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WT-Int. Crude - $34.94
WTIC Posted - $31.75
Natural Gas - $6.02

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
Jan. 26, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 232
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Bobby Jim Smith

JAN 26 2004

Eight reported...

Car burglaries are continuing

Car burglars did not take the weekend off in Snyder as several residents reported their vehicles had been rummaged through.

The reports began coming in on Saturday when a caller from the 3200 block of Hill Ave. said her car had been opened during the night and rummaged through.

The incidents continued early today from 2-4 a.m. when a police officer patrolling neighborhoods found a number of vehicles that appeared to have been broken into.

The officer found five vehicles parked in the 3000 block of Denison that had been opened. When owners checked the vehicles, some did not appear to have had anything taken, but some owners reported a number of missing CD's and a missing flashlight.

Afterwards, officers discovered open car doors in the 2500 block of 31st Street and the 3000 block of Austin St.

Snyder Police Sgt. Brian Haggard has been investigating a number of the incidents and advises residents to take precautions when leaving a vehicle unattended.

"The burglaries could be avoided by locking the vehicle when getting out," he said. "Also don't leave anything of value in the vehicle where it can be seen."

An important piece of advice for residents is to contact law enforcement if anything suspicious is seen.

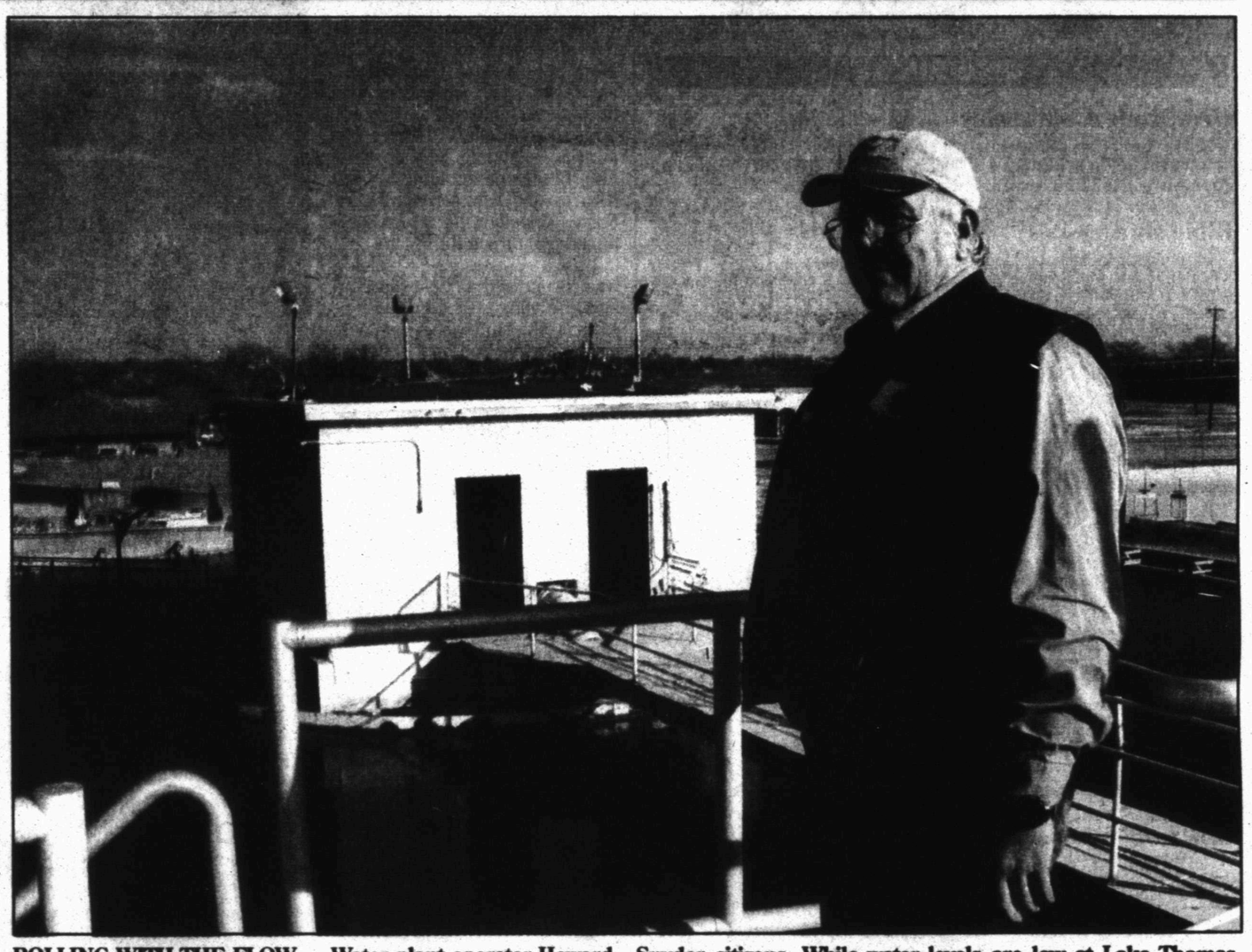
"Sometimes what seems like a small thing can turn out to be a big thing," said Haggard. "If someone sees something, please call the police or the sheriff's department. It may clear up a lot of burglaries around here."

The dispatch number at the Law Enforcement Center is 573-3551.

City shelter commitee meets today

The animal shelter committee of the Snyder City Council will meet at 6:30 this evening at city hall.

The three-person committee – Ron Shaw, Vernest Tippens and Stephanie Ducheneaux – will discuss options for a proposed animal shelter for the city.



ROLLING WITH THE FLOW — Water plant operator Howard Bigham helps oversee the process of providing water to the Snyder citizens. While water levels are low at Lake Thomas, they are not critical. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

Lake Thomas level remains steady

By Annie Rowe
SDN Staff Writer

Rain has become a scarce commodity in many parts of Texas prompting a number of towns to begin water rationing schedules to assure that supplies will not run low.

However, according to John Grant, general manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, Snyder water levels in Lake J.B. Thomas are very acceptable.

"The level in Lake J. B. Thomas is almost exactly the same as it was last year," said Grant.

The lake elevation is currently at 2,217.3 ft. The elevation recorded in Jan. 2003 was 2217.24 ft. There are currently 18,300 acre feet of water in the lake.

"The water source that supplies Snyder is still very strong. Of the areas we serve, among which include Big Spring and Odessa, Snyder is fairing very well."

Grant attributes the strength of the Snyder water supply system to good planning and maintenance.

"One of the things that we're putting some emphasis on is maintenance during the winter. We're doing some major work on some of our pump stations in the area because of the importance that the stations have on the system. Plus we've gotten to the point where the maintenance is necessary. The Lake J.B. Thomas system is over 50 years old."

The current levels in J.B. Thomas should remain due to the fact that CRMWD does not have plans to pump the water into other areas.

"The lake is expected to stay close to the same. We do not want to take water to Big Spring or Odessa," said Grant.

Grant added that the water district also has alternative plans for getting water to Snyder should the community be faced with a worst case scenario.

"We have multiple locations to bring in water should that become necessary," said Grant. "We have a number of wells to draw from to keep the water supplied, although we don't necessarily want to use groundwater. But it is available should the need arise."

According to Howard Bigham, Snyder water and fuel plant operator, Residents should expect no change in Snyder's water supply.

"Our average usage for the year is 3 million gallons of water per day. This time of year we're at 1.5 million gallons per day so we're staying on track with what is expected," he said.

Information about weapons questioned

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration, confronted with assertions that Iraq did not have weapons of mass destruction, said today that inspectors should continue searching to determine the extent of Saddam Hussein's programs.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan did not repeat past administration statements that forbidden weapons would be found. "We want to compare the intelligence before the war with what the Iraq Survey Group learns on the ground," McClellan said, traveling with Bush to a speech in Little Rock, Ark.

Asked repeatedly if the United States still believes there were banned weapons in Iraq, McClellan said, "We believe it's important for the Iraq Survey Group to complete its work so we have as complete a picture as possible. ... It will help us learn the truth.

David Kay, the outgoing chief U.S. weapons inspector, says his inability to find illicit arms in Iraq raises serious questions about American intelligence-gathering.

Last year, David Kay had confidently predicted weapons would be found. But after nine months of searching, he said Sunday: "I don't think they exist."

"It's an issue of the capabilities of one's intelligence service to collect valid, truthful information," Kay said on National Public Radio.

Asked whether President Bush owed the nation an explanation for the discrepancies between his warnings and Kay's findings, Kay said: "I actually think the intelligence community owes the president, rather than the president owing the American people."

The CIA would not comment on Kay's remarks, though one official, speaking on condition of anonymity, noted that Kay himself was vocal in predicting he would find weapons.

Kay said his predictions were not "coming back to haunt me in the sense that I am embarrassed. They are coming back to haunt me in the sense of 'Why could we all be so wrong?'"

The White House stuck by its assertions that illicit weapons will be found in Iraq.

DCOS approves line contract to industrial park

The Development Corporation of Snyder this morning approved a contract to extend Cox Communications' Internet service into the industrial park.

While UCO will be the initial user of the service, it will be installed in such a way any new tenant of the industrial park can use the service.

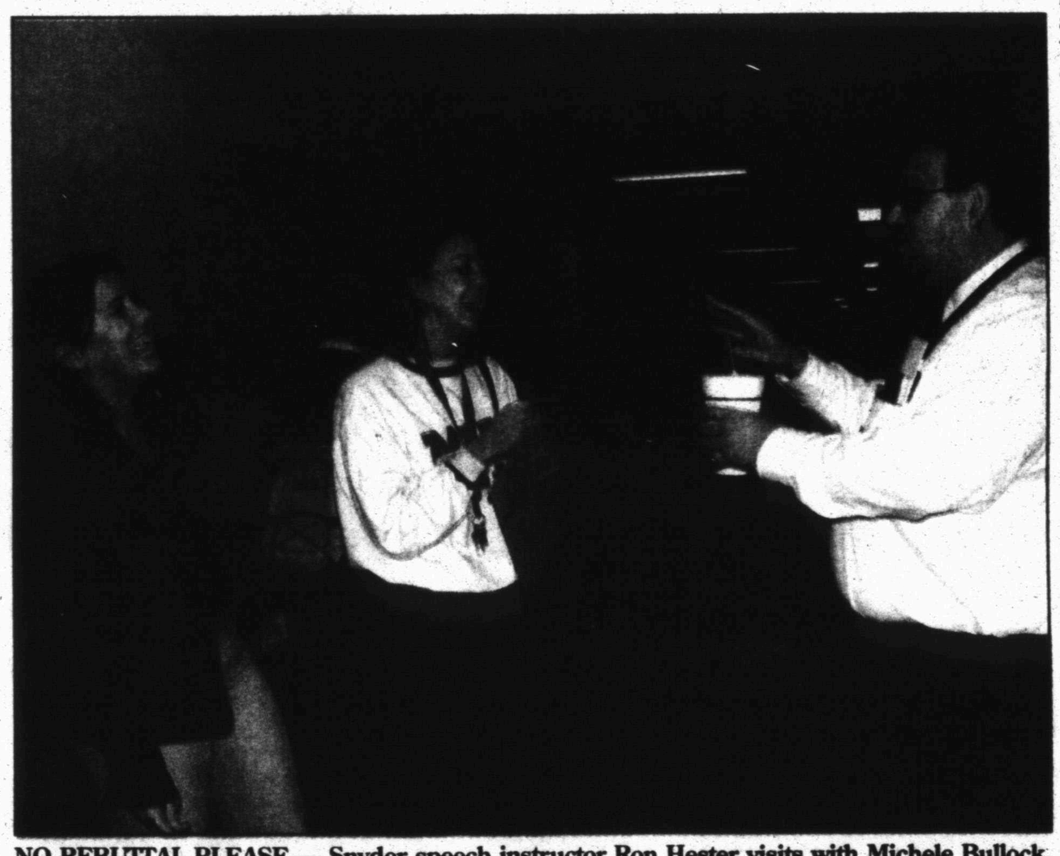
The cost is $16,000.

Other action items this morning included the approval of financial statements for November and December.

The board also met in executive session for less than 30 minutes for the yearly evaluation of executive director John DeLille.

No action was taken following the closed session.

Board president Dayton Robertson presided and members present were James Brown, Rickey Daniell and Jeffrey Martin. Roy McQueen was absent.



NO REBUTTAL PLEASE — Snyder speech instructor Ron Hester visits with Michele Bullock, a speech judge from Lubbock, and Rachel Wages, Merkel sponsor, at the Snyder High School speech tournament held over the weekend. (SDN Staff Photo by Annie Rowe)

Jury chosen for Stewart fraud trial

NEW YORK (AP) — A jury of eight women and four men was chosen today to hear Martha Stewart's stock fraud trial.

Six alternates also were selected.

In a defeat for Stewart, U.S. District Judge Miriam Goldman Cedarbaum ruled that the defense may not argue that she is being prosecuted for asserting her innocence and exercising her right to free speech. Cedarbaum also ruled that the defense may not ask jurors to speculate why Stewart was not charged with insider trading.

Lawyers for the government and defense were expected to present their opening statements beginning Tuesday.

The day began with 53 potential jurors waiting to hear whether they would be chosen as lawyers for both sides met behind closed doors to select the final 12 plus alternates.

Stewart, 62, is accused of lying to investigators about why she sold 3,928 shares of ImClone Systems stock on Dec. 27, 2001.

ASK US

Q—Are tax payments discounted for Western Texas College?

A—Yes, Scurry County and WTC taxes are discounted. The City of Snyder, Snyder ISD, Ira ISD and Hermleigh ISD are not.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Victoria Lovell...

...has been a resident of Snyder for three years moving from Brownwood. She has been a dispatcher at the Law Enforcement Center since Aug. 2003. Her parents are James and Pat Lovell of Sweetwater. She enjoys spending time with her boyfriend Pat Grider, cooking and listening to her favorite bands like Linkin Park and Bon Jovi.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Ask the God who made you to keep remaking you.
—Norman Vincent Peale

Best Available Copy

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Girl Scout cookie sales

Snyder Girl Scout cookie sales will run through Feb. 11. Cookies will be delivered from March 6-21. If not contacted, to place an order call chairman Alicia Graves at 573-7722 or service unit manager Judi Martin at 573-7556.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Only One God Has Spoken," followed by "The Strait Gate and the Narrow Way."

