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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
April 16, 1998
Vol. 49 No. 298
10 Pages 50¢
Home Of Gini Grimmett

Fire roars through California Apartments

3-year-old alerts mom, who calls 911

By Wade Warren
Staff Writer

The first indication of a fire at the California Apartments Wednesday came from a three-year-old child in No. 8.

"I was sitting in the living room when my little boy, Darius, came into the room and said there was smoke back in the bedroom," said Cynthia Rivers.

"We went back there and the smoke was just rolling out of the ceiling. We dialed 911."

Sixteen families were displaced by the fire, but six of them will be able to move back in when electricity is restored. The others will have to look for other accommodations.

Larry Hardrict, who also lived in unit 8, said he had a glass of milk in his hand when he walked into the smoke-filled room.

"I just threw the milk at the smoke," said Hardrict, who tried to beat back the smoke with a blanket, but to no avail.

"It (the smoke) just kept rolling in."

Rivers said she had lived in the complex since last October.

"We're just glad the fire was not in the front of the apartment," she said. "If we had been in the back, I don't think we could have gotten out because of the smoke."

Some 32 members of the Snyder Fire Department battled the blaze, which was reported at 2 p.m.

The fire, which spread rapidly through a common attic of two attached apartment complexes, affected 11 apartments in all.

"Four of the individual apartments were totally destroyed," said Snyder's interim fire chief, Perry Westmoreland.

"When we arrived, there was a major fire in the south row of buildings."

Rivers' apartment was in that row of buildings, Westmoreland said.

He said the fire spread rapidly through the attic space, aided by a west wind.

"We did not locate anything suspicious where the fire started," said the interim chief. "So, the apartment's insurance carrier will probably try to determine the exact cause of the fire."

The managers of the complex are Victor and Gloria Rios, who lived in an apartment on the north side of the complex. In all, 10 familes were permanently displaced by the fire, Rios said, including his own.

A co-owner of the building, Alfonso Mendez from Los Angeles, was on the scene this morning assessing damages.

"I would say it is totaled. I don't have a dollar figure, yet," said Mendez, who was in town on vacation.

Six apartments that were not attached to those that burned were occupied by six families.

"Once we get the electricity back on to these, the people can move back in," Mendez said.

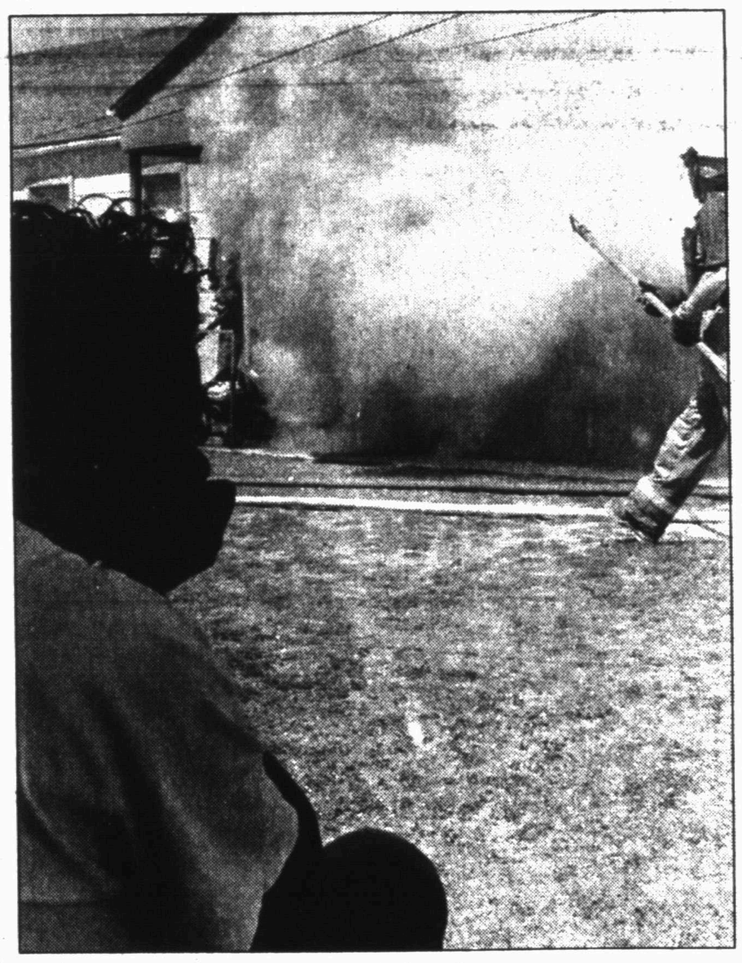
Westmoreland said the fire department is grateful for the assistance they received from others.

"The police department blocked off the area for us and workers with TU Electric and Lone Star Gas were quick to cut off the utilities," he said.

Firemen Kyle Cox said Burnett

See FIRE Page 10

DANGEROUS WORK — Firemen wearing air-packs enter an apartment unit at the California Apartments where a fire Wednesday afternoon displaced some 16 families due to the blaze and loss of electricity at other units. (SDN Staff Photo)



NOTHING SHE COULD DO — Cynthia Rivers watches smoke pour from the front of her apartment Wednesday afternoon as a fire distroyed the residence. (SDN Staff Photo)

Jones to appeal

Announcement scheduled today

WASHINGTON (AP) — With the support of her chief financial backer and her lawyers, Paula Jones has decided to appeal an Arkansas judge's dismissal of her sexual harassment lawsuit against President Clinton, a source close to her legal team says.

Mrs. Jones made up her mind Wednesday following a series of meetings in Dallas with her attorneys, the source said. She scheduled a news conference there at 2 p.m. CDT today to announce her decision.

"She's made the decision to appeal, and unless something changes between now and 2 p.m. tomorrow, that's the announcement she'll make," said the source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Attorney John Whitehead, head of the Charlottesville, Va.-based Rutherford Institute, the conservative foundation that has been paying expenses in Mrs. Jones' civil suit, said earlier Wednesday he was optimistic about an appeal.

The case was "alive and vibrant," Whitehead said. "It's going to hang in there and the White House is probably going to be sorry. ... If everything works out the way we think it might, there will be an appeal."

While Mrs. Jones' camp has suggested in recent days that an appeal of U.S. District Court Judge Susan Webber Wright's dismissal of the case was "90 percent sure," her adviser-spokeswoman refused to confirm it Wednesday night.

"It needs to be Paula's announcement," Susan Carpenter-McMillan said in a telephone interview from Dallas. "She really wants to be the one to say it."

Mrs. Jones, 31, has waged a drawn-out fight against Clinton since she filed a civil suit in 1994 claiming he dropped his trousers and asked for oral sex during a May 8, 1991, hotel encounter in Little Rock.

Clinton has said he does not recall such a meeting and has denied doing anything improper.

Legally, many observers have said the Jones legal team likely would have a tough time reversing Wright's ruling that the lawsuit did not merit a trial.

In dismissing Jones' suit, Wright said there wasn't sufficient merit to her allegations that Clinton's behavior was "outrageous" under Arkansas law and that he sexually harassed her under federal law. Wright noted that Mrs. Jones continued to work at the Arkansas Industrial Development Commission for an additional 19 months and never filed a formal complaint or told her supervisors of the incident.

Post man gets life in prison

POST (AP) — A man who confessed to two killings in Big Spring after his arrest for bludgeoning his estranged wife to death in Post has received a life sentence for her murder.

Police do not know if the other killings ever occurred.

Kelly Smith, 47, was sentenced Wednesday for the murder of Sharon Jolley. An autopsy determined her head had been slammed into a washing machine and a wall, accounting for about six of the approximately 60 blows she received in the rampage.

Ms. Jolley was attacked Sept. 17 and died two days later at a hospital in Lubbock.

The next month, Smith told jailers that he'd killed two other people in Big Spring, prompting authorities to begin digging for bodies. Nothing was found.

"We don't know if he's trying to get out of jail to take a smoke or if he's still serious," said Big Spring police Sgt. Roger Sweatt at the time. "You can't really dismiss it, though. You have to check it out."

No area residents had been reported missing, Sweatt said.

Smith and Ms. Jolley were living in separate trailers at the same religious complex in Post at the time of her killing.

CMH Auxiliary banquet set tonight

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will hold its 40th awards banquet at 7 o'clock this evening at Snyder Country Club.

The banquet honors volunteers, who last year provided 11,864 hours of community service to the hospital. CMH Auxiliary also disbursed funds in the amount of $46,459.33 for hospital projects.

The auxiliary co-sponsors community blood drives, hosts receptions, provides scholarships and guides school tours in addition to purchasing items for the hospital. Funds are generated through the hospital snack bar, bake sales and donations.

Cogdell CEO Jeff Reecer will present the awards. Lynn Heard, auxiliary president, will make the introduction of officers.

Tonight's banquet will feature a fiesta theme. Emily Hataway will provide the entertainment.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "It's healthy to dream, but it's more important to wake up."

You would have guessed that yesterday — income tax deadline day — would be considered the most stressful of the year.

But today is National Stress Awareness Day. We guess there is more than one of us fretting on whether our IRS check will clear the bank.

We're not exactly sure what we're supposed to do to celebrate National Stress Day. We thought about getting our stress level to a peak so we could feel better tomorrow.

But our brother-in-law is not coming for a visit. That situation is sorta like hitting your thumb with a hammer — it sure feels good when it quits hurting.

We thought about playing golf. We know some who actually view 18 holes as the ulimate stress reliever. Everybody knows that stress creates hunger, and we're always ready to eat when you finally get off the course.

Eating, too, can cause stress. Especially, if you happen to be one of those who gains 12 pounds just by looking at a plate of nachos.

One of the medical news releases we got here at the office suggested that a professional massage eliminates stress. It would, until you got home.

Instead, we'll just think of some things we won't have to endure today — things that naturally would cause the blood pressure to rise:

--There's no need to call the utility company and use their high-tech message center.

--There's no plumbing that needs to be repaired.

--The air conditioning on both vehicles works perfectly.

--No need for lower GI exam.

--Have to work, so don't have to watch a TV talk show.

--Will be gone from home, so not neccesary to talk to a salesman about changing telephone company.

--Won't apply for a bank loan, at least not until that tax check fails to clear.

Nowdays it's fashionable to talk to a therapist about your stress.

It reminded us of the story about two counselors who were engaged in shop talk. One asked the other how he could listen all day to the problems of others and still appear so fresh and unbothered at day's end.

The analyst answered simply, "Who's listening?"

DCOS board convenes today

Development Corporation of Snyder board meets at 4 p.m. today in the DCOS office at American State Bank.

In matters related to the city industrial complex, SnTx Park I, the board will consider a proposal to landscape the entrance as well as erosion control.

Other items include development of an Internet web site, financial statements, bills for payment and approval of previous minutes.

ASK US

Q—Regarding rates at the Western Texas College golf course, what is the course improvement fee?

A—That 8¼ percent fee goes into a fund to pay for reworking the golf cart paths.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 86 degrees; low, 46; 7 a.m. Thursday, 46; no precipitation; total for 1998, 4.79 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy. Low near 40. NE 10-20 mph. Friday, partly to mostly cloudy. High near 60. E wind 10-20 mph.

Desirae Guerra
Mostly Cloudy

Sunset: 8:14 p.m.
Sunrise: 7:13 a.m.
Of 105 days in 1998, the sun has shone 103 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Life is not so short but that there is always time for courtesy.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

APR 16 1998

Bay of Pigs survivor says he, comrades became cannibals

NEW YORK (AP) — Desperate to survive 16 days at sea, a Cuban exile said he and other rebels resorted to cannibalism to stay alive as they awaited rescue following the failed CIA-backed Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba.

Julio Pestonit, who took part in the botched two-day mission in April 1961 to topple the government of Fidel Castro, told Fox News Channel that he and the men who fled Cuba with him by boat had once vowed to take the secret to their graves.

But the survivors, who eventually were rescued by Americans, agreed to use the bodies of their dead comrades if necessary, Pestonit said in an interview to air tonight during a Fox special about the invasion.

"I did eat some of the interior (of the dead body) that was extended to me," he said. "It was crazy. It was like being in hell."

Pestonit also said that he and other survivors drank the blood of dead comrades. "We were desperate," he said. "People (were) dying one after the other."

The invasion on Cuba's southern coast was easily repelled by Cuban forces, who killed 200 rebel soldiers and captured almost 1,200. It was a major setback for President John F. Kennedy, who had been in office only a few months.

Pestonit broke his vow of secrecy because of his festering anger toward the administration of Kennedy, said Fox spokesman Robert Zimmerman.

Fox News Channel spoke to another survivor who was on the boat with Pestonit. Though he doesn't directly confirm the story, Fox believes it to be true, Zimmerman said.

An expert on the Bay of Pigs invasion who had friends and relatives involved said Wednesday that if there was cannibalism, it was a well-guarded secret.

"I've come to an age where I think anything is possible. Whether it's probable is a different story," said Uva DeAragon, acting director of the Cuban Research Institute at Florida International University in Miami.

