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INSIDE
Educational Law Overhaul Ok'd 2
Super Sonics Even Score 5
Midday Stocks 7
Spy Satellite System Planned 8
What's Up 10

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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
May 8, 1997
Vol. 49 No. 7
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Terri Simpson

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Middle age is when work is a lot less fun and fun is a lot more work."

SHS softball coach Billy Hicks can scramble with the best of 'em.

Hicks is the focused sort of guy with all kinds of irons in the fire. He teaches, he coaches, he drives a school bus, and he's a pretty darn good writer.

During the busy spring sports season, Hicks was helpful with game info and team stats. He also operates on faith.

Just before the area playoff game with El Paso Parkland, Hicks insisted on a good field and finally got the opposing coach to settle on Carlsbad, N.M.

"I don't know where we'll be staying," Hicks told us.

Lack of reservations didn't bother him. "One time in Lousiana, we didn't have hotel reservations, so we camped out at the state park. Had a great time."

Camping would have been a little damp that weekend as the best-of-three series was moved to a slightly drier Kermit.

And yes, the team was able to get indoor reservations.

Everybody wants in on the act.

Playing up to the 20 million people who work at home, and taking a cue from last week's "Take Our Daughters to Work Day," a home office computing magazine designated April 24 as "Keep Your Daughters and Sons at Home Day."

If it's not the weather, it's the government...

A federal agency is setting out to protect kids on the farm.

After learning that about 100 people under age 20 are killed and another 100,000 injured in farm accidents each year, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health is kicking of a $5 million program to identify risk for farm children.

While farm safety is a major concern for all age workers, it's hard to believe that more federal regulations is the safe solution.

KIDS' COLLEGE SIGN-UP — Registration for a Western Texas College Summer enrichment program, Kids' College, was held Wednesday at the Christian Student Center. With help from her mother, Margaret, and Beebo the clown (Charlotte Springer), Ashley Rodriguez signed up for three classes. Administrators said approximately 250 children registered for the program, which will be held June 16-27. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Haywood to make grant declaration for WTC, industry

Senator Tom Haywood will announce today that Western Texas College and Snyder area industry have been awarded grants totaling almost $700,000 from the Texas Department of Commerce and the Texas Workforce Commission.

Formal announcement will be made at 5:30 p.m. in the WTC Student Center. Brenda Arnette, executive director of the Texas Department of Commerce, and Diane Rath, commissioner of the Texas Workforce Commission, will present the grants.

"These grants are the result of state government, local industry and higher education working together to try and solve the shortage of skilled labor in this area," Haywood said. "This type of cooperation is an invaluable asset to the future of Texas. It gives us an advantage in preparing our workforce to compete in a global economy."

The funds are made available through the Smart Jobs Fund and the Skills Development Fund. Both are designed to help community colleges like WTC finance customized job skills training for local businesses.

Participating in the program will be Lorber Industries of Texas, Amoco Pipeline and Pennzoil Exploration.

Varied agenda greets school board trustees

A number of action items await Snyder Independent School District trustees when they meet at 6 this evening in the administration building.

Among the items will be the swearing-in of board members Richard Chambers and Mike Levens and the recognition of outgoing member Geraldine Parker.

The trustees will also consider:

—amending the present school calendar to set May 30 as a teacher workday instead of a bad weather make-up day;

—amending the curriculum budget by $27,860 to provide funds to align curriculum to TAAS objectives;

—five bids for asbestos abatment at the Snyder High School auditorium;

—approving Davis, Kinard & Company as the district's auditors for the 1996-97 school year

—a board policy concerning the administration of medication by a SISD employee on second reading;

—a new appraisal process for employees;

—and, naming a representative to attend the 1997 Texas Association of School Boards Assembly.

Late-term procedure...

Fate of abortion ban lies with Senate

WASHINGTON (AP) — Encouraged by a string of triumphs at the state level, abortion foes are working for a veto-proof majority in the Senate on legislation banning a controversial late-term procedure.

"We're a solid 62 (votes) and a hopeful 63," says Sen. Rick Santorum, R-Pa., the sponsor of the measure to ban some late term abortions. That is shy of the two-thirds majority needed to override a threatened veto, but Santorum added, "We're working on it."

"I can't afford to feel that there's anything less than lots of opportunity out there," said Helen Alvare, spokeswoman for the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, which wants the controversial procedure banned.

President Clinton vetoed an identical bill last year, saying he wanted changes providing exceptions that took into account a woman's health. The veto was sustained at the time, but that was before a prominent abortion rights supporter conceded he had lied about how often the procedure was used.

With a Senate vote likely before the Memorial Day recess, Democratic leader Thomas Daschle of South Dakota and a bipartisan group of senators are drafting their own bill.