Ira Masonic Lodge

Ira Masonic Lodge #934 will have its stated meeting at 7:30 tonight.

Book fair

Scurry Community Services is today through Friday. Family night is 5-6:30 p.m. Tuesday.

AA meeting

An AA meeting is held at noon every Tuesday at the Witherspoon house next door to the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting is non-smoking and closed. For more information, call 574-2656.

Relay for Life meeting

The American Cancer Society Board, Scurry Unit, will meet at 5:45 p.m. Tuesday at the Desperado Classroom at First Baptist Church, located at 1701 27th St.

Genealogy Society to meet

The Genealogy Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the library. Kathy Nelson will present the program "Behind Every Great Man." Visitors are welcome.

TOPS open house

TOPS (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) #56 will hold an open house from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Tuesday at Trinity United Methodist Church.

LVN testing dates

The last LVN testing date is Tuesday. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

Fourth Wednesday game day

Martha Ann Woman's Club will have its fourth Wednesday game day and luncheon Wednesday, beginning at 11:30 a.m. Games of choice will follow. For reservations by 5 p.m. Tuesday, call 573-3427, 573-5586 or 573-6443.

Business After Hours

Chamber of commerce members are invited to meet for Business After Hours from 5-7 p.m. Thursday at the chamber office. Light refreshments will be served. The session will give chamber members the chance to network and get acquainted.

Graduation planning meeting

Parents of SHS seniors are invited to attend a planning meeting at 7 p.m. Thursday at the Student Center to discuss end-of-school activities.

WTC adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC are 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.

Krispy Kreme doughnuts

Snyder High School band students will take orders for Krispy Kreme doughnuts until Feb. 4. Cost will be $6 a dozen or two or more dozen for $5 each. Delivery is Feb. 10. Profits will be applied to the band's spring trip to Winter Park Colorado.

United Way fundraiser

United Way is selling tickets for a Super Bowl Prizes project, one for $2 or six for $10. Items include black leather chair-and-a-half, 19-inch TV, two large topping Pizza Hut pizzas. To purchase tickets or for more information call 207-1929, 573-5311, 207-1385 or 574-1931.

Senior swimnastics

Senior swimnastics are at 10 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conversation District is taking orders through Saturday for windbreak trees. Large trees available are Oaks, Pines, Desert Willows, Golden Raintree, Texas Redbud and Chinese Pistache and more. To place orders, call 573-6317.

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.

What's up guidelines

Effective Feb. 1, items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.

Third 'Rings' garners four Golden Globes

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — After seven years, it was time for a Hobbit victory dance.

"The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King," the final installment of the epic fantasy trilogy that hadn't yet won most major movie awards, finally snared best dramatic film and three other trophies at Sunday's Golden Globes.

But some of the night's thunder also went to the intimate story "Lost in Translation," about two lonely Americans who find friendship in a Tokyo hotel. That movie collected three top awards, including best comedy film, best comedy actor for Bill Murray and best screenplay for Sofia Coppola, who wrote, produced and directed the film.

"Rings" master Peter Jackson was recognized as best director, and the film — based on the J.R.R. Tolkien novels — won best original score and best song for "Into the West."

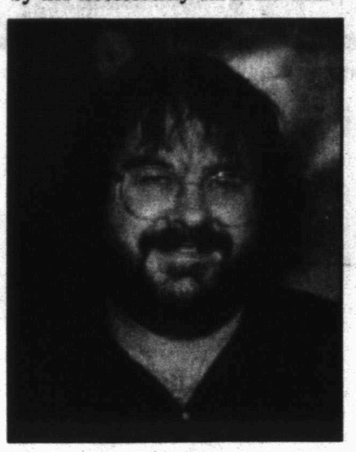
"Really, I just want to accept this award and pay tribute to professor Tolkien for his incredible book," said Jackson, who began preparing to film the trilogy in 1997.

"I never realized that seven years on this movie would end up turning me into a Hobbit," Jackson said when collecting the director award, referring to the shortish, big-footed magical characters in the Tolkien stories. "To all of the actors, our magical cast, you just gave so much to the movies and equally importantly you made it so much fun to work on."

Among TV nominees, HBO's six-hour adaptation of playwright Tony Kushner's "Angels in America" won five trophies, including best miniseries or TV movie.

The Golden Globes, voted by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association, is regarded by many in Hollywood as one of the year's biggest parties, but it's also a way to generate front-runner buzz for the Academy Awards.

The show's highlight may have been the acceptance speech by the notoriously sardonic Murray, who thanked Coppola before dryly mocking Hollywood award speeches, declaring he had fired all his agents and representatives and had no one else to thank.



Peter Jackson
Best director

He also poked fun at the idea that comedy performers are overshadowed by dramatic stars. "Too often we forget our brothers on the other side of the aisle — the dramatic actors," he said. "I'd just like to say: Where would our war, our miseries and our psychological dramas come from?"

Coppola, collecting the best screenplay trophy, thanked her father — "The Godfather" director and co-writer Francis Ford Coppola, calling him "a great screenwriting teacher."

Diane Keaton as an older woman in love in "Something's Gotta Give" collected a Golden Globe for lead comedy performances, and thanked director Nancy Myers and co-star Jack Nicholson for making a romance about people over 50. "With hope as our light at the end of the tunnel, we made our unlikely alliance work in the name of love at any age," Keaton said.

Sean Penn collected the dramatic actor award for playing an emotionally ravaged father seeking revenge for his daughter's murder in "Mystic River," and Charlize Theron won the drama actress honor for "Monster," the story of a serial killer.

Tim Robbins' supporting role as a grown child-abuse survivor suspected of murder in "Mystic River" earned him the first trophy of the telecast. Renee Zellweger received the supporting actress award for playing a tough-as-bark backwoods woman in "Cold Mountain." She previously won two lead comedy actress Golden Globes for "Nurse Betty" in 2001 and last year for "Chicago."

Besides winning best TV movie or miniseries, "Angels in America" won four performing awards. Co-star Meryl Streep and Al Pacino were picked best TV movie lead performers and supporting TV honors went to Jeffrey Wright and Mary-Louise Parker.

Among the nominees Wright beat out: his "Angels in America" co-stars Ben Shenkman and Patrick Wilson. "I share this with you," he told them from the stage. "But I'll keep it at my house."

Fox's real-time thriller "24" won best drama series, and BBC America's "The Office," which stars co-creator Ricky Gervais as an annoying boss at a British paper merchant, was picked best comedy show. The critically lauded "The Office" is being developed into an American version.

"Osama," Afghanistan's first movie since the fall of the Taliban regime, won the Golden Globe for foreign-language film. The movie tells the story of a girl who, under hardline Islamic Taliban rules, has to pose as a boy so she can leave home to work.

The honorary Cecil B. DeMille Award went to Michael Douglas, whose actor father, Kirk Douglas, received the honor in 1968.

Hearing postponed

MIDLAND (AP) — A pre-trial hearing has been postponed in a lawsuit filed by Midland County against several major oil companies alleging fraud and conspiracy in underreporting the market value of oil, reducing its taxable value and causing the county to lose tax revenue.

The hearing — originally scheduled for Thursday — is now set for Feb. 11 at the Midland County Courthouse, according to an order signed by Judge Weldon Kirk of Sweetwater.

Last month some of the defendants made a request to move the lawsuit outside of Midland County. If the court does not grant the venue change request, the defendants' abatement plea seeks to stop proceedings, the Midland Reporter-Telegram reports.

Midland County commissioners voted Aug. 29 to sue several major oil companies. The lawsuit alleges between 1987 and 1998, in hundreds of thousands of transactions, the defendants, subsidiaries and affiliates knowingly underreported to the comptroller the market value of oil.

The defendants have denied these allegations.

World Almanac

Monday, Jan. 26, 2004

Today is the 26th day of 2004 and the 36th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1788, the first British ship carrying convicts landed in Australia.

In 1863, Abraham Lincoln named Joseph Hooker to replace Ambrose Burnside as commander of the Army of the Potomac.

In 1950, the Indian constitution went into effect, marking the birth of the Republic of India.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Douglas MacArthur (1880-1964), World War II general; Paul Newman (1925-), actor, is 79; Jules Feiffer (1929-), cartoonist/writer, is 75; Ellen DeGeneres (1958-), TV personality, is 46; Wayne Gretzky (1961-), hockey player, is 43.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1986, Chicago crushed New England, 46-10, in Super Bowl XX, as the Bears' mighty defense held the Patriots to 7 yards rushing.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "You miss 100 percent of the shots you never take." — Wayne Gretzky

TODAY'S FACT: Actor Paul Newman and sidekick writer A.E. Hotchner started Newman's Own brands in 1982, spurred on by Newman's own special recipe for salad dressing. All the company's after-tax profits, amounting to more than $137 million so far, have gone to charity.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 34.63 — Height in meters (113 feet, 7 inches) of the tallest snowman on record (Bethel, Maine; Feb. 17, 1999).

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Jan. 21) and first quarter (Jan. 29).

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Today's chuckle

Judge not amused by bumblebee costume

OLATHE, Kan. (AP) — A man who came to a court hearing wearing a bumblebee costume — to protest what he called a "sting" operation by prosecutors — left a judge buzzing.

Conrad J. Braun, 54, was in Johnson County District Court on Friday to hear a judge rule whether a blackmail case filed against him last summer should go to trial.

District Judge John Anderson III was not amused by Braun's getup, which included yellow stripes, cloth wings and a foot-long stinger.

Anderson told Braun that although there is no rule prohibiting the wearing of such a suit in court, the judge has a duty to uphold court decorum.

Braun assured the judge that he meant no contempt to the court and promised he would not do it again.

Anderson bound the case over for trial, which he scheduled for May 3.

The blackmail charge alleges that Braun made a threat against his former wife's husband.

events

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RESULTS

Saturday's
Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

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

Winning numbers drawn: 18-22-27-28-38. Bonus Ball: 44.

Number matching five of five: 4. Prize: $15,917.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 29. Prize: $1,992.

Number matching four of five: 1,287. Prize: $96.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 1,296. Prize: $84.

Number matching three of five: 47,876. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 16,312. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 74,030. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $64 million.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 03-11-14-34-35.

Matching four of five: 113. Prize: $533.

Matching three of five: 4,009. Prize: $10.

Matching two of five: 43,549. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 5-4-0
(Night) 8-7-7

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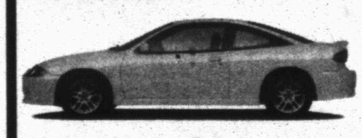

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2003 Chevy Cavalier, 4 Dr.

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*All Have Miles Under 15,000
*WAC
*6.9% for 60 months, TTL

2003 Pontiac Grand Am, 4 Dr.

2003 Pontiac Sunfire, 2 Dr.

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Lawmaker wants loophole closed

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A San Antonio lawmaker wants to change what he sees as a loophole in a law that sets a 24-hour waiting period for women seeking abortions in Texas, an aide to Rep. Frank Corte said.

The legislation — sponsored by Corte — requires abortion providers to offer women a state-written brochure detailing the medical risks of the procedure. But a last-minute amendment to the rules on how to implement the law provides that the controversial pamphlet must only be given if the woman chooses to view it.

"That means that an abortion facility may choose to tell a woman that the information provided by the state is inaccurate, inflammatory or ridiculous," Kathi Seay, Corte's aide, said at an anti-abortion rally Sunday. "They can say anything they would like about the information and then ask the woman, 'Now, would you like a copy?'"

Seay said Corte decided to stiffen the law after hearing that at least one abortion provider has not been handing out the pamphlet.

Best Available Copy

2-4 UIL WINNERS — Hermleigh students in the second through fourth grades recently participated in UIL competition. Winners included second graders front row from left, Walker Barrett, 6th place oral reading; and Aaron Williamson, 1st place storytelling; third graders on the middle row from left, Jacob Beaty, 5th place team music memory; Rita Coronado, 3rd place storytelling; Matthew Jones, 5th place team music memory; Aaron Lane, 5th place team music memory; Karsten Morrell, 5th place team music memory and 4th place oral reading; back row from left are fourth graders, Catie Anderson, 5th place team music memory and 3rd place team number sense; Delinda Dacus, 5th place team music memory; Carly Gill, 5th place team music memory and 5th place oral reading; Aaron Jernigan, 5th place team music memory, 3rd place team number sense, 3rd place individual number sense; and Randi Sanchez, 5th place team music memory and 3rd place team number sense. Not pictured: Kendall Beniterz, 5th place team music memory. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

U.S. beef industry unveils post-mad cow promotion

OMAHA, Neb. (AP) — The beef industry launched a multi-million dollar ad campaign today, one month after the nation's first case of mad cow disease and just in time for Super Bowl parties and romantic Valentine's Day meals.

"The Super Bowl is a great time for people to serve up halftime snacks," said Michele Peterson of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. "We see beef as sort of the star player."

The cattle group delayed its annual "Beef: It's What's For Dinner" campaign for two weeks following the discovery of bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad cow disease, in a Holstein cow in Washington state.

Investigators subsequently learned the cow was born and raised in Canada, and there have been no new cases of the disease in the United States.

The Denver-based cattle association believes the American public remains confident in the safety of U.S. beef, and it is time to get people to buy more steak, roasts and hamburger for chili, beef sandwiches and dip. The advertisements promoting beef will run for four weeks on network and cable television. Print ads also will be used in a campaign expected to cost about $3 million, Peterson said.

The ads will make no mention of mad cow.

Mad cow is a public health concern because humans can develop a similar brain-wasting illness, a variant of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, from eating contaminated beef products.

Cattle markets plunged after the mad cow announcement, and more than 30 countries banned U.S. beef, cutting off markets for about 10 percent of the nation's production.

The drop in cattle prices and loss of export markets could mean a 10 percent decline in net farm income this year, according to economic research firm Global Insight Inc. of Waltham, Mass. But the firm's report said beef demand has remained strong, indicating that consumers aren't greatly worried about the safety of U.S. beef.