Also Wednesday, the U.S. Embassy in Managua, Nicaragua, said Army investigators have discovered human remains that apparently belong to two pilots who died participating in the invasion.

Embassy spokesman Robert Banks said experts from the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii were studying the remains and belongings discovered at a remote site in central Nicaragua.

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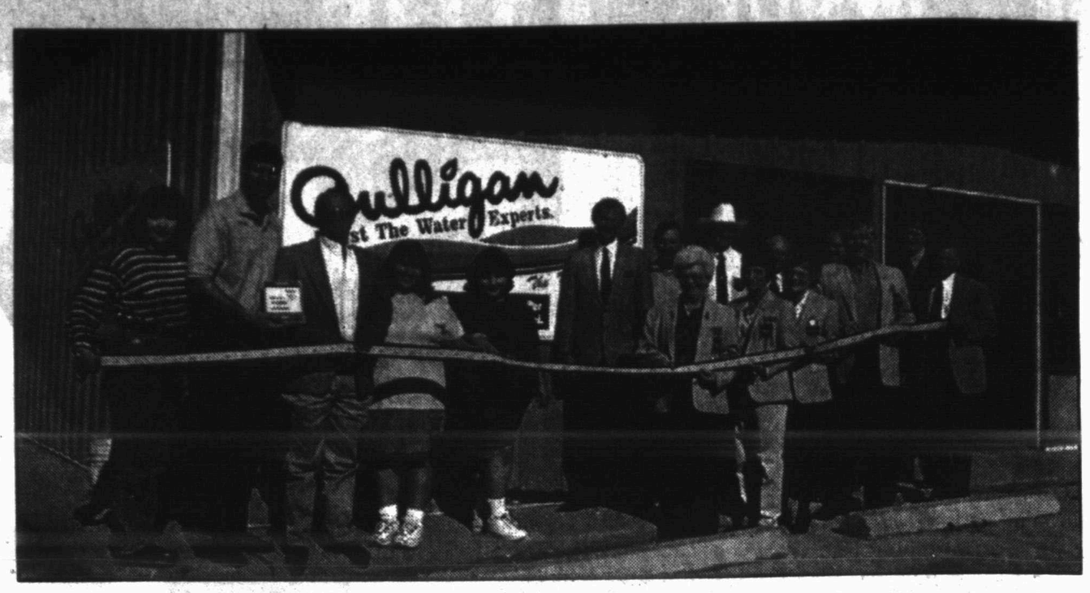

RIBBON CUTTING — Culligan, owned by Richard Wright, third from left, received a welcome to the chamber of commerce from several Gold Coats and a membership plaque from chamber board member Dr. Marty Akins. Culligan, a full water service store, is located at 3805 College in the former Keaton Kolor building. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Elementary schools target of weapons searches in one city

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Ray Marr didn't seem to mind having to prove he wasn't carrying any guns or knives on his way to School No. 84, where he is in the fifth grade.

Ray got scanned with a hand-held metal detector — and passed with flying colors.

"They just took me out here and made me spread out my arms and they just rubbed the thing on my body. It didn't hurt," said Ray. "I think it's a good idea because kids shouldn't be bringing things like that to school."

That was the idea behind the Indianapolis Public Schools' first elementary school weapons search, the first of three this week for the district's youngest pupils. Wednesday's check turned up no guns, knives or weapons of any kind.

Ray and about 100 of his classmates were searched by school police Wednesday morning as they filed off two school buses in front of School No. 84.

High school students and youngsters in middle schools already are familiar with the sweeps, as the school system has had a weapons search policy for seven years. But the searches recently were extended to the district's 52 elementary schools.

The policy was revised after two 8-year-old pupils were arrested last month for carrying handguns to school. One said he brought the gun for protection, and the other allegedly pointed a gun at a classmate because she was teasing him. A third youngster was arrested earlier in the school year with a gun.

Gabby Gaither, one of the 300 or so pupils who attend School No. 84, said the search makes her feel safer.

"I wasn't really worried before, but it makes me feel even safer," she said.

Parents and teachers were less enthusiastic, even as they acknowledged the need for searches.

"I'm worried because it's happened twice and children talk about guns," said Deana Johnson, head of the school's parent-teacher association. "This is going to help. It breaks my heart that it's come to this."

Under the sweep policy, lotteries will decide which schools will be searched. The sweeps will be conducted as the youngsters walk to school or are dropped off by parents, as well as on school buses and in schools.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, April 17, 1998

Several new objectives will be established for the year ahead which may not sustain your interest very long. This could cause you to go to back to old endeavors and this time finish them with a proud flourish.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Today your rewards will be in proportion to the efforts expended. If you're dedicated and tenacious, success is probable. If you're indifferent, you might not even get to bat. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Major accomplishments are indicated today if you are left to your own devices. Don't let others infringe upon your time and talents and take you off in a direction that has no promise of reward.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Two serious impediments that have been retarding your progress might be removed today. This could open new vistas for you now and eliminate more waiting.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) It's important in this cycle to maintain a good relationship with an enterprising friend. Your past involvement with him/her worked out well and now things could be even better.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Even though there might be some stiff requirements, an important career objective can be achieved today. You'll need the help of associates, so get a good team lined up to carry this off.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You'll do well in developments today that contain elements of friendly competition. When you win, and you should, do so with grace and humility.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) This is the right time to make a few changes that you feel could benefit your household. Don't wait until you get a vote — use your initiative and move ahead.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Authorship isn't all-important today. If you feel your companions' suggestions are better than yours, don't hesitate to use their ideas instead of yours.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Take pride in your achievements today, both large and small. If you do a good job you will be amply rewarded, tangibly and intangibly.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If an arrangement in which you're involved isn't being managed properly by others, it'll make you feel extremely uncomfortable. Don't take an aspirin, take action to right the situation.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Regardless of your other needs today, try to give domestic matters top priority. Urgent matters in this area could get worse unless action is taken now.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The likelihood is strong today that you will advance the latest interest that has captured your fancy. If you get a good start on it now, you'll be encouraged to finish this endeavor.

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ages 1 thru 4
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Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

Bilingual AA meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; 8 p.m.

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY

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

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

SUNDAY

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

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

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

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

DiCaprio reneges

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Now that he's a "Titanic" heartthrob, Leonardo DiCaprio is trying to block distribution of a low-budget movie he made in 1995, a movie producer alleges in a $10 million lawsuit.

David Stutman's lawsuit says DiCaprio and "Ice Storm" actor Tobey Maguire called a number of independent film distributors urging them not to handle "Don's Plum." They starred in the film, which is still looking for a distributor.

DiCaprio liked his performance in the movie about four buddies hanging out in a diner, according to the breach of contract complaint filed Tuesday in Superior Court.

NOAH SHOWER PLANNED — A city-wide shower is being held at 10 a.m. Saturday for the Noah Project-West in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center, sponsored by Beta Sigma Phi. Dena Ellis, BSP president, and Jackie Buckland, BSP member and Noah board member, sort several donated articles. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

ARRANGEMENT FOR TABLESCAPES — Glenda Glasscock, Martha Ann Woman's Club member, completes an arrangement for Tablescapes Luncheon set for 11 a.m. Saturday in the clubhouse. Approximately 20 tables will display various settings. Tickets are $10 and may be purchased at the door. Proceeds will be used for maintaining the MAWC. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Shower set to benefit Noah Project

Beta Sigma Phi is sponsoring a miscellaneous shower for Noah Project-West Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon in the First Baptist Church Family Center.

The facility opened April 3 in its new building at 2707 25th Street and serves Scurry, Kent, Fisher, Nolan and Mitchell counties.

Noah Project-West serves about 170 adults and 200 children a year in one form or another. Items and financial help is needed to furnish abuse victims with food and personal hygiene items and articles a family would need at home.

Shower selections are at Classic Interiors, Landes, Wal-Mart and Southern Electric. Several suggested items are highchairs, playpens, walkers, baby cups, blow dryers, curling irons, kitchen utensils, laundry baskets and lawn items.

In addition, a money tree will be available.

Time capsule found

MANCHESTER, Tenn. (AP) — Joe Sissom was busy cleaning up a piece of his land where a church once stood when he got a blast from the past — a time capsule buried in 1889.

"I didn't know that anything of this nature could be in it," he said. "This is a once-in-a-lifetime thing."

Sissom found what he thought was a piece of broken crockery and noticed that it was sealed. He broke loose the grout and realized that he had found the time capsule hidden in the corner of the Cumberland Presbyterian Church.

Inside was a copy of the Manchester Times dated July 14, 1889. A handful of coins, a Bible dating to the 1870s, a list of church members at the time of construction, a hat pin, cuff links and a bottle of glycerin from the local pharmacist.

Sissom bought the church last fall and demolished the last of the building when a wall collapsed. He wants to preserve and display the items and is considering loaning them to the current Cumberland Presbyterian Church or loaning them to museums.

The joys of fatherhood: Comfort your child when he is having problems and assure him that someone will be there for him.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-16-98
♠ K Q 7 6 4
♥ J 6 5
♦ A J 2
♣ 5 4

West
♠ J 10 5 2
♥ 9 2
♦ 8 7 5
♣ A 9 7 2

East
♠ ---
♥ 10 8 7 4 3
♦ 6 4 3
♣ Q J 10 8 6

South
♠ A 9 8 3
♥ A K Q
♦ K Q 10 9
♣ K 3

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	5 ♦	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♣ A

At a higher level too?

By Phillip Alder

Following the column about transfer bids three weeks ago, I received a letter from a reader asking about using them over a two-no-trump opening (and after 2♣-2♦-2NT, where two clubs is strong, artificial and forcing). This is an excellent idea. In particular, it allows the much stronger hand to become the declarer, perhaps stopping an immediately fatal lead through a tenuous holding — as in this deal.

Note that if North started with a three-spade response and ended in six spades, the automatic opening lead of the club queen would give the defense the first two tricks. After the transfer bid, though, South jumped to four spades to show a good hand for play in spades. (Remember, North might have been transferring with a Yarborough, planning to pass the opener's three-spade rebid.) North cue-bid to show his diamond ace and slam interest. Knowing that the club ace was missing (North would cue-bid the first ace he came to as he mounted the bidding ladder), South settled for six.

Holding a possible trump trick, West started with the ace and another club.

The only potential problem was a 4-0 trump split. South saw that if East held all four missing spades, he was dead. But if West had all four, they could be picked up as long as South started with the spade ace from hand. And when East discarded a heart, South continued with the spade nine, forcing West to split his honors. Back to hand with a heart, declarer finessed West out of his remaining trump honor, drew the last trump, and claimed.

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The last of New York's electric trolleys completed its final run in 1957 from Queens to Manhattan.

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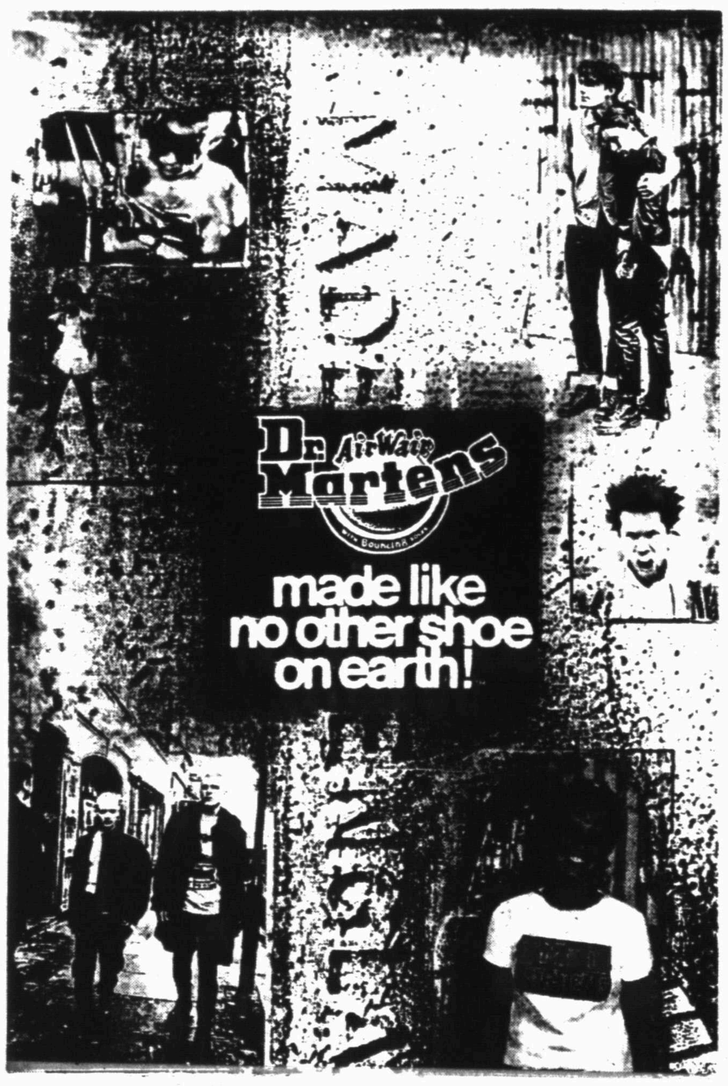