It would ban the procedure and "other, equally troubling" abortions after the point at which a fetus can live outside the womb, but he did not specify that point in terms of months. He also has talked about banning the procedure during the last three months of pregnancy.

But unlike the Republican-sponsored, House-passed bill, Daschle's compromise version would include a narrow health exception. However, he has not been specific on that either.

A Catholic and abortion-rights supporter who also favors some restrictions on the procedure, Daschle said in a Washington Post op-ed column that the debate should not be limited to a specific method.

"We will be arguing that all post-viability abortions, not just those performed in a particular way, should be stopped," he said. "We will be arguing for a full ban, not a partial one."

But supporters of the bill that passed the House say a bill such as the one Daschle is proposing would be unacceptable.

Santorum said the proposal would be "phony" and designed to help wavering Democrats, traditional abortion-rights supporters, feel good by voting "for something that looks like a ban that really is not."

"It nullifies the bill," he said of the proposed health exception.

Alvare said Daschle "is looking to do what Clinton wanted to do and that has nothing to do with banning partial-birth abortion."

"It's clever political cover that claims to care about partial-birth abortions and does nothing about them and calls itself a compromise when it's actually irrelevant to the issue," she said.

Abortion opponents say the procedure would continue unrestricted under the Democratic bills because most of the abortions in which it is used are done in the fifth and sixth months of pregnancy.

The measure favored by the anti-abortion forces cleared the House by a 295-136 vote earlier this year, more than enough to override a veto.

Even as Congress struggles with the bill, abortion foes are making gains in the state legislatures.

Eleven states — Ohio, Michigan, Utah, Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Georgia, Mississippi, Montana, South Carolina and South Dakota — have banned the procedure, medically known as "intact dilation and extraction." Bills are pending in at least 19 states, according to the Reproductive Freedom Project of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Rep. Charles Canady, R-Fla., sponsor of the House bill, said the state action indicates that "there is strong grassroots support for action to end this horrible procedure."

Foreign donations returned

Republicans send back $102,000 funneled through subsidiary

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Republican Party acknowledged today it has its own problem with foreign contributions as it gave back $102,400 funneled through a Florida subsidiary by a Hong Kong company.

In a statement, Republican National Committee Chairman Jim Nicholson said the party had no reason to believe the contributions might be illegal until recent news stories reported that Young Brothers Development USA was a shell company controlled from Hong Kong.

RNC lawyers verified late Wednesday that the money came from the parent company in Hong Kong, Nicholson said. "Upon learning those facts, we immediately returned the contributions, before the day's end," he said.

Young Brothers also guaranteed a $2.2 million loan to a nonprofit group set up by the party, the National Policy Forum. That money was used to repay part of the policy forum's debts to the Republican National Committee just before the 1994 congressional election.

It's legal, however, for nonprofit groups to accept foreign donations, and that money has not been returned.

For months the Republican Party has gleefully hammered the Democrats over the fund-raising controversy, which forced the Democratic National Committee to begin returning almost $3 million in improper or illegal contributions, mostly from Asian sources.

Previously, the Republicans had been relatively untouched by the issue, returning only $15,050 in foreign contributions.

Fiesta Hispanica coming to Snyder

Snyder ISD students will be treated to "A Taste of Mexico: Music, Folktales & Dance" Friday.

The Fiesta Hispanica program will be presented at 8:45 a.m., 12:45 p.m. and 1:45 at Worsham Auditorium.

Ballet Folklorico San Patricio will present the program, under the direction of Alvaro Munoz.

The Ballet Folklorico San Patricio de Alvaro R. Munoz is a nonprofit folklore dance company. Munoz, born in Abilene, began dancing when he was 4 and had his first performance at age 5. At 14, he started his teaching career with the St. Vincent's Ballet Folklorico in Abilene.

He has attended such academies as the University of Guadalajara in Guadalajara, Danza Folklorica de Coyoacan in Mexico, and the Academy of El Ballet Folklorico de Mexico, considered the top schooling and professional company under the direction of Amalia Hernandez.

He moved to Lubbock to attend Texas Tech and major in dance with a minor in public relations. He founded the semi-professional Mexican Ballet Folklorico in 1986. The dance company was organized for the preservation of Mexican culture through the art of dance.

Started with only 13 dancers, the company has enrolled more than 183 dancers since its formation. Currently, the company consists of 43 dancers.

Students from East, Stanfield and West (6th grade) will attend the 8:45 performances, with students from Central, Northeast and West (primary) seeing the 12:45 show. The 1:45 show will be for junior high and high school students.

Performance plan reviewed at Cogdell

In an hour-long meeting this morning, Cogdell Memorial Hospital board members heard reports on performance improvement, documentation, environmental care standards and safety.

