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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

May 12, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 10
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Robert Adams

Texas Democrats play hooky from Legislature

AUSTIN (AP) — More than 50 Democrats — enough to break the quorum needed to do Texas House business — did not show up this morning when the House convened, prompting Republican Speaker Tom Craddick to order state police officers to find them.



Tom Craddick

The walkout, which coincides with the scheduled debate for a divisive congressional redistricting bill, halted House business.

Partisan tension has been building all legislative session. Republicans and Democrats have clashed over a no-new-taxes budget, sweeping lawsuit limitation legislation and most recently, a push by the GOP leadership to redraw congressional voting lines to favor Republicans.

Before the House session began, Tamara Bell, chief of staff for House Democratic Caucus Chairman Jim Dunnam of Waco, provided copies of 53 letters that informed parliamentarian Steve Collins to lock the voting machines of the absent Democrats.

"I do not know where they are," Bell said.

Bell said she was informed this morning after her boss called her from his cellular phone that the Democrats would not report to work.

It was not immediately clear why some Democrats did not participate in the walkout, but many of those present were aligned with GOP House Speaker Tom Craddick. There are 88 Republicans in the House for a total of 150 members.

The Texas House cannot convene without at least two-thirds of the membership, or 100 members, present on the House floor under legislative rules.

Craddick has alerted the Texas Department of Public Safety about the walkout.

"If they bust the quorum he (Craddick) is going to put a call on the House. That means they lock the House down. Everybody's got to stay inside. They send the DPS out to look for these guys," said Craddick spokesman Bob Richter.

Craddick did not immediately speak with reporters.

Those present in the House, which Craddick locked down so that no legislator could leave, asked that those not present be arrested and returned to the chamber.

Several of the organizers of the walkout told The Associated Press that the action was planned as retaliation against the Legislature's Republican leadership.

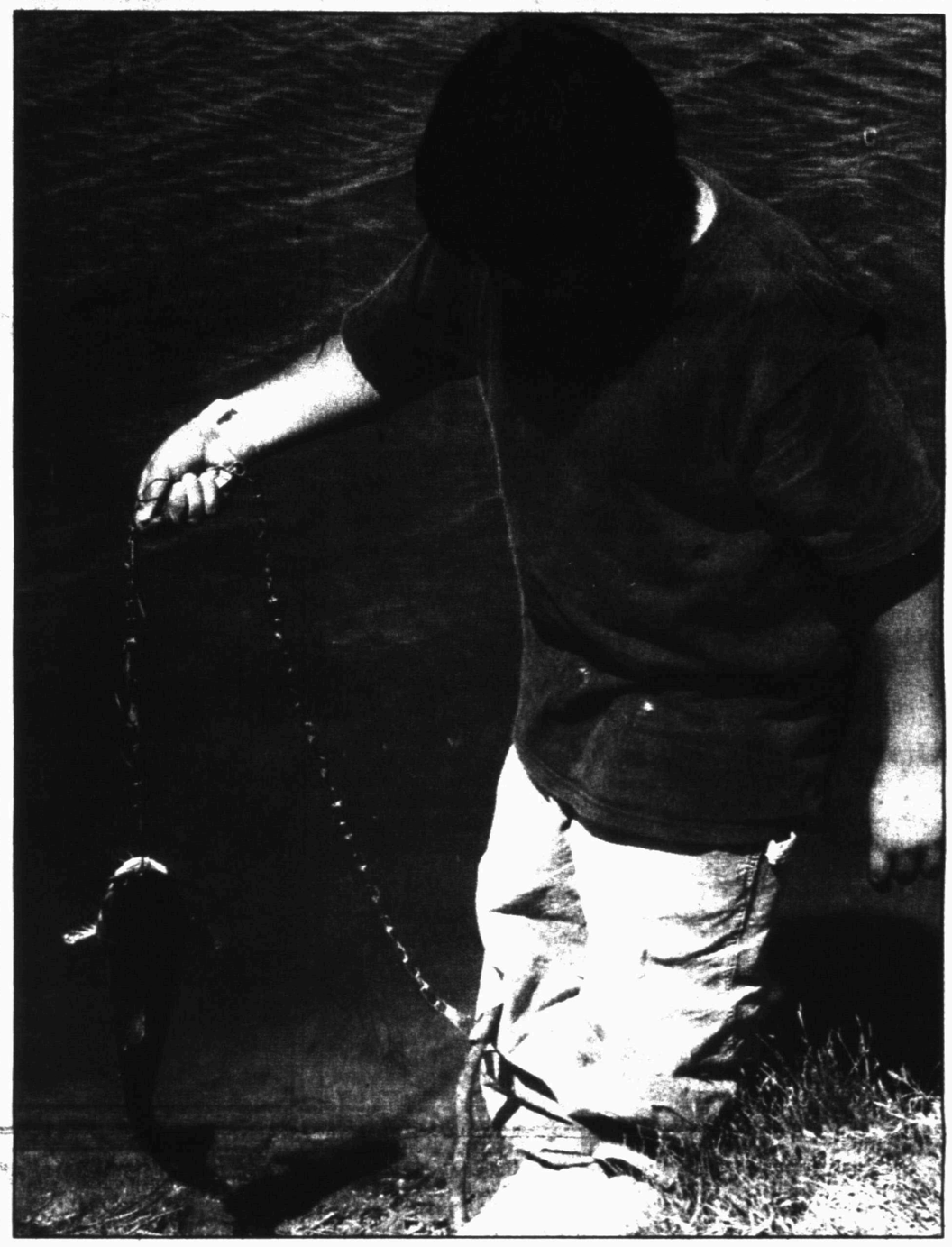
The lawmakers were preparing for the trip Sunday night and were packing clothes to allow them to stay away for four days, a legislative source told the AP on condition of anonymity. That would be until the deadline for preliminary passage of House bills in the House.

The plan by Democratic House members, if successful, would derail and likely kill major pending bills that have been termed a priority by the Republican-controlled Legislature.

Richter said a special legislative session likely would have to be held immediately after the regular session ends June 2. However, Richter said that Craddick was speaking with GOP Gov. Rick Perry, who would have to call a special session.

Several of the legislators who planned to be absent said they were expecting the worst.

Legislative leaders have three weeks left in the regular session and major pieces of legislation still pending. Twenty-four years ago this month, a group of 12 Texas state senators defied then-Lt. Gov. Bill Hobby by refusing to show up at the Capitol. The "Killer Bees," as the 12 came to be known, hid out in a west Austin garage apartment while Department of Public Safety troopers, Texas Rangers and legislative sergeants-at-arms unsuccessfully combed the state for them.



Abatement topic of WTC meet

Western Texas College trustees are expected to approve tax abatement for an turbine wind farm to be constructed in northwest Scurry County when the board meets at 6:30 p.m. today.

WTC administrators reached a tentative deal for abatement with Cielo Wind Power officials in April, but the action requires trustee approval.

Under the agreement, the Austin-based firm will pay the college $427,720 over 10 years in exchange for the decade-long abatement.

WTC will receive annual payments of $30,000 for the first five years. The final five payments, due Oct. 1 each year, will be $55,544.

A related business item is approval of guidelines for tax abatement.

Other business includes approval of bids for the concourse and site improvements at the sports complex. The dual-field complex is now under construction on the southwest corner of campus.

Also to be considered is an agreement with the city for use of effluent water to irrigate the fields.

Expenses also will be considered to send the rodeo teams to the 2003 College National Finals.

Personnel matters include employment of Raul Alcala as assistant director of workforce education and extension centers.

The resignation of Dennis Noblett, development director, also will be considered.

Information and discussion items include the education report, Tuesday's awards banquet, May calendar and the president's report.

The meeting will be held in the administrative boardroom on campus.



BIG FISH — Adrian Alvarez, 12, checks out the catfish hooked at Towle Park Pond Saturday during the Boy Scouts Fish-A-Thon. The big cat, weighing 2.7 pounds, was good enough for third place in the 8th round. At right, Jeremy Mireles, 4, found the bait worms more interesting than the fishing. (SDN Staff Photos)

Council also meets...

Shared service pact topic of committee meeting for tonight

Snyder's city council will have a called meeting at 6:30 this evening, and then the city's intergovernmental contract committee will meet.

The council as a whole will consider contracts with Western Texas College and Crenwelge Farms for use of effluent water, and will hear a recommendation to appoint Lee Maddox to the city's planning and zoning commission.

The committee again will consider the fire suppression and rescue agreement with Scurry County.

That topic was an action item last week, but was tabled.

Roy Baze, who helped draft the original agreement in 1996, urged the council to "hang the fire suppression contract on the hook."

Baze suggested that shared services between the city and county be looked at in a total package with equitable terms under which neither party profits.

Under the original agreement, the city provides fire protection to the county and other services in the contract are EMS, sanitation, dispatching and jail services.

The proposed agreement would have the county paying for fires that the fire department responds to outside the city limits on a quarterly basis.

City attorney Dana Cooley said last week that the formula used to arrive at costs and reimbursements needed additional work.

Both meetings will be held in council chambers at city hall.

Local found dead in cell

A Snyder man apparently hanged himself with a bed sheet Saturday in the Mitchell County jail, shortly after being arrested for public intoxication.

Benito Garza Benavidez, 37, was found hanging in his cell at 9 p.m. Saturday. He was alone in the cell.

Texas Ranger John Billings is investigating the death and said this morning he is still interviewing witnesses.

Billings said Benavidez had worked for Weatherford-LEAM-CO in Snyder and Aspermont for about 11 years.

Colorado City police arrested Benavidez about 8 p.m. for public intoxication at a cookout in Ruddick Park.

He was transported to the county jail and placed in a cell at 8:40.

A jailer saw the prisoner at 8:50 on a monitor, but when the jailer checked the monitor 10 minutes later, Benavidez couldn't be seen. A trusty reportedly was sent to check on Benavidez and found him hanging in the cell.

The jailer was alerted and called for an ambulance and Benavidez was cut down. Attempts to resuscitate him were unsuccessful.

Benavidez was pronounced dead at the Mitchell County Hospital and his body was taken to Southwestern Institute of Forensic Science in Dallas for an autopsy.

Services are pending at Foster-Adams Funeral Home in Hamlin.

Personnel matters on trustee's agenda

Personnel matters will highlight this evening's meeting of the Snyder ISD board of trustees.

One-year contract extensions for all present campus principals and assistant principals will be considered, as well as the director of special programs and the athletic director-head football coach.

Trustees also will act on several letters of resignation received from Bobbie Anderson, East Elementary; Warren Beard, SHS ag teacher; Dale Hamby, SJHS social studies; Shad Nachlinger, SHS history; Janeen Patterson, SJHS drama; Brad Vincent, SHS drama; and Frances White, SJHS English teacher and coach.

Trustees also are expected to take formal action on the hiring of Terri Collins to teach Texas history, Bradi Johnson to coach and teach math, and Holly Potts as a PE teacher and coach. All positions are at the junior high.

The board also will act on extending the bank depository contract with West Texas State Bank for two years beginning Sept. 1, and hear budget amendments for approval.

Richard Chambers and Mike Levens will be administered oaths of office for another term, and the board will elect officers for the coming year.

Francene Noah also will give a report on the National School Board Convention.

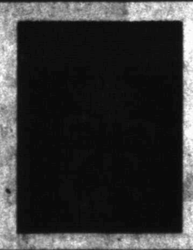
The meeting will be at 6 o'clock in the school administration building.

ASK US

Q—Where should people who don't have a storm shelter go to take cover from a tornado?

A—Fire Marshal Cy Posey said the fire department has a basement open to the public, but if a tornado is near, go to the centermost room of a house and huddle in a closet or bathroom.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Helen Crouse...

...has lived in Snyder 26 years. She retired from Cogdell Hospital after working 18 years. She has two sons, Ricky of Snyder and Billy Jack of Houston. Her favorite activity is gardening, especially tending to her flowers. Geraniums top Helen's list of favorite plants.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

There are risks and costs to a program of action. But they are far less than the long-range risks and costs of comfortable action.

—John F. Kennedy

MAY 12 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Hermleigh Booster Club

The Hermleigh Booster Club will meet at 7:30 tonight in the high school to elect new officers. Everyone is invited.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "The Case for Christianity," followed by "The Purpose of Miracles in the New Testament."

Drama Booster Club to meet

The SHS Drama Booster Club will meet at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the foyer of Worsham Auditorium. Officers will be elected for 2003-2004.

FBC services televised

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

Central seminars

Central Elementary will conclude its series of afternoon seminars at 3 p.m. Thursday. *Bully Proofing Your Child* will be the topic presented by school counselor Debbie Shaw. Child care will be provided.

Home school field trip

There will be a field trip for home schooled students from 8:45-11:45 a.m. Friday at Joyland Amusement Park in Lubbock. Cost is $8 per child. Contact Malinda McClung at 574-1133.

Ira kindergarten registration

Registration for kindergarten at Ira is underway from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily until Friday. If these times are not convenient, call 573-2628 to make other arrangements. Shot records, birth certificate and child's social security card should be brought.

End-of-school party

An end-of-school party for SJHS 8th graders only will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday in the WTC Student Center. Admission is $5. Bring picture for the memorabilia table to the junior high office by Wednesday.

Memorial Day events

The VFW will conduct a flag ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday, May 16, at the VFW and then American Legion and then go to the Snyder Cemeteries. A dinner featuring a brisket with all the trimmings will be served at 6 p.m. at the post home. Auxiliary ladies need to bring a dessert. Cost is by donation.