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Sunday, April 19
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$3 Children 12 & Under
$6 All Take Outs
Sausage Sold By The Pound
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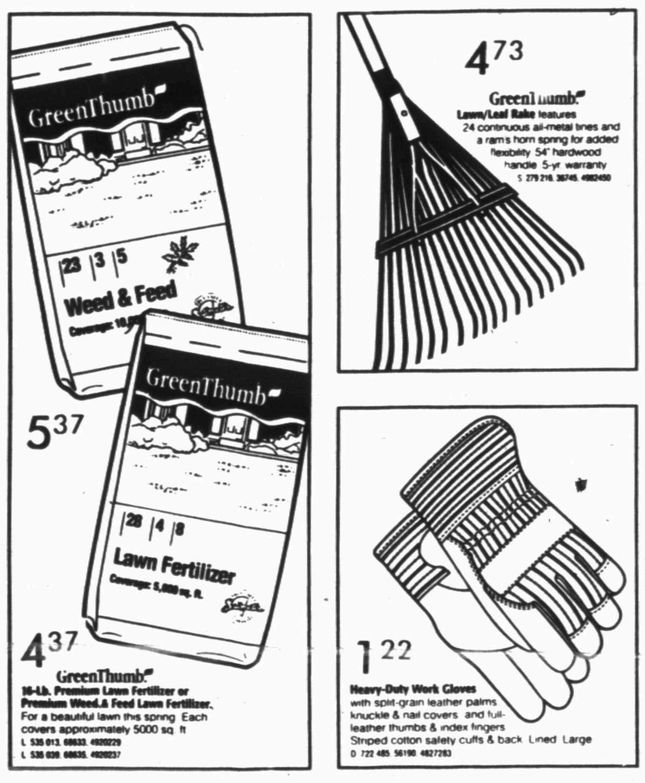

BARGAINS of the Month
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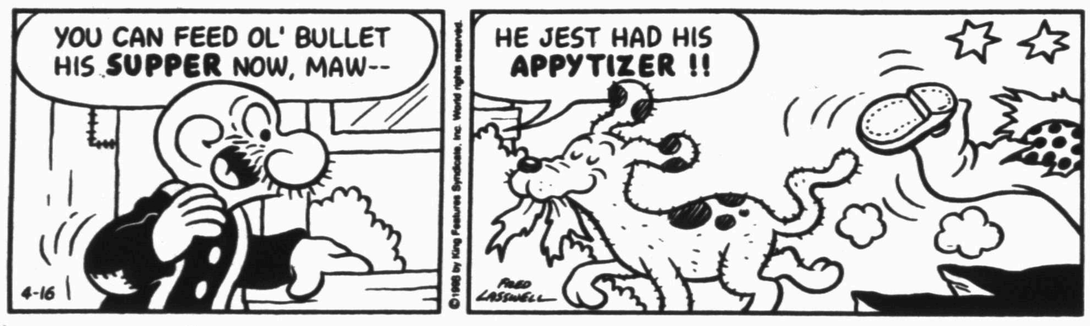
Comic Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider

Barney Google and Snuffy Smith ® By Fred Lasswell



BLONDIE ® by Dean Young and Stan Drake

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue and Jack Bender

BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Fastens (a bracelet)
7 Bordeaux wine
13 Aries, Gemini, etc.
14 Crystalline gem
15 Schedule
16 College grounds
17 City in Nevada
18 Actress West
20 Sale words
21 Put to use
23 Speedy
27 Face part
32 Alleviated
33 Solitary
34 Writer Loos
35 Respond
36 Subscription department's delight
39 Entices
40 Loud
42 Attention-getting sound
46 Map abbr.
47 Hammer part
51 Least cooked
53 Actress Bloom
55 Big lizard
56 Eagles' features
57 Cow or pig, e.g.
58 Small piano

DOWN

1 Russian emperor
2 Theater area
3 Yemeni city
4 Chinese (comb. form)
5 Tablet
6 Rascal
7 Actress Tyson
8 Hawaiian volcano, Mauna —
9 — mater
10 Tears
11 Case for small articles
12 Hardy heroine
19 Circus animal
21 Very early (2 wds.)
22 Annually
23 Char
24 Fade
25 The doctor — —
26 Honor
28 Cordon — cooking
29 Sound made by 48-Down
30 Formerly
31 Moistens
37 Of an artery
38 Illuminated
41 Cults
42 Stiffly decorous
43 It's a long story!
44 Moved in water
45 Steelers, e.g.
47 Colombian city
48 Circus animal
49 English composer
50 Map direction
52 Nahoor sheep
54 Baby's seat?

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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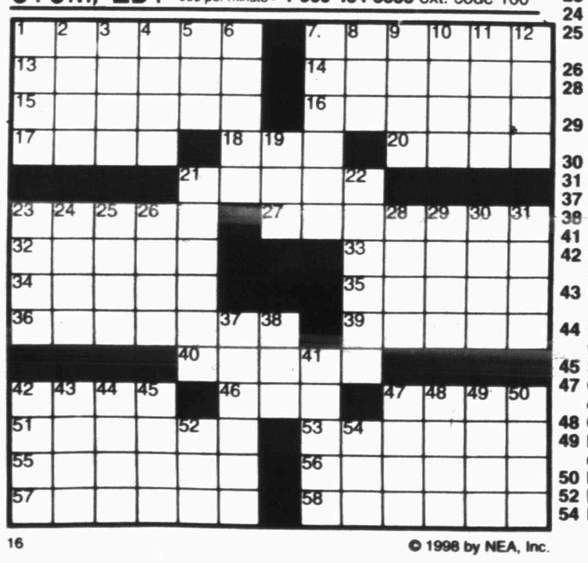

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KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

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"JUST DON'T TELL ANYBODY THAT I HURT IT PLAYING HOPSCOTCH WITH MARGARET!"

SPORTS

Tech officials weigh impact of sanctions

LUBBOCK (AP) — While Texas Tech soon will celebrate the end of a two-year NCAA investigation into its athletic department, this week's stern self-imposed sanctions and the potential of further penalties have left an aftermath of uncertainty.

Reaction ranged from hope to pessimism after Tuesday's announcement of scholarship cuts, particularly in baseball and football.

"You never know what it's going to be for sure," said football coach Spike Dykes, who lost 14 scholarships over the next two years and suffered recruiting-related penalties this winter. "I think what you've got to do is find a way to make it work."

Tech revealed the penalties in conjunction with the release of a 1,250-page response to a series of NCAA allegations leveled last October. Tech has admitted to allowing 81 athletes to compete while ineligible, awarding too much scholarship money in four sports and several assorted improprieties in men's basketball and football.

Tech also is disputing many of the allegations, or at least aspects of them. The school will present its case to the NCAA Committee on Infractions in Cleveland a week from Friday; any further penalties would be handed down by late June.

Losing personnel will hurt Tech's football team, said Texas A&M athletic director Wally Groff, whose program was virtually unable to recruit from 1992-93 because of rumors that an ongoing NCAA probe could result in the death penalty — temporary shutdown of the program.

The stripped-down classes took awhile to hurt A&M, but Groff and coach R.C. Slocum attribute the Aggies' 6-6 record in 1996 to the investigation, which resulted in a one-year probation.

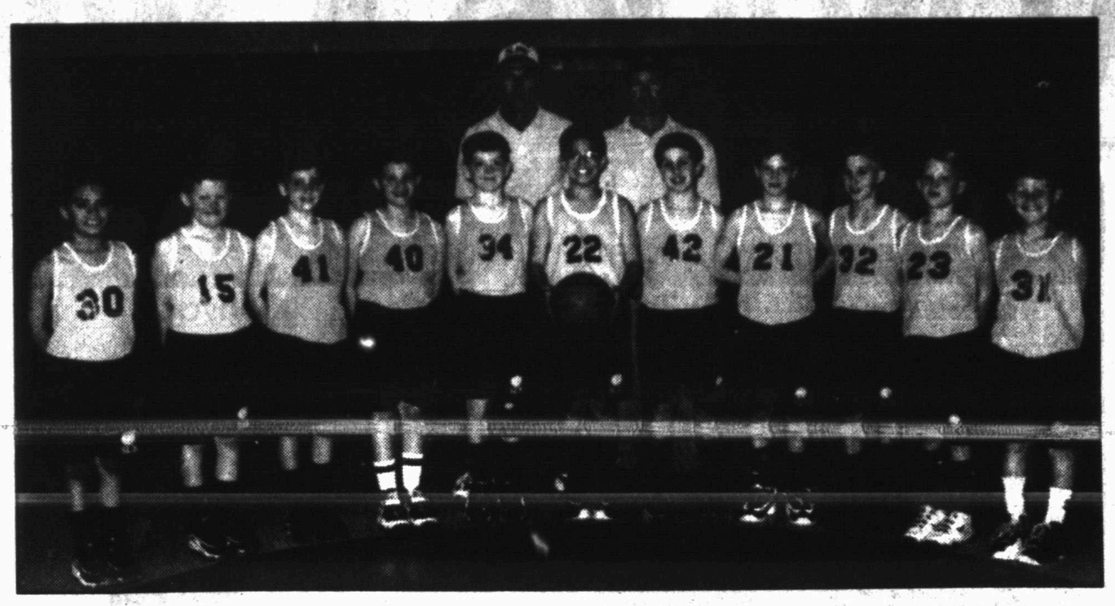
"Probably before the ruling came down it was tougher," Groff said of the recruiting problems.

Tech's men's basketball will lose two scholarships in each of the next three seasons. However, like the football team, basketball is entering the probationary period with a strong cast of young talent to help them weather the storm.

Baseball could be where Tech suffers the most because the team will lose about 25 percent of its scholarship money over the next two seasons and a lesser amount in the 2001-2002 school year. According to school documents, former administrator Taylor McNeel miscalculated the number of scholarships Tech could award.

"Several people noted that they didn't think Tech was counting its (baseball) scholarships right," Groff said. "I think a lot of us thought that."

Tech baseball coach Larry Hays repeatedly questioned McNeel about the scholarship process and was told the school was handling it properly, according to Tech's voluminous response to the charges.



ALL-STARS — Members of Snyder's host team in the Junior Division of the National Little Dribblers Tournament are, front row, left to right, Keenon Garcia, Jason Cave, Garrett Pinson, Bryan Clifton, Dustyn Williams, Eric Martinez, Barrett Bowlin, Cade Simpson, Jay Weaver, Blake Seale and Tyler Hogan. On the back row are coaches Randy Weaver and Mark Seale. Not pictured is Larry Braziel. (Contributed Photo)

SHS ready for 2-4A track meet

Snyder High School hosts its second track meet of the spring this weekend — but this time there's more on the line.

After hosting the Canyon Reef Relays in March, the District 2-4A meet comes to Tiger Stadium on Friday with competitors vying for a spot in the regional meet May 1-2 in San Angelo.

Field events begin at 10:30 a.m. followed by running preliminaries at 2 o'clock. Action continues Saturday with more field events at 10 a.m., before running finals get started at 2.

Snyder freshman Callie Bane come in riding a wave momentum from the Big Spring Relays. Bane set an SHS school record in the 300 hurdles with a time of 49.95 seconds. She will also compete in the 100-meter hurdles.

Another Lady Tiger who could finish well is Ashley Delce. The freshman nabbed fourth place in the triple jump at Big Spring with a leap of 35'1".

For the Snyder boys, Jared Thornhill is performing well in the pole vault after battling nagging injuries. Thornhill, another freshman, secured fourth place last week with a vault of 12-6.

Leading the Tiger runners will be Juan Arizmendi and Brady Cobb. Arizmendi was a top three finisher in the 100 at the Canyon Reef Relays, while Cobb has shown the ability to garner points in the 200 and the triple jump.

Varsity girls field events scheduled for Friday are the shot put and triple jump for the girls. Boys will compete in the long jump, discus, pole vault and high jump.

The 3,200 will be the only running final held Friday. The girl's event is slated for 4:30 followed by the boys at 5 o'clock.

Rangers close in on club record

ARLINGTON (AP) — The Texas Rangers are just a win away from the second-best start in club history.

If Texas can defeat Baltimore on Friday night, the Rangers will have a 10-4 record. Their best start ever was 10-3 in 1989.

Texas has a 2½-game lead over Anaheim in the AL West, its largest advantage since winning the division by 4½ games in 1996.

Tom Goodwin's triple keyed a five-run rally in the sixth inning Wednesday night as the Rangers beat Detroit 7-3 for a three-game sweep and their fourth straight win.

The Rangers are doing it with hitting, solid pitching and the best fielding team in the major leagues. They scored 28 runs in sweeping the Detroit series.

Rick Helling (3-0) got relief help from Tim Crabtree in the seventh as Texas sent the Tigers to their fifth consecutive loss.

Helling went six innings and gave up six hits and three runs. After a walk, a single and Joe Randa's RBI single in the seventh, Crabtree shut down Detroit without further damage.

Tim Worrell (1-2) gave up five hits in a row to start the sixth as Texas overcame a 2-1 deficit.