The comprehensive information detailed the orientation of employees, steps toward patient satisfaction, equipment management, systems checks and records keeping.

The only action item on the agenda was two wording changes in the medical staff bylaws and those were approved.

Board chairman Jim Cave asked board members to consider setting June 6-7 as dates for a hospital planning session. No dates were formally set at the meeting.

Board members present were Cave, E.D. Walton, Stanley Martin, Dr. Mark Weaver and J.B. Tate Jr. Jimmy McMillan was absent.

ASK US

Q—What are the dates for the Scurry County Fair?

A—It is scheduled for Sept. 18-20.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 82 degrees; low, 62; 7 a.m. Thursday, 68; no precipitation; total for 1997, 10.63 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy; 30% chance of storms. Low 45-50. NE wind 15-25 mph, gusty. Friday, mostly cloudy; 20% chance of showers.

Amanda Murray
Mostly cloudy

Sunset: 8:29 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:52 a.m.
Of 127 days in 1997, the sun has shone 115 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

It is with disease of the mind, as with those of the body; we are half dead before we understand our disorder, and half cured when we do.

-C.C. Colton

Disabled children...

Panels OK overhaul of education law

WASHINGTON (AP) — A planned overhaul of the law guaranteeing millions of disabled children a free education will bring them further into the mainstream, Education Secretary Richard Riley says.

"This is a balanced approach, and it places a strong emphasis on teaching and learning," Riley said Wednesday after the House and Senate education committees approved a rewrite of the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act.

The committees quickly approved identical changes in the 22-year-old civil rights law, after an agreement that ended more than two years of wrangling. The bill appears headed to quick passage in the House and Senate, and Riley said it has President Clinton's full support.

Before the legislation reached that point, negotiators had to settle disputes over discipline, children's rights and curbs on legal costs.

Riley pointed to the changes that would give parents more access to school decisions on the kinds of classes disabled children attend and require that those students get report cards as often as other children.

Regular teachers would be brought into the decisions, and disabled children would be included in standardized tests given by the state or districts, "with appropriate accommodations where necessary."

In a key compromise, school officials would get new powers to quickly remove disabled students who bring weapons or drugs to school and keep them out for as much as 45 days. The removal policy has been limited to students who bring firearms.

Also, children could be removed if a hearing officer found that they endangered other people or themselves, even if a weapon was not involved. Moreover, the children could be expelled or otherwise disciplined like other children if the conduct were found to be unrelated to the disability.

However, the bill would guarantee that they could continue their education elsewhere if they were expelled. Rights to a hearing would be protected.

"Educators will have a clearer understanding of when and how they may discipline disabled children," said Sen. James Jeffords, R-Vt., chairman of the Senate Labor and Human Resources Committee. "Parents will know that the rights of their children are protected."

The original civil rights legislation guarantees a free and "appropriate" public education to children with a range of physical, mental and emotional disabilities. The Education Department distributes money to states based on the number of disabled students and puts the number at 5.8 million. Critics say that bonus system encourages schools to classify children as disabled.

One provision would change the funding formula to make federal grants, worth about $3.1 billion this year, dependent on poverty and population. However, that would not kick in until federal support increases.

In related provisions, local schools could lower their share of the program costs if Congress makes more money available, and states could not lower their payments to local school districts.

The bill also attempts to answer complaints by school officials about the high legal cost of resolving disputes over handling disabled children, while parents say too many decisions about the fate of their children are made without consultation.

Also, parents would have to tell schools before attempting to move disabled children to special private schools and bill the public schools.

Some power knocked out when theatre wall collapses

LUBBOCK (AP) — Demolition of an abandoned movie theater's wall triggered a power outage Wednesday that blacked out the courthouse and other downtown buildings.

A transformer short-circuited when part of the Lindsey Theatre's crumbling wall fell on a power line. The Lubbock County Courthouse remained without power Wednesday afternoon.

Butler Construction employees were tearing down the multistory wall with a clam bucket when the structure fell onto a power line, causing the transformer to explode, said Mario Perez, who owns the building across the street.

"When it shorted, it blew up like a bomb," said Scott Elmore of Action Bail Bond.

Because of the wall's perilous condition, Lubbock Power and Light engineers won't go into the alley to replace the transformer until the area is cleared up, said LP&L engineering assistant Niles Bishop.

Power in most of downtown was momentarily disrupted. County courthouse clocks stopped at 10:33 a.m. The federal building also lost power.