Parenting With Love & Logic

SISD will present Parenting With Love & Logic from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 22, at the junior high auditorium. Brenda Bird will be the parent trainer. Child care and interpreter will be available.

WIN Women's Conference

WIN Women's Conference, sponsored by His Joy Ministries, is set for May 30-31 at Thee Place, 904 26th St. Music will be by Mercy & Truth, Dance Troupe Doorkeepers of His Glory. Speakers are Barbara Murrell of Forney and Jay Hawkins of Toccoa, Ga. Call 573-9799 for more information.

Red Cross fundraiser

The American Red Cross has opened an office at 1800 26th. As a fundraiser, "I love my troops" dog tags are available for a minimum donation of $5. Call 573-1419.

Joy School fall registration

Fall registration for Joy School, 201 31st St., is from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. weekdays for birth to pre-K children. For more information call 573-3554.

Gateway Family Services raffle

Gateway Family Services is raffling a 2003 anniversary edition Harley Davidson Road King motorcycle. Only 2,500 tickets will be sold. The raffle will be held July 4th in Towle Park. Tickets may be purchased at D&D Auto, Purple Sage Motel, Ira Pump & Supply and by calling Gateway's administrative office at 573-4351.

Class of 1993 reunion

The SHS class of 1993 is planning a 10-year reunion in July. Classmate's names are needed. Contact Catalina Jones at 573-5045, or e-mail classof93shs@yahoo.com.

SHS 1967-68 reunion

Snyder High School classes of 1967 and 1968 will have a class reunion July 5 at Jack Greene's park starting at 7 p.m. Barbecue and music will be provided. Cost is $15 per person and those attending are asked to bring lawn chairs or blankets. RSVP by June 25. Contact Gina Rhodes at 573-2400, or Janet Lay at Janetlay@remax.net.

Senior water aerobics

Senior water aerobics will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

WTC adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include E.S. L., GED and refresher courses. Certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides teach the classes. Call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

FBC support groups

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

Total lunar eclipse set Thursday night

LOS ANGELES (AP) — If the weather cooperates, a total lunar eclipse will be seen across North America late Thursday — the first visible in the United States in three years — and just before dawn Friday in western Europe and western and southern Africa.

East Texas woman accused in sons' deaths

TYLER (AP) — An East Texas woman accused of fatally beating her children with rocks spent Mother's Day sobbing and muttering in a jail cell.

Meanwhile, the pastor of the church where Deanna LaJune Laney sang in the choir told his congregation to demonstrate support and love for the family.

Laney, 38, remained on a suicide watch today at Smith County Jail, where she was held in lieu of $3 million bond on capital murder and aggravated assault charges.

County sheriff's officers arriving at Laney's home early Saturday found two of her sons, 8 and 6, dead and a 14-month-old son alive but bleeding in his crib with a pillow over his face.

Aaron James Laney, the youngest of the three, remained in critical condition early today at a Dallas Hospital.

Laney's demeanor on Sunday was described by Sheriff J.B. Smith as erratic during interviews with investigators.

"Sometimes she is incoherent, sometimes she's in a fetal position and sobbing. Sometimes she's singing spiritual hymns or muttering about God and sometimes she has a flatliner (poker) face and not saying a thing during interviews," said Smith. "But she has not spoken of the crime anymore. She said it all on the 911 tape. She said she had killed her children."

Laney told law officers in the emergency call to Smith County early Saturday morning that she had just "bashed their (her children) heads in with a rock" and two of her sons were dead.

Sheriff's deputies arriving at the residence in New Chapel Hill found Joshua Keith Laney, 8, and Luke Allen Laney, 6, dead in the yard wearing only their underwear. Large rocks were found on top of their tiny bodies.

Wearing bloodstained pajamas, their mother told the first deputy on the scene "I had to" when he took her into custody, according to an arrest affidavit.

The sheriff said earlier that he believed the children were led outside before they were killed. The bodies were taken to the Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences in Dallas for autopsies.

A makeshift memorial grew at the children's home on Sunday.

Meanwhile, First Assembly of God Pastor Gary Bell told his congregation Sunday about the deaths of his two nephews, injuries to the third and the arrest of his sister-in-law.

"No one would have expected such a tragedy to unfold, especially so close to home," Bell said during the service. "This family was the last one you would think this could happen in."

More than 200 members crowded into the church cried, waved their hands and vocally praised God during a prayer for the family.

Some worshippers gasped with despair and shook their heads as Bell described the shock of finding out his nephews were dead and that his sister-in-law told authorities she had killed them. Other church members cried.

The minister said during the Sunday service that he and his wife, Judy, did not excuse what happened, but would stand behind the children's family.

"This was a brutal and horrific incident that has changed our lives (and will) for years to come, but we all believe as a family that this wasn't our Dee that did this to her children," he said.



Students concerned about security

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. (AP) — Students at Western Kentucky University remain concerned about dormitory security even though a man has been charged with fatally stabbing an 18-year-old woman found in her burning room.

Lucas Goodrum, 21, of Scottsville was arrested Sunday for allegedly killing Katie Autry, 18, of Pellville. Autry was found May 4; she died Wednesday.

Goodrum was not a student, and university police would provide no other details about him or his relationship to Autry, who attended school part time and had worked a short time as a dancer at a local strip club.

Despite the arrest, students continued to question whether they're safe in the residence halls.

Molly Sims, a junior at the 16,000-student school, said entrances to the dorms need to be more secure.

"They're going to have to step up the security," said Sims, a former dorm desk clerk. "Anyone can come in without being seen if they wanted to."

University President Gary Ransdell repeated that all dorm security policies would be reviewed.

"We believe the residence halls are safe," Ransdell said, "but we will question everything."

Today's chuckle

People waited hours to ride 'Top Thrill'



SANDUSKY, Ohio (AP) — People waited so long to ride the world's tallest roller coaster that workers at Cedar Point Amusement Park organized bathroom breaks.

Some waited more than four hours to ride the Top Thrill Dragster on opening day last week.

"We knew it was going to be a long wait, so we tried to make our guests as comfortable as possible," Cedar Point spokesman Robin Innes said. "We gave them passes to get back in line."

The coaster shoots riders up and over a single steep 420-foot hill and then plummeting back to earth.

The park plans to increase the number of trains on the coaster from three to five, Innes said. Each train carries 16 passengers.

Date Book

Monday, May 12, 2003

Today is the 132nd day of 2003 and the 54th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1847, Mormon pioneer William Clayton invented the odometer while traveling across the plains.

On this day in 1937, George VI was crowned king of Great Britain and Ireland following the abdication of his brother Edward VIII.

On this day in 1963, Bob Dylan walked off "The Ed Sullivan Show" after censors told him during rehearsals that he could not perform his anti-segregationist song "Talking Birch Society Blues."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Edward Lear (1812-1888), artist and writer; Lawrence Peter ("Yogi") Berra (1925-), athlete, is 78; Burt Bacharach (1929-), composer, is 74; Gabriel Byrne (1950-), actor, is 53.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1985, the New York Knicks won the NBA's first draft lottery and added Patrick Ewing to the roster.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Half the lies they tell about me aren't true." — Yogi Berra

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (May 9) and full moon (May 15).

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events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Saturday's Lottery Numbers Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 4-5-11-27-37. Bonus Ball: 21.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: none.

Number matching five of five: 4. Prize: $9,566.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 35. Prize: $992.

Number matching four of five: 1,013. Prize: $74.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 909. Prize: $72.

Number matching three of five: 33,485. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 9,966. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 41,262. Prize: $3.

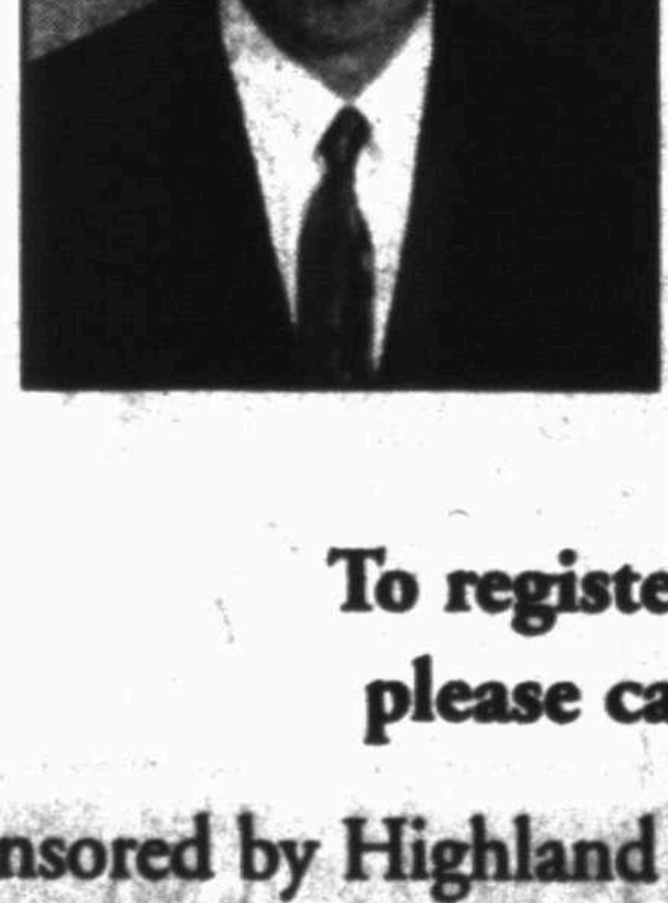
Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $15 million.

Pick 3
(Day) 2-2-7
(Night) 9-1-8
Cash Five
17-21-22-27-30

OBESITY & YOUR HEALTH

FREE SEMINAR

What is morbid obesity?
What are the available treatment options?
What is weight loss surgery?
Are you an appropriate candidate?



Speaker: David Syn, M.D.
The Advanced Bariatric Surgery Center
Tuesday, May 13, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Howard College
Tumbleweed Room
1001 Birdwell Lane
Big Spring, TX 79720

To register or for more information, please call toll free 866-779-5174.

Sponsored by Highland Medical Center as part of its commitment to community education. See more programs offered at **www.InteractiveHealthStrategies.info.**

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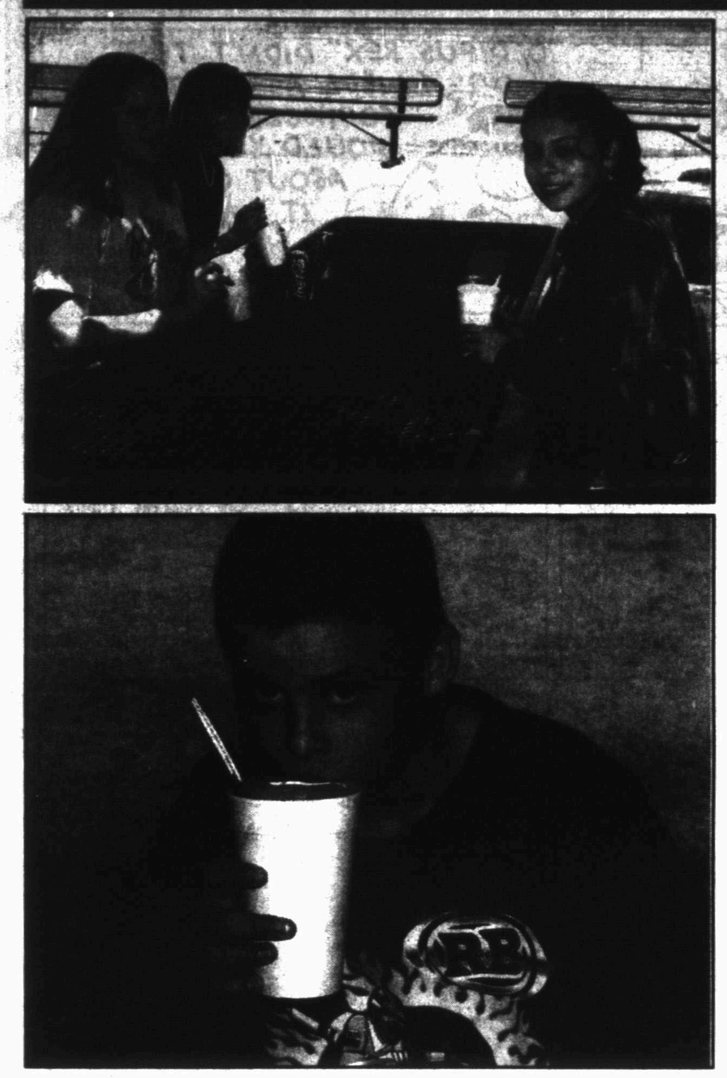

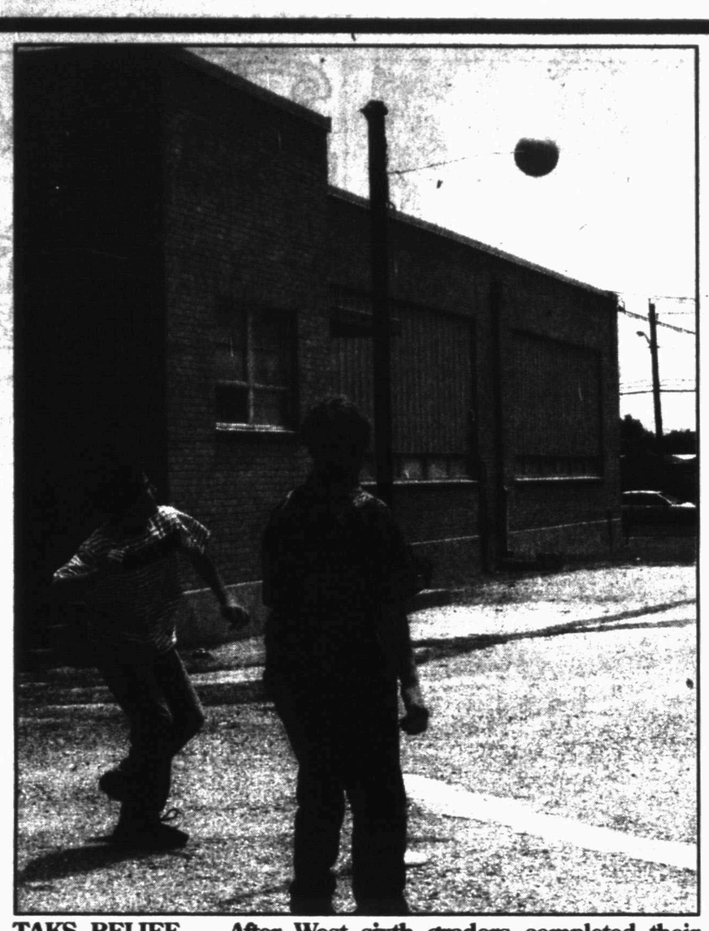

TAKS RELIEF — After West sixth graders completed their TAKS Tests, they got to relax, enjoy a Coke, ice cream and play tether ball. The girls in the top left photo are Britney Webb and Brooke Burleson, left, and Maria Murillo. In the photo at left, Dayton Grice takes a swig of his Coke float. In the photo above, Chase Arrendale, left, and Jessie Thomas play tether ball.(SDN Photos By Shirley A. Gorman)

Evidence from pond might indicate how anthrax was packaged

FREDERICK, Md. (AP) — A Maryland pond could be drained after federal agents suggested it may have been the site where anthrax used in a series of mailings in 2001 was assembled or where evidence was dumped.