Fernando Tatis started the big inning with a single, and he scored on Goodwin's triple. Mark McLemore hit an RBI single, and singles by Rusty Greer and Juan Gonzalez produced another run.

Pinch-hitter Mike Simms had a sacrifice fly off reliever Sean Runyan.

Alief star heads for NBA

HOUSTON (AP) — Rashard Lewis, a 6-foot-10 standout at Alief Elsik High School, was expected to announce today that he'll become the second prep star in as many weeks to declare himself eligible for the upcoming NBA draft.

Lewis scheduled an afternoon news conference to announce his plans, the Houston Chronicle reported today.

"This is a great opportunity for me to play against the top level of competition and to live a dream early in life," Lewis said. "You never know what's going to happen in the future if I didn't go to the NBA. I could get injured or not improve as much as I have lately, and my status would drop. This is the right time."

Last week, Korleone Young, a 6-8 power forward from Hargrave Military Academy (Va.), announced that he was skipping college to try becoming a professional basketball player.

Tiger Pride awards banquet

Tiger Pride Club will hosts its annual athletic awards banquet at 6:30 this evening in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center.

Awards will be given in football, volleyball and basketball, with baseball, softball, tennis, golf and track still competing.

Also named tonight will be the male and female athletes of the year.

Sports Briefs

Volleyball tournament

A 4 on 4 volleyball tournament for women's, men's and coed teams will be held April 25 at the sand pit at WTC.

Entry fee is $40 per team and registration forms may be picked up at the WTC athletic office. Deadline for entry is Tuesday. For more information contact Valery Jackson at 573-8511 ext. 286.

Pro-Am golf tournament

The Snyder Country Club Pro-Am Golf Tournament will be held Monday, with shotgun starts at 9:30 and 2:30.

Format is a four-person one-ball low net. Teams will be comprised of a local PGA professional, one visiting amateur and two SCC members.

Entry fee is $35 per player. For more information contact the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Lions Club tourney

The Snyder Lions Club Golf Scramble will be held May 2 at Western Texas College. Start times are 8 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

Teams will be comprised of four players and must have a combined handicap of at least 50. Entry fee is $50 per person which includes golf cart and hamburger lunch.

Currently only two spots remain for the 1:30 tee off. Seven spots are still open for the early tee time.

Entry forms can be picked up at the WTC and SCC pro shops. For more information call C.A. McCown at 573-7668.

Men's softball

Snyder Men's Softball League will hold a meeting Monday evening at 7 at the chamber of commerce. Coaches and interested players are urged to attend.

Little Dribblers Tourney Results

BOYS CONTINENTAL JUNIOR

Kerens 54, Rankin 24

Kerens: Keltric Williams, 20; Coy Lancaster, 12.

Rankin: John Hutchens, 18.

AMERICAN JUNIOR

Madisonville 52, Shallowater 35

Madisonville: Alvin Dickey, 17; Brady Taylor, 11.

Shallowater: Wesley Dipprey and Jake Bewley, 10.

Tahoka 68, Lovington N.M. 57

Tahoka: Damon Moore, 33; Colby Gardner, 23.

Lovington: Damel Corral, 22; Truman Payne, 16.

Cleveland 59, DeQuincy, La. 17

Cleveland: Garcia Lewis, 13; Lebaron Davis and Steven Walker, 8.

DeQuicny: Chris Dixon, 12.

New Baden Ill. 47, Malakoff 27

New Baden: Tyler Kehrer, 13; Eric Gentz, 9; Brent Shoemaker and Richie Derbak, 8.

Malakoff: Bradley Pickens, 19.

AMERICAN MAJOR

Kermit 45, Lovington N.M. 39

Kermit: Bradley Widner, 14; Hunter Hise, 9.

Lovington: Tydree Lewis, 14; Matt Palmer, 8.

Martins Mill 42, Dalhart 39

Martins Mill: Brandon Roberts, 22; Garrett Bryant, 8.

Dalhart: John Porter, 10; Grant Gallo and Wayne Carroll, 6.

New Baden Ill. 35, Denver City 34

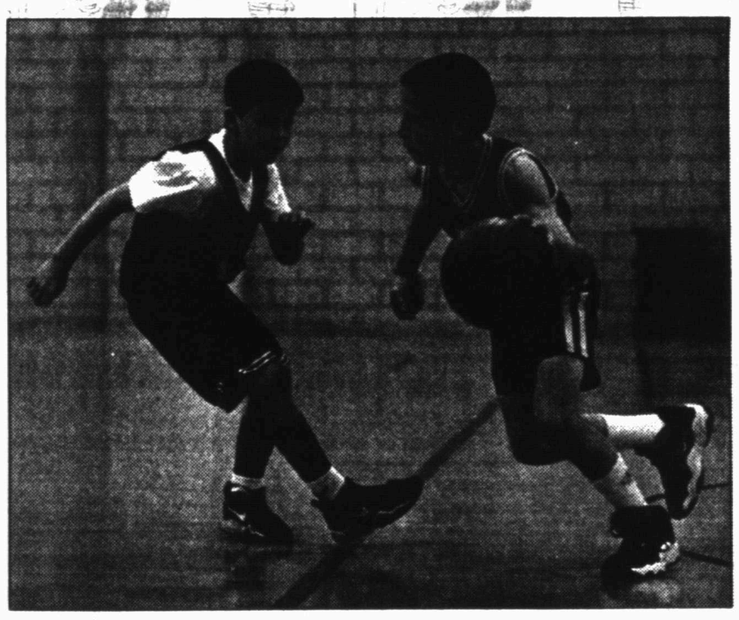
New Baden: Matt Hellman, 11; Chris Hislope and Jay Rieger, 10.

Denver City: Sam Griffin, 13; Jarryd Taylor, 9.

Shallowater 47, Fairfield 23

Shallowater: Eric Morris, 13; Eric Vonberg, Houston Howell and Dakota Smith, 8.

Fairfield: Chance Elliot, 12; Clint Elliot, 8.



MAKING HIS MOVE — Tyler Kehrer (right), of New Baden Ill., brings the ball up court, while Malakoff's Josh Cole defends Wednesday night during National Little Dribblers Tournament action at Travis Gymnasium. New Baden won the contest, 47-27. (SDN Staff Photo)

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	10	3	.769	-
Boston	9	5	.643	1½
NewYork	7	4	.636	2
TampaBay	7	5	.583	2½
Toronto	5	9	.357	5½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	10	3	.769	-
Minnesota	7	6	.538	3
KansasCity	6	8	.429	4½
Chicago	5	7	.417	4½
Detroit	3	10	.231	7

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Texas	9	4	.692	-
Anaheim	6	6	.500	2½
Seattle	4	10	.286	5½
Oakland	2	10	.167	6½

Wednesday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 6, Anaheim 3
Boston 4, Oakland 3
Seattle 5, Cleveland 3
Chicago White Sox 7, Baltimore 6
Kansas City 7, Toronto 3
Texas 7, Detroit 3

Thursday's Games

Chicago White Sox (Sirotka 1-1) at Baltimore (Mussina 1-1), 3:05 p.m.
Seattle (Moyer 1-2) at Minnesota (Morgan 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Belcher 1-2) at Oakland (Candiotti 0-3), 10:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Saunders 0-1) at Anaheim (McDowell 1-1), 10:05 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
NewYork	9	4	.692	-
Philadelphia	7	5	.583	1½
Atlanta	8	6	.571	1½
Montreal	4	9	.308	5
Florida	3	11	.214	6½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Milwaukee	8	5	.615	-
St.Louis	8	5	.615	-
Chicago	8	6	.571	½
Cincinnati	7	7	.500	1½
Houston	7	8	.467	2
Pittsburgh	7	8	.467	2

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
SanDiego	12	3	.800	-
SanFrancisco	9	6	.600	3
LosAngeles	6	7	.462	5
Colorado	6	9	.400	6
Arizona	2	12	.143	9½

Wednesday's Games

Montreal 4, Milwaukee 3
Florida 3, Philadelphia 2
Cincinnati 4, Houston 1
N.Y. Mets 2, Chicago Cubs 1
Atlanta 7, Pittsburgh 0
Arizona at St. Louis, ppd., rain
Los Angeles at Colorado, ppd., weather
San Diego 1, San Francisco 0

Thursday's Games

Philadelphia (Green 1-0) at Florida (L.Hernandez 1-1), 1:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (F.Cordova 2-0) at Atlanta (Smoltz 0-0), 1:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Eldred 0-0) at Montreal (C.Perez 0-2), 1:35 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Tapani 2-1) at N.Y. Mets (Mlicki 0-1), 1:40 p.m.
Arizona (Adamson 0-1 and An.Benes 1-1) at St. Louis (Stottlemyre 1-0 and Osborne 0-0), 2, 1:40 p.m.
Los Angeles (Martinez 2-1) at Colorado (Kile 1-2), 5:05 p.m.
Houston (Hampton 2-0) at Cincinnati (Weathers 1-0), 7:05 p.m.

NATIONAL BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Miami	55	25	.688	-
NewJersey	42	38	.525	13
NewYork	42	38	.525	13
Orlando	40	40	.500	15
Washington	40	40	.500	15
Boston	35	45	.438	20
Philadelphia	30	50	.375	25

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
z-Chicago	60	20	.750	-
y-Indiana	57	23	.713	3
y-Charlotte	50	30	.625	10
y-Atlanta	48	32	.600	12
y-Cleveland	46	34	.575	14
Detroit	36	44	.450	24
Milwaukee	36	44	.450	24
Toronto	16	63	.203	43½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Utah	60	19	.759	-
y-SanAntonio	53	26	.671	7
y-Minnesota	43	37	.538	17½
y-Houston	41	39	.513	19½
Dallas	20	60	.250	40½
Vancouver	18	61	.228	42
Denver	10	70	.125	50½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Seattle	60	20	.750	-
y-L.A.Lakers	59	21	.738	1
y-Phoenix	55	25	.688	5
y-Portland	45	34	.570	14½
Sacramento	27	52	.342	32½
GoldenState	17	63	.213	43
L.A.Clippers	16	64	.200	44

Wednesday's Games

Milwaukee 117, Boston 109
Washington 101, Cleveland 93
Orlando 99, Miami 87
Charlotte 109, New Jersey 103
Indiana 82, Atlanta 70
Detroit 87, Chicago 79
Phoenix 96, Denver 89
Golden State 92, L.A. Clippers 80

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The Publisher is not responsible for copy ommissions, typographical errors, or any unintentional error that may occur further than to correct it in the next issue after it is brought to his attention.
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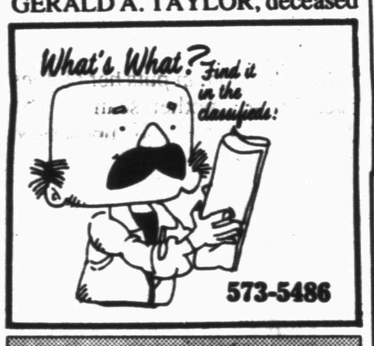
010 LEGAL NOTICES

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
The State of Texas §
County of Scurry §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the Estate of GERALD A. TAYLOR, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,427:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executrix of the Estate of GERALD A. TAYLOR, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by RICKY FRITZ, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 14th day of April, 1998, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said Estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said Estate to present them to JEAN TAYLOR, 4300 Lubbock Avenue, Snyder, Texas 79549 within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 14th day of April, 1998.
(s) JEAN TAYLOR
Independent Executrix
of the Estate of
GERALD A. TAYLOR, deceased



020 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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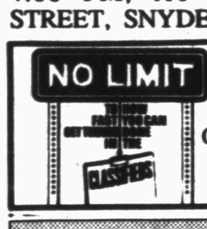

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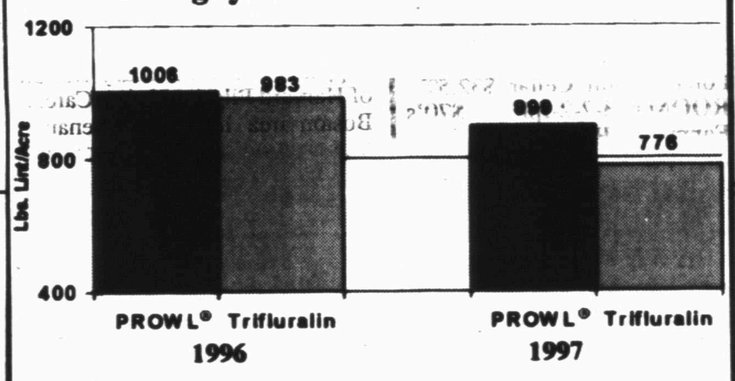

Two year study on the effects of DNA herbicides on cotton growth and development. Dr. W.H. McCarty, Extension Cotton Specialist, Mississippi State University.

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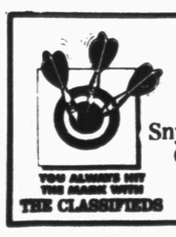

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Baby switch fixed, but mom refuses to go along with it

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) — A new mother who was sent home with the wrong baby is refusing to pick up the newborn the hospital insists is her real child, saying she isn't convinced the mixup has been straightened out.