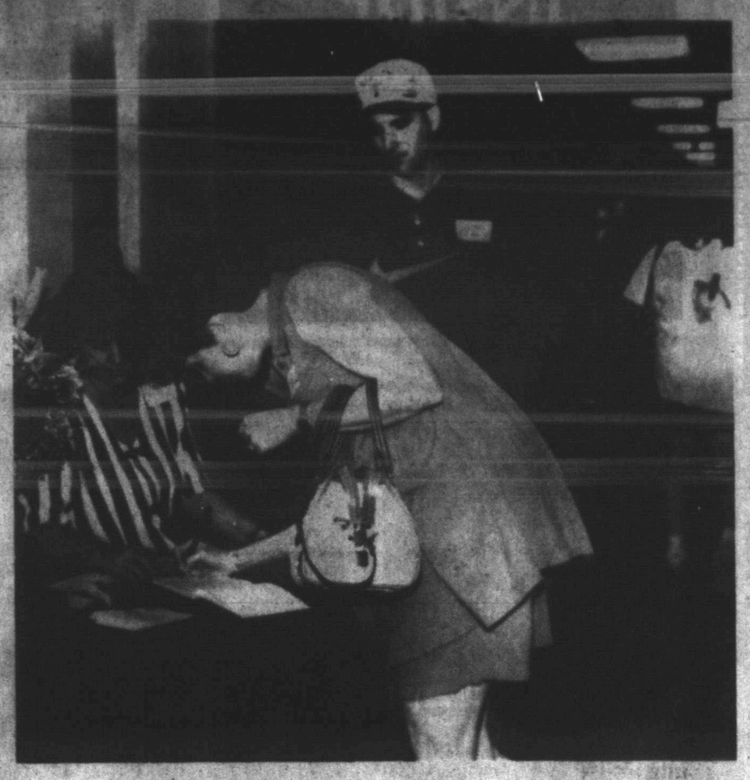
County Judge Don McBeath joked about having court on the lawn as lawyers and others illuminated their path through the courthouse with flashlights.

"Obviously, it's caused a major disruption," McBeath said. "A lot of major trials were under way."

Although the jail and sheriff's office are on the same circuit as the courthouse, emergency generators supplied them with power, he said.

Courthouse department heads sent their employees to an early extended lunch Wednesday morning with hope of resuming work in the afternoon.

LP&L said the buildings could be without power overnight.



OB OPEN HOUSE — Lisa and Kevin Kirkpatrick registered Tuesday at the open house to view the refurbished obstetrics wing at Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Over 330 visited the OB wing and winners of several drawings will be announced Friday. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

FDA approves laser cavity fix, promising less painful denistry

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans may soon get far less painful cavity treatment, as the government approved a long-awaited laser to replace the dreaded drill in repairing cavities.

"We finally have what everybody's been looking for," said Dr. Robert Pick of the American Dental Association. "There isn't a week that goes by that somebody doesn't call and say ... 'Do you do lasers for cavities?'"

The Food and Drug Administration on Wednesday approved Premier Laser Systems' erbium-YAG laser for treating tooth decay. The Irvine, Calif.-based company says the laser is appropriate for many of the 170 million cavities filled annually in the United States.

Premier tested the laser on over 1,300 teeth and only three patients requested local anesthetic. Others did report some discomfort, the FDA cautioned.

"I've always been scared of dentists," said Harry Chulamanis of West Milford, N.J., who had two large cavities filled with the laser. "I was astounded. There was no pain at all."

Dentists already used some lower-powered lasers use on gums and other soft mouth tissues. But no laser has been allowed directly on teeth because of fears the high heat would damage the inner core of a tooth, explained Dr. Susan Runner, FDA's chief of dental devices.

Premier's laser "has the potential for changing the way dental practice is handled in this country," Runner said.

Dentists said they desperately need better ways to get fearful patients to hold still in the chair.

"I'd take a serious look at anything to help make the experience better for patients," said Dr. Philip Gentry of Arlington, Va.

The FDA examined studies of more than 600 teeth to declare the laser as safe and effective as a drill. It appeared to cause no side effects, and the laser patients' fillings last as long as fillings in teeth that were drilled, Runner said.

The only two limitations:

—The FDA forbade doctors from using the laser on children. The agency is concerned because the sensitive inner "pulp" forms a larger part of the tooth in children and might be penetrated by the laser, Runner said. But Premier said it has seen no problems in experimental testing of 80 children over age 2.

—Patients and dentists must wear goggles during laser treatment to protect their eyes from the intense light beam.

The laser removes a cavity without the pressure and vibration of a drill, explained Premier chief executive Colette Cozean.

Many patients will not need an injection or have to leave the dentist's office with a mouth numb from Novocain, said Cozean, who had the laser repair two of her teeth without anesthesia. That also cuts from the filling procedure about 20 minutes per tooth waiting for the painkiller to take effect, she added.

The laser also can make a smaller hole than a drill, requiring a smaller filling, Cozean said.

Some research — albeit not proof — indicates a laser might kill the underlying bacteria that caused the cavity so decay does not continue and force the filling to eventually fall out, she said.