Peterson said recent polls conducted by her group, the cattlemen's association, show 90 percent of consumers are confident that U.S. beef is safe.

"People saw the system works," she said.

Low cattle supplies and strong demand from Americans for steaks and hamburger — particularly people using the Atkins and other high-protein, low-carbohydrate diets — are buoying beef prices, said Darrell Mark, an agricultural economist at the University of Nebraska.

Prices paid for slaughter cattle fell from 91 cents a pound to 75 cents in early January, but bounced back this week to about 86 cents a pound, Mark said.

Cattle entering feedlots also dropped in price but rebounded, falling from December's 99 cents per pound to 86 cents early this month before rising again to about 91 cents, said Dave Weaber, director of research at Cattle-Fax, a Denver-based cattle market analysis and research firm.

Prices grocery stores pay for beef dropped about 18 percent, from $1.55 a pound in December to $1.26 a pound early in January, but climbed to $1.46 a pound by Friday, Weaber said.

Demand for beef has been climbing since 1998, fueled largely by more convenient, partially cooked, microwavable beef products, said Ted Schroeder, an agricultural economist at Kansas State University. Trends like the Atkins diet are more difficult to measure, Schroeder said.

But restaurants have caught on to the diet fad, with Ruby Tuesday, Burger King, Hardee's and other chains emphasizing beef over bread.

Demand for low-carb choices has not lessened since the mad cow case, said Ruby Tuesday senior vice president Rick Johnson.

"We have not seen any perceptible difference," Johnson said.

Several grocery shoppers in Omaha said mad cow disease was not a big concern for them.

"I don't think it's a significant enough risk to really worry about," Lou Dye said Thursday.

Kathryn Lefebvre said she does tend to buy hamburger that is ground at the store, rather than mixed off site.

Rally held for man killed in car accident

NACOGDOCHES (AP) — A crowd of about 300 people rallied near the police station Sunday, calling for justice in the case of a man killed Jan. 15 when he was struck by a patrol car as he crossed a city street.

The rally followed a memory walk in honor of Rodolfo del Gado Sanchez that police said attracted 300 to 400 people at its peak.

"All that we want is to see justice served for Rodolfo," Horacio Cortes said in The Daily Sentinel. "We want a fair trial, and I think that we all know what the results of a fair trial would be. We would also like to see economic compensation for his family. He was the only means of survival for that family — now they are without a son, a father, a brother."

Members of the crowd carried Mexico and Texas flags as well as signs reading, "We want justice."

"It is very good to know that we are united in a time of need, as we should be," Cortes said. "There were some people here who knew Rodolfo, and there were some here who did not. What is more important is that we all came together for a common cause. By getting people together to back up this meeting, I think that we have been successful today. I just hope that this translates into a fair trial."

Police Lt. Paul Peterson said the Texas Department of Public Safety is investigating the accident. Police Department policy dictates that an outside agency investigate a traffic accident involving an on-duty officer.

Sanchez was struck and killed by a patrol car driven by Officer Brian Eggebrecht as Sanchez tried to cross Douglass Road early Jan. 15.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Teen is ready to disengage from unfulfiling engagement

DEAR ABBY: I am 19 and have been with "Mike" for four years. We became engaged a year ago. This is my first and only long-term relationship. Mike is kind, loving and would do anything for me.

In the beginning I was in love with him, but now I realize that I'm not ready for a serious commitment, especially since I've had no experience dating anyone else. I stopped wearing my engagement ring because I'm not sure I'll ever marry him.

When Mike asked me about the ring, I said, "I bought it, so I can choose when to wear it." (Mike didn't have credit, so we used my credit card, and I make the monthly payments.) I began thinking, "What if?" when another guy I know told me I was cute and asked for my phone number.

I care about Mike and don't want to hurt him, but I'm not in love with him anymore. How can I end this without starting World War III in our families? My parents love him more than they love me, and when he and I argue, I get a guilt trip from them and feel like I have to apologize to him and make everything better.

Sometimes I wish he would break up with me and move out so I don't have to be the one to do it. Mike says I treat him like dirt. Could I be doing it subconsciously? Abby, please help. I want out. — **IN OVER MY HEAD**

DEAR IN: What Mike is interpreting as being treated like dirt is your effort — conscious or otherwise — to distance yourself from the relationship. It is not abusive to admit that you have made a mistake. The time has come for you to level with Mike and your family, and to tell them plainly that you are not ready for a permanent commitment.

I don't know which of you signed the lease on your dwelling, but the one who didn't should move. And let this be a lesson to you. It appears you were so desperate for commitment from Mike that you were willing to pay for your own engagement ring. So don't blame Mike, and don't blame your parents. You got yourself into this fix, and it's time to accept your responsibility and put things right.

DEAR ABBY: I am a 16-year-old male, and I have this problem telling the truth. I lie mainly about my grades. I am a good student, but I just don't put forth a lot of effort.

I got a progress report the other day and was failing Spanish with a 67. When my dad asked about my grades, I told him I had gotten a 70 in Spanish because that is a passing grade. When he saw the report, he yelled at me. He was disappointed about the grade but even more so about the lie.

I feel comfortable telling my mom the truth because she and I are really close. But I can't seem to tell my dad the truth, ever. I don't know why. I don't know how to stop lying. Please help me, I'm begging you. — **PINOCCHIO**

DEAR PINOCCHIO: You and your father need to work on your relationship. He doesn't trust you because you lie. You lie because you don't trust him enough to honestly discuss your difficulties. Clip this letter, show it to him and tell him you wrote it. You and your father could both benefit from professional counseling to improve your level of communication and resolve your trust issues.

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

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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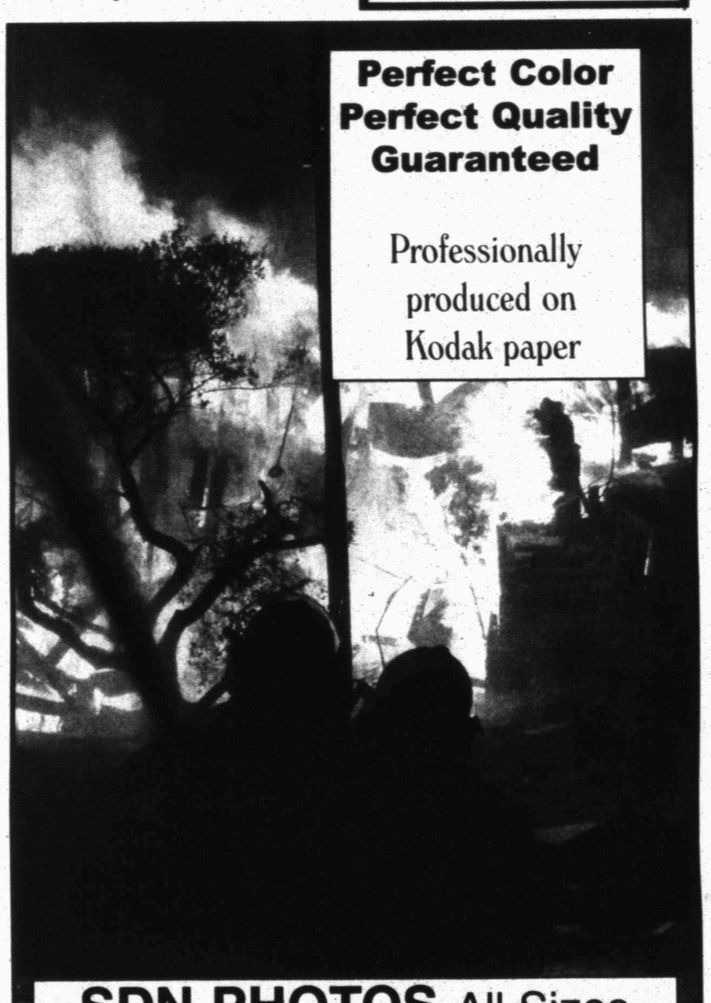

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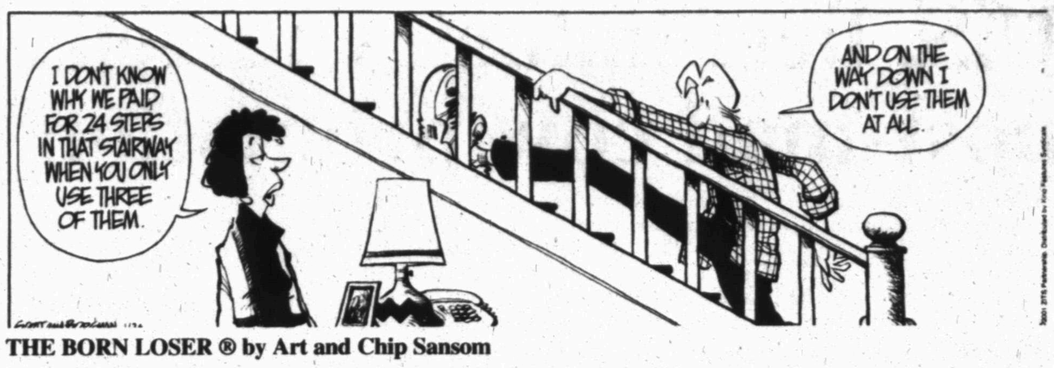

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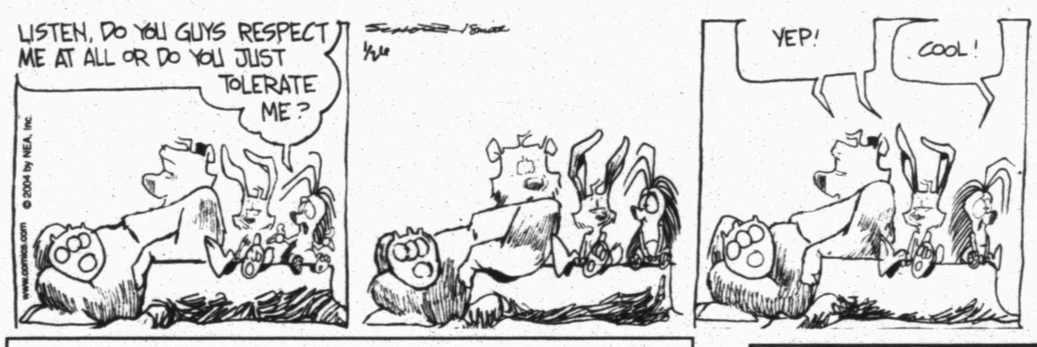

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Base
5 "Nova" network
8 Gear tooth
11 Ruler marking
12 House top
14 So far — — know
15 Moreno or Hayworth
16 Nobleman
17 "Bien" opposite
18 Bandleader — Dorsey
20 Kansas capital
22 Daughter of Hyperion
23 Clay pot
24 Jewelry fastener
27 Not there
29 DC figure
30 Filmy
34 Suburban event (2 wds.)
37 Olympics chant
38 Vogue
39 Skittish
41 Verb preceder
43 Flagon
44 Whiskey measure
46 "I don't mind — —"
49 Underwater shocker
50 Vein of coal
52 Secure
54 Crack pilot
55 Strapless top
56 Mince
57 Writer — Buntline
58 Dell wares
59 Clumsy vessels

DOWN

1 Pine cousin
2 "I'll get right — —!"
3 Prefix for pod
4 London's river
5 Hunts for food
6 Jungle snake
7 Classify
8 Bedouin's mount
9 Japanese port
10 Arizona river
13 Knocks for a loop
19 Janitor's tool
21 "Not guilty," e.g.
24 Shed tears
25 Grassland
26 Spring mo.
27 Links feature
28 Flight dir.
30 Joke
31 Shaggy flower
32 Sixth sense
33 Moonbeam
35 The D in FDA
36 Most rational
39 Project
40 Kampala's nation
41 Sister's daughter
42 Gawked at
43 Mystery writer P.D. —
44 Harlow of film
45 Do another hitch (hyph.)
47 Refuge
48 Dampen a stamp
51 TV network
53 Brown of renown

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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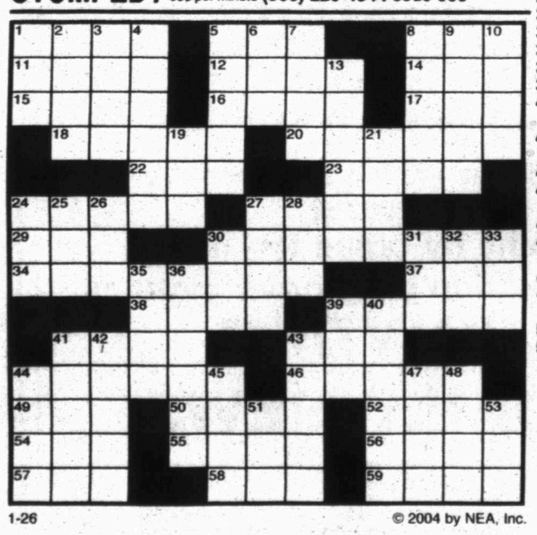

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Snyder Daily News Comics

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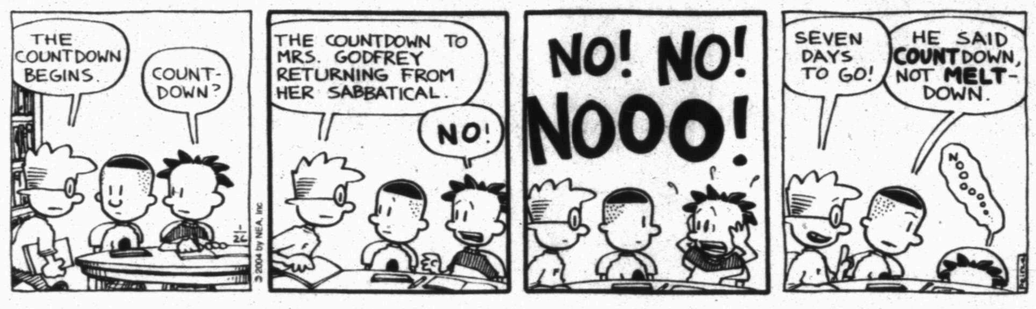

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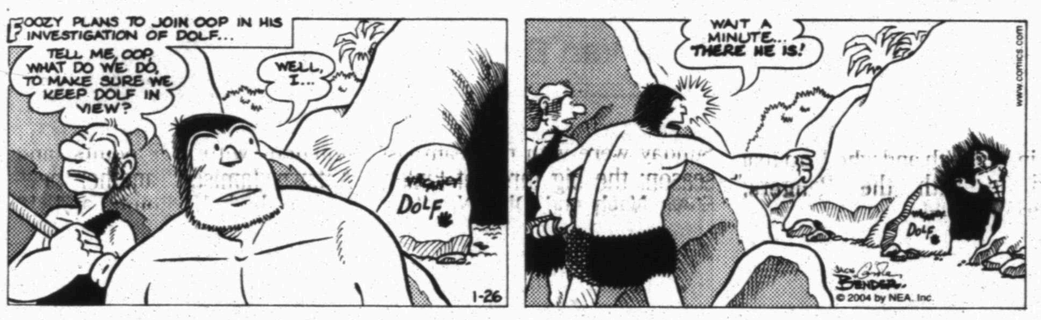

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"We were wondering if we could extend the maximum limit on our charge account."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

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SPORTS

SHS takes C-City power lifting meet

The Snyder power lifters dominated the Colorado City meet over the weekend, taking first place finishes in four weight classes.