The Regional Medical Center said Wednesday it has correctly matched the babies to their mothers. But LaDonna Harris is not buying it.

"I just can't understand how they can give me the wrong baby. I know that's my baby," she told WHBQ-TV on Tuesday.

Ms. Harris, 23, a single mother, gave birth on Friday. The other baby, whose mother's identity was withheld by the hospital, was born Saturday.

On Sunday the babies were apparently placed in the wrong bassinets following circumcisions and given to the wrong mothers.

Ms. Harris went home with the wrong baby later that day. On Monday, the other mother noticed that the baby brought to her in the hospital had a different skin pigment from what she remembered.

Hospital officials checked the wristband and realized the error, said Dr. Bruce Steinhauer, the hospital's president and chief executive. Ms. Harris was called that same day and handed the baby over.

The baby was allowed to go home Tuesday with the other mother. The newborn the hospital says belongs to Ms. Harris remains at Regional Medical.

The hospital plans to conduct DNA tests on both women to confirm it correctly matched the babies to their mothers.

Ms. Harris said she is convinced she took home her own flesh and blood: "I bought Pampers, I bought clothes. I don't want another baby. I want the baby I brought home."

"The emotional turmoil she's going through right now, it's very hard for her to think straight," her lawyer, Andy Clarke, said Wednesday. "The baby she thought was hers has been snatched from her arms and given to someone else, and now they say just come on and pick up the other baby.

"Who can blame a mother under these circumstances?"

Mammograms...

Some women can count on 50-50 chance of false alarm

BOSTON (AP) — Few phone calls are more unsettling for a woman than one from a doctor who has seen something in a mammogram and wants to run more tests to check for cancer.

Most of the time, it turns out to be nothing. Millions of women have gone through these stomach-churning episodes only to learn that they're fine.

But a study published today shows for the first time how the risk of these frights adds up. It found that a woman who gets annual mammograms for a decade runs a 50-50 risk of a false alarm.

The researchers said that while mammograms clearly save lives, doctors should prepare patients better for the possibility of erroneous results.

"If women understand the chances of having to come back for further tests, they might not get so scared and anxious when that happens," said Dr. Mary Barton of Harvard Pilgrim Health Care, a Boston-area health maintenance organization. "As doctors, we should convey that information to patients."

The study, conducted by Barton and others, looked at how often women undergoing routine mammograms and breast exams get called back for further mammograms, ultrasound scans, doctor visits and biopsies, even though they turn out to be free of cancer.

These erroneous cancer warnings are what doctors call false positives.

The study found that a woman who undergoes annual mammograms after age 40 — as major health organizations recommend — faces a 50 percent chance of having at least one false positive over 10 years. And she has a 19 percent chance of undergoing an unnecessary biopsy.

For the 32 million American women between ages 40 and 79, this could add up to 16 million false positives during 10 years of annual mammograms.

Barton said the study doesn't mean that mammograms are a bad idea, but it does highlight the need to find more precise screening technology.

Dr. Daniel Kopans, head of breast imaging at Massachusetts General Hospital, cautioned that the study may overestimate the number of callbacks women receive. But he agreed they are common and said radiologists are cautious because they don't want to miss cancer.

"No one wants to be made nervous," he said. "But it beats dying of breast cancer."

The study, written principally by Dr. Joann Elmore of the University of Washington, was based on 2,400 women ages 40 to 69 who had breast cancer screening during 10 years at Harvard Pilgrim. The results were published in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

A mammogram is a kind of breast X-ray and is often difficult to interpret. If radiologists are unsure what the film shows, they may ask the patient to return for more tests to rule out cancer.

Barton said the Boston HMO is experimenting with having a radiologist read the X-ray even before the woman puts her clothes back on so another scan can be done immediately if necessary. This could eliminate many of the frightening callbacks.

The study showed that the risk of false positives is highest for women in their 40s, when the chance of actually having breast cancer is relatively small. Women in their 40s who get an annual mammogram have a 56 percent chance of a false positive over 10 years, compared with a 47 percent chance for older women.

In an editorial in the journal, Dr. Harold Sox of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center said younger women considering mammograms should be told about this risk of false positives.

"How a 40-to-49-year-old woman feels about this prospect should affect her decision about mammography," he wrote.

Cotton growers ready for 1998 insect season

STARKVILLE, Miss. (AP) — Mississippi's mild winter has some cotton growers reviving an old worry: how to control the boll weevil.

Blake Layton, entomologist with Mississippi State University's Extension Service, said trapping boll weevils will help growers make control decisions for cotton's No. 1 pest.

The trapping program is run on a volunteer basis in the Delta and through the eradication program in Mississippi's hill section. Trapping helps growers in several ways.

"Traps are not a control method, but a measuring stick," Layton said.

Traps are a key part of the eradication program, as they are used to determine whether fields are infested with boll weevils.

"Growers outside the eradication program can use trap numbers to determine the need for and timing of pinhead square treatments. We can also get an idea of population increases in different regions, especially areas involved in the eradication program, from the data collected through the trapping program," Layton said.

Experts say that to be competitive with states that have eradicated boll weevils, Mississippi growers need to get 3 to 5 cents per pound more at the market.

Many growers will probably choose to plant some of their acreage in "Bt cotton," which is resistant to tobacco budworms. Increased boll weevil control tends to reduce the beneficial insects that help control pests such as budworms. Reducing beneficial populations will be a concern throughout the state, both inside and outside the eradication area.

"A benefit for growers of non-Bt cotton will be the availability of Tracer insecticide to control tobacco budworms," Layton said.

Traps are available through county extension offices. Traps should be placed at a rate of one per field, or one per 100 acres in large fields.

Growers should report the assigned numbers and locations of traps to their county agent's offices. Growers are encouraged to use new traps or those stored unused rather than reusing faded traps from 1997.

Peace officers kept busy with 7 arrests

Wednesday was a busy day for local law enforcement personnel as six people were arrested on various charges. One was also taken into custody early this morning.

Officers were called to the 1700 block of 28th Street at 9:31 a.m. as a person wanted a criminal trespass warning issued to two individuals. A routine check revealed the two were wanted on outstanding warrants and both were booked into jail.

Arrested were a 51-year-old female on a misdemanor warrant from Burnet County for theft by check, and a 57-year-old male on a Bastrop County warrant for violation of probation for a DWI offense and a Caldwell County warrant for revoking deferred adjudication for driving while license suspended.

Deputies arrested a 20-year-old female at 3 p.m. at the sheriff's office on a county warrant for theft.

Officers arrested a 39-year-old male at 5:35 p.m. in the 3600 block of College Avenue for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

At 6:50 p.m., officers arrested a 22-year-old male in the 2600 block of Avenue Q for no driver's license and no liability insurance.

At 11:49 p.m., officers arrested a 27-year-old female on an outstanding city warrant.

Officers were callled to the 2700 block of Avenue Q at 1:10 this morning as a person reported a man was causing trouble. Officers arrested a 42-year-old male for Class C assault/family violence.

In other activity, a woman requested to speak to a deputy at 4 p.m. from the 300 block of 32nd Street in reference to forged checks.

Officers were called to the Scurry County Food Cupboard at 7:18 p.m. in reference to a broken window on the building located at 25th Street and Avenue I. An offense report for criminal mischief was submitted.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jack Callaway, Cassidy Browning, Pearl Cagle, Bobby Franks, Earl Odal.

DISMISSALS: Graceila Baeza and baby, Majorie Brown, Elva Vinzaino, Mary Wright, Ronald Young.

CENSUS: 36 (Med., Surg.-15, Long-term Care-27, CCU-2, OB-1, Nursery-1).

Young workers challenge McDonald's

MACEDONIA, Ohio (AP) — He may be no Jimmy Hoffa, but 19-year-old McDonald's worker Bryan Drapp is putting his own little stamp on the history of U.S. labor relations.

Drapp says he got tired of managers swearing at and chewing out the staff for making mistakes. So he convinced five other young colleagues to stage a walkout with him on Sunday — believed to be the first strike against a McDonald's in the United States.

"They should try to relate to us more," said Drapp, a freshman at the University of Akron. "They don't have to kiss your butt, but show some respect. Let us have a little dignity."

By Wednesday, 20 workers — mostly teen-agers on spring break — had signed cards asking the Teamsters to represent them and were walking the picket line.

"Damn the man!" Dave College, 16, hollered Wednesday as he and about 15 others held signs bearing the words "Teamsters" and "Overworked, Underpaid" outside the McDonald's about 20 miles south of Cleveland.

Wearing ball caps and baggy jeans, labor's newest activists munched fried chicken from a KFC across the parking lot, colored posters and egged on cars to honk their horns in support. Many did.

"They (McDonald's) thought we were all full of crap because we're just teen-agers," Melissa Dowdell, 17, said. "I guess we showed them."

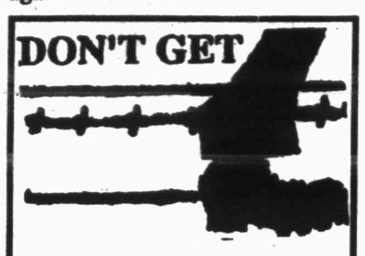
A few motorists added shouts of encouragement. One parked and gave the strikers about $10 for supplies.

But a steady stream of cars still went into the restaurant, and McDonald's officials promised to work with the protesters.

"Nobody has lost their jobs and we're not planning on anybody losing their jobs," McDonald's spokesman Mike Henry said. "We want to get this resolved and get everybody back on schedule, serving our customers hot hamburgers from satisfied employees."

When that will happen is unclear. A meeting planned for Wednesday afternoon between the workers and McDonald's fell through when the employees said they wanted to bring along two Teamster representatives and the company objected.

DON'T GET



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12-year-old boy's wish to donate organs OK'd

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Gary Brigman's grandmother recalled that her 12-year-old grandson was eager to donate his heart and other organs to save lives when he died.

"He never thought he was going to be such a young donor," Maria Brigman said Wednesday.

Hours earlier, her grandson died of injuries he suffered a day earlier when he was struck by a car.

The boy, a sixth grader at Lowell Middle School, had been walking from school to his home in a housing project. He was struck by a car as he ran across the road.

The grandmother said she was able to make the decision for the organ donations because she had talked to him and had listened to what he said.

She said she and her grandson had often talked about life and death and their strong belief in God.

Both decided they would be organ donors if death came suddenly or unexpectedly, he said.

Garbriel Rymers, a family friend who attends church with the Brigmans, said the family was told by officials at Wilford Hall Hospital that Gary's heart was given to a 20-year-old and his left kidney to a 13-year-old. Part of his intestine might go to a child, they were told.

Students and teachers at the middle school said they had fond memories of the young boy.

"He was a regular kid," science teacher Richard Redden said. "He'd cut up and get in trouble like everybody else, but he was never disagreeable about it."

The boy's classmates have decided to pay tribute to their friend. They plan to give a school track uniform to his grandmother to place in the casket. The boy wanted to be on the track team, but couldn't until he was in the seventh grade.

Redden asked his students to write down their feelings about the boy.

TEXAS FINANCE DONATES — Albert De Loera, owner of Texas Finance, presented a $300 check to Thomas Fogleman, chairman of Snyder Neighbors Sharing. The money will be used for supplies to repair a dozen homes on April 25 for those unable to do it themselves. Donations may be mailed to P.O. Box 541 or dropped off at West Elementary or Sam Robertson Insurance Agency. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Minister convicted in sex-for-diploma deal

DALLAS (AP) — A minister described as "a poster child for the word perversion" faces up to 20 years in prison after his conviction on charges of having sex with a teen-ager.

An 18-year-old woman testified that the Rev. Jerry Wayne Power requested sex in return for letting her graduate early from the church's high school.