Five dentists — in New Jersey, California, Ohio, Iowa and Colorado — who conducted Premier's FDA-required testing already have the lasers to offer patients.

They also will conduct for colleagues the training required before Premier will sell the $39,000 laser systems to other dentists. Premier expects 1 percent of the nation's 120,000 dentists to buy the machines this year.

3 found dead

MAZATLAN, Mexico (AP) — Three men suspected of having been drug smugglers were found dead in the northwestern state of Sinaloa, state judicial police said Wednesday.

The three were identified as Leonel Trujillo Moreno, 24; Luis Gonzalez Ancola, 26; and Heriberto Villa Cisneros, 40. Each had been shot in the head, and spent AK-47 and R-15 shells were found nearby.

The bodies were discovered by a road in San Ignacio county.

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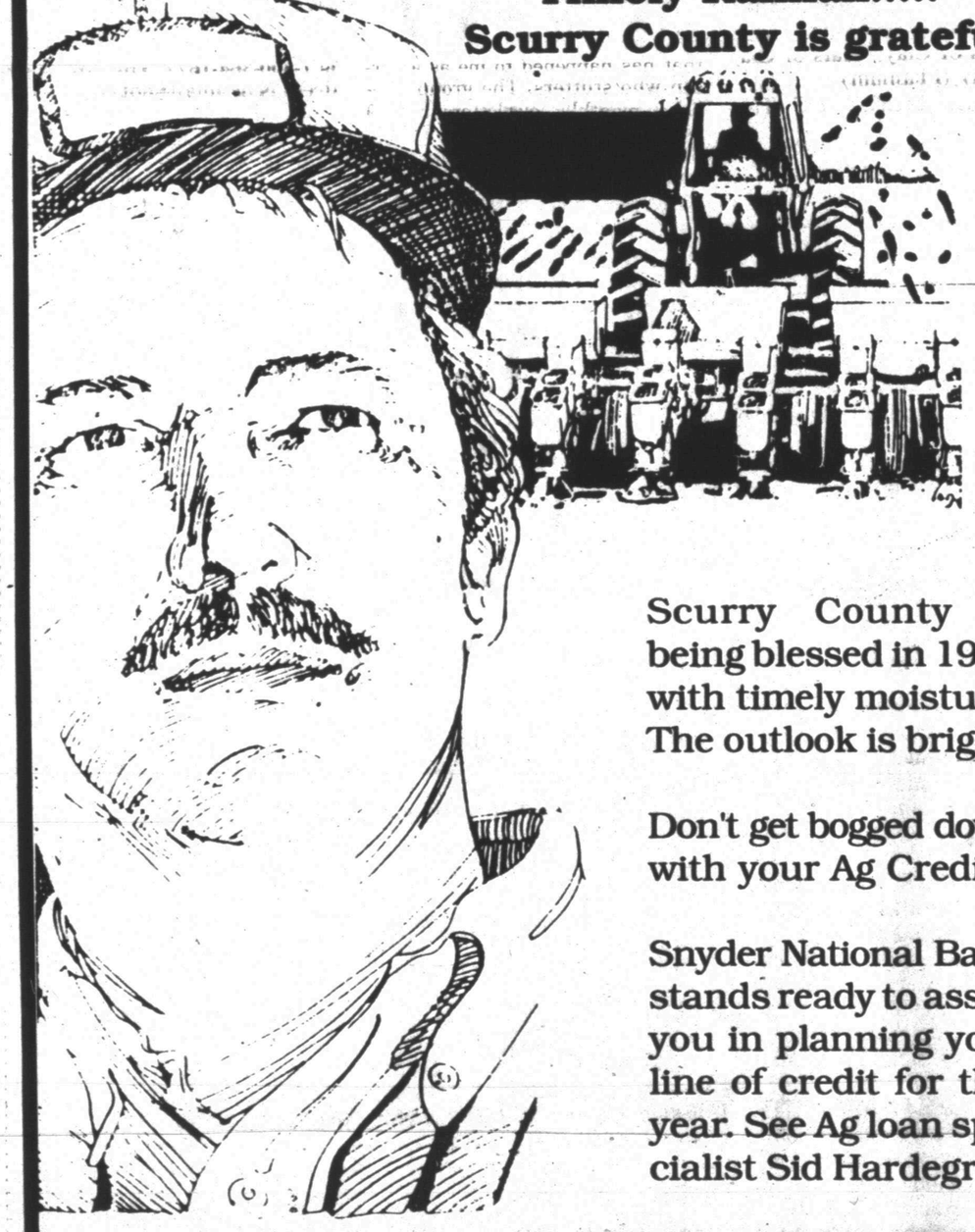
Timely Rainfall..... Scurry County is grateful



Scurry County is being blessed in 1997 with timely moisture. The outlook is bright.