The FBI is considering draining a spring-fed pond that is up to an acre in size and 10 feet deep in Frederick Municipal Forest, Mayor Jennifer P. Dougherty said Sunday.

The plan stems from a new FBI theory reported Sunday by The Washington Post that the person behind the attacks could have packed the deadly spores into envelopes under water without being infected or leaving traces on open land.

The theory is based on evidence recovered from the pond this past winter, the Post reported Sunday, citing anonymous sources close to the investigation.

FBI spokeswoman Debra Weierman, contacted Sunday by The Associated Press, declined to comment on the Post report or on searches conducted at a series of ponds in the forest.

The attacks nearly 19 months ago killed five people and sickened 13 others. The pond findings offer physical evidence in a case that so far has been built almost exclusively on circumstantial clues, the Post quoted sources as saying.

Two sources familiar with the items recovered from one of the ponds described a clear box, with holes that could accommodate gloves to protect the user during work, the Post reported. So-called glove boxes are commonly used to handle dangerous pathogens. Also recovered were vials wrapped in plastic.

For protection against airborne bacteria, a person could put envelopes and secured anthrax powder into the box, then wade into shallow water and submerge it to put the bacteria inside the envelopes, some involved in the case believe, the Post said. Afterward, the envelopes could have been sealed in plastic bags before being removed from the underwater chamber.

Other sources told the newspaper the work could have been done on land and the materials discarded in the pond.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Woman fears her job depends on getting her bosses dates

DEAR ABBY: I have a problem at my workplace. My two bosses are single men in their early 30s. I am the only female working at the company. Somehow, it has become "my duty" to find single women for them to date. This has been going on for several months, and they are unhappy because none of the ladies I have set them up with have worked out.

Yesterday, I was given a bad performance review, and I know it's because the women I have introduced them to have rejected them.

Abby, how can I get them to separate their personal desires from my office responsibilities? I've tried telling them I cannot be their personal dating service any longer, but that makes my office situation worse. The truth is, I'm running out of girlfriends to introduce them to, and the job situation in New York City doesn't allow me to quit. — **SICK OF BEING CUPID IN MANHATTAN**

DEAR SICK OF BEING CUPID: You were well-intentioned in trying to fix your bosses up, but solicitation and procurement were not in your job description. Document as best you can the times and places when you were asked to supply them with women. If you're fired, provide that information to the labor board. Your employers are blackmailing you, and their behavior is contemptible.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a 16-year-old male currently living in a boys' home. I'll be here for the next few months. Here's my problem: I tend to fall in love easily. During the three months I've been here, my girlfriend, "Tracy," wrote me twice a day. I thought for sure we were in love. But I haven't received a letter from her in more than a week!

Her excuse is she's busy with school and a part-time job — plus, it's track season and she's on the team. I understand all that, but I'm still worried. I told Tracy how I feel but still haven't gotten a letter back. What should I do now? — **CONFUSED TEENAGER IN THE MIDWEST**

DEAR CONFUSED TEENAGER: I'm sure it's lonely living in new surroundings. However, it's a mistake to depend solely on one person for your happiness. (It's also a heavy responsibility to lay on another person.)

It's time to find a sport, a hobby or some other interest to fill your time. I am sure you'll hear from your girlfriend eventually, but do not get angry with her or make her feel guilty, or you'll lose her.

**

DEAR ABBY: My second husband, "Randy," and I have four children between us — my two, ages 14 and 15, and his daughter, "Katy," 5, and our son, "Timmy," 2.

Recently, I asked Randy if, for my own personal keepsake, we could have a professional portrait taken of him and the three children I bore. He adamantly refused, saying Katy would feel left out.

We have a fairly recent picture in our family room with Katy in it. Timmy, however, is not in the photo because he has autism and refused to have his picture taken that day.

Randy and I have been arguing over this, and it's making me resentful toward him and my stepdaughter. (Katy doesn't live with us, but visits every other weekend.)

Do you think I am selfish to want a picture with just my husband and MY three children? — **MAD STEPMOM IN BEAUMONT, TEXAS**

DEAR MAD STEPMOM: I'm not sure I'd call it selfish. However, it would be enormously insensitive to the feelings of the little girl who lives apart and gets to be with her father and siblings only every other weekend. Look at it from the child's perspective, and you'll see your husband is right.

**

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

**

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

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UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Getting free first step for prisoners

NEW YORK (AP) — Scott Hornoff could use some financial help. Anthony Robinson wants more psychological services. Jim Bromgard would like to come to peace with the years he lost.

The men have different needs, but they share one thing: They were imprisoned for crimes they did not commit, and face numerous hurdles as they try to rebuild their lives.

"I went to prison an 18-year-old kid and I came out a 34-year-old man starting from zero," said Bromgard, of Kalispell, Mont., who was freed last year after a DNA test cleared him of child molestation charges.

Bromgard was part of a group of 34 wrongly convicted men in New York this weekend to kick off The Life After Exoneration Project, a nationwide program to help former prisoners readjust to daily life following wrongful convictions.

Organized by the Innocence Project of the Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law and the DNA Identification Technology and Human Rights Center of Berkeley, Calif., the project brought the men together to learn what social services they need most.

The groups plan to use the suggestions to establish a nationwide support network for the exonerated that includes housing assistance, job training and mental health services.

Several of the participants said financial assistance is a top priority, particularly since they lost most of their savings and borrowed from friends and family to fund the legal battles that proved their innocence.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North	05-12-03
♠ A 5 4	
♥ K Q 6 3	
♦ K Q 5 2	
♣ 8 3	
West	**East**
♠ 8	♠ Q J 9 6
♥ 9 8 4	♥ J 10 7
♦ 10 8 6 3	♦ J 9
♣ A K 7 6 2	♣ 10 9 5 4
South	
♠ K 10 7 3 2	
♥ A 5 2	
♦ A 7 4	
♣ Q J	

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♦	Pass
2 NT	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ A

Monday, May 12, 2003

If you can play safely, do so

By Phillip Alder

Who wrote this? "The things that will destroy America are prosperity-at-any-price, peace-at-any-price, safety-first instead of duty-first, the love of soft living, and the get-rich-quick theory of life."

In bridge, safety-first is devoutly to be desired. If you can find a line of play that either guarantees your contract, or ensures it except against bizarre distribution, you will gain prosperity.

Look at today's North-South hands. How would you declare in four spades? West cashes two top clubs, then shifts to the diamond three.

North has the distribution and point-count for a two-no-trump response, but with an unstopped suit and three-card spade support, it is preferable to respond two diamonds. Also, North should rebid three spades if the partnership plays it as forcing.

The red suits are solid, so you can afford one spade loser, but not two. The safest line, after winning trick three, is to cash dummy's spade ace, then to play a spade toward your hand and cover East's card.

Here, your spade 10 holds the trick, so you cash the spade king and concede one trump trick.

Note that if you win the second spade trick with your king, hoping for a 3-2 split, you will fail. Also, the recommended line of play isn't 100 percent safe. If West began with honor-doubleton of spades and five diamonds, he would win trick five and give his partner a diamond ruff. However, that possibility is less likely than East's having queen-jack-fourth of spades.

The initial passage was written by Theodore Roosevelt in a letter dated January 10, 1917.

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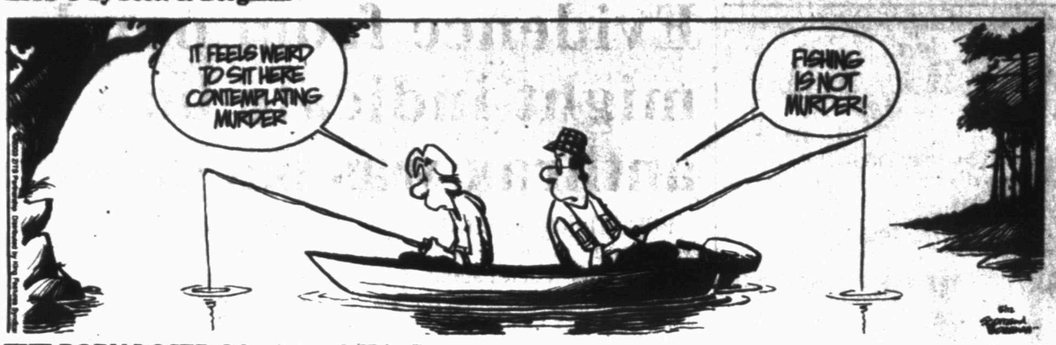

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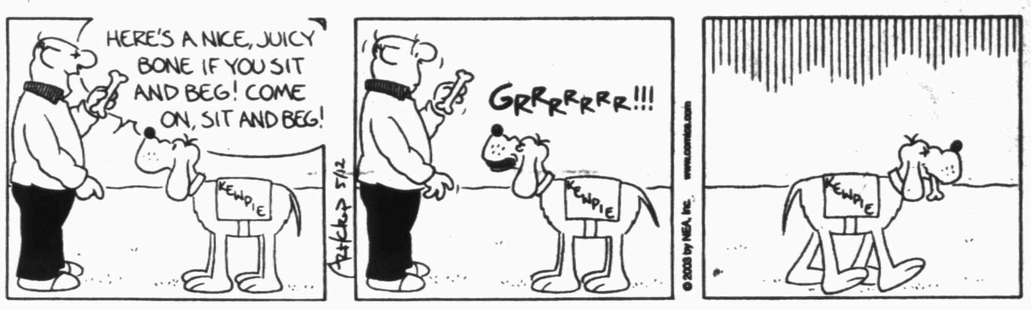

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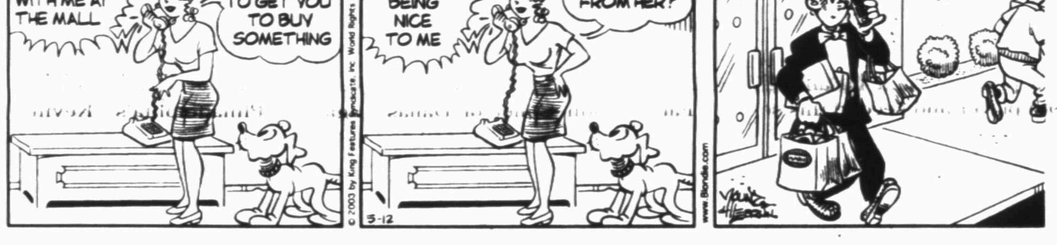

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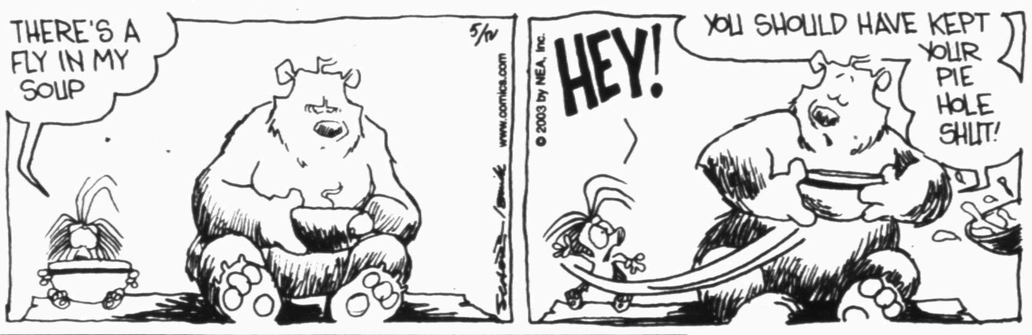