Power showed no emotion as he was convicted on two counts of sexual assault of a child Wednesday. He also could be fined $10,000 on each charge.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)-Morningstocks:

	High	Low	Last	Chg
AMR Corp	155⅝	153	154⅛	+⅛
AT&T Corp	66⅞	65 9-16	66⅝	+7-16
AirTouch	49 7-16	48⅝	48 15-16	-⅜
Albertsons	50 15-16	50 5-16	50⅝	-3-16
AlldSignal s	46⅞	46 3-16	46 7-16	-1-16
Alltel	44 13-16	44 1-16	44 3-16	-⅜
AmOnline s	75 3-16	73¾	74⅞	-3-16
AmStores s	24⅝	24 1-16	24 1-16	-5-16
Ameritech s	44 11-16	44	44⅜	+⅛
Amoco	85	84⅝	84⅝	+⅜
Amocowi	42⅛	42⅛	42⅛	
AndarkPtr	74 5-16	74	74 1-16	-⅜
ArmcoInc	6⅝	6 7-16	6 7-16	-5-16
AtlRichfld s	76 11-16	75⅝	76⅛	+7-16
ATMOS Egy	29 9-16	29 9-16	29 9-16	-1-16
Aviall	14 3-16	14	14	-⅛
BakerHughes	41 7-16	40⅝	40 13-16	-3-16
BellAtl	92⅝	91⅛	92 11-16	+⅜
BellSouth	62⅝	61	61⅜	-⅜
BethSteel	16 9-16	16¼	16 5-16	-5-16
BritPet s	89⅝	88⅝	89⅝	+⅛
BurlNoSFe	99⅝	98⅝	98⅝	-⅛
CBS Corp	35⅛	34 13-16	34 13-16	-9-16
Caterpillar s	57⅛	56⅝	56 11-16	+5-16
CenSoWst	27 3-16	27	27	-3-16
Chevron	81 11-16	80	81 7-16	+1⅜
Chrysler	45 15-16	44⅛	44 9-16	-1 5-16
Coastal	68⅞	68 5-16	68 5-16	-7-16
CocaCola	76 15-16	75⅝	75 13-16	-⅜
ColgatePalm s	83⅝	82⅝	82 13-16	-⅜
ComclMetals	33 11-16	33 9-16	33 9-16	-3-16
CooperIn	67⅞	67	67 1-16	-⅜
CyprusAmax	17⅛	17 3-16	17⅛	-5-16
DallSemicn	35⅛	34 11-16	34 11-16	-¼
DeltaAirl	123 3-16	121 15-16	122 9-16	+⅜
DigitalEq	54⅛	53⅜	53½	-⅛
Dillards Inc	37⅞	37 5-16	37 5-16	-9-16
DowChem	99 1-16	98⅝	98⅝	-¼
DresserInd	50⅝	49⅝	49⅝	-⅜
DuPont s	77⅝	76 9-16	77⅛	-⅜
EastmanChem	72⅛	71⅜	71 13-16	-11-16
EstKodak	71 15-16	70⅝	71⅛	-11-16
EDS Corp	43⅜	42 13-16	43	-9-16
Entergy	28	27 11-16	28	+¼
Exxon	70¼	68⅝	70⅝	+1 9-16
FstBksAm	23	22 15-16	22 15-16	
Flowers s	23⅛	23⅛	23⅛	+3-16
FordMotor s	50⅝	49 7-16	50⅝	+¼
GTE Cp	61 9-16	60 15-16	60 15-16	-11-16
GenDynam s	45⅝	45	45⅝	+1
GenElecs	86 13-16	85 9-16	86⅛	-5-16
GenMills	71⅛	71	71⅛	-5-16
GenMotors	71 15-16	71 1-16	71⅛	+⅛
GaPacGP s	72⅛	71 5-16	71⅜	-¼
GlobalMar	24 15-16	24 1-16	24 5-16	-⅜
Goodrich	54⅝	52¼	53⅛	+1⅞
Goodyear s	71 7-16	70 7-16	70⅝	-⅛
GtAtlPac	29 15-16	29⅛	29 13-16	+3-16
Halliburtn s	52⅛	51 1-16	51 5-16	-3-16
Hanson ADS	29⅝	29 11-16	29 11-16	-¼
HarteHanks s	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛	-⅛
HomeDepot s	72	71 5-16	71 7-16	-13-16
HoustonInds	29⅝	29⅝	29	13-16
IBM s	110	107⅞	108½	-1⅛
IntlPaper	53 15-16	53⅛	53⅛	+5-16
JohnsonJn	70⅞	70⅛	70⅝	-15-16
K mart	18 7-16	18⅛	18⅜	
Kroger Co	45	44 5-16	44⅝	-1
Litton	60⅛	59⅝	59⅝	-11-16
LockhdMart	113 11-16	112⅛	113⅛	-1-16
Lowes Cos	76⅞	67 3-16	67 3-16	-1⅛
Lubys	19⅝	19 1-16	19 1-16	-⅛
LucentTech s	69⅝	67⅞	68⅛	-1⅜
MayDeptStrs	65 3-16	64 11-16	64 15-16	-15-16
Medtronic s	51 7-16	50⅞	51 7-16	-11-16
Mobils	76 11-16	75 3-16	76 9-16	+1 1-16
Monsanto	56⅝	54⅝	55⅝	-15-16
MorganJP	148⅜	145⅜	145 15-16	-2⅜
Motorola	55⅞	55	3-16	55 7-16
NCR Corp	32 9-16	31 15-16	31 15-16	-9-16
NationsBk	80 3-16	79 1-16	79⅝	-1
Navistar	32 5-16	31⅜	31⅜	-9-16
Norwests	43⅜	42 7-16	42⅛	-⅜
OryxEngy	25 7-16	25⅛	25 5-16	-⅛
Penney JC	74⅛	73⅜	73 13-16	-15-16
Pennzoil	69⅝	68⅛	68⅜	-1 3-16
PepBoys	22 5-16	22	22⅛	+¼
PepsiCo	41 15-16	41⅜	41	13-16
PhelpDodge	71 7-16	70⅝	70 5-16	-1⅜
PhilipPet	50 9-16	49	13-16	50 5-16
PilgrmPrd	16⅛	15	15-16	15 15-16
Polaroid	44 7-16	44⅛	44 5-16	-7-16
Praxair	53	52⅝	52⅝	-5-16
ProctGamb s	83	7-16	82	7-16
PubSNwMx	24 1-16	23⅞	23⅞	-3-16
RoyalDut s	57 3-16	56⅛	56⅛	-1
SBC Comm s	40	39⅛	40	+1-16
SaraLee	61⅛	61⅛	61	3-16
Scripps EW	57 3-16	57⅛	57⅛	-⅛
SearsRoeb	58⅜	57	9-16	57⅜
SherwinW	35 11-16	35⅜	35⅜	-⅛
SmthBc ADS s	62	61	61	3-16
SouthernCo	26 15-16	26	11-16	26 11-16
SwstAirl s	30 15-16	30⅝	30 15-16	-⅛
Sprint	69⅝	68⅛	68⅝	+⅜
SunCo	42⅛	42	5-16	42⅝
TNP Ent	32⅝	32	7-16	32 7-16
Tandy s	49⅝	48	15-16	49 5-16
TempleInland	64	63	7-16	63 7-16
Tenneco	45 7-16	45	45	3-16
Texaco s	62⅛	60⅝	61⅛	+15-16
TexInd	67⅛	65	15-16	66⅛
TexasInst s	58⅝	56⅝	58	9-16
TexUtil	42 7-16	41⅜	42	7-16
Textron s	80 11-16	80	80	5-16
Travelers s	64 11-16	64⅛	64⅜	-⅛
TriconGlbR n	31⅜	31⅛	31⅛	-3-16
TrinityInds	53 13-16	53	3-16	53 3-16
TritonEngy	39 9-16	38⅜	39⅛	+⅜
Tyler	11⅝	10⅝	10	15-16
US WestCm	53	52⅛	52⅞	+⅜
USWstMda	36 11-16	36	7-16	36 7-16
USX-Marathn	38	37⅝	37⅝	-⅛
USX-USS	42⅛	41⅜	41	7-16
UnCarbde	51⅜	50⅛	51⅛	-⅛
UnionPacif	55⅜	54	13-16	54⅞
UnitedTech	95	13-16	95	1-16
Unocal	40	3-16	39⅛	40⅛
WalMart	53	15-16	52⅞	53⅛
WstnGasRs	19⅝	19	19	3-16
WinnDixie	41⅛	40	9-16	40 9-16
Woolworth	24	15-16	24⅛	24⅛
Xerox Corp	110 5-16	108⅜	109	11-16
ZenithE	3	7-16	3	5-16

Local Interest Stocks

Applied Mtls.	37 5/16	+1/4
BJ Services	34 7/16	-9/16
Cracker Brl.	37 5/8	-1 5/16
Clayton Hms.	21 1/2	-1/2
Compaq	26 3/8	-3/8
Cabletron	13 7/16	-1/4
Cisco Sys.	70 1/4	-7/16
Dell	68 5/16	+7/16
Brinker Int'l.	21 5/8	+3/16
Calloway Glf.	29 3/4	+5/16
Fannie Mae	61 1/16	+3/4
Intel	74 1/4	-5/8
JP Morgan	145 1/4	-3 7/16
Korea Fund	7 11/16	-1/2
Lehman Bros.	79 7/16	-2 3/16
3 M	96 3/8	-9/16
Phillip Morris	39 15/16	-3/16
Microsoft	91 1/8	-1/4
Netscape	21 13/16	+2 1/16
Oracle	27 11/16	-9/16
Petsmart	12 11/16	+7/16
Patterson Egy.	13 1/8	-1/16
Sun Am.	53 1/8	-15/16
Safeskin	36 13/16	-1/16
Sun Micro	41	-1 3/16
US H & G	7 3/16	+3/16
Walgreen	34	-1/16
Yahoo	128 1/4	+10 1/16

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EVERYONE INVITED!

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

In One-Bedroom Apartment, Any Company Is a Crowd

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: I am a single, 40-year-old woman who has recently moved to California. I am looking forward to family and friends coming to visit me, but I live in a one-bedroom apartment.

As I see it, I'm one person, and a couple is two, so I should sleep on the sofa. However, I spent two years as a student on a very tight budget sleeping on a futon in a tiny studio apartment — and I'm fed up to here with sleeping anywhere other than in a bed.

I want my guests to be comfortable and feel welcome, but how should I handle the sleeping arrangements?

CAREN IN CALIFORNIA

DEAR CAREN: You need not give up your own bed, and I'm sure your guests wouldn't expect you to.

You have several options. You could make reservations for your guests in a nearby hotel or motel. You could buy a sofa-sleeper (hide-a-bed). Or, you could rent a foldaway bed for the duration of the visits. Sweet dreams, Caren!

***

DEAR ABBY: The recent letter in your column from the teen-ager who tried "ruffies" prompts this letter.

Calling Rohypnol a "date rape" drug might lead males into believing that this dangerous drug does not apply to them. A more apt name for it might be an "amnesia" drug, because that is what the drug does to anyone.

My pal, Charles, dined alone one evening in a restaurant while on vacation in Mexico. Evidently, someone doctored his drink, because he ended up on the side of a road several miles away. All his personal belongings were missing — including his belt and shoes. Luckily, he survived with only bruises and cuts, but he suffered a complete memory loss of more than 10 hours.

Abby, please warn your readers this drug has that effect on everyone, and they could be in extreme danger while under its influence.

J.L. IN S.F.

DEAR J.L.: Thank you for pointing this out. I'm printing your letter as a word of caution to people who travel. You can't be too careful these days.

***

DEAR ABBY: My mother did a poor job of raising my brother and me. Now, at 32, I have a duty-based relationship with her. I have three children under 4, and I want to have a much better relationship with them. From my mother's example, I know what not to do; however, I don't have the role model to show me the right things to do. I have read parenting books, but there are so many different viewpoints that I don't know which would work for me.

I know there are many wonderful mothers out there, and I want to be one of them. What do great moms do that makes them great? I'd love to hear how women have excelled in this most important of jobs.

MOM IN DENVER

DEAR MOM: Motherhood is two parts instinct to one part "book learning." Your instinctive desire to have a good relationship with your children will guide you in most situations. Look around you for women you consider to be good mothers and question them. Their experience is worth volumes, and they are usually happy to share their wisdom. That's part of what makes them good mothers.

***

Everybody has a problem. What's yours? Get it off your chest by writing to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, Calif. 90069. For a personal reply, please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

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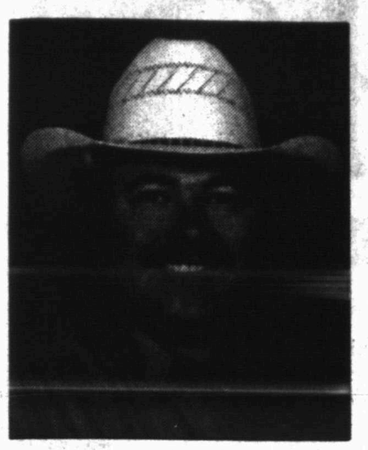
1998 Scurry County School Board Candidates

Snyder ISD Candidates



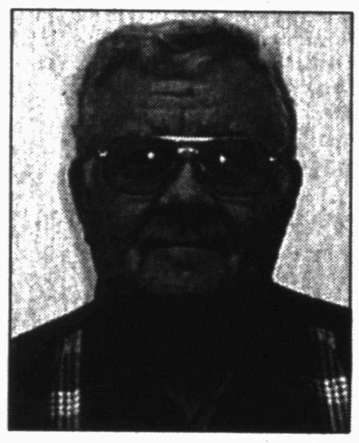
Name: Danny Bass
Age: 33.
Occupation:: Texas Department of Criminal Justice-ID/ Lieutenant.
Affiliations: Lighthouse Assembly of God.
Prior council or board experience: None.

1. What is the most pressing problem facing Snyder ISD today from a state level?
A. State funding.
B. Standardized testing.

2. What is the most pressing problem facing the district from a local level?
Pending bond issue.

3. Is the bond issue for the school district needed in your opinion? If so, why? If you don't support a bond issue, why not?
I believe the bond issue is needed to support the upgrade of our school system, whether it be to build new facilities or refurbush existing ones.