Snyder won the five-team meet that featured Coahoma, Colorado City, Forsan and Anson.

D'Angelo Davis raised a total of 1,045 pounds to win the 165-pound weight class. He also was named outstanding lifter under 165.

Katherine Johnson was dubbed outstanding lifter for the girls in winning the 148-pound class.

Barret Munson captured the 148-pound division, and Johnny Vasquez lifted 1,090 pounds to claim the 181-pound class.

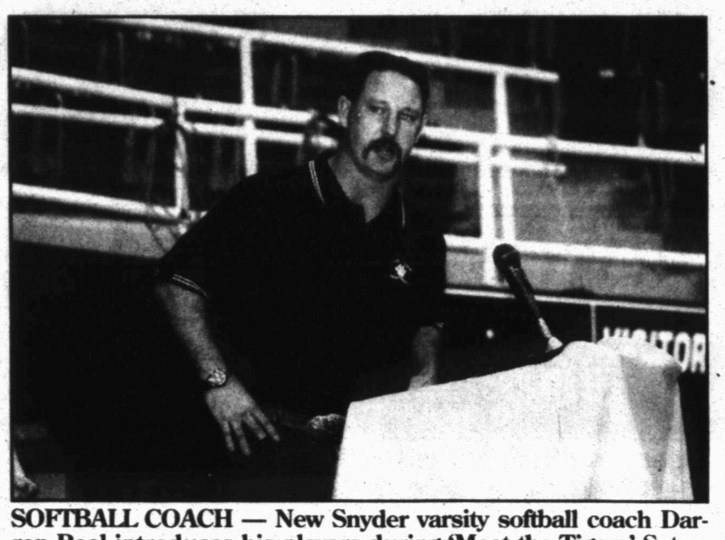
Ricky Rios and Landry Mathis helped Snyder dominate the 165-pound group, finishing in second and third, respectively, behind Davis.

Will Floyd and John Birks each added a second place showing for the Tigers, with Floyd coming in behind Vasquez in the 181 weight class, and Birks taking the second spot in the 198-pound group.

Courtney Tyrrell placed third in the girls 165-pound division, and Nathaniel Clarady took fourth among the heavyweights at 242.

West Texas State Bank is sponsoring the next power lifting meet for the Tigers, scheduled for Feb. 21 at Scurry County Coliseum.

Tentatively scheduled to participate in the meet are Rotan, Sweetwater, Winters, Frenship, Coahoma, Roby, Post and Fort Stockton, with some of those schools bringing two teams.



SOFTBALL COACH — New Snyder varsity softball coach Darren Pool introduces his players during 'Meet the Tigers' Saturday at Scurry County Coliseum. (SDN Staff Photo)

SHS varsity netters get spring season underway

The Snyder varsity tennis team got the spring schedule underway this weekend, participating in a pair of dual meets on Saturday.

In the dual matches, the teams' number one players squared off, then the number ones played the number two seeds.

The Tigers beat Levelland, 10-6, in the first match.

Tanner Reed and Stephanie Williams locked up a pair of wins in singles play, and Andra Dunham also earned a singles victory.

Joe Ynguanzo and Matt Hale took two doubles matches, as did the duo of Kenny Alcala and Wesley Price.

Annie Martinez and Nikki Timora also won a doubles match.

The Tigers fell in the second dual match, 11-5, to Lubbock High.

Reed again won two singles matches, the team of Ynguanzo-Hale earned two doubles matches, and Dunham claimed the only win for the girls.

"Everyone competed well during the day," head coach Ted Phillips said. "It was fun getting back into competition."

The team has two more dual matches Saturday, taking on Fort Stockton at 9 a.m. and Midland Christian at 1:30 p.m.

Both dual matches will take place at Midland College.

Mavs win eighth straight; Ming dominates career-high 37 points

DALLAS (AP) — Michael Finley scored 23 points, including the tiebreaking shot, and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Sacramento Kings 108-99 on Sunday for their eighth straight victory.

Two weeks after Dallas owner Mark Cuban met with Don Nelson to clear the air about the coach's future, and rumors swirled about potential trades, the Mavericks have their longest winning streak of the season.

"We struggled early and a lot of people wrote us and the coaching staff off," Finley said. "That brought us closer together to overcome adversity."

Plus, the Mavericks' vastly changed roster is finally starting to gel together after just more than a half-season together.

"We knew it was going to take a while," said Antoine Walker, who came to Dallas in a preseason trade from Boston.

Only four players in uniform Sunday were with the team last season: the big three of Finley, Steve Nash and Dirk Nowitzki, along with Shawn Bradley.

Before the winning streak, Dallas had lost 16 of its first 36 games. The Mavs didn't lose No. 16 until the 64th game last year, when they had a franchise-best 60 wins and made the Western Conference finals.

"They are no different than they were last year. They are a very good team," Sacramento coach Rick Adelman said. "They are going to be one of the top teams in the West. That's the type of talent they have."

Dallas (28-16) has won both games this season against the Kings, overcoming an 18-point deficit to win 111-103 in Sacramento on Christmas Day.

"We just didn't finish throughout the game," said Kings forward Brad Miller, who had 11 points and 17 rebounds.

The Kings (30-12) still have the best record in the Western Conference, but Minnesota matched them by beating Phoenix on Sunday.

Nash had 21 points and a season-high 13 assists, with just one turnover, while Nowitzki had 20 points and 12 rebounds. Walker finished with 17 points and Antawn Jamison, another newcomer, had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Rockets 98, Magic 87

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP) — Yao Ming made Orlando pay for its bad defense.

The Magic's lackadaisical play allowed the Houston center to score 21 of his career-high 37 points in the third quarter and lead the Rockets to their sixth win in seven games with a 99-87 victory Sunday night.

Yao also grabbed 10 rebounds for his 20th double-double of the season and sixth during the Rockets' recent run.

Maurice Taylor scored 20 points, Cuttino Mobley had 12 and Jimmy Jackson added 11 for Houston.

Orlando coach Johnny Davis's tactics called for Yao only to be double-teamed when he dribbled while backing down his defender. It was Magic center Andrew DeClercq's job to hold his ground until help arrived.

DeClercq's teammates were so late, the Rockets thought the Magic weren't double-teaming at all.

"They played him single coverage," Houston coach Jeff Van Gundy said. "And with single coverage, he should have games like these."

Rangers name A-Rod captain

NEW YORK (AP) — A month after Alex Rodriguez nearly was dealt to Boston, the American League MVP and Texas Rangers management put on their finest evening clothes Sunday night and tried to put a formal end to their troubled offseason filled with trade talk and tension.

At an unusual news conference in which everyone wore tuxedos, the Rangers appointed Rodriguez their captain.

"I feel good about with who I am in bed with and who I am married to with the Rangers," Rodriguez said.

In town to accept the MVP award, Rodriguez met for five hours in the hotel suite of Rangers owner Tom Hicks, with general manager John Hart and manager Buck Showalter joining in.

Mickleson erases 2003 with win at Bob Hope

LA QUINTA, Calif. (AP) — Phil Mickelson put 2003 — and his winless streak — behind him.

Mickelson won for the first time in 18 months Sunday, beating Skip Kendall on the first playoff hole in the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic.

Far more significant than Mickelson's struggles with his game last year was a terrifying time when wife Amy and their son were in danger during childbirth.

They are both fine now, and Mickelson was eager to get 2004 off to a good start.

With Amy looking on, he confidently rolled in a 3-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole after finishing with a 4-under 68 to match Kendall at 30 under in the 90-hole tournament.

"Amy and I just counted the days until this year started," said Mickelson, who made his season debut in the Hope. "I was just itching, watching those guys play over in Hawaii."

Mickelson is heading for Scottsdale, Ariz., for this week's tournament, and he's eager to be in contention when Sunday rolls around.

"I can't wait to do it again," said Mickelson, who dropped from second to 16th in the world rankings. "I just have so much fun when I'm playing well.

"Not having been there last year, I realize how much I missed it."

Lady Tigers ride 20-game winning streak into D-City

The Snyder Lady Tigers will try to remain perfect in district when they travel to Denver City Tuesday to battle the Lady Stangs at 6:30 p.m.

Snyder (22-2, 5-0) held on Friday to beat Lamesa, 49-42, for its 20th consecutive victory. The Lady Tigers will take on a Denver City team that lost to Sweetwater Friday, 56-45, to fall three games off the pace in 3-3A.

Snyder dominated the first meeting on Jan. 9, 47-28.

The Tigers (8-16, 0-3) will try to secure their first win of the district schedule when they take on Denver City at 8 p.m.

The Tigers fell at Lamesa, 56-47, Friday.

The Mustangs (18-7) — the preseason pick in 3-3A — sport a 2-1 district record and trail undefeated Merkel by one game in the standings.

This will be the first meeting between the teams this season.

Junior high Bulldogs earn consolation at Highland

The Ira Junior High Bulldogs won the consolation bracket at the Highland Tournament Saturday, routing Trent, 35-7, in the finals.

The team lost to Loraine, 49-41, to open the tourney despite 20 points from Gil Shafer.

Shafer scored 23 in helping the Bulldogs top Westbrook, 49-35, to get into the consolation finals against Trent.

Against Trent, Shafer added 10 points, while Wes Moreland chimed in for eight.

Justin Jones hit for five, Seth Sanchez and Rance Dunn put in four each, and Tony Martini and Brandon Ramirez added two apiece.

The junior high Lady Bulldogs fell in the semifinals at the tournament, 37-26, to Blackwell.

Rebecca Juarez led the team with 14, and Laura Juarez and A'Lex Koonce contributed six each.

The team then competed for third place in the tournament against Trent, falling, 41-28.

Rebecca Juarez again scored 14, and Laura Juarez and Koonce had six points each.

Kayla Pittman put in two.

Lamesa tops frosh

The Snyder freshmen girls lost a close-fought contest Friday at Lamesa, 39-35.

Coach Todd Pollard said the girls played hard in defeat.

The frosh Tigers got 20 points from Candace Chandler, five from Brianna Bernal and Kaitlyn Greenlee added four.

Amber Acosta, Ashley Pavlosky abd Courtney Tyrrell all had two points each.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Basketball: Snyder frosh boys at Seminole, 6:30 p.m.
Snyder frosh girls vs. Seminole, 7:45 p.m.
SJHS boys at Seminole, 5 p.m.
SJHS girls vs. Seminole, 5 p.m.
IJHS at Sands, 6 p.m.
HJHS at Westbrook, 6 p.m.

TUESDAY

Basketball: Snyder varsity boys at Denver City, 8 p.m.
Snyder varsity girls at Denver City, 6:30 p.m.
Ira varsity girls and boys vs. Grady, 6:30 p.m.
Hermleigh varsity girls and boys vs. Loraine, 6:30 p.m.
Snyder JV boys at Denver City, 5 p.m.
Snyder JV girls at Denver City, 5 p.m.

THURSDAY

Basketball: Snyder girls at Frenship Tournament, 6:30 p.m.
IJHS at Highland Tournament

FRIDAY

Basketball: Snyder varsity girls vs. Sweetwater, 6:30 p.m.
Snyder varsity boys vs. Sweetwater, 8 p.m.
Ira varsity girls and boys at Dawson, 6:30 p.m.
Hermleigh varsity boys and girls at Trent, 6:30 p.m.
Snyder JV boys vs. Sweetwater, 6 p.m.
Snyder JV girls vs. Sweetwater, 5 p.m.
Snyder frosh boys vs. Sweetwater, 5 p.m.
Snyder frosh girls at Frenship Tournament, 8 p.m.
Baseball: WTC vs. Vernon JC, season opener, 2 p.m.

SATURDAY

Basketball: Snyder girls at Frenship Tournament
IJHS at Highland Tournament
Snyder frosh boys at Lamesa Tournament
Baseball: WTC vs. Vernon JC, DH, noon
Softball: WTC at El Paso College Tournament
Tennis: SHS at Midland College, dual matches, 9 a.m.

Snyder Bowling Leagues

Men's Commercial League

Team	W	L
BJ Services	26	8
Culligan	23	11
Snyder Iron&Metal	21.5	12.5
Timely Pawn	20.5	13.5
WTP Energy	18	16
Good Guys	15	19
Circle M Welding	14	20
The Shack	13	21
Anadarko	10	24
Robert Early's Weld	9	25

High series: Jay Roemisch, scratch, 661; Jay Roemisch, handicap, 736.
High game: Jay Roemisch, scratch, 260; Jay Roemisch, handicap, 285.
Splits and Special Mentions: Mark Thompson, 3-10, Elbert Klein, 3-10.