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CHARTER CHAPTER ABWA — Hats were the topic of discussion at the Charter Chapter American Business Women's Association's recent meeting held at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. Carol Young introduced each member as she modeled her hat. Barbara Scrivner's was voted the prettiest. Anita Felan gave the vocational talk. Judy Camp, Snyder High School senior, was selected ABWA's scholarship recipient. Birthday ladies included Kathy Landes, Vera Pruitt, Grace Bryant and Genetha Payne. Modeling hats included, from left, Jo Ann Prince, Sally Herrington, Lucy Dennis, Payne, Inez Teaff, Bryant, Young, Betty Boyd, Vern Beasley and Scrivner, not pictured. (SDN Staff Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 05-08-97
♠ J 7 6 3
♥ K Q 6 2
♦ A 4 3
♣ 8 2

West
♠ ---
♥ 9 8 7 5
♦ Q J 9 8
♣ J 9 7 6 3

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

South
♠ A K 9 8 5 4
♥ A 4 3
♦ K 7 6
♣ A

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q

The shopkeeper comedian

My vote for the best comedy actor on British television goes to Ronnie Barker. (Maybe you saw him on PBS in "Open All Hours.") Here is a joke from "The Two Ronnies" TV show (the second Ronnie is Corbett): "After an incident in Croydon involving a prison van and a concrete mixer, police are looking for eighteen hardened criminals."

That bears no relevance to this deal, except that it was played in Croydon many years ago. How should South tackle six spades after a diamond lead?

North's response was a limit raise, showing a game-invitational hand with at least four trumps. The limit raise, which has always been a feature of the Acol bidding system used in Britain, was adopted by almost all experts in this country some 20 years ago. (Recently, to redress the balance, several British experts have abandoned Acol for modern Standard American.) South bid what he hoped he could make.

If the opponents' trumps were 2-1 or hearts 3-3, South would have no problem in winning 12 tricks. However, just in case neither was favorably divided, South won the opening lead in the dummy and called for the spade *jack*.

East, caught off guard, covered with the queen. Gratefully, South won with the ace, returned to dummy with a heart and finessed East out of his spade 10. Finally, declarer ran his winners in an abortive attempt at an overtrick.

If a competent declarer calls for dummy's top card, which you have surrounded, play low as if you hadn't a care in the world. He wants you to cover, so don't.

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Plant growers have to hurry

By A.J. DICKERSON
Associated Press Writer

DETROIT (AP) — Those millions of tender plants bought from garden and home-improvement stores this time of year get their start in such places as Harold Schwall's greenhouse near Rockwood, Mich. Growing the plants from seed is big business — but for only a few weeks each year.

Schwall is a grower for Michigan's biggest greenhouse operation and he loves plants. But his own garden will not be in the ground until this summer.

Right now, he is too busy at Post Gardens Inc., making sure other people get their gardens growing. Spring is make-or-break time for Michigan's floriculture industry, the nation's fourth largest.

"Right now, we're on 10 hours a day, eight hours on Saturdays and Sundays. And if need be we'll put in overtime," Schwall said. "This is our peak time; you've got to make it when you can."

The culture and sale of flowers, bedding plants and foliage in the United States brought producers more than $3.27 billion in 1995, the Agriculture Department says.

The top producer is California, followed by Florida, Texas and then Michigan.

"But those folks (in the Sun Belt) have the luxury of being a year-round operation, where we have to be seasonal," said horticulture Professor William Carlson at Michigan State University.

Michigan, with 307 greenhouse operations, produced $170 million in wholesale floriculture sales in 1995, he said. The state's operations are centered in the Detroit area, Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo.

"Our biggest items in bedding plants are impatiens, geraniums, petunias, and then there are things like marigolds, salvia and about 10 others," said Carlson, who is also a floriculture specialist for the university's agricultural extension service.

"Most folks in this business will make 80 percent of their money in eight weeks. That's why you've got to pray for sunny weekends, no rain," Carlson said.

Michigan growers got into floriculture after World War II, when California began cornering the market on vegetables.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY

Defensive Driving Course; cost $30; Snyder Savings and Loan; no reservation necessary; call 573-2850 for more information.

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

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

Rolling Plains Ratite Association; The Shack; 7 p.m.