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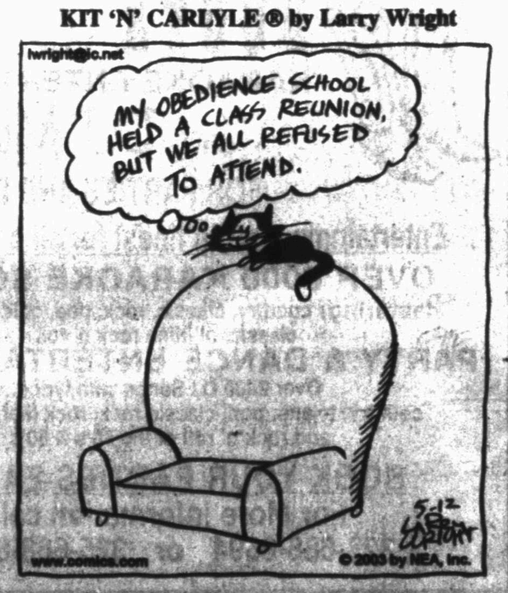

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Canyon comeback
5 Male swan
8 S&L protector
12 Gazpacho
13 Nabokov novel
14 Divine archer
15 Kind of stick
16 Tender pod
17 Stray dog
18 Tough questions
20 Fidel's country
21 — Lanka
22 Cone bearer
23 Not deserved
26 Rented
29 Suds
30 Hubbub (hyph.)
31 Slicker
33 Ottawa prov.
34 Units of work
35 Tie up
36 Deadeye Annie —
38 Old VCRs
39 WNW opposite
40 Food fish
41 Scarce
43 Diploma
46 Mortgage, e.g.
47 Suffered from
48 Fixes a squeak
50 Large lot
51 Ms. Thurman
52 Rocky ledge
53 Sweater material
54 Always, to Poe
55 Superman alias

DOWN

1 Sixth sense
2 Fly the —
3 Sci-fi award
4 Pouched animal
5 Island off Naples
6 Sappho's verse
7 Moo companion
8 Thigh bones
9 Beat badly
10 Tiny speck
11 Okla. time
19 Before
20 Ta-ta in Turin
22 G-men
23 E.T.'s transport
24 Mama's warning (hyph.)
25 Floppy contents
26 Sluggish
27 Radiate
28 Elcar of "MacGyver"
30 Willow or birch
32 LP successors
34 If not
35 Foundation
37 Gist
39 Marsh
40 Evergreen
41 Puerto —
42 Space preceder
43 Knight's wife
44 Ireland
45 Spiritedness
46 Grad-school major
47 Tint
49 Noncom

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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SPORTS

Tigers playoff run ends

LUBBOCK — A slump came at the worst possible time for the Tigers.

After letting game one get away Friday night, the Tigers needed to come out clicking Saturday. Instead, the team fell behind 3-0 after the first inning and never recovered, bowing out of the area playoff with Canyon, 10-2.

"We didn't have everything," Chance Greenwood said. "Coach told us after the game that you are going to have hot and cold streaks. We were on a cold streak. It's not that we weren't trying, but that's the game of baseball."

The Tigers repeatedly hurt themselves in the contest. Starting pitcher Logan Hill was twice called for balks with runners at third base, and threw a wild pitch that led to another run. Shortstop Billy Pena's miscue in the first inning led to the Tigers' early deficit.

"It's disappointing to end it like this," head coach Charles Bollinger said. "We didn't end it playing our best, but that's part of the game. When you face a tough team like Canyon, you have got to be on in all aspects of the game."

The Tigers committed three errors and were held to four hits, while Canyon banged out nine hits and was sharp in the field.

Confusion reigned at the end of the game, as Canyon pitcher Candy Medellin balked in Marcus Villarreal in the seventh, but the run was not posted on the scoreboard, and no signal was given from the umpire.

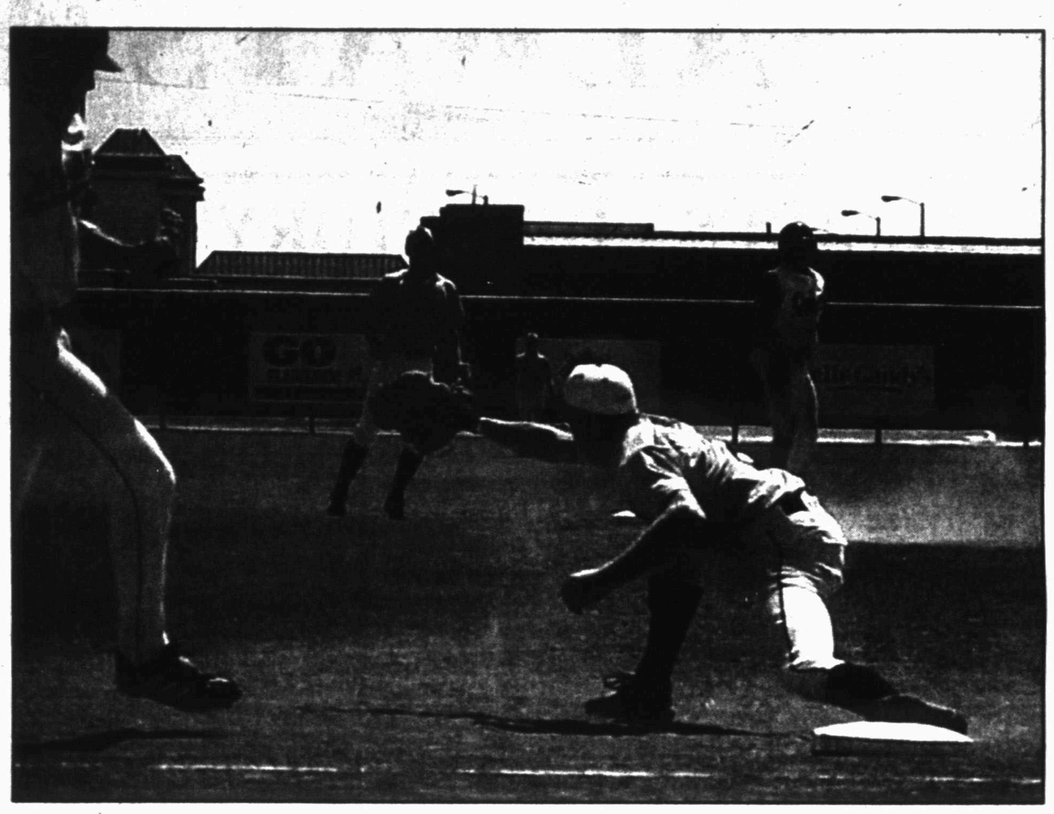
Bollinger said that while he is disappointed with the final series of the year, he said the season was successful.

"I thought throughout the season they did everything that was asked of them," he said. "Aside from Billy (Pena) and Isaac (Ramon) we had a lot of newcomers. A lot of our losses were by one or two runs. The guys played great."

Bollinger said next season is bright for the baseball program.

"I feel great about the future," he said. "We got experience, we've got a lot of young guys and juniors coming back. We are going to work to get better and get back here next year."

Canyon moves on to play Sweetwater, which swept Perryton, 12-6 and 10-9. Seminole was bounced in the bi-district round by Pecos.



TURNING TWO — Snyder first baseman Chance Greenwood squeezes the throw from Blake Grimmett (center) completing a double play on Canyon's Chris McMenamy in the third inning of Saturday's area playoff game. The Tigers were swept from the playoffs by the Eagles. (Contributed Photo)

Wells sets personal record at state meet

October Wells did not get a medal in her first trip to Austin.

What she did get was her fastest 200M time ever, and valuable experience for the next two years.

Wells ran the 200M dash in 25.70 seconds Saturday to give her seventh place in the state in the event. Wells came up just shy of her stated goal of crossing the finish line under 25 seconds.

Wells and the rest of the field in the 200M were delayed several times before the race began.

"It took forever," she said. "We got called out the blocks three times, and they didn't really tell us why."

She said the late start did not have an effect on her performanee.

"I was pretty focused," Wells said.

Antonette Lee of Navasota, in lane eight, ran away from the field, taking the gold with a scorching time of 23.65 seconds.

Earlier Saturday, Wells placed fourth in the triple jump with a leap of 37-4. She said she leapt farther each jump, but scratched on her final attempt. Tangekia Thomas of Forney won the gold with a jump of 37-11.75.

Wells said the experience was positive all the way around.

"It was very fun," she said of her first trip to the Texas capital. "It was hot down there, but it was really pretty."

She said the competition at state was intense.

"They were all really good," she said. "I know what to expect now, and I plan to be back next year."



LANDING ZONE — October Wells lands at 37-4 in the triple jump at the state track meet in Austin Saturday. Wells took fourth in the jump and seventh in the 200M dash. (Contributed Photo by Glenda Boyd)

Cowboys back dies after camp

DALLAS (AP) — Just days before Dallas Cowboys running back Ennis Haywood died of a brief illness, he had impressed teammates with his performance at workouts.

An autopsy was to be scheduled today for Haywood, who was placed on life support at Medical Center of Arlington before his death on Sunday.

A hospital spokesperson said she doesn't know why Haywood, 23, was being treated. But she said an autopsy would determine the cause of death.

Palmeiro belts 500th homer

ARLINGTON (AP) — Rafael Palmeiro got exactly what he was looking for in his final at-bat in a six-game homestand.

He didn't miss, hitting his 500th career homer Sunday before the Texas Rangers hit the road for a six-game trip. The 38-year-old slugger hit a full-count fastball from Cleveland right-hander David Elder for a three-run homer in the seventh inning.

"He threw it right where I was looking for it," Palmeiro said. "I hit it, and I knew I got it."

The left-handed Palmeiro hit the ball 370 feet — into the arms of a priest — and became the 19th player and second this season to join the 500-homer club.

Plus, Texas beat Cleveland 17-10 to stop a three-game losing streak.

"If we would have lost, the whole thing would not have been the same," Palmeiro said.

Hank Blalock went 4-for-5 with four RBIs and the Rangers denied Cleveland its first sweep in Texas in 30 years. Michael Young had three hits and scored three times.

"It's pretty emotional for all of us with Raffy hitting 500 and us getting the win," All-Star shortstop Alex Rodriguez said. "This is the way we all wanted it to happen."

Palmeiro followed Sammy Sosa of the Chicago Cubs, who hit his 500th homer April 4. Sosa has 505, so next on the list is Eddie Murray (504 homers), the Cleveland hitting coach who paid tribute to Palmeiro with a tip of his cap.

A banner that has been hanging high in center field, and updated for every homer since No. 495, was flipped over to 500. A specially designed logo commemorating Palmeiro's feat was unveiled on the right-field wall, his two sons removing the tarp that had covered it.

Father John Collet of Dallas caught the ball, and gave it to Palmeiro in exchange for several autographed items. The bat Palmeiro used will be sent to the Hall of Fame.

"I tried to get a fastball in and just didn't get it there," said Elder, the 328th pitcher Palmeiro has homered off. "He has 500 reasons why pitchers shouldn't make mistakes.

Palmeiro started the six-game homestand Tuesday two shy of the milestone. He hit No. 499 on Thursday against Toronto, and made history 15 plate appearances later.

Like Mickey Mantle in 1967, Palmeiro hit his 500th homer on Mother's Day. His mother, Maria, was there for her last game before returning home to Miami, and got the gift she wanted.

"I talked to my mom last night, and right before she went to bed, she goes, all that I want for Mother's Day is for you to hit the home run," Palmeiro said. "I said thanks for adding a little bit more pressure."

Sosa hit his first home run while playing for the Rangers. Palmeiro, a first-round pick of the Cubs in 1985, hit his first career homer at Wrigley Field against Philadelphia's Kevin Gross on Sept. 9, 1986.

This is the third time two players have reached the milestone in the same season. Eddie Mathews joined Mantle in 1967, and Harmon Killebrew and Frank Robinson did it in 1971. Los Angeles' Fred McGriff could make it three with 17 more.

Kings even series with Mavs; Lakers score final six in win

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — Hedo Turkoglu had 17 points, four rebounds, two steals and two assists as the Kings beat the Dallas Mavericks 99-83 Sunday night to even the Western Conference semifinal series 2-2.

Doug Christie had 13 points, 11 rebounds and seven assists as the Kings showed they are good enough to win without Chris Webber, probably out for the rest of the playoffs with a knee injury.

With their best player on the bench, Christie established the energy early, and it rubbed off on his teammates. All five Sacramento starters scored in double figures and six players reached the mark in all.

There was no panic by the Kings, who played on consecutive nights in the playoffs for the first time in the team's history in Sacramento. The game tipped off just under 22 hours after the Mavericks' dramatic 141-137 double-overtime win in Game 3.

Game 5 in the best-of-seven series is Tuesday night in Dallas.

"This has the makings of a long series," Dallas guard Steve Nash said.

Vlade Divac added 16 points and nine rebounds, and the fun-loving Kings were suddenly themselves again — smiling as they walked off the court during timeouts and patting each other on the back of the head.

The Mavericks averaged 128.7 points through the first three games of the series, but they never got in sync against the Kings' pressure defense — the biggest difference in the outcome.

Dallas' Dirk Nowitzki, who was averaging 27.6 points in the postseason, was held to 11, and was ejected with 2:20 left for kicking a pile of towels after being whistled for a technical.

After that, the game got heated again. Bobby Jackson and Raja Bell both were tossed with 1:14 to go after shoving each other.

Michael Finley and Bell each scored 16 points to lead Dallas, but the Mavs couldn't count on the players who came through in the clutch a night earlier.

Dallas shot just 0-for-9 from 3-point range in the first half and finished 8-of-15, a night after making 19 of 42, an NBA playoff record for attempts.