Jack-N-Jill

Team	W	L
Replacements	8	0
Renegades	7	1
Snyder Lanes	7	1
Outcasts	6	2
Turkey Hunters	5	3
WTP Energy	5	3
Moment's Captured	4	4
Snyder Iron&Metal	3	5
E.D. Walton	2	6
JB's	1	7
Timely Finance	0	8
Phantom Team	0	0

High series: Scratch: Mark Glasscock, 631, Michelle Nachlinger, 537; **Handicap:** Mark Glasscock, 679, Jackie Greene, 659.
High game: Scratch: Mark Glasscock, 298, Jackie Greene, 203; **Handicap:** Mark Glasscock, 314, Jackie Greene, 272.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	25	11	10	5	65	139	113
New Jersey	25	12	10	1	61	111	86
N.Y. Islanders	24	20	4	1	53	140	123
N.Y. Rangers	18	20	7	4	47	128	140
Pittsburgh	11	31	5	3	30	99	183

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	27	12	8	3	65	137	119
Ottawa	27	12	7	3	64	167	102
Boston	22	14	10	4	58	122	118
Montreal	24	18	6	2	56	123	108
Buffalo	20	25	5	1	46	120	132

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	23	16	6	3	55	123	109
Atlanta	21	23	5	2	49	141	150
Florida	17	20	10	3	47	110	131
Carolina	16	23	9	2	43	93	123
Washington	14	29	5	2	35	118	157

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	28	15	6	2	64	163	120
St. Louis	25	16	6	1	57	120	115
Nashville	24	18	6	2	56	118	127
Columbus	14	25	7	3	38	100	138
Chicago	12	26	7	5	36	108	145

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	28	11	8	2	66	153	111
Vancouver	27	14	7	2	63	144	113
Calgary	24	17	4	3	55	115	103
Minnesota	17	20	14	0	48	110	115
Edmonton	19	22	8	1	47	125	131

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	23	12	11	4	61	123	104
Dallas	23	20	8	0	54	102	112
Los Angeles	19	15	10	5	53	128	124
Phoenix	18	15	13	2	51	123	124
Anaheim	15	22	8	5	43	104	131

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Sunday's Games

Buffalo 4, Carolina 2
Philadelphia 4, Washington 1
New Jersey 3, Atlanta 2
Vancouver 4, Nashville 1

Today's Games

Florida at N.Y. Rangers, 6 p.m.
Detroit at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	22	20	.524	—
Boston	22	24	.478	2
New York	20	26	.435	4
Philadelphia	19	25	.432	4
Miami	18	26	.409	5
Washington	13	29	.310	9
Orlando	12	33	.267	11½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	33	13	.717	—
Detroit	29	16	.644	3½
New Orleans	25	19	.568	7
Milwaukee	24	19	.558	7½
Toronto	20	22	.476	11
Cleveland	15	28	.349	16½
Atlanta	14	31	.311	18½
Chicago	13	31	.295	19

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	30	12	.714	—
San Antonio	29	16	.644	2½
Dallas	28	16	.636	3
Houston	26	17	.605	4½
Memphis	25	18	.581	5½
Denver	26	20	.565	6
Utah	21	22	.488	9½

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	30	12	.714	—
L.A. Lakers	26	15	.634	3½
Seattle	22	20	.524	8
L.A. Clippers	18	23	.439	11½
Golden State	18	25	.419	12½
Portland	17	24	.415	12½
Phoenix	16	29	.356	15½

Sunday's Games

Dallas 108, Sacramento 99
New Jersey 110, Boston 91
Chicago 96, Toronto 89
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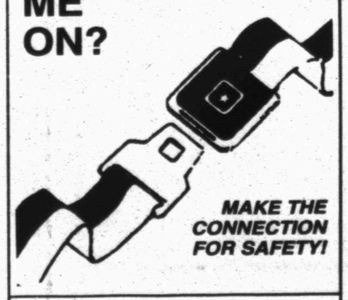
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Second rover sends pictures from Mars

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — With one rover now ailing on Mars, NASA scientists were thrilled when its identical twin sent dazzling and intriguing photos from the other side of the Red Planet.

Images of a smooth red surface arrived at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory about four hours after the rover Opportunity bounced to a landing late Saturday some 6,600 miles from its temporarily crippled twin, Spirit.

"I am flabbergasted. I am astonished. I am blown away. Opportunity has touched down in an alien and bizarre landscape," said Steven Squyres, of Cornell University and the mission's main scientist. "I still don't know what we're looking at."

Mission members hooted and hollered as the images splashed on a screen in mission control at the laboratory in Pasadena. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger was there with his wife, Maria Shriver, to watch the drama unfold, and walked through mission control shaking hands with the scientists.

"The pictures just blow me away. We've certainly not been to this place before," deputy project manager Richard Cook said.

Opportunity plunged into the martian atmosphere at more than 12,000 mph and bounced down on Mars just six minutes later, swaddled in protective air bags. It hit with a force estimated to be just two to three times that of Earth's gravity. Engineers had designed it to withstand as much as 40 G's.

The six-wheeled rover landed in Meridiani Planum, believed to be the smoothest, flattest spot on Mars. Opportunity lies 6,600 miles and halfway around the planet from where its twin, Spirit, landed on Jan. 3.

On Sunday, NASA said Opportunity was in excellent health and Spirit was on the mend after a serious software problems had hobbled it.

Initial analysis of the images suggested Opportunity landed in a shallow crater roughly 66 feet across. Its low rim shouldn't block the rolling robot once it gets going, Squyres said.

Opportunity could roll off its lander in 10 to 14 days' time, mission manager Arthur Amador said. Opportunity's possible targets include a larger crater, maybe 500 feet across, that lies an estimated half-mile from where the spacecraft landed.

The rover's ramp off its lander also appeared unobstructed, unlike Spirit's landing, when a deflated air bag blocked its safest route to the martian surface, said Matt Wallace, another of the mission managers.

Together, the twin 384-pound rovers make up a $820 million mission to seek out geologic evidence that Mars was once a wetter world possibly capable of sustaining life. NASA launched Spirit on June 10 and Opportunity on July 7. Each carries nine cameras and six scientific instruments.

On Wednesday, Spirit developed serious problems, cutting off what had been a steady flow of pictures and scientific data.

Engineers now believe the problem arose with software that manages the file system within the rover's flash memory, project manager Pete Theisinger said. Other possible culprits include broken hardware or solar radiation.

"Spirit is still serious but we are moving to guarded condition," Theisinger said, adding Spirit could resume normal operations in two to three weeks.

NASA sent Spirit to Gusev Crater, a broad depression believed to once have contained a lake. Opportunity was sent to Meridiani Planum, which scientists believe abounds in a mineral called gray hematite.

The iron-rich mineral typically forms in marine or volcanic environments marked by hydrothermal activity. Hematite is common in the red soil found across the Southeastern United States and is frequently used as a pigment, said Doug Ming, of NASA's Johnson Space Center and a member of the science team.

NASA launched two rovers to double its chances of successfully landing on Mars. Both carry identical plaques memorializing the seven astronauts who died aboard space shuttle Columbia nearly a year ago, Opportunity mission manager Jim Erickson said.

Thai boy said seventh victim of bird flu

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — A 6-year-old Thai boy became Asia's seventh confirmed bird flu fatality and Pakistan today joined the list of countries affected by the disease that has sparked mass chicken culls across the region.

The World Health Organization pleaded today with the global scientific community to accelerate the search for a cure. Attempts to tackle the virus are being frustrated by its fast rate of mutation as well as its spread across at least eight countries.

Pakistan said it had detected a form of bird flu in its chicken population. The commissioner for livestock husbandry said it was not a strain of bird flu that can spread to humans — something that has happened in other parts of Asia.

"We have confirmed this. The strand that jumps to humans is not in them," commissioner Rafaqat Hussain Raja said.

Faizullah Kakar, an official at the WHO office in Pakistan, said it had no confirmation of an outbreak of bird flu in the South Asian nation.

Laos, meanwhile, fears it might also be hit by the bird flu and is awaiting test results on the nature of an illness killing its fowl, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization said.

Other Asian governments frantically slaughtered chicken flocks in a desperate bid to contain the disease, as well as the growing political fallout from accusations that officials in two countries — Thailand and Indonesia — initially covered up outbreaks.

Officials in Bangkok said they were investigating whether the virus might be being carried by migratory birds.

The Thai boy became infected after he played with chickens in his village. He died Sunday night in a Bangkok hospital, Thailand's first confirmed death from the virus.

Six people have died in neighboring Vietnam and Thai officials are trying to determine whether bird flu was also the cause of last week's death of a 56-year-old man who had bred fighting cocks.

The WHO said a search for a cure had been set back because the virus had mutated. A previous strain detected in Hong Kong in 1997 can no longer be used as the key to producing a vaccine. It said an international effort was needed.

Scientists believe people get the disease through contact with sick birds. Although there has been no evidence yet of human-to-human transmission, health officials are concerned it might mutate further and link with regular influenza to create a form that could be transmitted from person to person, triggering the next human flu pandemic.

"This is now spreading too quickly for anybody to ignore it," said WHO spokesman Peter Cordingley in Manila.

So far eight countries have reported bird flu — Thailand, Cambodia, South Korea, Japan and Taiwan are also affected and Indonesia admitted it had a problem on Sunday.

Indonesian officials had earlier denied the disease's presence, but the country's veterinarian association said independent investigations had revealed that bird flu had killed millions of chickens over recent months.

The Jakarta Post reported today that Indonesian officials may have covered the outbreak there at the behest of politically connected businessmen who feared it would harm their interests. Indonesian officials denied the allegations.

"It's not true. We have zero tolerance for pressure from businessmen. We are talking about the lives of people," Agriculture Department spokesman Hari Priyono said.

The Thai prime minister, Thaksin Shinawatra, faced similar allegations that he covered up his country's outbreak.

Thaksin has said that his government had suspected "a couple of weeks" ago that bird flu had struck his nation but that he didn't tell the public because he feared mass panic.

14-year-old witness killed

WASHINGTON (AP) — Police said a 14-year-old girl was shot to death and her friend wounded after being targeted because their assailant thought the slain girl had witnessed a killing the day before.

Jahkema Hansen, 14, and an unidentified 12-year-old girl were found Friday evening in a townhouse not far from the U.S. Capitol.

Franklin Thompson, 22, was arrested Saturday and charged with first-degree murder in the slaying.

The shooting of the two girls was in an area where two men were shot to death last Sunday.

Cmdr. Michael Anzallo, chief of detectives for the District of Columbia police, said the girl was killed because her killer thought she was a witness in the first of two shootings in the same area Sunday. Police said they did not believe the shooter was after the girl who was wounded in the leg. The slain girl was shot three times, including once in the head.

The girl's mother, Judyann Hansen, told The Washington Post that police detectives had offered her daughter protection in exchange for information about that killing.

She said police were clear about the danger witnesses face, with one detective telling her that a gunman will "come and put you to sleep because he don't want to do 60 years."

But her daughter declined the offer and "told them she did not see anything," Hansen said.

The mother said she was angry at police for not providing more help. "Even if my daughter didn't want to say anything, they were supposed to put out protection just in case," she said.

Kutcher film in first place over weekend

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Ashton Kutcher punked the critics as his time-travel thriller "The Butterfly Effect" stole the top spot at the weekend box office.

The film hauled in $17.1 million while the Ben Stiller romantic comedy "Along Came Polly" slipped from first to second place with $16.6 million, according to studio estimates released Sunday.

"The Butterfly Effect" stars Amy Smart and Kutcher as a college student haunted by repressed childhood memories who travels back in time to inhabit the body of his younger self and undo traumatic events.

Critics derided the film, but moviegoers seemed intrigued by the premise and hungry to see the 25-year-old Kutcher, star of "That '70's Show" and MTV's prank reality show "Punk'd," in more serious fare.

"There was a great curiosity to see how he'd handle a mature role," said David Tuckerman, head of distribution for New Line, which released "The Butterfly Effect." "This is the first movie he's done that he had to act in."

The film attracted nearly as many men as women, despite Kutcher's popularity among young female viewers, he added.

With the Golden Globes on Sunday and the Oscar announcements this week, viewers were expected to follow a seasonal pattern of flocking to light hearted films in the January run-up to awards season, said Paul Dergarabedian, president of box-office tracker Exhibitor Relations Co.

But intense media coverage of Kutcher's high-profile romance with Demi Moore and other exposure helped buck the trend and draw audiences, Dergarabedian said.

"I don't think anyone expected his film to do quite this much business," he said.

Also debuting this weekend was "Win a Date With Tad Hamilton!" which came in third with $7.5 million. The romantic comedy follows Kate Bosworth as a naive West Virginia girl who wins a date with a movie hunk. It also features Josh Duhamel and Topher Grace, another "That '70s Show" cast member.

On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Are weight cycling and heart disease linked?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am about 35 pounds overweight, and most of the diets I have tried seem to work well for the first weeks. The problem is that, typically, progress then slows down and I eventually stop losing and often regain some of the lost weight. Now I read that loss and regain can cause heart disease. I am not looking for an excuse to stop working at losing weight, but I need to know if I could be hurting myself in the process. — **M.Q., Baton Rouge, La.**

DEAR M.Q.: In this season of resolutions to change that image staring back at you from the mirror, it seems appropriate to ponder whether it is better to have lost and gained than never to have lost at all. Research on so-called "yo-yo dieting" keeps popping up, and the latest evidence indicates that individuals who continually lose and then regain weight do not have higher health risks as might have once been thought.

Your particular experiences are far from unique, as estimates say as many as 90 percent of those who lose end up regaining their lost weight within a few years. The connection between weight cycling and heart disease comes from a number of studies. A 1991 population study published in the New England Journal of Medicine examined 3,100 male and female volunteers ranging from 29 to 62 years of age. These people were part of the Framingham Heart Study, an ongoing monitoring of the residents of Framingham, Mass., which has been in progress since 1948. The study's analysis revealed a link between how much a person's weight had changed and the risk of heart disease, or death from heart disease, as well as the risk of death from all causes (all-cause mortality). While the study did not prove that the weight cycling caused these problems, media reports at the time certainly left that impression.