4. Are there any specific goals you would like to see accomplished at SISD over the next few years? If so, what are they?
A. Increase security and safety of children, buses and facilities belonging to SISD.
B. Improved quality of meals.
C. Increased availability for children to attend a Pre-K program.



Name: Bill Moss
Age: 57.
Occupation: Assistant Regional Administrator Windham School District — Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
Affiliations: Colonial Hill Baptist Church.
Prior council or board experience: 1982-1985 Monahans-Wickett-Pyote Consolidated School District Board of Trustees.

1. What is the most pressing problem facing Snyder ISD today from a state level?
The most pressing problem facing Snyder ISD today from the state level is being held accountable for student performance (accountability rating of each campus).

2. What is the most pressing problem facing the district from a local level?
The most pressing problem concerning the school district at the local level is the decision the current board of trustees will have to make concerning the pending bond issue proposal. For example, the dollar amount and determining specific areas in which to use the money derived from the bond is extremely important.

3. Is the bond issue for the school district needed in your opinion? If so, why? If you don't support a bond issue, why not?
In my opinion, the bond issue is needed. Why? The board promotes enhanced student achievement. Educational programs and services must be provided that ensure the equity and excellence in performance for all students. The district must continue to recruit the best teachers and keep them. The teachers and students must be supported with good facilities, adequate supplies and good working conditions.

4. Are there any specific goals you would like to see accomplished at SISD over the next few years? If so, what are they?
I would like to see the following goals accomplished within the next few years.
A. Graduate more students who exhibit proficiency in major subject areas such as reading, math, science, foreign language and technology.
B. Pay fair and equitable salaries to all employees.
C. Provide excellent physical facilities and pleasant, safe working conditions in the district.

Name: Luann Burleson
Age: 47.
Occupation:
Affiliations: Member of the First Presbyterian Church
Prior council or board experience: Member of the Snyder ISD board since 1986, serving as president and vice president.

1. What is the most pressing problem facing Snyder ISD today from a state level?
The most pressing issue, not really a problem, facing the school district is compliance with unfunded state mandates. The SISD budget has grown and continues to grow due in large part to salary increases, of which I am in favor. The state of Texas several years ago increased the minimum salary schedules, and SISD has attempted to keep our teachers above those minimum levels. Many other mandated programs, the latest being the Alternative Education Program, have been initiated by this school district in orde to comply with the law.

2. What is the most pressing problem facing the district from a local level?
We are far from perfect, but it is my opinion that this district attempts to meet the needs of every student and each and every one of them have boundless opportunity to learn and grow and prepare for the future.
The district has expanded the curriculum at the secondary level to meet the needs of our students, maintained full day kindergarten and campus librarians at the elementary level and has enriched the elementary students with the addition of art to the curriculum. SISD remains very competitive in all UIL activities, continues to be above state average on TAAS at all levels, have increased numbers of students enrolling in Honors and AP courses at the high school and annually our graduating students receive several thousand dollars in academic scholarships to attend the colleges and universities of their choice. In addition, we offer excellent vocational training in several different areas for the student who will not be attending college, but plans to enter the workforce or attend vocational school.

3. Is the bond issue for the school district needed in your opinion? If so, why? If you don't support a bond issue, why not?
The bond issue curently being discussed is, in my opinion, an absolute necessity. We must face the problem of the deterioration of the infrastructure of our schools: plumbing, heating, air conditioning, electrical wiring, painting and refurbishing, removal of temporary buildings and upgrading of some facilities which are "just worn out." What has been put off, pushed aside or ignored for many years must be dealt with immediately. In my opinion, the bond issue is an indication of the future course of Snyder...are we willing to go forward with vigor into the 21st century or will be left behind in a haze of doubt and hopelessness?

4. Are there any specific goals you would like to see accomplished at SISD over the next few years? If so, what are they?
We must continue in these efforts to meet the needs of all students, to pay our staff a fair and competitive salary, and to plan with vision the future of the district. These ideals and goals however, do not come cheap; the people of the community, I believe, demand excellence and are more than willing to "pay the price" for educating our children.

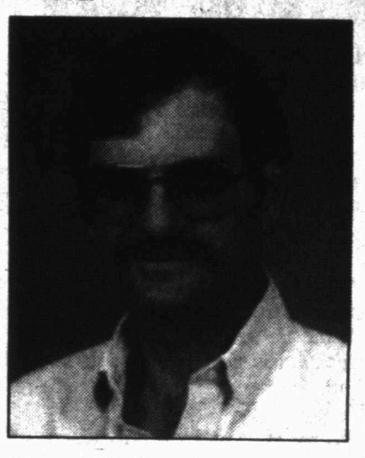
Ira ISD Candidates

Name: Carl Smith
Age: 40
Occupation: Co-owner and General Manager of Ira Pump and Supply in Ira, Post and Lamesa.
Affiliations: Deacon, First Baptist Church.
Prior experience: Ira Independent School District, Board of Directors of Scurry County Appraisal District, Scurry County Welfare Board.

1. What is the most pressing problem facing Ira ISD today from a state level?
The most pressing problem facing Ira ISD and all school districts in the state of Texas is the uncertainty of state funding. With the decline in oil prices and the strong possibility of once again seeing our tax base decline, we will be put in a position to be more dependent on our leaders in Austin.

2. What is the most pressing problem facing the district from a local level?
On a local level probably the largest problem is the cost ratio of dollars spent versus number of students enrolled. I believe there is a great balance in where and how our dollars are spent on a local level. We must continue to maintain the quality of education the students deserve and the faculty and administration want to see accomplished. An increase in student enrollment would be the answer to this problem.

3. Are there any specific goals you would like to see accomplished at Ira ISD over the next few years? If so, what are they?
My goal would be to do my part to keep this quality of education that is presently being achieved at Ira ISD. I also want to ensure that every Ira graduating senior interested in furthering their education has financial aid available if needed.

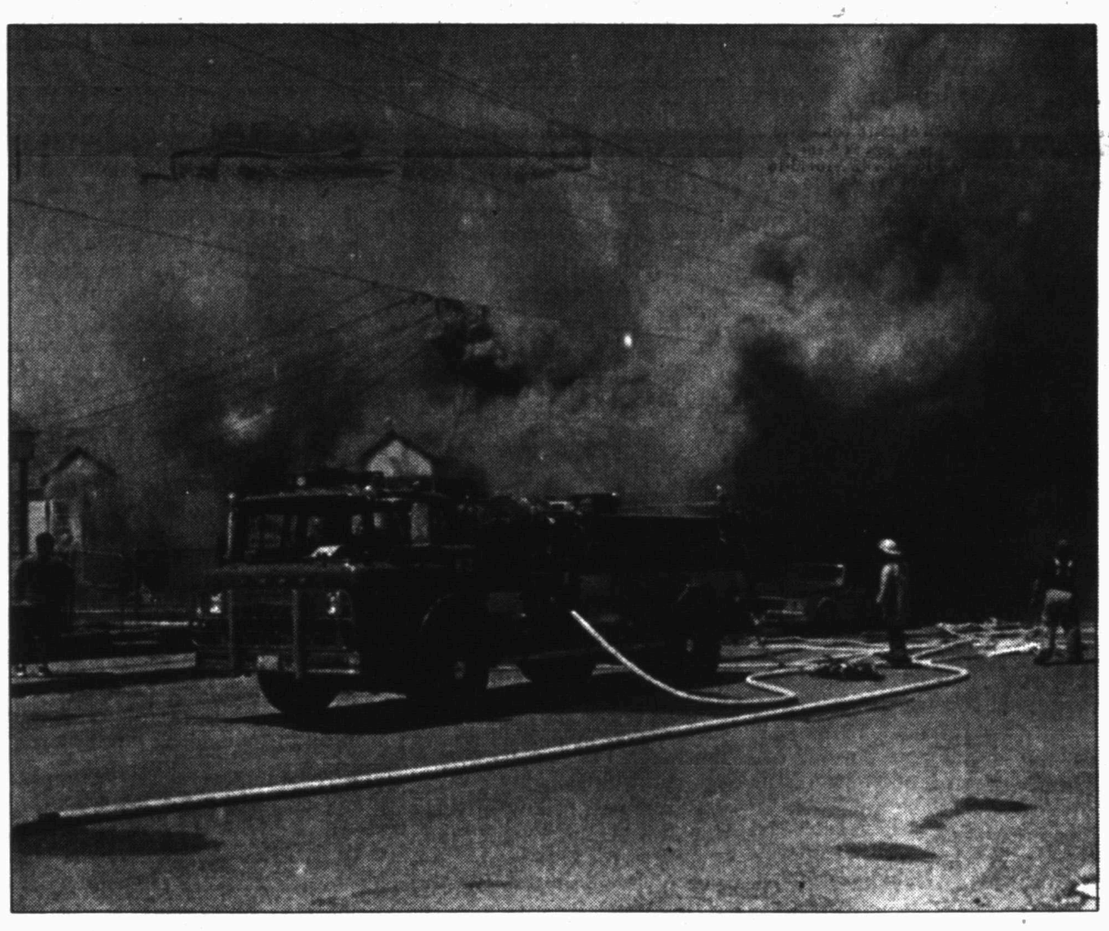


Name: R. Douglass White
Age: 47
Occupation: Plant Reliability specialist, Salt Creek Gas Plant, Mobil Oil.
Affiliations: Ira Church of God, Ira Lodge 934, Ira School Board.
Prior experience: Past Worshipful Master, church board of trustees for 10 yers, Church of God budget board for 7 years, advisory board for 15 years, Ira School board for 6 years, three as secretary.

1. What is the most pressing problem facing Ira ISD today from a state level?
"Smaller classes + safer schools = Better education," a quote from President Clinton is what we have known at Ira for several years and will continue for years to come.

2. What is the most pressing problem facing the district from a local level?
Ira is a school with many advantages, such as small classes with a better teacher/student ratio, higher test scores, high percentage of graduates and several early graduates. The relationship between faculty and students creates a bond between academics and athletics which helps to develop both mental and physical strengths in each student. Achieving the test scores required by the state is a challenge that the Ira Schools must meet. Since 1992, Ira has received three awards from the Texas Successful School Awards System for academic achievement and performance gains. This year we received "recognized" accreditation rating, missing "exemplary" by less than three percentage points. On the 96-97 Exit TAAS, eight students received "academic recognition" on at least one test and four had "academic recognition" on all three test. On the 97-98 tests, all sophomores passed the math and reading. Currently our One Act Play has advanced to regional, baseball is 2-0 in District, District Physics Champs advanced to Regional and the FHA group has advanced to State. This is the bond I see happening between academics and extracurricular activities.

3. Are there any specific goals you would like to see accomplished at IISD over the next few years? If so, what are they?
Ira's enrollment is at 170 students, which is the lowest it has been for several years. This problem is facing our community as well as all other small communities. With enrollment being one of our problems, I would like to see 190-210 students enrolled at all times. The board screens all transfer requests, but the state limits the acceptance of some. I am very proud of the goals set and met by all the faculty and students at Ira.



WEDNESDAY FIRE — A fire reported around 2 p.m. Wednesday caused major damage to the California Apartments in the 1500 block of 27th Street. The fire spread a cloud of smoke over much of the eastern part of town. (SDN Staff Photo)

Dr. Gott by Peter Gott, M.D.

Do your homework on HMOs

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Enclosed is a list of health maintenance organizations that I could join. In your opinion, which is the best?

DEAR READER: The HMO field is changing so fast that I would be presumptuous to recommend a plan for you.

However, judging from recent reports in the journal Medical Economics and the New York Times, you ought to think twice about one of your options.

Oxford Health Plans is in serious trouble, despite the fact that it has just hired a new chief executive to oversee profound changes.

According to Medical Economics (Feb. 9, 1998), investors are suing the company because of failure to disclose its financial problems. About 20 suits have thus far been filed. When Oxford finally did "come clean about expected earnings losses," its stock plunged in value from $89 a share to $15.

Industry analysts are reported to be skeptical that the beleaguered giant can survive without making dramatic cost-cutting changes in the way it does business. The Feb. 25, 1998, New York Times reported that the company will have to adopt capitation (fixed, lower fees for doctors) and will severely limit patients' choices of doctors. At present, Oxford is dangerously delinquent in paying doctors and hospitals — up to $140 million in New York City alone. Consequently, increasing numbers of physicians are resigning from Oxford, a move that will certainly further limit subscribers' choice of doctors. Moreover, premiums are slated to rise appreciably.

Most important, as Oxford becomes more expensive and restrictive, patients may suffer. Not surprisingly, competitive health plans are actively luring patients away. For example, the Mar. 1, 1998, New York Times documented that Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Anthem, Cigna and Aetna U.S. Healthcare are actively promoting themselves as better choices than Oxford. Large-scale defections are expected to occur; "new business is going elsewhere," the Times reported.

Several months ago, while Oxford was riding high as the darling of Wall Street, I cautioned consumers to avoid it like the plague. My views haven't changed. In fact, they have been reinforced by the many legitimate reports indicating that the company is neither patient- nor doctor-friendly. The Times again: "It appears that Oxford's apparent success came from providing quality service at a price well below its real cost."