Lakers 99, Spurs 95

LOS ANGELES (AP) — With assistant Jim Cleamons filling in for Phil Jackson, the three-time defending NBA champions rallied for a 99-95 victory over the San Antonio Spurs on Sunday to even the Western Conference semifinal series 2-2.

The Lakers won by scoring the final six points on two free throws by Shaquille O'Neal and four by Kobe Bryant after the Spurs took a 95-93 lead on Stephen Jackson's 3-pointer with 1:31 left.

Game 5 will be played Tuesday night in San Antonio and Game 6 Thursday night at Staples Center.

Sacramento and Philadelphia also tied their series Sunday, with the Kings beating Dallas 99-83, and the 76ers edging Detroit 95-82. On Monday night, New Jersey is at Boston, with the Nets up 3-0.

Barnes reaches 50 feet in shot put in Austin

Ira junior Jake Barnes finished sixth in the shot put at the state track meet in Austin Friday, setting a personal record in the process.



Jake Barnes

Barnes, who also set a personal record in the regional meet with a throw of 48-3.5, topped that with a hurl of 50 feet.

James Williams of Clarendon earned the gold, and Cal Walker of Spur took the silver. Jim Ed Baugh of Falls City was third.



APPROACH SHOT — Snyder's Catherine Whitworth hits her second shot on 15 in the opening round of the state tournament Friday. Snyder won the state championship in both the boys and girls divisons at the Jimmy Clay Golf Course in Austin. (SDN Staff Photo)

Sports Briefs

Snyder slow pitch league

The Snyder Slow Pitch Association is trying to form a softball league. Call Bobby Velasquez at 915-868-0166 or 574-1923 for more information.

Ladies play day

The SCGA hosts a ladies play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday. Format is swingers.

Volleyball booster club meeting changed

The SHS volleyball booster club has changed the location of Tuesday's meeting. The club will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday at the high school gym, instead of the College Avenue Dairy Queen.

LGA spring tournament

The Ladies Golf Association will have its spring tournament at Scurry County golf course Saturday and Sunday.

Memorial Day scramble

A Memorial Day scramble will be held May 26 at Scurry County golf course. Tee-off is 10 a.m.

Country Club pool opening

The Snyder Country Club pool will open May 24. Hours are 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.

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Tuesday, May 13
New Jersey at Ottawa, 8 p.m.
Wednesday, May 14
Minnesota at Anaheim, 9 p.m.
Thursday, May 15
Ottawa at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Friday, May 16
Minnesota at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.
Saturday, May 17
Ottawa at New Jersey, 3 p.m.
Sunday, May 18
Anaheim at Minnesota, 7 p.m., if necessary
Monday, May 19
New Jersey at Ottawa, 7 p.m., if necessary
Tuesday, May 20
Minnesota at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m., if necessary
Wednesday, May 21
Ottawa at New Jersey, 7 p.m., if necessary

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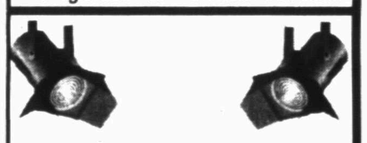

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Black cow with white bag.
Vicinity of CR 151. 573-2947

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can earn 50%. Must be 18. Fee $10. For details call 573-1271
Independent Representative

Barber or cosmetologist, full or part time. Apply at Rose Barber Shop, 1712 25th. 573-1379

CINEMA
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Call 57-FILMS or drop in today!

Employment

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MAINTENANCE POSITION AVAILABLE
The Colorado River Municipal Water District has an opening for a Maintenance Worker at Lake Thomas. A CDL license and mechanical experience are helpful. District benefits include paid vacation, sick leave, retirement plan, group insurance and paid holidays. The District is an equal opportunity employer. Applications are available at the District's office, 400 East 24th Street, Big Spring, Texas.

Maintenance/Mechanic
Must be 25 years old.
Apply in person @ Snyder Lanes.

Make up to $2,000.00 in 11 days.
Looking for enthusiastic adult to manage a fireworks stand outside Snyder June 24 thru July 4. No investment required. Phone 10am thru 5pm for more info. 830-429-1408 or 830-429-3808.

NEEDED
Experienced waitress, flexible hours. Call between 8a.m.–8p.m. 573-8139

PART-TIME NURSERY WORKER
for First Baptist Church. Must be able to work during Sunday Worship Services. If interested, please pick up an application at 1701 27th St.

Rolling Plains Physicians
Office in Sweetwater has a position for a full time Radiology Technician. Certified in mammography, MRT or ARRT registered. Interested parties may fax resume to (325) 235-5925.

Truck Driver Wanted
Class A CDL and clean driving record required. Drug screening & references will be checked. Come by Snyder Iron & Metal, 208 N. Old Post Road.

WANTED
Experienced industrial pump mechanic. Knowledge of compressors, stationary engines, and machine shop helpful. Fax letter and/or resume to 432-267-8155.

SUBWAY
HELP WANTED
Apply in person only, 3903 College Ave.

Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital Sweetwater, TX
is currently seeking a Patient Financial Counselor. Qualified applicants must have High School diploma or equivalent and previous experience in filing commercial insurance for Outpatient, E.R. and Inpatient claims. Position is responsible for follow-up on claims, communication with insurance company and/or patient and assisting customers with questions regarding claims.
Fax resume to 235-1783 or call 235-1701, ext. 222 to request application.
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Redistricting debate to begin today

AUSTIN (AP — Contentious legislation that would drastically alter the state's congressional districts in favor of Republicans was scheduled to hit the House floor for debate today.

Democrats have vehemently opposed legislation that would increase the number of Republican districts from 15 to 19, while decreasing the Democrat districts from 17 to 13.

U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land, has implored the Texas Legislature to redraw congressional lines with 20 Republicans to reflect the state's GOP majority. A federal court drew Texas' congressional districts after state lawmakers failed to do so in 2001, leaving open the possibility that the districts could be redrawn by the Texas Legislature.

Democrats argue that they are not required by the Constitution to redraw district lines, particularly in a non-redistricting year.

The map, by Rep. Phil King, R-Weatherford, drew criticism for breaking up Harris, Travis, Hidalgo and Bell counties. Opponents said dividing those counties would dilute the strength of communities like Houston's Fifth Ward and the Hispanic influence of the Rio Grande Valley.

Republicans have touted a redistricting plan as a gain to Texas minorities because it would add up to two Hispanic districts and one black district.

But Democrats argued that the loss of four Democrats, who historically vote in favor of minority interests, would counteract the addition of minority members.

Texas currently has six Hispanics in Congress and seven Hispanic districts. Rep. Gene Green, D-Houston, who is white, represents one of those districts.

King said his plan would likely lead to the election of eight Hispanics and seven Hispanic districts.

But Rep. Richard Raymond, a Laredo Democrat who sits on the redistricting committee, argued that Hispanics would not make gains in representation because Rep. Henry Bonilla, R-San Antonio, also has a majority Hispanic district, but does not win a majority of that group's vote.

For that reason, Democrats say Bonilla, although Hispanic, is not the preferred candidate among Hispanics.

Texas currently has two black members, but King said his map provides for another predominantly black district in Harris County.

Raymond, who spent days arguing against the Republicans' redistricting plan, filed a complaint with the Justice Department alleging violations of the Voting Rights Act and Civil Rights Act.

Raymond, who repeatedly requested that field hearings be conducted around the state as required in the Voting Rights Act, was angered by the committee's refusal to do so.

Mike Villarreal, vice chairman of the Texas House Committee on Redistricting, said he intends to file a House minority report that would offer the full House an alternative to the legislation voted out of committee.

He acknowledged that the chances of the Republican-ruled House adopting the minority report were slim, but said it could be important for future litigation.

Democratic U.S. Rep. Martin Frost has criticized the map DeLay supports, saying it is bizarre and has strangely shaped districts that will not stand up to court scrutiny.

Stenholm says DeLay's plan for redistricting harmful to farmers

LUBBOCK (AP) — U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Sugar Land, is destroying the bipartisanship the Texas congressional delegation has prided itself upon with his pitch to the Texas Legislature to pass a redistricting plan that could cost Democrats as many as seven seats in Washington, says U.S. Rep. Charlie Stenholm, D-Stamford.

"Tom has poisoned the well with his activities on this like nothing I have ever seen," Stenholm was quoted as saying in Sunday's online edition of the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

DeLay flew to Austin and made a personal pitch on Thursday to Republican legislators expected to vote soon on a new, GOP-drafted plan.

The Texas plan, which has passed out of a House committee and is expected to be voted on today by the full House, would change districts statewide. Democrats say the plan likely would move at least four districts from Democratic to Republican hands.

The redistricting efforts are part of a national strategy to shore up Republican seats in Congress and ensure President Bush a solid majority in a race for a second term. Republicans hold a 229-205 advantage over Democrats in the U.S. House, with one independent, but Democrats have a 17-15 edge in the Texas delegation.

Democrats say the GOP plan, which Texas House Speaker Tom Craddick favors, could cost them up to seven seats.

Stenholm said if the Republican effort succeeds, it would create a potentially damaging environment for agriculture and rural America. Stenholm has been a congressman since 1979 and is the ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee. A conservative Democrat, Stenholm helped Rep. Larry Combest, R-Lubbock, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, to author and pass the latest farm bill.

With major issues on the table in Washington and Austin and a serious need for bipartisanship, Stenholm said he finds the timing fascinating.

"Here we are with the Texas Legislature struggling to meet very serious budget concerns — where bipartisan action is needed, and nationally bipartisanship would be helpful," he said.

"And now boy genius is weighing in on Texas House legislative redistricting," Stenholm said, referring to DeLay. "At this point in time, it certainly doesn't make those of us in the minority feel real warm toward what they are doing."

The GOP proposal would put much of Stenholm's 17th District into the 19th District, forcing Stenholm to run in a district that has become heavily Republican in recent years. The plan would remove Odessa and Midland from the 19th.

"(DeLay's) thinking is totally flawed," Stenholm said. "My district is totally Republican in every race but my own."

Combest, who has been representing the 19th District in Congress for 18 years, is resigning at the end of the month. Two Republicans — certified public accountant Mike Conaway of Midland and land developer Randy Neugebauer of Lubbock — will meet in a runoff to replace Combest.

Charges pending as classmates mourn shooting victims

CLEVELAND (AP) — Charges against a man who allegedly went on a shooting rampage at a university business school won't be filed until police finish gathering evidence in the cordoned-off building where a man was fatally shot and two others wounded, authorities said.

Police Sgt. Donna Bell said investigators could finish processing the scene at Case Western Reserve University as early as today and file charges against former Case graduate student Biswanath Halder, who was being held in the city jail. He had not hired an attorney or had any visitors as of Sunday, Bell said.

Halder, 62, was arrested after a seven-hour standoff Friday with police in the Peter B. Lewis Building, a shiny, swirling building filled with twisting corridors that complicated Halder's capture. Authorities said 93 people had been trapped inside, hiding in offices, classrooms and closets.

Two people injured in the shooting — a 32-year-old man shot in the buttocks and a 46-year-old woman shot in her collar bone — were released from the hospital Saturday.

Hundreds of people attended a campus prayer service Sunday and lit candles in the memory of Norman Wallace, 30, the graduate student who was killed. University president Edward M. Hundert said the campus service and a service earlier in the day at Wallace's hometown church in Youngstown sent a strong message of mutual support.

By attending the service, Bishop Prince Moultry of the Intouch Christian Center Moultry told those present, "It's your way of saying, 'We love you and the dream will never die.'"



On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Alternative cancer treatment gives false hope

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I have a very close friend who has been diagnosed with advanced colon and liver cancer. He is considering trying Controlled Amino Acid Therapy (CAAT), developed by A.P. John in Greenwich, Conn. I have not been able to locate any information about this therapy anywhere on the Internet, except on his facility's Web site and to learn that he introduced it to the NIH. I realize you are not a medical doctor, but you seem to be able to find out about different alternative therapies. Do you know anything about this one and is there any advice you might give? Many thanks for your efforts. — **H.W., no address given**

DEAR H.W.: Cancer is not one disease, but a group of different diseases that share the common characteristic of cells growing at a rate that is out of control. When a cancer is discovered in an advanced stage, time quickly becomes a valuable commodity. Deciding on an appropriate treatment can be exasperating, especially if traditional medicine doesn't have the hopeful answers you might seek. Under these circumstances, optimistic assertions regarding unusual therapies might be viewed in a favorable light.

New approaches to cancer therapy are always being investigated. I did some checking on Controlled Amino Acid Therapy and had a similar experience to yours. I had problems finding competent and reliable scientific data to support any contention that the treatment is more than just theoretical.

Protein is made up of about 20 different amino acids. The body can manufacture most of these on its own, but there are nine that the body either cannot make at all or is unable to make in sufficient amounts to meet its needs. These "essential amino acids" are why we need protein or other foods containing amino acids in our diet. As I understand it, the theory behind Controlled Amino Acid Therapy is that fast-growing cancer cells don't need the same types and amounts of amino acids as normal cells. By depriving cancer cells of the amino acids they need, they become weak and the body's normal defenses are able to step in and defeat the intruder. Even those not trained in the health sciences can see the logic behind selectively starving cancer cells. If such an approach was possible, it would be a wonderful treatment indeed. But how do you know which amino acids are for specific types of cancer cells? And how do you prevent the cancer from grabbing the amino acids it lacks from the surrounding cells and thus threatening their health?