Research continues to examine this phenomenon. Two studies in the Archives of Internal Medicine (AIM) and a recent work in the International Journal of Obesity have come to different conclusions. The first of the AIM studies, published in July 1995, involved 101 men and 101 women who responded to a newspaper advertisement seeking participants for a weight-control study. The volunteers were put on a calorie-restricted diet and an exercise program, with or without behavioral treatment classes to help them adhere to the regimen. Aside from measuring changes in weight, the scientists periodically measured known risk factors for heart disease, such as blood pressure, blood cholesterol level and percentage of body fat. After 30 months, the study found that people who cycled the most — losing 20 or more pounds and then regaining it — had the same risk of heart disease as those that had never lost weight in the first place.

A second AIM study, published in December 2002, reported on the relationship between weight cycling and all-cause mortality. It looked at 5,600 middle-aged men in Britain over a 20-year period and found that weight cycling was not a significant contributing factor to mortality.

Now, in the January 2004 issue of the International Journal of Obesity, there are similar conclusions after an examination of weight and diet history in 459 obese men and women, 19 to 65 years of age. This latest study examined weight cycling and its possible influence on the risk of heart disease. No connection was found.

I strongly believe that no one should be involved in a weight-loss program solely at the urging of others. Unless you are aware of and committed to the diet and the change in lifestyle that's required, the odds for long-term success are limited. Today's weight-loss diets emphasize how fast they'll take the weight off, while few speak about how they'll keep it off. That's where the real challenge lies. The most important goal should be to adopt a healthful lifestyle that includes a focus on the foods you eat and a regular schedule of physical activity — whether it be a daily walk or a more strenuous regimen. Such an approach should be a No. 1 priority for everyone, even if they have absolutely no interest in losing weight. If you are focused on weight loss, you shouldn't be put off by your chances for success; not everyone fails at the weight-loss game. The grim statistics often come from the pills and programs that attract those looking for a quick fix. There is no quick fix.

All things considered, it's good to know that you and others like you who are unsuccessful may not be any worse off for the effort.

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

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	High	Low	Last	
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AT&T Corp	19.95	19.62	19.91	+.21
Albertsons	23.89	23.67	23.80	+.06
Alltel	49.68	49.20	49.62	+.15
AmEl Pw	32.19	31.86	32.04	+.16
AndarkPtr	51.65	51.02	51.43	—.22
ATMOS Egy	25.49	25.34	25.39	—.07
Aviall	16.33	16.04	16.11	—.29
BP PLC	48.44	48.00	48.07	—.68
BakerHughes	36.40	35.15	35.91	+.05
Bank of Amer	81.53	81.01	81.44	+.17
BellSouth	29.74	29.44	29.59	+.12
BurlNoSFe	33.06	32.35	32.83	+.09
Caterpillar	84.51	83.68	84.40	+.23
CenterPoint	10.27	10.16	10.16	—.11
ChevronTex	86.88	86.42	86.62	—.28
Citigroup	50.30	50.00	50.17	—.15
CocaCola	50.25	49.85	50.17	+.13
ColgatePal	51.48	51.18	51.47	+.48
CmclMetals	30.40	29.90	29.94	—.28
ConocoPhill	67.39	66.84	67.30	—.06
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DeltaAirLines	12.30	11.80	11.83	—.47
Dillards Inc	17.50	17.21	17.32	—.16
DowChem	40.71	40.20	40.60	+.34
DuPont	43.04	42.58	43.01	+.29
EastmanChem	38.51	38.20	38.30	—.15
EstKodak	29.63	29.11	29.33	—.55
EDS Corp	24.27	23.92	23.95	—.45
Entergy	58.50	57.61	57.61	—.75
ExxonMobil	41.45	40.88	41.27	+.23
FootLocker	24.80	24.45	24.69	—.11
GenDynam	92.00	91.31	91.43	—.20
GenElec	33.70	33.14	33.63	+.42
GenMills	46.15	45.70	46.09	+.39
GenMotors	53.84	53.26	53.43	—.31
GaPacific	29.87	29.22	29.64	+.49
Goodrich	31.92	31.30	31.40	—.50
Goodyear	10.37	10.04	10.15	—.11
GtAtlPac	9.21	8.82	9.01	—.03
Halliburtn	29.10	28.56	28.85	—.07
Hanson PLC	36.43	36.30	36.30	—.08
HarteHanks	22.51	22.41	22.42	—.17
HomeDepot	36.08	35.76	35.96	+.04
HoneywellIntl	37.65	35.62	35.99	+.37
IBM	98.85	97.56	98.78	+.88
IntlPaper	42.95	41.94	42.85	+.55
JohnsonJn	53.53	52.50	53.51	+.51
KinderMorg	61.83	60.85	61.39	—.12
Kroger Co	18.75	18.55	18.56	—.09
LockheedM	51.68	50.80	51.65	+.87
Lowes Cos	55.39	54.77	54.96	—.32
Lubys	3.69	3.60	3.65	—.02
LucentTech	4.45	4.22	4.44	+.33
MarathonOil	34.26	33.88	34.22	—.01
MayDeptStr	32.99	32.70	32.88	+.06
Medtronic	48.86	48.62	48.73	+.18
Motorola	16.80	16.46	16.79	+.02
NCR Corp	41.12	40.60	41.00	+.32
Navistar	52.05	50.99	51.16	—.87
PNM Rescs	30.35	30.16	30.26	—.12
Penney JC	26.69	26.42	26.53	—.01
PepBoys	23.30	22.95	23.09	—.09
PepsiCo	46.68	46.13	46.61	+.06
PhelpDodge	77.94	75.44	76.38	—1.07
PilgrimsPride	19.05	18.15	18.45	+.30
Praxair s	36.08	35.30	35.50	—.31
ProctGamb	99.50	97.95	99.49	+1.13
RadioShack	33.20	32.88	33.00	—.22
RoyalDut	47.87	47.50	47.64	—.33
SBC Comm	26.50	26.30	26.46	+.04
SaraLee	20.51	20.27	20.49	+.18
Scripps EW	94.00	93.40	93.52	—.48
SearsRoeb	47.27	46.91	46.99	—.28
SherwinW	34.17	33.93	34.11	+.16
SouthernCo	30.26	30.04	30.05	—.19
SwstAirl	15.70	15.33	15.43	—.28
SprintFON	18.33	17.92	18.23	—.35
SprintPCS	7.97	7.89	7.91	—.06
Sunoco Inc	57.40	56.95	57.12	—.26
TXU Corp	25.00	24.75	24.79	—.65
TempleInland	61.19	60.60	61.10	+.49
TexInd	37.40	36.90	36.94	—.38
TexasInst	31.77	31.00	31.45	+.48
Textron	56.40	55.59	55.70	—.80
TimeWarner	19.40	18.90	19.09	+.11
TrinityInds	34.80	34.39	34.56	—.09
TylerTech	10.75	10.41	10.51	—.26
UnionPacif	65.93	65.40	65.80	+.17
USSteel	35.55	34.77	35.27	—.37
UnitedTech	94.30	93.15	93.83	—.43
Unocal	38.86	38.39	38.42	—.43
VerizonComm	37.70	37.46	37.62	+.02
WalMart	54.50	54.00	54.36	+.15
WellsFargo	57.25	56.78	57.09	+.25
WstnGasRs	47.91	47.40	47.55	—.42
WinnDixie	9.20	9.13	9.16	—.02
Xerox Cp	13.76	13.54	13.75	+.12
YumBrands	35.23	34.90	35.05	—.02

Happy Birthday Bobby

JAN 26 2004

Best Available Copy

Companies' pension plans in trouble

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers call it a perfect storm, a confluence of events that is forcing financially weak companies to pay billions of dollars more into pension plans and threatening the retirement security of millions of Americans.

So serious is the situation that business groups have joined with organized labor and Republicans have allied with Democrats behind a Senate bill to change the formula that determines pension contributions. The measure also provides relief to airlines and steelmakers lagging in their pension payments.

The Bush administration has issued a veto threat over any bailouts to underfunded plans that would only worsen pension financial woes. But the likelihood is that the House and Senate will move quickly to come up with a bill the president can sign.

The House acted on the measure late last year; the Senate is expected to vote on its version this week.

"We have a pension time bomb in this country," said Senate Democratic leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota.

Added Senate Finance Committee Chairman Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, a sponsor of the legislation: "Just when you think things can't get any worse, they do."

Conditions contributing to the perfect storm include a weak job market, particularly in manufacturing, a slowly recovering stock market and historically low interest rates that have driven up what companies are required to pay annually into their pension plans.

Sen. Ted Kennedy, D-Mass., also a sponsor of the bill, said pensions are underfunded by $350 billion and that as many as 20 percent of defined benefit pension plans are at risk of being terminated or frozen.

The Pension Benefit Guaranty Corp., the federal agency that insures the pensions of 44 million Americans, saw its deficit expand to a record $11.2 billion at the end of last year. Its "reasonably possible exposure" from financially weak employers more than doubled last year to $85.5 billion.

Workers currently enrolled in pension plans are protected by the agency, but "all the trends are away from defined benefit plans," said Norman Stein, professor at the University of Alabama law school and an expert on pensions. In the future employees "are going to have to do a lot of their savings on their own, using things like 401(k) plans."

The immediate problem is that companies have been forced to invest in their plans based on the rate of return they could expect from 30-year Treasury bonds, which the government stopped issuing in 2001. Plunging interest rates have meant sharply increased payments.

According to Watson Wyatt Worldwide, a consulting agency that studies employee benefits, Fortune 1000 companies saw their contributions rise from $11 billion in 1999 to $44 billion in 2002.

The government has made adjustments in the payment formula the past two years, but without legislation, companies will return to the 2001 rate scale this April.

The Senate bill would impose a two-year formula based on a corporate bond index that the pension agency said would save companies $80 billion over the two years compared with the 2001 rate. The idea is that within that two-year hiatus, Congress will come up with a permanent solution.

Dorothy Coleman, vice president for tax policy at the National Association of Manufacturers, said companies are having to spend hundreds of millions of dollars that otherwise could be used for capital investment or hiring. "Getting slammed by this is definitely going to threaten economic growth," she said.

The Senate legislation also provides tax and other relief for multi-employer pension plans, which mainly affect lower wage workers in construction and service industries.

The measure runs into trouble because it proposes to waive catch-up payments to the pension agency for companies with underfunded plans. Airlines and steelmakers, and other companies that apply later, would have to pay only 20 percent of their required "deficit reduction contribution" in 2004, and 40 percent next year.

82nd Airborne troops try to adjust to life back home

FAYETTEVILLE, N.C. (AP) — Staff Sgt. Paul T. Hart is trying to break his habit of driving down the middle of Cumberland County's roads.

It's a practice he developed to avoid roadside bombs during a year of duty in Iraq, but no longer necessary now that he's returned to Fort Bragg.

"It takes a while to adjust back over here about the way you drive," said Hart, a 30-year-old squad leader from Deer Park, Texas.

Hart is among the first of about 3,000 paratroopers of the 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment and supporting units who are returning to Fort Bragg through mid-February.

"My wife says I'm driving crazy now," Hart said. "I used to drive like 'Driving Miss Daisy' or something."

The threat of bombs and ambushes made the soldiers tend to drive faster and be leery of stop signs and approaching cars that might block the road and stall soldiers who would be easy targets for rooftop snipers, he said.

Roadside bombs were the worst threat, Hart said. "These people had dog carcasses with bombs in them," he said.

Iraqis put bombs in garbage bags and sewer drains and under rocks, he said. An Iraqi woman might flag down soldiers saying someone was hurt on the side of the road as a ruse for an ambush.

Being back in the United States means not having to worry about being shot or having somebody come up behind you, like they did when soldiers walked outside compound gates, said Spc. Jesse C. Rolli, 26, a machine gunner from Dodgeville, Wis..

He said he jumped the other night when someone popped the cork on a bottle of champagne.

"You hear gunshots. You don't have to worry about that no more," Rolli said.

When the returning soldiers complete a monthlong vacation in mid-February, they will spend six to eight weeks in intensive training to get ready for rapid deployment, said Brig. Gen. Richard Rowe, the assistant commander for operations.

While military leaders want to assure their soldiers that predictability will return to their lives, that's not an easy promise to keep for the rapid-deployment force during the global war on terrorism, Rowe said.

"Remember, we are the force that exists because the world is not predictable," Rowe said.

Hart hopes he will have time at home to reacquaint himself with his children again. He has spent one year at home since his 3-year-old son was born. He missed the child's first year after the Army assigned him to South Korea.

"I just want to spend time with my family now, peace and quiet, no more booms, no more explosions, no more bullets flying in the air, no more people asking for this and that," Hart said.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 01-26-04
♠ A 6 5 4 3
♥ K Q 10 8 6
♦ 4 2
♣ A

West
♠ 2
♥ A J 9 3
♦ K Q 10 9 8 6 5
♣ 5

East
♠ K Q 9 8 7
♥ 7
♦ J 3
♣ Q J 9 8 3

South
♠ J 10
♥ 5 4 2
♦ A 7
♣ K 10 7 6 4 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: North-South

South	West	North	East
Pass	1 ♦	2 ♦	Pass
2 ♥	3 ♦	Pass	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q

Monday, Jan. 26, 2004

The first half of the final deal

By Phillip Alder

We have reached the last board of the 2003 Bermuda Bowl final. Italy led the United States by 303-292. When the deal was put onto the screen in the Vu-Graph theater, there was an eruption of noise from the packed audience; anything could happen.

In second seat, Eric Rodwell (West) opened one diamond. This promised only two cards in the suit. Rodwell and his partner, Jeff Meckstroth, use a home-grown version of the Precision Club system, in which one diamond shows 11-15 points and denies a one-no-trump opening, a five-card major, or a six-card club suit.

Norberto Bocchi (North) made a Michaels Cue-Bid, indicating at least 5-5 in the majors. After Giorgio Duboin (South) gave preference to hearts, West contested with three diamonds. One feels that South should have passed this out, but he competed with three hearts. Then, North made an undisciplined raise to four hearts.

West led the diamond queen, promising the king. Declarer won with his ace, played a trump to dummy's king, cashed the club ace, and called for a low spade. East went in with his queen and returned the diamond jack, West overtaking and exiting with the heart nine. After going up with dummy's queen, declarer could have escaped for three down by playing another low spade. But understandably he tried to cash the spade ace. West ruffed, took the heart ace, and exited with a diamond, leaving declarer in the dummy with three losing spades. So, South went four down: minus 400.