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

SUNDAY

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

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

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

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

Happy Sweet 16 Emily Autumn

Magazine's best sellers

By The Associated Press

Weekly charts for the nation's best-selling recorded music as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission. (Platinum signifies more than 1 million copies sold; Gold signifies more than 500,000 copies sold.):

GOSPEL ALBUMS

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1.'''The Preacher's Wife' Soundtrack,'' (Arista)

2.''Whatcha Lookin' 4,'' Kirk Franklin and the Family (Gospo Centric) (Gold)

3.''T.D. Jakes Presents Music From Woman, Thou Art Loosed!,'' T.D. Jakes (Integrity Word)

4.''Under the Influence,'' Anointed (Word)

5.''Live at Azusa 2 Precious Memories,'' Carlton Pearson (Warner Alliance)

6.''Donnie McClurkin,'' Donnie McClurkin (Warner Alliance)

7.''Greatest Hits,'' Bebe & CeCe Winans (Sparrow)

8.''No One Else,'' Kurt Carr Singers (Gospo Centric)

9.''Celebrate Gospel 3,'' various artists (Tribute)

10.''The Spirit of David,'' Fred Hammond & Radical for Christ (Benson)

CONTEMPORARY CHRISTIAN ALBUMS

Copyright 1997, Billboard

1.''Shades of Grace,'' Bob Carlisle (Diadem-Benson)

2.''I Surrender All — 30 Classic Hymns,'' Carman (Sparrow)

3.''Whatcha Lookin' 4,'' Kirk Franklin and the Family (Gospo Centric) (Gold)

4.''Signs of Life,'' Steven Curtis Chapman (Sparrow) (Gold)

5.''Heavenly Place,'' Jaci Velasquez (Myrrh)

6.''WOW-1997: The Year's 30 Top Christian Artists and Songs,'' various artists (Sparrow) (Gold)

7.''Life, Love & Other Mysteries,'' Point of Grace (Word)

8.''Petra Praise 2 We Need Jesus,'' Petra (Word)

9.''Jars of Clay,'' Jars of Clay (Essential) (Platinum)

10.''Jesus Freak,'' DC Talk (Forefront) (Platinum)

TOP ALBUMS

Copyright 1997, Billboard-Soundscan Inc.

1.''Share My World,'' Mary J. Blige (MCA)

2.''Carrying Your Love With Me,'' George Strait (MCA)

3.''Spice,'' Spice Girls (Virgin) (Platinum)

4.''Life After Death,'' The Notorious B.I.G. (Bad Boy-Arista)

5.'''Space Jam' Soundtrack,'' various artists (Warner Sunset) (Platinum)

6.''Bringing Down the Horse,'' The Wallflowers (Interscope) (Platinum)

7.''Pieces of You,'' Jewel (Atlantic) (Platinum)

8.''Falling Into You,'' Celine Dion (550 Music) (Platinum)

9.''Waterbed Hev,'' Heavy D (Uptown)

10.''Baduizm,'' Erykah Badu (Universal) (Platinum)

An important part of raising kids is helping them feel good about themselves. When was the last time you told your kids how great they are?

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

National Stuttering Project Offers Dignity and Support

by Abigail Van Buren

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DEAR ABBY: My problem is that I have a terrible stutter. I am 38 years old and my co-workers make fun of me. I try not to show how much it hurts, and go along with whatever they are saying.

Is there anyone or anything that can help me? I recently heard about some kind of surgery that can help people who stutter. Do you know anything about it? Please help me.

AFRAID TO SPEAK
IN SAN ANTONIO

DEAR AFRAID TO SPEAK: I am unaware of a surgical procedure that can help people who stutter. But your letter arrived not long after another from a reader who shares your problem, and what she had to say should be of interest to you. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am almost 18 years old and have been afflicted with stuttering most of my life. It hurts when I see people's ignorance of stuttering reflected through discomfort or ridicule.

Those who are unfamiliar with stuttering often think it consists only of initial sound repetitions like "C-C-C-Can you help me?" However, stuttering also consists of "blocks" such as getting stuck and becoming unable to utter a particular sound. This block can last varying amounts of time.

A common misconception is that stuttering is associated with fear and anxiety. It's true that these factors can increase stuttering, but it's uncertain what actually causes it.

Believe it or not, many notable personalities have stuttered, including Marilyn Monroe, James Earl Jones, Bo Jackson, and even the great Winston Churchill.

In 1993, I discovered a group called the National Stuttering Project. It is one of the greatest things that has happened to me as a person who stutters. The group publishes monthly newsletters, has 79 local support groups in the United States, and holds a large convention every summer.

If some of your readers stutter or know someone who does, or are simply interested in learning more about stuttering, they should write to the National Stuttering Project, 5100 E. La Palma Ave., Suite 208, Anaheim Hills, Calif. 92807.

MARGARET HANSEN,
SNOHOMISH, WASH.

DEAR MARGARET: Thank you for a helpful letter, and one which I am sure will be of interest to those who are trying to cope with that problem. The National Stuttering Project was founded in 1977 to let people who stutter know they are not alone. Its goal is to bring dignity, education and empowerment to children and adults who stutter, as well as assist their families and the speech-language pathologists who work with them.