Clearly we need to see published research in which this method is put to some sort of objective test, with the results published in a peer-reviewed journal. I also checked to see if these ideas were being tested at any research institutions, or if any proponents of the therapy had published work that might affirm the approach. Sadly, I found a shortage of supporting evidence that this treatment might have a detrimental effect on any type of cancer cells. This is not a new approach, so the lack of studies is very telling. Controlled Amino Acid Therapy is, however, listed as a dubious cancer treatment on Quackwatch (www.quackwatch.org) and, due to a lack of evidence, is discounted in the Guide to Complementary and Alternative Cancer Methods, by David S. Rosenthal, M.D., (American Cancer Society, 2000).

I am left to conclude that it is a treatment that makes sense on an intuitive level, but is off-target from a scientific standpoint. Without proof, it's impossible to say whether this is quackery or a treatment that might one day prove to be of value. The fact that you only read about it on a promotional Web site speaks volumes.

I wish the news were more optimistic, and I sincerely wish you and your friend well and hope that you are able to find a way to defeat this most terrible foe.

Correction: The April 1 column on food coloring stated that artificial colors tend to be destroyed during processing. This is incorrect. Naturally occurring food colors, not artificial ones, tend to be destroyed during processing. The destruction of natural colors is one of the reasons that color additives are used in processed foods.

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

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	7.08	6.68	7.00	+.40
AOL TimeWrn	13.18	12.95	13.14	+.12
AT&T Corp rs	16.64	16.23	16.30	—.21
Albertsons	20.94	20.57	20.91	+.10
Alltel	48.26	47.72	48.07	+.09
AmEl Pw	25.63	25.20	25.61	+.11
AndarkPtr	46.34	45.60	46.30	+.54
ATMOS Egy	23.44	23.27	23.36	—.08
Aviall	9.60	9.30	9.60	+.40
BP PLC	40.40	40.01	40.40	+.32
BakerHughes	30.25	29.38	30.25	+.51
Bank of Amer	74.54	73.51	74.51	+.51
BellSouth	26.91	26.41	26.68	+.45
BurlNoSFe	28.50	28.04	28.47	+.18
Caterpillar	54.00	52.90	53.86	+.71
CenterPoint	8.12	7.98	8.09	+.12
ChevronTex	67.82	67.25	67.80	+.25
Citigroup	39.25	38.43	39.24	+.19
CocaCola	44.49	43.87	44.41	+.42
ColgatePal	57.49	57.07	57.37	
CmclMetals s	17.74	17.56	17.67	+.13
ConocoPhill	51.37	50.71	51.37	+.57
Cooper Inds	38.09	37.68	38.05	+.55
DaimlrChry	32.05	31.75	32.05	—.42
DeltaAirl	14.03	13.80	13.99	—.01
Dillards Inc	14.45	14.10	14.38	+.20
DowChem	31.98	31.54	31.90	—.07
DuPont	43.30	42.60	43.23	+.33
EastmanChem	31.00	30.30	30.90	+.20
EstKodak	30.18	29.84	30.17	—.10
EDS Corp	17.63	17.45	17.60	+.02
Entergy	48.63	48.23	48.57	+.05
ExxonMobil	35.45	35.21	35.41	—.06
FootLocker	11.66	11.39	11.53	
GenDynam	61.52	60.92	61.46	+.25
GenElec	29.07	28.75	28.99	—.01
GenMills	45.67	45.29	45.66	+.13
GenMotors	36.18	35.70	36.13	+.16
GaPacific	18.40	17.67	18.35	+.36
Goodrich	16.36	16.13	16.25	—.11
Goodyear	6.75	6.53	6.74	+.07
GtAtlPac	8.70	8.55	8.70	+.01
Halliburtn	23.42	22.71	23.28	—.42
Hanson ADS	27.80	27.55	27.60	+.05
HartfdHanks s	19.53	19.41	19.50	+.15
HomeDepot	29.79	29.42	29.74	+.03
Honeywellntl	24.46	23.90	24.44	+.25
IBM	88.86	87.10	88.50	+.95
IntlPaper	37.44	36.29	37.38	+.85
JohnsonJn	56.40	55.55	55.67	—.67
KinderMorg	46.70	46.30	46.68	+.03
Kroger Co	14.44	14.16	14.33	+.02
LockheedM	48.90	48.54	48.82	—.02
Lowes Cos	45.60	44.90	45.57	+.28
Lubys	2.07	1.96	2.07	+.07
LucentTech	2.20	2.14	2.16	+.01
MarathonOil	23.61	23.37	23.60	+.10
MayDeptStr	22.12	21.50	22.06	+.33
Medtronic	48.12	46.79	47.95	+1.46
Motorola	8.00	7.89	8.00	+.03
NCR Corp	23.63	22.82	23.57	+.57
Navistar	28.17	27.65	28.02	+.11
PNM Rescs	23.65	23.30	23.64	+.23
Penney JC	17.52	17.02	17.47	+.32
PepBoys	9.44	9.20	9.34	+.02
PepsiCo	43.90	43.52	43.86	+.17
PhelpDodge	33.02	32.52	32.99	—.02
PilgrmPrd B	8.70	8.40	8.70	—.08
Praxair	58.35	57.50	58.25	+.32
ProctGamb	89.40	88.71	88.88	—.62
RadioShack	24.13	23.38	23.98	+.34
RoyalDut	44.40	44.00	44.32	+.03
SBC Comm	24.71	24.07	24.57	+.90
SaraLee	17.79	17.72	17.76	+.08
Scripps EW	83.10	82.46	82.79	+.56
SearsRoeb	27.40	26.70	27.24	+.03
ShenwinW	27.72	27.52	27.72	+.08
SouthernCo	29.10	28.87	29.09	+.03
SwstAirl	16.14	15.82	16.08	+.11
SprintFON	11.67	11.37	11.62	+.05
SprintPCS	3.84	3.75	3.81	—.03
Sunoco Inc	37.30	36.90	37.16	—.15
TXU Corp	19.00	18.75	18.91	+.04
TempleInland	46.56	45.77	46.46	+.24
Textind	21.00	20.83	20.99	+.19
Texasinst	20.15	19.80	19.99	—.01
Textron	32.38	31.66	32.37	+.68
TrinityInds	18.21	17.83	18.19	+.30
TylerTech	4.09	4.04	4.06	+.01
UnionPacif	60.74	60.10	60.74	+.38
USSteel	14.35	13.95	14.26	—.02
UnitedTech	65.28	64.61	65.26	+.46
Unocal	28.37	28.14	28.35	—.09
VerizonComm	37.54	36.83	37.46	+.42
WalMart	56.17	55.43	56.14	+.34
WellsFargo	47.88	47.20	47.83	+.41
WestGasRs	39.99	39.30	39.98	+.81
WinnDixie	12.73	12.49	12.61	—.16
Xerox Cp	10.29	10.10	10.26	+.04
YumBrands s	25.60	25.05	25.59	+.31

SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIED
ALWAYS A WINNER

Employment

Personal Care Attendant needed in Hermleigh to assist aged and disabled individuals in their homes. Tasks include assistance with personal care, light housekeeping and other tasks as assigned. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older. Contact Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital Home Health at 235-1701 (ext. 413) or fax resume to 235-1783

Instructions

Concealed Handgun Classes For information call Gene Groce 574-2305

Defensive Driving Classes Saturday May 10th, 8a.m.–3p.m. or Mon. & Tues. May 12th–13th, 6p.m.– 9p.m. each night. 2619 College Ave. 573-2850

Woman's Column

In home day care. CPR certified. $60/week Call 573-2322.

Farmer's Column

Bar-R-Dozer Grubing, Raking, Clearing Fence Line. Work with farm programs. Free Estimates. Raygene Shipp 325-338-5656 325-962-2416

Custom Wheat Harvesting 573-1535, leave message.

FOR SALE (5) polled Hereford yearling bulls. Call 573-7994.

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*Computer desk, $100
*Corner computer desk, $50
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*Large display/bakery case, $250
*RCA color TV, $150
*Day bed, $200
Call **574-1520**, Mon.–Fri. or see at 1210 25th.

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Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8a.m.-3:30p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used children's clothes. Donations of useable & sellable items accepted. For local pickup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

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Furnished 1 bedroom apartment for rent. Nice & clean. Located in Hermleigh. Call 863-2700.

Apartments For Rent

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Snyder, TX
573-1488
Quality Living At An Affordable Price
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Pool
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Houses For Rent

2 bedroom home furnished w/refrigerator, stove, washer/dryer, garage. $450/mo. 1805 38th. Contact at 1809 38th or call 573-9066 for appointment.

2 bedroom house, 2-car garage, CH/A, range & refrigerator furnished, water furnished. Deposit required. $375/mo. 573-7759

Small 1 bedroom house w/fenced yard. Refrigerator, stove, washer/dryer furnished, air-conditioning, water paid. $300/mo. Single or couple only. Deposit required. 573-7759

Mobile Homes

18x80 2/3 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, axles & wheels. $11,500 863-2300 or 863-2276

Commercial Buildings for Sale or Lease

Business building for rent. 1900 37th St. 573-5285

Real Estate

I BUY HOUSES (325) 207-2122

Custom built home, 3-2½-2, at 2511 34th St. Large family & dining room, breakfast area, sunroom/office. New tile, carpet, paint, wallpaper & laminate wood floors. New built-in appliances in kitchen. Automatic sprinkler system. Call for appointment, 574-2670.

For Sale 2 bedroom, 1 bath brick house.
For Rent 1 bedroom furnished apartment. Deposit required. No bills paid. **(325)207-2122**

For Sale By Owner 2-1, garage w/office, appliances. $31,000 By appointment only. 4104 Eastridge 573-0899

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Shop Bldg. + 3 Lots 407 College & 2-1 Merrill
111 Peach 2 or 3-1.....$12.5T
5 Business Shopping Complex 606 Coliseum
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80 acres 5 mi. SW of Hermleigh, 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building.....Call
Fisher Co. [redacted] house approx. 19 miles east of Snyder.....Call
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We Need Listings
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Swim suit model wins 6th 'Survivor'

NEW YORK (AP) — Jenna Morasca wasn't expecting to be the newest "Survivor" millionaire when the ballots were finally tallied.

"I'm shocked," the 21-year-old swimsuit model told the Associated Press moments after she was declared winner Sunday over Matthew Von Ertfelda, a 33-year-old restaurant designer from Washington, D.C., on the live finale of "Survivor: The Amazon."

Morasca said that in December she returned home to Pittsburgh from her adventure expecting that the sealed vote had gone Von Ertfelda's way: "He embodies everything a survivor is. He's an amazing guy.

"But I'm so proud of myself," she added, "and happy that I won."

On this, the sixth season of CBS' hit adventure game show, it was an upset victory (and a blowout vote) for Morasca, who since "Amazon" premiered in February had been generally regarded as good-looking but spoiled and lazy.

During the months she waited to learn her fate, Morasca said she rested, hit the gym "to get back some of the muscle that I lost," and regained 20 pounds dropped during the rugged ordeal. "I stuffed my face with chocolate," she confided.

For beating 15 others in the competition, which was taped during 39 days last fall in a remote rain forest on the Amazon River, Morasca collects the $1 million prize as "sole survivor." Runner-up Von Ertfelda wins $100,000.

Now what will she do with the money? Pay school loans and take her mom on a vacation, she said. "Then we'll see if there's anything left."

Sunday's broadcast began with four finalists, but middle school principal Butch Lockley and Rob Cesternino, a computer projects coordinator, were eliminated before the final tribal jury. The 6-1 vote for Morasca, sealed since December, was handed down by a jury of seven ousted "Amazon" castaways.

Widely considered the best "Survivor" season since the original that aired Summer 2000, "Survivor: The Amazon" began with a fresh wrinkle: For the first time, the castaways were divided into male and female tribes.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Tuesday, May 13, 2003

Your financial wherewithal can be improved appreciatively in the year ahead. The ways and means to do so will be provided by those very persons who you have knocked yourself out to be helpful to in the past.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — The easiest jobs at work today might be snapped up by others, leaving you with all the unpleasant ones to contend with. This will not go unnoticed by the powers that be, and you'll be duly rewarded.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — If you keep everybody cooperating with one another, gossip or idle chatter meant to disarm others won't gain any legs. Without harmony the project could collapse.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Don't break any plans you've made with friends today in order to take advantage of what others are trying to convince you would be more fun. Keep your promises and you'll keep your friendships.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Don't expect immediate acknowledgement for a job you do for another today and you won't be disappointed. You will be compensated by this person in larger measure in due time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Spending funds that haven't come in yet on something frivolous today will be regretted when what comes later has to go to paying for these past actions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Showing appreciation will mean a lot to those who assist you today. Don't step out of character and forget to be as grateful as you should to those who stand by your side.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — The very persons you expect to be there for you today won't be anywhere around when you need them. However, keep doing your best and a least expected source will fill in where needed.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — A situation that has thus far not been working out too well has a chance to improve today so long as you don't get overly anxious and start sounding off about things. Give it a bit more time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — A worldly objective for which you'll be striving today can be fulfilled, but you must show patience and understanding or you could alienate the very persons who can grant your wish.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Treat others kindly today, but don't act against your best interests just to placate a sorehead. You know how to do what needs doing without making any enemies.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — You won't chalk up any points today with a friend if you keep reminding this person how much you have done for him or her and how little she or he has done for you. Don't dwell in this realm.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — In order for a collective effort to succeed today, some financial renegotiations need to take place first. Unless the discord is removed, the goals will not be attained.

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President Bush fields questions on golf course

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP) — For the second day in a row, President Bush said he wasn't going to take reporters' questions on the golf course. Then, he made an exception. "Yes, I talked to my mother."