What happened at the other table? Tune in tomorrow, same time, same channel!

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2 astronaut widows: Husbands followed their own dreams

HOUSTON (AP) — Speaking at the church where they have found solace since space shuttle Columbia broke apart, two widows of the astronauts said Sunday that their husbands followed their dreams into space.

"The very first thing that captured Rick's imagination when he was 4 was when they placed man on the moon," said shuttle commander Rick Husband's wife, Evelyn. "He was so excited about that."

Husband spoke alongside Sandy Anderson, wife of Columbia astronaut Michael Anderson, at Grace Community Church in Houston. Husband said she thinks President Bush's plan announced earlier this month to return man to the moon and go eventually to Mars will "recapture the imagination" of Americans.

"My husband always said we would be the first family to go to Mars and I just used to laugh at him," Anderson said. "He would have been thrilled. It was coming. And I think it is a good thing too."

The women added, however, that the National Aeronautics and Space Administration needs to heed recommendations in the Columbia accident report.

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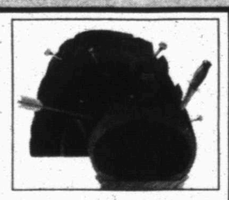
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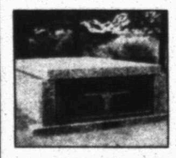
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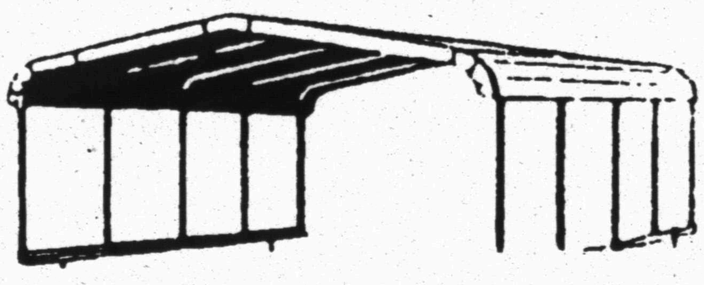

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U.S. reaches free trade agreement with Costa Rica

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration reached an agreement with Costa Rica on Sunday that will allow that nation to join four of its neighbors in creating a Central American Free Trade Area with the United States, officials of the two countries announced.

The deal must be approved by Congress.

The agreement came after two weeks of intense negotiations aimed at overcoming differences in such areas as telecommunications and insurance that had prompted Costa Rica to back out at the last minute from completing the CAFTA talks last month with the four other nations, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua and Honduras.

Administration officials said they were pleased with the market-opening language finally reached with Costa Rica, which had sought to protect its monopoly operations in telephones and insurance.

Costa Rica agreed to fully open its insurance market to foreign competition by 2011. It also agreed to open three key sectors of its telephone market to competition — wireless services, private network services and Internet services.

While the country will maintain bans against foreign competition in other areas of telecommunications, U.S. negotiators said they were satisfied that they had torn down barriers in the areas of most interest to U.S. companies.

"Costa Rica needed a little more time to complete its participation in CAFTA, and we're very pleased it has joined its Central American neighbors in this cutting-edge, modern free trade agreement," U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick said in a statement.

The negotiating breakthrough was announced jointly in Washington by Zoellick and Costa Rican Trade Minister Alberto Trejos.

Senior U.S. trade officials, who briefed reporters Sunday on condition of anonymity, said that they hoped to publish the full text of the CAFTA agreement by the end of the week.

They said the next step would be to add a sixth country, the island nation of the Dominican Republic, to the trade deal before submitting it to Congress.

The free trade deal covering Central America has stirred strong opposition among U.S. sugar cane and sugar beet farmers, who fear competition from lower-priced Central American sugar and from the U.S. textile industry, which is concerned that the deal will open their beleaguered industry to even more foreign competition.

U.S. officials on Sunday refused to speculate on when the CAFTA would be presented to Congress for a vote. Supporters hope that the addition of the Dominican Republic will pick up critical House votes among Democrats whose districts include large numbers of Dominican immigrant populations.

However, U.S. labor unions are vowing to strongly oppose the pact, which they believe would continue a trend of exposing U.S. workers to increased competition from low-wage nations with lax labor and environmental laws.

For its part, the administration hopes to use congressional passage of CAFTA as a stepping stone to achieving an even bigger goal, creation of a Free Trade Area of the Americas, covering all 34 democracies in the Western hemisphere.

Costa Rica accounts for about one-third of U.S. trade with the five CAFTA countries.

Strong academic track records helping home-schooled students get into college

By The Associated Press

Home-schooling advocate Karl Bunday used to get a lot of blank looks when he visited college fairs in his native Minnesota and pitched the virtues of students educated around the kitchen table.

Nearly a decade later, things have changed. "It seems like this time, everybody has heard of home schooling," said Bunday, who operates the Web site learninfreedom.org about "taking responsibility for your own learning."

Until recently, educators say, home-schooled students mostly gravitated to small, primarily religious colleges. Now, as the movement keeps gaining in popularity, they can be found on many — even most — campuses nationwide.

"As the numbers (of home schooled) have increased, and there have also been more admitted to college, they've actually performed quite well," said Barmak Nassirian, a policy analyst with the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers.

While exact figures are not available, the number of middle and high school students educated at home is now estimated at between 1 million and 2 million.

Such young people have grown up academically with a greater emphasis on learning — rather than testing — compared with conventionally educated students, said Laura Derrick of the Home Education Network.

Derrick thinks colleges are starting to recognize that. Schools are "looking at kids as human beings and as people who bring a specific experience to their school rather than just a grade or a grade point average," she said from her home in Austin, Texas.

Educated at home from kindergarten through high school, Holly Porter said the flexibility of home schooling made the transition to university life easy.

"It prepared me better than going to a regular high school would have because I was independently motivated," said Porter, now a graduate student at the University of Denver.

Asher Albertson was home schooled until age 16, when he started attending classes at a community college.

Now a junior at the University of Wyoming, Albertson said finding his way to classrooms was the most difficult adjustment to college life. "Before, it was the dining room table," he joked.

Academically, Albertson added, the move to campus was nearly seamless.

"In college, you go to class, but you spend most of your time studying outside of class getting ready for tests, so it wasn't much different from what I was doing before," he said.

Beyond academics, the uptick in home schooled students on college campuses has helped them overcome the stereotype that they're socially maladjusted, said Mark Hegener, the publisher of Home Education magazine.

When Porter moved into her first undergraduate residence hall at Denver five years ago, she felt like it was the conventionally schooled freshmen who had trouble adjusting.

"It was kind of a shock," she recalled.

"I had been given a lot of independence and a lot of freedom inside my parent's home. And I kind of got the feeling that there were all these girls that had never been away from their families before and they just went hog wild."

Within a week, Porter transferred to a dormitory that emphasized academics.

Porter and others say the home-schooled develop their social skills through volunteerism and other networks that allow them to join in as many or more extracurricular activities than conventional students.

Texas State University admissions director Christie Kangas said home schooled applicants almost always list more community service than those conventional students.

Nassirian said the barriers that once discouraged the home schooled from attending secular colleges began to fall five years ago after the schools overcame "fundamental misgivings" about applications who lacked grade transcripts and report cards.

Porter encountered some of those obstacles.

"On paper, I looked like a high school dropout," she said.

"I had a (high school equivalency diploma) but I didn't do an accredited high school curriculum. So I had to explain that I'm not a high school dropout — that I have had a lot of unique experiences that a regular high school student doesn't have."

Tom Bear, dean of admissions at the University of Evansville, credits home-schooled students' strong performances on standardized tests for changing their image.

Additionally, applicants to Evansville — a private institution in southern Indiana — must submit a reference from a coach, minister or another source.

"We have some checks and balances in place," Bear said. "But the home schooled kids who are here have done well."

Barbara Walters stepping down as co-host of 20/20

NEW YORK (AP) — After 25 years as host of "20/20," Barbara Walters is moving on.

The broadcaster, who has interviewed scores of the famous and infamous in a legendary television career, said Sunday she will step down this fall from her perch at the ABC newsmagazine.

Walters, 74, will do about six interview specials a year for ABC News, including her annual pre-Oscar show. She'll also stay as executive producer and co-host of the daytime talk show "The View."

"Starting in September, I want to have more flexibility in my life without the responsibilities of a weekly newsmagazine," she said in a statement issued by ABC.

The Walters interview, often done with a soft-focus camera and featuring teary subjects, is as much a part of television news lore as Mike Wallace's intensity on "60 Minutes."

"20/20," which Walters currently co-hosts with John Stossel, is likely to continue but be less focused on major interview subjects.

The "get," the grab of a celebrity interview subject, is an increasingly important part of network news operations and Walters, along with ABC News colleague Diane Sawyer and NBC's Katie Couric, has been among the fiercest competitors.

Among Walters' major "20/20" interview subjects were Cuban President Fidel Castro, Christopher Reeve after his riding accident, a post-indictment Martha Stewart, Sen. Hillary Clinton about her autobiography, and Patricia Hearst.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, Jan. 27, 2004

Conditions look better than average for you in the year ahead where your ambitions and goals are concerned. Your abilities and talents will fuse harmoniously in ways that allow what you desire to be achieved.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Hopes and wishes can be realized today if you hold firm to a positive attitude. Don't allow any negative thoughts to enter your mind; think of yourself as lucky and life will come up "7's."

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — There will be a favorable shift in conditions today that could benefit you greatly in financial or work-related ways. When indicators make themselves known, follow their dictates.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — A matter that had been taken out of your hands may be placed back in your control today. This time around, make certain the reins remain securely in your care for as long as you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You are now entering a brief cycle where you could benefit greatly from situations that have been initiated by others. Get ready to take advantage of something good that crosses your path.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Someone you liked very much may re-enter your life again at this time. It'll be good to have this individual back, and you'll have no trouble picking up where you left off in your relationship.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Set your sights a few notches higher than usual today and don't even think about settling for second best. Believe in yourself, because you have what it takes to be a winner.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Your greatest asset today is your ability to successfully get along with people from all walks of life. It won't matter to you if they are big shots or one of the little people; you'll be gracious to all.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Someone with whom you've had successful dealings in the past may once again come to you today with another great idea. You'll welcome the union, and things should work out once again.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — An opportunity may arise today to win over to your side someone who is both bold and capable of helping you further a cause you find yourself working on. This person will be a good ally.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Any positive corrective measures you take today to better your productivity at work will have uplifting effects on your position and career. It could be more meaningful than you now realize.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Avail yourself today if someone is eager to introduce you to someone she or he thinks you'd like. Chances are it could turn into something far more exciting than you've got going for you now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Rather than clinging to ventures or involvements that up until now have proven to be unproductive, let them go and seek out new ways to reach your objectives. Use the past as a springboard.

Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Respiratory infection can cause halitosis

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is it possible for bacteria to invade the lungs and cause bad breath? Dentists cannot find a problem in my mouth, but my life is literally in shambles because of halitosis.

DEAR READER: Although most cases of bad breath are caused by bacterial action on food particles between teeth, there is no doubt that infection anywhere in the respiratory tree — including the lungs — can lead to halitosis. If your mouth and teeth check out and you aren't regularly consuming food, such as garlic, that can affect the breath, you need further testing to rule out sinus or lung infections, both of which can be associated with halitosis without other symptoms, such as sinus tenderness or cough.

I suggest that you be examined by your family physician who will, I suspect, X-ray your chest and sinuses to make certain that you don't have a hidden abscess.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been diagnosed with peripheral vascular disease that causes my legs to cramp during walking. I've been told to walk for an hour, three or four times a week. Your recent column said that exercise worsens the condition. What am I to believe?

DEAR READER: I believe that you misunderstood my response.

Patients with PVD can often improve circulation by exercising. This activity encourages the growth of alternative circulation — in essence, new channels may open up to bypass the blocked arteries. Therefore, exercise, such as walking, may actually improve PVD. Nonetheless, the condition is progressive, so walking could temporarily worsen symptoms of cramping and pain. My advice? Exercise regularly and attempt to "walk through" any discomfort you might experience.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Managing Chronic Pain." 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.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am an 84-year-old lady with burning feet. They feel like fire on the tops and bottoms and the burning extends up to the knees.

Changing my footwear didn't help. What can I do to relieve this symptom?

DEAR READER: From the limited information you supply, I cannot diagnose your condition. However, I wouldn't be surprised if you are suffering from a common affliction called peripheral neuropathy, a nerve malfunction that is common in the elderly.

There is no surefire cure for the symptoms of neuropathy. However, many people have found relief by using Neurontin, a medicine that your doctor can prescribe.

Another option that is easier and cheaper is the application of Capzasin cream to the affected areas. Made from chili peppers, this over-the-counter product can, in many cases, relieve the discomfort of neuropathy. Try it and let me know if it works.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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Oil Patch News

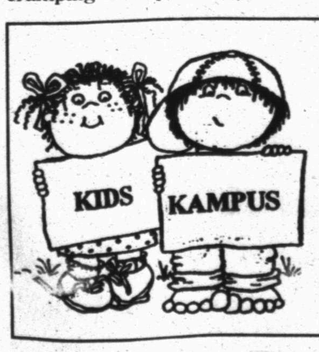
Borden County

Chevron will drill the No. 4339 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Planned for a depth of 6,500 feet, drill site is in Section 22, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Mitchell County

Sharp Image Energy will drill the No. 1 Vincent East in the Dunnfield, 5.3 miles northeast of Vincent. Planned for a depth of 7,700 feet, location is in Section 73, Block 10, Lavaca Navigation survey.

Energen Resources Corporation will drill the No. 2511-W Westbrook southeast field unit. Planned for a depth of 3,500 feet, location is in Section 34, Block 28, T1N, T&P survey.



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

In interrogations...

Supreme Court rules against police

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court reaffirmed today that police must tell indicted people of their rights before starting interrogations.