The lesson? Read up on HMOs before you join.

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

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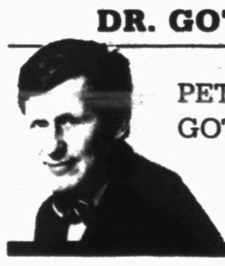
DR. GOTT



PETER GOTT, M.D.

2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Technical problem postpones launch

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — A critical data processor aboard Columbia failed today, forcing postponement of a two-week mission to study the brains and nervous systems of astronauts and a menagerie including rats, snails and crickets.

The delay was especially disheartening for NASA: Perfect weather had been forecast, and it had been a year since a technical problem forced a scrub during a space shuttle countdown.

"The word 'bummer' comes to mind," shuttle operations director Bob Sieck said. "Hardware does this to you at times, and you have to accept this as part of the business. In this particular case, it's easy to find. It's easy to fix, and we're going to do that and get on with flying the mission."

NASA said it would replace the processor and try again Friday afternoon to launch the shuttle, its crew of seven of humans and 2,052 furry, scaly and crawly creatures.

All 1,514 crickets aboard Columbia, nearly half of them still in the egg stage, were to be replaced with fresh substitutes. If the eggs hatch before liftoff, it would spoil the experiment to observe how space-born crickets develop in weightlessness.

Also to be replaced: 18 pregnant mice.

All the other animals — 135 snails, 152 rats and 233 fish — were to remain on board for a Friday launch attempt.

While disappointed, the scientists in charge of the animals were ready to jump into action with plenty of spares — 10,000 spares in the case of the crickets.

The so-called network signal processors are crucial for mission success. They send and format voice communication as well as computer data between the shuttle and the ground, and the shuttle and communication satellites. Only one actually is needed, but both must be working at liftoff in case one fails during the flight.

One processor on Columbia had been working fine since Wednesday. The second immediately failed when it was turned on this morning, Sieck said. It will be replaced with one from space shuttle Endeavour.

"The hardware's old," Sieck said, but noted "I wouldn't say it indicates that it's wearing out."

The processor is about the size of a shoebox and should be easy to replace, Sieck said.

The astronauts learned of the problem when they awakened; they had yet to don their spacesuits when the launch was called off six hours before the scheduled liftoff.

Once under way, Columbia's Neurolab mission will be the most in-depth study ever of the brain and nervous system in weightlessness.

Obituaries

Annie Hernandez

1937-1998

Annie Ruth Hernandez, 61, died Wednesday, April 15, in Lubbock's St. Mary Hospital.

Funeral service was set for 2 p.m. today in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. The Rev. Larry VanHook, pastor of the Ira Baptist Church, was to officiate, and burial was to follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born March 25, 1937 in Mexia, she married Leonard Hernandez on Jan. 29, 1982 in Eastland. Mrs. Hernandez was a licensed vocational nurse at Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Survivors include her husband, Leonard Hernandez of Snyder; five daughters, Teresa McBeth of Buffalo Gap, Vanessa McGinty of Ira, Rene Medrano and Melanie Palmer, both of Snyder, and Diana Stanley of Starks, La.; her mother, Varue Rawson of Dimmitt; two sisters, Bobbie Cobb of Dimmitt and Alice Johnson of Fort Worth; and eight grandchildren.

Curtis Hamm

1913-1998

Funeral service for Curtis D. Hamm, 85, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Chapel.

The Rev. Charles Day, pastor of Avenue D Baptist Church, will officiate. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

A former resident of Snyder, Mr. Hamm died Tuesday, April 14, at his home in Fort Worth.

He was born Jan. 23, 1913, in Fort Worth and married Helen Stout on April 24, 1953 in Carlsbad, N.M. She died on Dec. 20, 1975.

He later married Lucille Hamm of Pomona, Calif.

A U.S. Army veteran of World War II, he was a member of the American Legion. He was a mechanic and had worked for the Snyder ISD before moving to California. Mr. Hamm had been a resident of Fort Worth since September of 1997.

He was also preceded in death by a sister, Isabelle Wallace.

Survivors include his wife, Lucille Hamm, of Pomona, Calif; five daughters, Elaine Wallace of Fort Worth, Ruby Walls of Abilene, Christine Tinkey of Modesto, Calif., Geneva O'Donnell of West Covina, Calif., and Janet Michaels of Yarbo Linda, Calif.; five sons, John Hamm of Daphne, Ala., Curtis Hamm Jr. of Portales, N.M., Jimmy Hamm of Modesto, Calif., Doug McMinn of Big Spring and Bill McMinn of Grants, N.M.; 26 grandchildren; numerous great-grandchildren; and several great-great-grandchildren.

P.R. Warren

1916-1998

P.R. Warren, a former resident of Snyder, died at 7 this morning in Harris Methodist Southwest Hospital in Fort Worth after a brief illness.

Funeral service for Mr. Warren, 81, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in Snyder's North College Ave. Baptist Church. The Rev. Cliff Cooper, pastor, will officiate.

Burial will follow in the Sardis Cemetery in Fisher County under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born June 22, 1916 in Fisher County, he married Joe Wina Warren in 1967 in Snyder. She died in 1997. Mr. Warren married Irene M. Lynn about eight months ago in Fort Worth.

Mr. Warren was a longtime resident of Fisher and Scurry counties. He had lived in Fort Worth for the past eight months and worked in the maintenance department of a plastics factory.

Mr. Warren was a farmer and while living in Snyder he had worked at McCormick Marketing and had done janitorial work for the First Baptist Church and North College Ave. Baptist Church where he was a member.

He was also preceded in death by a daughter, Shirley Smith.

Survivors include his wife, Irene Warren of Fort Worth; a daughter and son-in-law, Rheta and Perry Thomson of Rotan; two sons and daughters-in-law, Jerry and Betty Warren of Crowley and Carl and Frances Hendrix of Helena, Mont.; 14 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

Buck Robertson

1906-1998

VERNON — Scurry County native Buck "Buster" Robertson died this morning in a nursing home in Chandler. He was 92.

Service is set for 10 a.m. Monday in the Sullivan Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Ron Fox, pastor of the Calvary Baptist Church in Vernon, officiating. Burial will follow in the Vernon Eastview Cemetery.

Born on April 12, 1906 in Dunn to the late Jim and Elizabeth Jorddan Robertson, he married Bennie Newsome on July 25, 1939 in Fredrick, Okla. She preceded him in death in 1975. He later married Inez Turkett on June 12, 1977. She also preceded him in death on June 20, 1006.

Mr. Robertson moved from Snyder in 1935 when he moved to Vernon to work for the W.T. Waggoner Estate. He was a retired U.S. Government hunter and trapper. Mr. Robertson was a member of Calvary Baptist Church in Vernon.

Survivors include one son, Glenn Robertson of Larue, Tex.; one daughter, Karen Rhodes of Beaumont; three grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

The family will be at Sullivan Funeral Home from 7 to 8 p.m. Sunday.

June Herbst

1961-1998

SLATON — June Herbst, the sister of Rick Schwertner of Snyder, died Monday, April 13, in Houston's Memorial Southwest Hospital.

Rosary for Mrs. Herbst, 36, is set for 7 p.m. Friday in the Englunds Funeral Home Chapel in Slaton. Mass is scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday in St. Joseph Catholic Church with the Rev. Jim McCartney and the Rev. Tim Schwertner officiating.

Burial will follow in Slaton's Englewood Cemetery.

A mass for Mrs. Herbst, a resident of Houston, was held today in Houston.

Born Aug. 23, 1961 in Slaton, she earned a master's degree in education from Texas Tech University. She married Fred L. Herbst on Feb. 1, 1986 in Slaton.

Mrs. Herbst was an organist, and played for churches for 20 years.

Survivors include her husband, Fred Herbst of Houston; a son, Garrett Herbst of Houston; two daughters, Rochelle and Alyssa Herbst, both of Houston; her parents, Rudy and Vera Schwertner of Wilson; four other brothers, Cary, Travis and Bryan Schwertner, all of Lubbock, and Paul Schwertner of Moscow, Kan.; three sisters, Elaine Watson of Amarillo, Bonnie Finke of Austin and Suzanne Schwertner of Dallas.

The family suggests memorials to the American Cancer Society.

Fire

Continued From Page 1

Safety Services provided additional air packs and an air trailer for the firemen, while members of the ladies auxiliary handed out cold drinks for the firemen, as did residents in the immediate area.

While the firemen had the fire under control in a little over an hour, they remained on the scene until almost 7:30 p.m.

Westmoreland said there were no injuries, nor was anyone treated for smoke inhalation despite the intense smoke.

Datebook

April 16, 1998

Today is the 106th day of 1998 and the 28th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1962, Walter Cronkite made his debut as anchorman of the "CBS Evening News."

On this day in 1972, Apollo XVI astronauts were launched toward the moon.

On this day in 1993, President Clinton received gay and lesbian activists in the Oval Office for a meeting.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Wilbur Wright (1867-1912), inventor; Anatole France (1844-1924), writer; Charlie Chaplin (1889-1977), comedian; Lily Pons (1904-1976), singer; Peter Ustinov (1921-), actor-writer, is 77; Henry Mancini (1924-1994), composer; Bobby Vinton (1935-), singer, is 63; Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (1947-), basketball great, is 51.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1972, Chicago's Burt Hooton pitched a no-hitter to shut out the Phillies, 4-0.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "To know is nothing at all; to imagine is everything." — Anatole France

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1849, a late-April freeze caused temperatures to dip to 32 degrees in Charleston, S.C.

SOURCE: 1998 Weather Guide Calendar; Accord Publishing, Ltd.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (April 11) and last quarter (April 19).

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Community garden

A group interested in starting a community garden to grow vegetables for the Scurry County Ministerial Alliance Food Cupboard will meet at 7 this evening at the First Presbyterian Church. Anyone interested in participating is invited to attend.

Support group ministry

Support groups for divorce recovery, cancer/grief, caring for aging parents and learning to improve the family experience will meet at 6:30 this evening at First Baptist Church. Parents and teens are welcome and child care will be provided.

Alzheimers forum

Sue Davis will speak on Alzheimers at 7 this evening at Snyder Healthcare Center.

Weekend revival scheduled

Primera Iglesia Bautista, 2007 Ave. R, will hold a revival Friday through Sunday with services by Jose Rodriguez at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited. Libertab will perform.

Fly those Tiger flags

Snyder businesses are reminded to fly their Tiger flags on Fridays to show support for the state-ranked Tiger baseball team.

MAWC luncheon

Martha Ann Womans Club will have a luncheon from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday. Serving begins at 11:30. Tickets are $10 and can be purchased at the door or by calling 573-3427 or 573-6443.

Colonial Hill youth

Colonial Hill Baptist Church youth will have a garage sale at Towle Park Barn from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. Proceeds will help defray the cost of the youth mission trip.

American Legion craft, bake sale

The American Legion will hold an arts and crafts and bake sale Saturday from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the Legion Hall.

Noah Project home shower

Beta Sigma Phi is hosting a home shower for Noah Project-West from 10 a.m. to noon Saturday in the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Selections can be seen at Wal-Mart, Classic Interiors and Landes Home Furnishings. Also, a money tree will be available at the shower.

FBC youth plan car wash

First Baptist youth will hold a car wash from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart.

Wastella reunion

Wastella residents and former residents are having a reunion Saturday, headquartered at the Holiday Inn in Sweetwater. It will begin at 10 a.m. An $8 buffet will be served. For further information, call 573-8131.

'Scoot-a-Boot' set Saturday night

The American Cancer Society's Scoot-a-Boot will begin at 8 p.m. Saturday in the Big Red Barn on Billy Ray and Pam Brownings' place. The auction will begin at 9:30 p.m.

First United Methodist turns 115

"Building a Legacy of Love" is the theme for the 115th anniversary of the First United Methodist Church, set Sunday. There will be no early worship service. Sunday School will begin at 9:45 a.m. Worship begins at 10:50 a.m. A noon meal will follow. Bishop Alfred Norris will be the guest speaker.

St. Elizabeth Sausage Festival

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church will hold its annual Sausage Festival from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Sunday at the Parish Center. Tickets are $6 for adults and $3 for children 12 and under. Sausage will also be sold by the pound. There were be raffles, game booths and a country store.

Baseball boosters fund-raiser

Snyder High School Baseball Boosters are selling caps and T-shirts at all home games. They are also on sale at the high school and Lang Tire. Proceeds will go into the high school baseball fund.

Planetarium show

WTC Planetarium will present "Through The Eyes of Hubble" at 2 p.m. Sunday.

Special showings for school classes (best suited for grade 4 and above) can be arranged for any Friday in April by calling the WTC science department. Admission is free.

Pick 3

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

3-0-4

(three, zero, four)

Lotto Texas

By The Associated Press

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

The ticket was worth an estimated $4 million.

The ticket was sold in: Schertz.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 3-6-9-18-24-43.

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

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