And how was she on Mothers' Day morning? "Slightly sleepy but appreciative," the president said of his phone conversation with former first lady Barbara Bush.

Then, he answered another question, but a little more testily. Asked about Vice President Cheney's comments in a newspaper interview last week that he would be on the president's 2004 re-election ticket, Bush said: "Last November, I said he was going to be on the ticket." He referred to remarks he had made at a wide-ranging news conference then.

Bush told his golfing companions before teeing off that he'd had "a rough day yesterday, but I think we'll recover."

The president expressed exasperation at several photographers whom he apparently thought had inched too close to his ball's potential trajectory as he prepared to swing.

"You are one of my favorites and I'd hate to stick this Titlest (golf ball) between your eyes," he said to one. Photographers quickly scurried back and Bush completed his swing.

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BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

Spotlight



Snyder Oaks Care Center, located at 210 East 37th Street, is proud to have provided the best in long term care for the senior citizens of Snyder and the surrounding areas since 1977.

The facility is licensed to house 97 residents and is Medicare and Medicaid approved. Twenty-four hour nursing care is provided along with an in-house rehabilitation team specializing in physical, occupational and speech therapy. Respiratory therapy is a special service offered along with diabetes and oxygen therapy.

Dietary specialists insure that special diet needs are met and optional menu items are available. Residents dine in a large, open dining room.

A Social Service Director serves as a resident advocate, oversees advanced directives and provides a link to community services.

Daily activities are provided for the residents consisting of exercise programs, games, musical programs and church services.

The Special Care Unit is certified to address the needs of residents with Alzheimer's Disease and other forms of dementia. This unit provides a secure, stable environment where residents are encouraged to maintain or reach their maximum level of independence through programs that are supportive and therapeutic.

At Snyder Oaks they believe that every resident should be provided the opportunity to reach their highest level of independence and their goal is to exceed the resident's and family's expectations for a care center.

Feel free to stop by for a tour or call 915-573-9377 for more information.

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Capital murder cases burden to 'Hidalgo'

McALLEN (AP) — Capital murder charges filed against 12 men in two separate massacres in Edinburg and Donna have created a record burden for a Hidalgo County court system already struggling to handle such cases.

Hidalgo County has 16 capital murder trials pending. The county has never before had this many capital murder cases at one time, Hidalgo County District Attorney Rene Guerra told The (McAllen) Monitor.

Eight men face charges of killing six men Jan. 5 in Edinburg, two men are charged with killing five women Sept. 5 in Donna and two other men are being held in both cases.

Trials for the men, who will be tried separately, are in six different state district courts at the Hidalgo County Courthouse.

Four other capital murder cases are currently awaiting trial in the county, according to the district attorney's office.

"The county got hit at once," said Mark Hernandez, a court-appointed attorney representing Roberto Rodriguez Cantu, who is charged in the Edinburg murders. "It's something the county has to deal with now."

The Rio Grande Valley county, which is bordered to the south by Mexico, is paying for the defense of 11 of the 12 defendants through the indigent defense fund. That's a problem for a county that has few attorneys willing or able to take on court-appointed capital murder cases, said Isidro Sepulveda Jr., project manager for Hidalgo County's indigent defense program.

To handle a death penalty case, in which two attorneys are appointed, the lead counsel must have served on 15 felony jury trials and tried two death penalty cases as first or second-chair defense counsel.

Only 11 attorneys in Hidalgo County are qualified and able to handle capital murder cases with a punishment of the death penalty, Sepulveda said. Eight of those attorneys were retained as court-appointed defense attorneys in the capital murder cases.

"There are very few lawyers willing to do it for the fees being paid," said David Hall, director of Rural Legal Aid in Weslaco. "Lawyers who are really competent at this are not going to take these cases on because they're tired of subsidizing the state. You've got to get adequate trial counsel or else everything else is lost, including the life of the defendant."

Court-appointed attorneys are paid $40 an hour for out-of-court work and $70 an hour for in-court work, according to the Hidalgo County auditor's office. But an attorney hired privately for defense in a capital murder case typically charges up to $200 an hour, Hall said.

Jim Bethke, director of the state Task Force on Indigent Defense, said the problems facing Hidalgo County aren't unique in Texas.

"We've got over 80,000 attorneys (statewide), but there's not that many who are able to handle capital murder cases," Bethke said.

The attorney defending Jorge Martinez, who has been charged in the Edinburg killings, was not on the list of court-appointed attorneys maintained by the indigent defense fund. Still, Ricardo Palacios was selected by Judge Aida Salinas Flores to be second counsel on the case.

Pneumonia vaccine may help hearts as well

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vaccine used to prevent pneumonia may also have benefits for the heart, new research indicates.

Mice vaccinated using a bacteria that is a common cause of pneumonia developed high levels of an antibody that slows or halts the progression of heart disease, researchers working in California and Finland found.

Trials are under discussion to see if the same response occurs in larger animals, says Gregg J. Silverman of the University of California, San Diego, a co-author of the study.

"If we can harness this potential, we may have new ways to treat patients with heart disease, as well as the possibility of developing a vaccine for our children to prevent this disease from ever developing in their later years," Silverman said.

But the situation is far more complicated in humans than mice, said university colleague Joseph J. Witztum, a co-author of the paper.

Immunizing mice with pneumococcus leads to the generation of antibodies that the researchers believe lead to the protection from heart disease, he said. "We do not yet know if such a dominant and important response occurs in people."

The mouse vaccine is not the same as that used in humans. It was designed to increase production of particular antibodies that can affect the heart.

"New formulations for (human) clinical use would be required," Silverman said, "but such a vaccine should be straightforward to develop and test."

Dr. William Schaffner, head of preventive medicine at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, welcomed the findings.

"Is this provocative? Yes," said Schaffner, who was not involved in the research. "This is exceedingly provocative and I hope it stimulates all kinds of work, not only by this group but also by industry.

"Wouldn't it be marvelous if one could develop a vaccine that not only protected against pneumococcus but also offered, simply by biological chance or fluke, the added advantage of offering some protection against atherosclerosis."

The findings, reported in today's online issue of the journal Nature Medicine, come a month after other researchers reported that, among 286,000 older people, hospital stays for heart disease or stroke during two flu seasons were substantially reduced for those who got flu shots.

Mice and humans with atherosclerosis — in which deposits build up inside blood vessels — often have high levels of antibodies that target the diseased areas in their blood vessels, Silverman said.

When researchers analyzed the antibodies, they "were surprised to discover that some of these antibodies were exactly identical to antibodies that were known to also protect mice from bacterial infections," Silverman said.

"This led us to wonder whether the same antibodies might be important for defense from common infections, and for defense from what is now the most common lethal disease" in the United States, heart disease.

'X2' retains top spot; Murphy movie is #2

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Mutants preserved their power at the box office as "X2: X-Men United" remained the No. 1 movie, taking in $41.4 million in its second weekend.

Eddie Murphy's family comedy "Daddy Day Care," in which he plays an out-of-work father who starts a toddler-tending business, opened in second place with $27.6 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"X2," the sequel based on the comic book about genetic mutants with superpowers, lifted its 10-day total to $149 million after an opening weekend of $85.6 million, the fourth best of all-time.

By Wednesday, "X2" should pass the $157.3 million that "X-Men" took in during its entire run three years ago, said Bruce Snyder, head of distribution for 20th Century Fox, which released both movies.

The improved box office indicates fans of the comic books drove the first film, while its exposure since then through home video and TV airings has broadened the franchise's appeal, Snyder said.

"It's grown in stature, plus this one got the kind of reviews that drove more of an adult audience and a female audience to see it, people who might not normally go to see a comic-book-based story," Snyder said.

The overall box office was down, with the top 12 movies grossing $103 million, off 11 percent from the same weekend last year, when "Spider-Man" continued to dominate theaters.

Murphy, whose early movie career was built on street-smart action comedies such as "Beverly Hills Cop" and "48 Hrs.", has bombed in his recent edgier flicks, including last year's "Showtime," I Spy" and "The Adventures of Pluto Nash."

His hits lately have come from family movies such as "The Nutty Professor," "Doctor Dolittle" and their sequels.

"Eddie Murphy is Bill Cosby," said Tom Sherak, a partner in Revolution Studios, which produced "Daddy Day Care" for Sony. "People who grew up with the edgy Eddie Murphy, they're older now and parents, but they still want to see him. He's not that urban kid any more, he's a grown-up, a good father and family man, and he makes these movies that appeal to families."

Opening "Daddy Day Care" over the family-friendly Mother's Day weekend helped, and the studio avoided big head-to-head competition by sandwiching it between the opening weekends of "X2" and the upcoming "The Matrix Reloaded," said Rory Bruer, Sony head of distribution.

"The Matrix Reloaded," which debuts Thursday, is expected to top the $58 million opening weekend of "Hannibal," the record-holder for R-rated movies. But the higher rating could make it tough for "Matrix Reloaded" to match the opening of "X2," which is rated PG-13.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at North American theaters, according to Exhibitor Relations Co. Inc. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. "X2: X-Men United," $41.4 million.
2. "Daddy Day Care," $27.6 million.
3. "The Lizzie McGuire Movie," $7.8 million.
4. "Identity," $6.3 million.
5. "Anger Management," $5.5 million.
6. "Holes," $4.6 million.
7. "A Mighty Wind," $2.9 million.
8. "Malibu's Most Wanted," $2.1 million.
9. "Bend It Like Beckham," $1.65 million.
10. "Confidence," $1.5 million.



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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Tingling related to poor circulation

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am plagued with constant tingling in the calves of my legs. I've contacted six different doctors only to be told that I have "hazy legs," hardly a positive solution to my problem. To complicate things further, I am 73 years old, have a heart condition and am on daily medication. Yet I can't sleep more than an hour at a time because of the tingling.

DEAR READER: Tingling and cramping in the legs could reflect a circulatory disturbance in older patients, especially those with cardiac disorders. When the calf muscles are deprived of oxygen, such symptoms are often more prominent at night. During sleep, the heart's output of blood circulation falls by as much as 30 percent, thereby accentuating poor blood flow through arteries that are already blocked by arteriosclerotic plaque.

In addition, many medicines — such as those to lower blood pressure (and, hence, the work of the heart) — will contribute to nocturnal leg discomfort.

I believe that you need testing to assess the circulation to your legs. Arteriography, a type of special X-ray examination of the arteries, will show if the blockage is treatable and what method of treatment would be most effective. Ask your doctor about this. The quality of your life is certainly suffering because of this problem; in my view, you need answers.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is there a connection between blood pressure drugs, over-use of alcohol and erectile dysfunction? My husband is struggling with all three factors.

DEAR READER: The three factors are interrelated. Alcohol can worsen hypertension and erectile dysfunction. Also, it may not agree with patients who are taking prescription medicines for high blood pressure.

In addition, many types of anti-hypertension medication can affect sexual functioning.

Finally, hypertension itself may diminish sexual ability.

I gather from your question that your husband's quality of life and your marital happiness are being affected by his drinking and his blood pressure. Here is my advice to him:

1) Stop using alcohol. This addictive substance may be the prime contributor to your problems. If alcohol over-indulgence is present, seek assistance from a doctor or consider a self-help group, such as Alcoholics Anonymous.

2) Tell your doctor about your erectile dysfunction. Further investigation may be in order, such as a check for diabetes and low hormone levels. A urologist can also diagnose the reasons for erectile dysfunction — and offer treatment.

3) Ask the physician to consider changing your medication to one, such as an ACE-inhibitor, that should not affect sexual ability. Although hypertension treatment, alcohol and erectile dysfunction are related, appropriate medical professionals should be able to sort out the varied roles played by each factor.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Erectile Dysfunction." Other readers who would like a copy should send a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope and $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167. Wickliffe, OH 44092. Be sure to mention the title.

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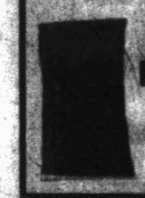

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Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 14404 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, four miles northwest of Snyder. Planned for a depth of 7,200 feet, drill site is in Section 294, Block 97, H&TC survey.

RAW Oil and Gas Inc. has completed the No. 1 Mighty Fine in the Towle field, four miles south of Snyder. The well was finaled to produce 38 barrels of oil and 384 barrels of water. Perforations were from 7,178-182 feet, and location is in Section 159, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Howard County

Boyd and McWilliams Energy will drill the No. 2 Hooks in the Howard-Glassock field, six miles southeast of Forsan. Planned for a depth of 3,300 feet, location is in Section 140, Block 29, W&NW survey.

Sojourner Royalties Inc. will drill the No. 2-37 Texaco, an 8,100-foot wildcat located two miles east of Coahoma. Location is in Section 37, Block 37, T1S, T&P survey.

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Tax cut debate moves to Senate floor

WASHINGTON (AP) — With debate over tax cuts moving to the Senate, Democrats took a pre-emptive swipe at President Bush's stimulus plan as favoring the rich and ignoring mounting budget deficits.

In advance of Bush's three-state swing this week to promote his tax cut package, Treasury Secretary John Snow defended the plan Sunday as providing the right fix for "a soggy economy."

The Bush blueprint wouldn't "trickle down" to low- and middle-class Americans, Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., a 2004 presidential candidate, countered on CBS' "Face the Nation." "Any economic stimulus plan has to put money in the pockets of those Americans most likely to spend it."

Snow said the recovery isn't as strong or robust as it should be. "A soggy economy is what we've got today ... that's why the president's pushing the jobs and growth plan," he told ABC's "This Week."