Justices ruled 9-0 in favor of a Nebraska man who claimed he was tricked into talking to officers who came to his house to arrest him on drug charges.

The decision relieved civil liberties groups, which worried that the court was poised to roll back some of the protections in its landmark 1966 Miranda ruling which led to the familiar refrain beginning "You have the right to remain silent."

The American Bar Association was among groups that urged the court to clarify that people facing charges must be told they have a right to see an attorney.

The ruling will discourage officers from trying to elicit confessions from off-guard suspects facing charges.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, writing for the majority, said that the officers violated John J. Fellers' constitutional rights by deliberately eliciting information during a 15-minute interview in his home, without telling him he could see an attorney.

Today's decision was the first of four Miranda rulings expected from the Supreme Court this year.

Justices dodged a broader ruling sought by Fellers, who argued that a second jailhouse interview was tainted by the improper initial questioning. The Supreme Court said a lower court should reconsider that issue, in light of the ruling that the first questioning was unconstitutional.

The Bush administration had argued that it was "routine police practice" for officers to tell an indicted suspect that they wanted to talk about pending charges, like was done in the Fellers case.

The ABA lawyers group, with more than 400,000 members, said that Fellers should have had an attorney.

"The justices recognized that people who have been indicted have special rights, but put off deciding just how far those rights go," said Thomas Goldstein, a Washington lawyer who worked on the ABA filing. "It's just too early to tell whether the justices are going to be particularly forgiving of police errors."

Fellers was sentenced to more than 12 years in federal prison after being convicted of conspiring to distribute methamphetamine.

Roadside bomb kills Iraqi as U.S. forces search for soldiers

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — U.S. forces aided by Iraqis searched the muddy waters of the Tigris River today in northern Iraq for a soldier and two pilots missing after a helicopter crashed while searching for a patrol boat that had capsized.

A man was killed when he stepped on a roadside bomb as he got off a bus in a Baghdad suburb today, Iraqi Civil Defense Corps 2nd Lt. Mustafa Tariq said. The explosion left the bus badly mangled and wounded three other passengers, one critically, he said.

Two Iraqi policemen and an Iraqi translator accompanying the American soldiers in the patrol boat were killed in the incident, said a military spokeswoman. But one soldier was still missing while three others survived, she said.

The OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopter, attached to the 101st Airborne Division, crashed in the Tigris in the northern town of Mosul on Sunday evening during a search-and-rescue mission a little more than an hours later, and both crew members were missing. The U.S. military said in a statement that both crashes "were not the result of enemy action" according to initial indications.

"Search efforts are still under way for the three soldiers utilizing all available assets" with the help of Iraqi police and fire department, said the statement received today.

Four Iraqi policemen manning a checkpoint outside Ramadi west of Baghdad were killed Sunday in a drive-by shooting, police Lt. Col. Saad Someir said. He said gunmen also killed three policemen at another checkpoint in Ramadi on Sunday.

Security guards killed an Iraqi in a shootout Sunday after his gang tried to break through a wall of a bank in the northern city of Kirkuk, the U.S. Army said today. Two other gang members were wounded. The fourth man carrying an AK-47 rifle fled on foot before U.S. forces secured the area.

The Kiowa Warrior was the fifth U.S. helicopter to crash in Iraq this month. Three others were brought down by enemy fire and a fourth, also a Kiowa Warrior, crashed Friday south of Mosul soon after takeoff, killing both pilots. The reason was not clear.

The three missing service members were with the 101st Airborne Division, according to the statement.

The News Tribune of Tacoma newspaper, which has a reporter embedded with the division, said the helicopter went down on the east bank of the Tigris just across from the populous old part of Mosul, 225 miles northwest of Baghdad.

Minor accident, 4 arrests reported

Minor accident

A non-injury accident was reported at 5:23 p.m. Saturday at College Ave. and Round Top Rd. The mishap involved a 1994 Chevrolet Blazer driven by James Allen Shields, 22, 3403 44th St., and a 1990 Oldsmobile Cutlass driven by Christopher Burchfield, 19, 2006 37th St.

Arrests

Ramon Romo Otero, 36, of 1707 E. 66th St. in Lubbock was taken into custody at Hwy. 84 and FM 1606 at 1:23 a.m. Sunday for felony DWI with a child under 15 years of age.

A 20-year-old man was arrested at Hwy. 180 and Ave. C at 12:45 a.m. Sunday for misdemeanor DWI.

Officers took a 19-year-old man into custody in the 2900 block of Ave. U at 12:17 p.m. Sunday for no driver's license, no liability insurance and possession of drug paraphernalia.

A 29-year-old woman was arrested in the 3200 block of Ave. D at 4:59 p.m. Sunday on a warrant for motion to revoke probation and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Theft

A caller reported the theft of a DVD player from 107 Chestnut Sunday morning.

Criminal mischief

Five callers reported to law enforcement officers Saturday morning that yards in the 2700 block of Ave. W, 3200 block of 48th St., 3000 block of 33rd St., 3000 block of Crockett and the 3700 block of Ave. U had been driven through during the night leaving tire tracks.

A caller reported at 8:49 a.m. Sunday from the Windridge Apts. that his vehicle's tires had been slashed during the night.

Shoplifter

Saturday evening, an employee of United Supermarket reported that a shoplifter had been caught in the store.

Family disturbance

An officer was requested at a home on 26th St. at 9:35 p.m. Saturday where a parent and a child were in a verbal argument.

Criminal trespass

A woman told officers at 12:24 p.m. Sunday that another subject had tried to choke her. Officers responded and a criminal trespass warning was issued.

Gas drive-off

A clerk reported a gas drive-off at 7:35 p.m. Sunday from Skinny's on Coliseum Dr. in the amount of $5.

Obituaries

Hub Evans

1926-2004

Hub Evans, longtime Snyder resident, died Sunday, Jan. 25, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after a brief illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Evans, 77, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday at Hillside Memorial Gardens with the Rev. Miller Robinson, retired Baptist minister, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Hub Evans

Born March 25, 1926 in Nacogdoches, he married Evelyn Wilson on Jan. 16, 1961 in Carlsbad, N.M. Mr. Evans was a route salesman for Borden Dairy Company for many years. He was a veteran of World War II, serving in the Marine 4th Division, and fought in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

Mr. Evans was a coach and umpire in Little League and was a member of Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

A daughter, Tammy Evans, and a brother, Joe Evans, preceded him in death.

Survivors include his wife, Evelyn Evans of Snyder; a daughter and son-in-law, Sammie and Gary Poe of Snyder; two sons, Neil Evans of Snyder and Gary Don Evans of Seattle, Wash.; a sister, Janice Smith of Abilene; two brothers, Allen Evans of Thurber and Jim Evans of McAllen; four grandchildren, Amber and Austin Lyle of Snyder, Zac Evans of Fort Worth and Troy Evans of Midland; a sister-in-law, Bonnie Ervin of Snyder; four great-grandchildren; and special friends, Doug and Jo Flynn of Snyder, Paul and Brigette Thompson and sons of Snyder, Bobby and Betty Wilson of Irving and Keith and Ruby Lea Wilson of Lehigh Acres, Fla.

Kaoru McDill

1933-2004

Graveside service for Kaoru Yamada McDill of Lubbock was held today in Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. McDill, 70, died Sunday, Jan. 25, in Covenant Lakeside Hospital in Lubbock after a lengthy illness.

She was born on Sept. 28, 1933 in Tokyo.

Survivors include two daughters, Cindy Kenady of Lubbock and Connie Goodman of Houston; two sons, Glenn McDill and Danny McDill, both of Jacksonville, Fla.; eight grandchildren, Kollin Kenady, Chandler Kenady, Clayton Kenady, Clarke Goodman, Coulter Goodman, Caitlin Goodman, Ceeci Goodman and Chloe Goodman.

Elmer Justus

1920-2004

AMARILLO — Elmer Odell Justus, brother of Lavelle Eicke of Snyder, died Saturday, Jan. 24, in Amarillo.

Memorial service for Mr. Justus, 84, was held today in the Bell Avenue Church of Christ. Officiating was John McMath and Glen Walton.

Born on Jan. 10, 1920 in Greer County, Okla., Mr. Justus was in the military from 1942 to 1946 serving as a cook in the Army in India. He was a member of the Golden Glove Boxers and was vice president of the 45-and-up group.

His parents, Charlie Thomas and Kiddie Ray Justus; his wife, Dorothy Atchison Justus; a son, Kenneth Odell Justus; and two brothers, Otis and Arron Justus, preceded him in death.

Survivors also include his wife, Helen Justus of Amarillo; a daughter, Yvonne Ward of Arlington; a son, David Franklin Justus of Las Vegas, Nev.; two brothers, Eural T. Justus of Lubbock and O. Ray Justus of Crosbyton; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; one great-great-grandchild; a stepdaughter; five step grandchildren; eight step great-grandchildren and a step great-great-grandchild.

Mr. Rainwater

1944-2004

CONROE — Services are pending at the Addison-Smith Funeral Home for William Albert Rainwater, the nephew of Thula Whatley and Mildred Browne of Snyder.

Mr. Rainwater, 59, died Friday, Jan. 23.

He was preceded in death by his father, Tinsley Rainwater; and a daughter, Tennie Rainwater.

Survivors include a son, Malcolm Rainwater of Midland; his mother, Edna Gordon of Montgomery; two brothers, Jerry and Giles Rainwater; and three grandchildren.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 1/27	Wed 1/28	Thu 1/29
50/28	57/36	65/36
Sunny skies. High near 50F. Winds WSW at 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the mid 30s.	A few clouds. Highs in the mid 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise 7:42 AM, Sunset 6:11 PM	Sunrise 7:41 AM, Sunset 6:12 PM	Sunrise 7:41 AM, Sunset 6:13 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–
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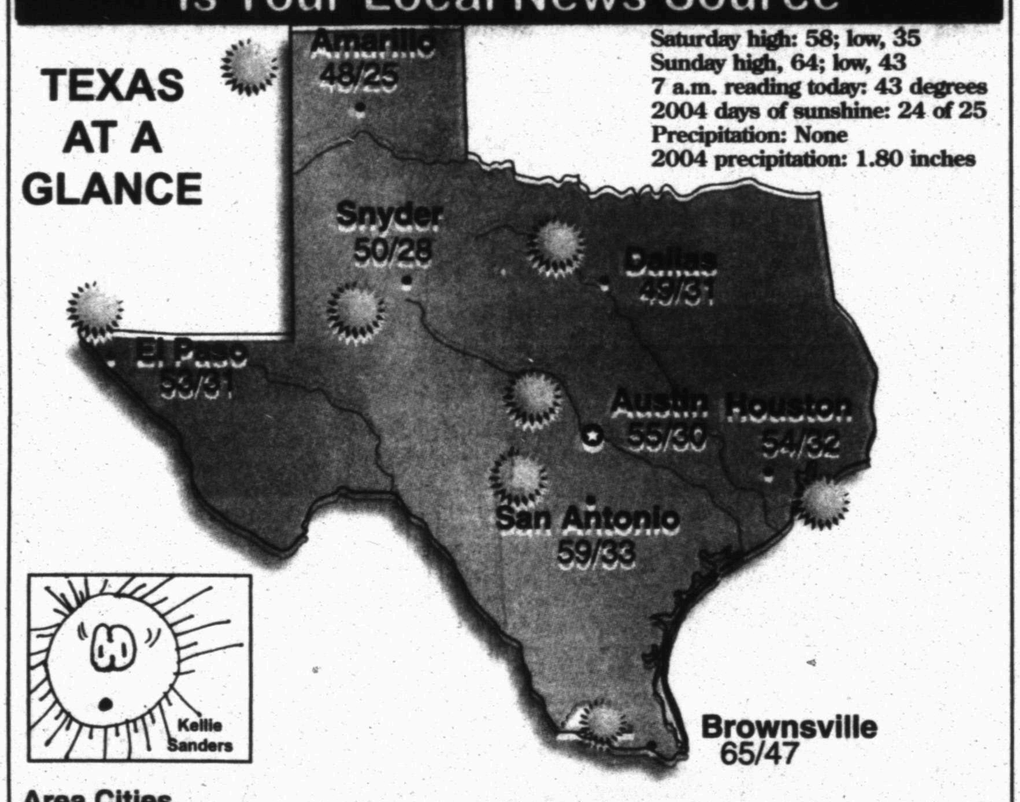
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Saturday high: 58; low, 35
Sunday high, 64; low, 43
7 a.m. reading today: 43 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 24 of 25
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 1.80 inches



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	52	31	sunny	El Paso	53	31	sunny	Midland	52	28	sunny
Amarillo	48	25	sunny	Fort Stockton	55	33	sunny	Raymondville	64	44	sunny
Austin	55	30	sunny	Gainesville	46	26	sunny	Rosenberg	54	31	sunny
Beaumont	53	30	sunny	Greenville	45	27	sunny	San Antonio	59	33	sunny
Brownsville	65	47	mst.sunny	Houston	54	32	sunny	San Marcos	56	30	sunny
Brownwood	54	30	sunny	Kingsville	64	42	sunny	Sulphur Springs	46	27	sunny
Corpus Christi	59	42	sunny	Livingston	51	25	sunny	Sweetwater	52	31	sunny
Corsicana	49	29	sunny	Longview	46	26	sunny	Tyler	46	26	sunny
Dallas	49	31	sunny	Lubbock	51	26	sunny	Weatherford	49	27	sunny
Del Rio	58	36	sunny	Lufkin	50	26	sunny	Wichita Falls	49	26	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	46	22	windy	Houston	54	32	sunny	Phoenix	63	43	mst.sunny
Boston	29	25	snow	Los Angeles	63	50	pt sunny	San Francisco	53	48	rain
Chicago	27	13	snow	Miami	78	52	t-storm	Seattle	47	44	rain
Dallas	49	31	sunny	Minneapolis	15	-2	pt sunny	St. Louis	26	13	sn shower
Denver	43	27	mst sunny	New York	27	25	mixed	Washington, DC	34	28	mixed

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Jan 21	Jan 29	Feb 6	Feb 13

UV Index

Tue 1/27	Wed 1/28	Thu 1/29
4 Low	4 Low	4 Low

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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