went to Lauren Munger of Arlington High.

All Star cast members include Frank Mosely and Ashley Booth, both Arlington High; Tiffany McKee, Amarillo High; Lance Parrish and Karen Young, both Martin High; Austin Terrell and Mandy Bryant, both Lubbock High; and Patrick Woodall of Abilene High.

Recipients of honorable mention all-star recognition include Elizabeth Whittington, Arlington High; Josh McCaskill and Megan Baker, both Amarillo High; Sarah Tufts and Michael Tulley, both San Angelo Central; Alan Winner, Lubbock High; and Pierce Lopachin and Lindsey Walker, both Abilene High.

Technical award winners include Bond Miller of Arlington Martin, outstanding lights; entire cast and crew of San Angelo Central, outstanding stage crew; Jennifer Bentley of San Angelo Central, outstanding stage manager; and Shalom Griggs of Arlington High, outstanding sound.

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Obituaries

Ann Preston

1943-2002

LORAINE – Ann Preston, a native of Scurry County, died Saturday, April 6, at her home in Loraine.

Graveside service for Mrs. Preston, 58, was set for 2 p.m. today in the Loraine Cemetery with Wesley Woods officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Kiker-Seale Funeral Home.

Born June 2, 1943 in Snyder, she was a 1961 graduate of Snyder High School and married Bill Preston on July 4, 1961 in Snyder. A resident of Mitchell County since 1961, she was a homemaker and a member of the Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her parents, J.W. and Loretta Barnett Voss; and by a daughter, Doris Marlene Preston.

Survivors include her husband, Bill Preston of Loraine; a daughter, Ginger Preston of Sweetwater; a son, John Preston of Odessa; a brother, Billy J. Voss of Snyder; a sister, Jane Simpson of Andrews; three grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

The family suggests memorials to a favorite charity.

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Maggie Johnson

1911-2002

BORGER – Maggie Irene Johnson, the sister-in-law of Mildred Rhoton of Snyder, died Friday, April 5.

Funeral service for Mrs. Johnson, 90, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Gregg Simmons officiating. Burial will follow in Highland Park Cemetery.

Born Sept. 30, 1911 in Hunt County, her family moved to farm near McCaulley when she was four years old. She married V.J. "Jack" Johnson on Nov. 15, 1936 in McCaulley. The family moved to Borger in 1944.

A member of First Baptist Church, she was a Sunday school and youth leader and served on the missions committee and made numerous mission trips all over the world.

She was a former school cafeteria worker and worked as a substitute teacher before becoming a full-time employee, retiring from Austin Junior High in 1991 after 34 years.

Survivors include a son, Dee Johnson of Allen; a daughter, Elizabeth Brinson of Amarillo; a brother, Thomas Rhoton of Borger; eight grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Calvary Baptist revival

Clark Bosher of Arlington is the evangelist for Calvary Baptist Church's through Wednesday. Service times Weeknight services are at 7. The church is located at 2405 35th St.

Stanfield parent council

The Stanfield Elementary parent council will meet at 6 p.m. today in the cafeteria.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Lessons from Lazarus and the Rich Man," followed by "Evil."

Scurry County 4-H horse club

The Scurry County 4-H horse club will have its first fun night at the county rodeo grounds Tuesday evening with warmups at 6:30 and practice starting at 7 o'clock.

Baptist Association Mission Fair

The Baptist Association Mission Fair will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday at the First Baptist Church in Ira. Hot dogs, balloons and many activities will be a part of the fair, as well as meeting missionaries from different parts of the world.

Relay for Life

There will be a Relay for Life meeting at 5 p.m. Tuesday in Cogdell Memorial Hospital's boardroom.

Alzheimer's meeting

A representative from the Alzheimer's Association of Midland will speak at a 6 p.m. meeting Tuesday at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. Please use the northeast entrance.

Relay for Life Mexican dinner

Hermleigh's Relay For Life team will have a Mexican pile-on dinner at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the school cafeteria. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for children under 10.

Gateway Family Services

Gateway Family Services has a parenting discussion group from 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday, focusing on parenting issues and special challenges. The family violence support group also meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

Free income tax help

Free income tax aid for low to middle income citizens of any age is available each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1-3 p.m. at the senior center located at 2603 Ave. M.

FBC services televised

First Baptist Church services are televised on channel 2 at 3 p.m. each Thursday.

FBC support groups

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

Community garden workday

Volunteers are needed from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday to plant a community garden at 26th and Ave. C for the Food Cupboard. Bring hoe, gloves and hat.

Country and gospel music

There will be country and gospel music played starting at 6:30 p.m. Saturday at the Scurry County Senior Center. Call 573-3996 for more information.

Golden K Kiwanis Club dinner

The Golden K Kiwanis Club will have a turkey and dressing dinner on Sunday at the Scurry County Senior Center. Serving will be from 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m. Tickets are $6, children under six are free.

Gospel concert

Evangelists Robert and Ramona Williams will present a Gospel concert at 10:45 a.m. Sunday at the First Church of the Nazarene.

Assistance fund

A special Bouher Family Fund has been established at Spur Security Bank. Josh and Ashley Bouher were in an automobile accident March 22 that took the life of Ashley, and resulted in hospitalization for Josh. Mail donations to the bank at Box 549, Spur, 79370. Grandparents are Kenneth and Joyce Smith of Snyder.

Avenue D Baptist Church revival

The Avenue D Baptist Church, 324 30th St., will hold a revival next Sunday through Wednesday. Jim Mosley is the evangelist and John Bullock will lead the music. Sunday services are Sunday School at 9:45 a.m., worship at 10:45 a.m. and evening worship is at 6. Weekday services are at 7 p.m.

Discovery School pre-registration

Discovery School will hold pre-registration for the summer session next Monday. Classes start Tuesday, May 27, for children infant through the fourth grade. Call 573-4770 for more information.

Basketball tourney

There will be a basketball tourney April 26-27 at the Hermleigh High gym for ages high school and up. Coed teams are welcome. Proceeds to benefit the Hermleigh junior and senior classes. Entry deadline is April 19. Call Reecie Sauceda at 863-2532 or Kentra Nachlinger at 573-2292 after 4:30 p.m. Cost is $100 per team and team size limit is 10.

SHS class of 1992 reunion

The 1992 class of Snyder High School needs addresses for classmates. Call Melanie at 573-4022, Julie at 573-1634 or Amy at 573-4793. The reunion will be held at the end of July.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District has windbreak trees available for sale. Extra hardwood trees are $1 each. Call 573-6317 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.