Snow's appearances on Sunday talk shows were part of the administration's effort to promote Bush's tax-cut plan. The president himself planned to meet today with small-business owners in Albuquerque, N.M., before heading to a plastics plant in Omaha, Neb.

On Tuesday, he'll talk to senior citizens in Indianapolis and give another speech on his economic stimulus plan.

In Washington, meanwhile, the Senate planned to open debate today on a GOP-backed, $350 billion tax cut measure that is less than half of what Bush had first sought. Several Republicans see that bill as a starting point, but many Democrats support no more than $150 billion in tax relief.

Rail line is approved by federal regulators

HOUSTON (AP) — Federal regulators have approved construction of a nearly 13-mile rail line through the southeast Houston area called Clear Lake despite strong objections from local officials.

The Surface Transportation Board in Washington on Friday voted unanimously in favor of the $85 million-rail line. A final environmental impact statement was released for the project last week, the last step in a nearly three-year environmental review process.

The line's supporters — the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railway Co. and four Bayport chemical companies — say it is needed because the Union Pacific Railroad is the only one serving the Bayport area.

The second line, which would run from the Bayport Industrial District on the Houston Ship Channel to Clear Lake, would generate competition and allow chemical companies to reduce transportation costs. The consortium also said the companies operating in the Bayport district bring an estimated annual economic impact of more than $1 billion in the Clear Lake and Houston region.

"We have worked long and hard to see this through to conclusion in an environmentally responsible manner, and we are pleased with the conclusions reached by the STB," Henry A. de La Garza, a spokesman for San Jacinto Rail Limited, said.

The city of Houston is considering appealing the ruling or challenging the project in court. Last year, Houston City Council adopted a resolution opposing the proposed route for the line.

Local officials blasted the decision on the line, which would run near an elementary school, several residential areas and a park.

"The board ignored hundreds of public comments, they ignored safer alternatives, and they added to our dangerous grade crossings," said U.S. Rep. Gene Green, a Houston Democrat. "This whole process is broken."

Residents in the Clear Lake area and south Pasadena have complained about the rail line bringing noise; pollution; the risk of hazardous materials being spread in their community if trains derail; and a threat to a Houston water treatment plant.

The transportation board's Section of Environmental Analysis has found the proposed line would have "moderate impacts on surface water, wetlands and plant communities and negligible to no impacts on all other environmental resource categories."

Burlington Northern won the right to build the line as part of the merger agreement between Southern Pacific Rail Corp. and Union Pacific in 1996.

The deadline to file appeals to the board is June 9. The board's final decision will not take effect for 30 days.

SARS cases reported surging in Taiwan

BEIJING (AP) — The number of SARS cases in China passed 5,000 today, and Taiwan saw a record jump in infections and a hospital boss there was fired for allegedly covering up an outbreak.

As grim statistics rolled in, the World Health Organization visited a poor and medically backward Chinese province that could be fertile ground for a potentially devastating epidemic. Four luxury hotels in Shanghai, including the historic Peace Hotel, closed temporarily for lack of guests.

Highlighting the disease's global nature, Canadian officials angrily rejected suggestions that a Finnish man contracted SARS in Toronto, insisting the outbreak there is under control.

In Malaysia, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder pressed on with a Southeast Asian tour but with a drastically reduced entourage after strong last-minute pressure not to go because of SARS.

"I said, 'Go away' to all those people who said, 'You can't go.' My wife ended up understanding, and I hope other people will understand it also," he said.

Schroeder described the SARS threat as a "theoretical danger" compared with the certain "political damage" that would have resulted from canceling the four-nation tour at short notice.

Today's fatalities in Taiwan, as well as 12 more in China and three in Hong Kong, brought the international death toll from severe acute respiratory syndrome to at least 559.

Powell says Egyptians resist idea of isolating Yasser Arafat

CAIRO, Egypt (AP) — Egypt offered today to help the United States on peacemaking between Israel and the Palestinians, but declined to go along with Washington's attempt to sidestep Yasser Arafat.

Arafat is the leader of the Palestinian people, Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher said at a joint news conference with Secretary of State Colin Powell. "We continue to recognize him as the leader of the Palestinian people," Maher said.

President Bush has ruled out dealing with Arafat, branding him as a failed leader entwined with terror attacks on Israel. Arafat was not at the table when Powell met on Sunday on the West Bank with Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas to win his acceptance of implementing a blueprint for peacemaking.

Egypt "will continue to deal with him," Maher said in a ringing endorsement of Arafat, who remains head of the Palestinian Authority.

Officers arrest three, woman reports assault

Arrest

Jamey Lynn Jiminez, 22, of Brownfield was taken into custody by DPS troopers at 6:30 p.m. Saturday in the 3900 block of Ave. O for driving while intoxicated, possession of a controlled substance and outstanding warrants for assault, possession and resisting arrest.

Snyder officers arrested a 23-year-old man in the 2500 block of 25th Street for driving with a suspended license.

Officers responded to the 1100 block of 20th Street at 5:11 p.m. Sunday on a report of a fight between family members at a residence. A 23-year-old man was arrested for assault, family violence and for resisting arrest.

Assault

A woman reported Saturday morning that she was assaulted Friday night. A report for Class C assault was submitted.

Criminal mischief

At 7:40 a.m. Saturday, a woman reported damage done in her yard. Dozens of flowers in a bed were uprooted and officers advised that a report for Class B criminal mischief would be submitted.

A woman in the 1800 block of Ave. R reported at 1:45 a.m. Sunday that the windshield of her daughter's vehicle was broken. Officers advised a report would be filed.

Disturbance

An anonymous caller at 3:20 a.m. today reported a man and woman arguing at the Field Crest Apartments. Officers contacted the subjects who advised only a verbal altercation had occurred. A report for family violence was filed.

Noise reports

Several calls were received at 8:14 a.m. Saturday concerning a shot fired in the 3400 block of 44th Street. Officers responded and advised a transformer had blown, causing the noise and a power outage.

Obituaries

Betty Hatfield

1930-2003

Betty Hatfield of Snyder died Thursday, May 8, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a sudden illness.

Graveside service for Mrs. Hatfield, 72, is set for 4 p.m. Wednesday in the Snyder Cemetery with Steven Pena, pastor of the First Assembly of God Church, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 16, 1930 in Kaw City, Okla., she married John Hatfield on Jan. 10, 1987 in Snyder. She was a nurse at the Lamesa hospital for a number of years and was a member of Snyder's First Assembly of God Church.

Survivors include her husband, John Hatfield of Snyder; a daughter, Natosha Lee of Hendersonville, Ky., a sister, Sadie Cress of Hobbs, N.M.; and three brothers, Jack Robinson of Mexico Beach, Fla., Bill Robinson and Bobby Robinson, both of Newkirk, Okla.

Lloyd Ainsworth

1910-2003

Lloyd Ainsworth, longtime Scurry County resident, died Sunday, May 11, in Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

Services for Mr. Ainsworth, 93, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Ainsworth, born May 2, 1910, was a retired Fluvanna area farmer.

Survivors include his wife, Maebelle Ainsworth of Snyder; a brother, Pat Ainsworth of Snyder; a granddaughter, Carrie Keith of Austin; and a grandson, Chad Keith of Austin.

Imogene Johnson

1930-2003

ABILENE — Imogene Johnson, the mother of Ronda Haire of Snyder, died Saturday, May 10, in an Abilene care center.

Funeral service for Mrs. Johnson, 73, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the First Baptist Church with the Revs. Bill Ballou and Mark McMillan officiating. Burial will follow in the Elmwood Memorial Park under the direction of Elmwood Funeral Home.

Born April 5, 1930 in Knott, she attended school in Big Spring and Irving. Following graduation from Abilene High in 1947, she attended Hardin-Simmons and married Adron C. Johnson on Aug. 22, 1947 in Abilene.

A longtime resident of Stamford, she worked as secretary for the First Baptist Church and for Stamford Electric Co-op for 20 years. After moving to Abilene, Mrs. Johnson was secretary at the University Baptist Church for one year. She logged 2,750 hours of volunteer service with the Hendrick Hospital Auxiliary.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Walter P. and Grade Barlow; a brother, James Walter Barlow; and a sister, Lula Vee Owsley.

Survivors include her husband Adron "A.C." Johnson of Abilene; a son and daughter-in-law, Russell and Karen Johnson of Midland; a son-in-law, Jerry Haire of Snyder; a sister, Pat Owsley of Phenix City, Ala.; a brother Bill Barlow of Colorado City; a sister-in-law, Hazel Stein of Corpus Christi; and five grandchildren, Austin and Molly Haire, Taylor, Travis and Trevor Johnson.

The family requests memorials to the Hendrick Hospital Auxiliary, 1242 19th Street in Abilene, 79601; or to the First Baptist Church Pricilla Class, 1333 N. 3rd Street in Abilene, 79601.

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

Independently Owned & Operated
WCFH
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 5/13	Wed 5/14	Thu 5/15
92/68	92/62	92/67
Widely scattered showers and thunderstorms should diminish as the day progr.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the low 60s.	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the upper 60s.
Sunrise 6:46 AM, Sunset 8:34 PM	Sunrise 6:46 AM, Sunset 8:35 PM	Sunrise 6:45 AM, Sunset 8:35 PM

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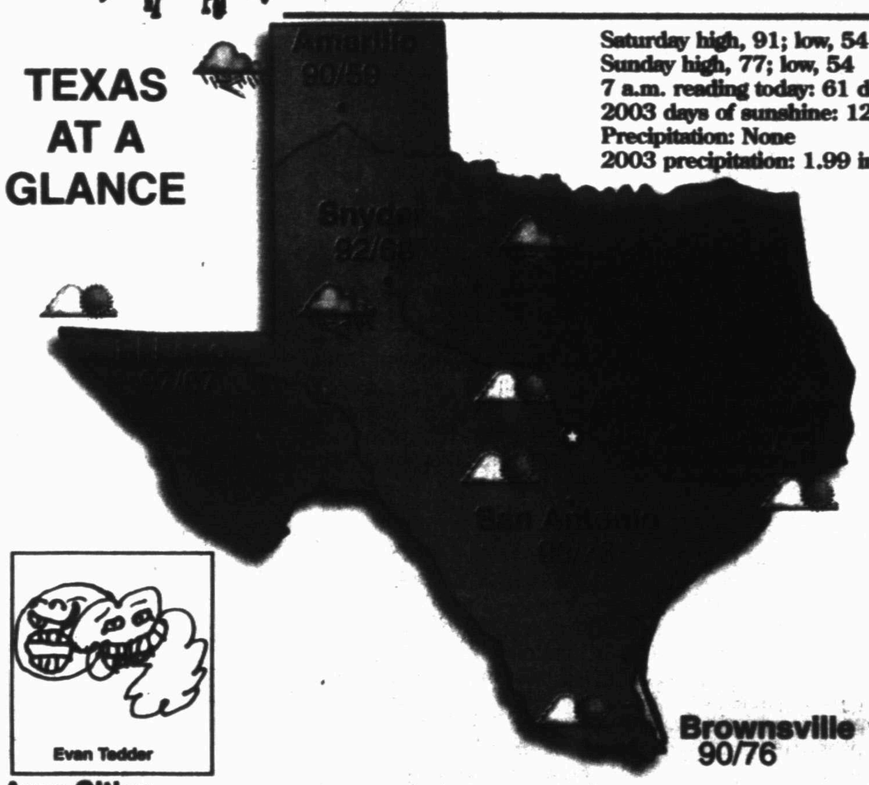
TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Saturday high, 91; low, 54
Sunday high, 77; low, 54
7 a.m. reading today: 61 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 128 of 131
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 1.99 inches

Evan Tedder

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Abilene	91	73	pt sunny
Amarillo	90	59	t-storm
Austin	88	71	pt sunny
Beaumont	86	71	pt sunny
Brownsville	90	76	pt sunny
Brownwood	92	70	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	87	74	pt sunny
Corsicana	86	70	pt sunny
Dallas	86	73	t-storm
Del Rio	94	76	pt sunny
El Paso	97	67	pt sunny
Fort Stockton	99	69	mst sunny
Gainesville	84	68	t-storm
Greenville	83	68	t-storm
Houston	87	72	pt sunny
Kingsville	90	73	pt sunny
Livingston	86	68	pt sunny
Longview	83	66	t-storm
Lubbock	94	65	t-storm
Lufkin	85	70	pt sunny
Midland	99	70	pt sunny
Raymondville	91	73	pt sunny
Rosenberg	87	72	pt sunny
San Antonio	90	73	pt sunny
San Marcos	89	72	pt sunny
Sulphur Springs	83	67	t-storm
Sweetwater	93	70	pt sunny
Tyler	86	70	pt sunny
Weatherford	86	68	pt sunny
Wichita Falls	89	70	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	76	54	mst sunny
Boston	58	48	rain
Chicago	67	47	sunny
Dallas	86	73	t-storm
Denver	71	46	pt sunny
Houston	87	72	pt sunny
Los Angeles	73	56	pt sunny
Miami	85	75	pt sunny
Minneapolis	71	55	mst sunny
New York	61	49	rain
Phoenix	96	73	pt sunny
San Francisco	67	51	windy
Seattle	65	44	pt sunny
St. Louis	71	56	pt sunny
Washington, DC	65	52	windy

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
May 9	May 16	May 23	May 31

UV Index

Tue 5/13	Wed 5/14	Thu 5/15
Very High	Very High	Very High

The UV Index is measured on a 0 - 11 number scale, with a higher UV index showing the need for greater skin protection. 0 — 11

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