An estimated 4 percent of all children stutter. Seventy-five percent of them will outgrow it. If children receive appropriate therapy at an early age, four out of five will not become chronic stutterers. Most adults can learn to manage their disorder with the help of a speech-language pathologist who specializes in stuttering. However, there is no universal treatment or cure.

I recently spoke with Annie Bradberry, director of development at the National Stuttering Project. She was on her way to speak to a group of schoolchildren who had been teasing a young classmate who stutters. Her mission was to help the students understand that children who stutter are no different from those who do not stutter except for their speech patterns. What a wonderful example of hands-on advocacy!

Readers, May 12-18 is National Stuttering Awareness Week. The toll-free number for the National Stuttering Project is 1-800-364-1677. The e-mail address is nspmail@aol.com.

For Abby's favorite family recipes, send a long, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Cookbooklet No. 1, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, Ill. 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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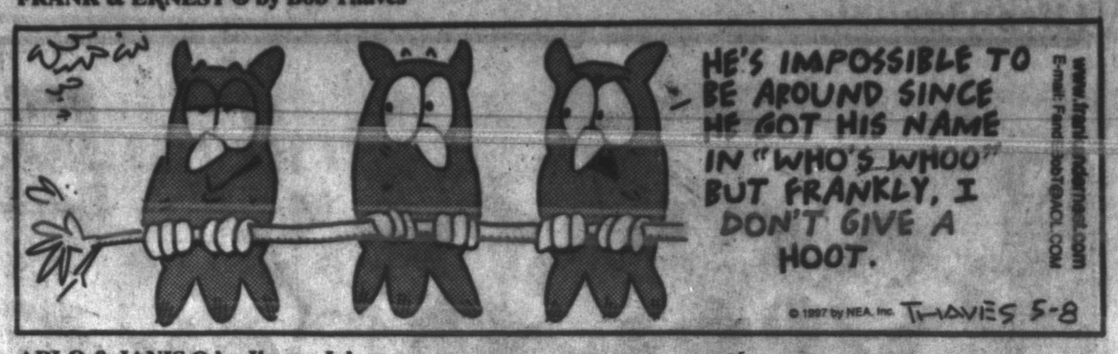

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Sixties radical (sl.)
7 Challenges
12 He who hesitates — —
13 Bullfighter
14 In an inferior way
15 Used a pencil end
16 Pro — (for the time being)
17 Actor Lowe
18 Roman 1,006
21 Rental sign (2 wds.)
23 Nourished
26 First-rate (2 wds.)
28 Poet Ogden —
29 Chemical suffix
30 Gloomy
31 Freight document
33 Type of school
36 Wings
37 Uncle
38 Yule
40 Denomination
41 Koppel or Kennedy
42 Get out (sl.)
44 Actress Ruby —
45 Game animal
46 Neighbor of U.S.
48 Naval petty officer
51 Thriller writer Leonard
55 Reason
56 Closer
57 Lizard
58 Examiner

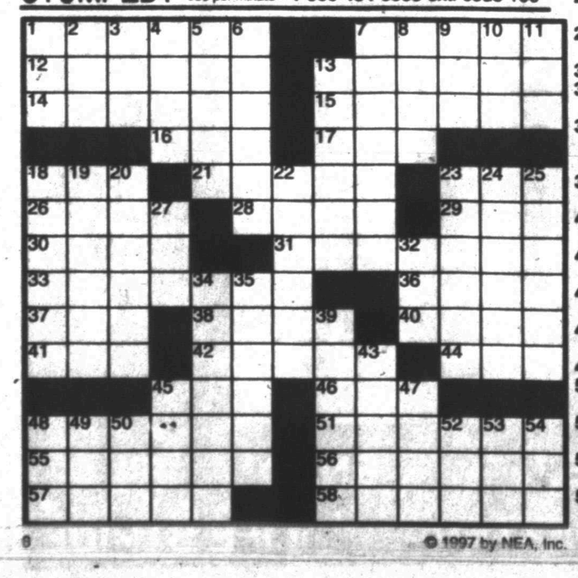
DOWN

1 Sharp bark
2 Same (comb. form)
3 Middle East org.
4 Harbor city
5 Dot in the ocean
6 Earlier form of a word
7 Wizard of Oz heroine
8 Swift horse
9 Thing in law
10 Before (poet.)
11 Turf
13 Mother —
18 Object in a science class
19 Book
20 Accustomed
22 Attorney
23 Flunked
24 Cover, as with netting
25 Remove from print
27 Printer's measures
32 First degs.
34 Put into servitude
35 Football coach Knute —
39 Express sorrow
43 Confused fight
45 Actor Jannings
47 Dec. holiday
48 Entertainer Sumac
49 Long time
50 Ear (comb. form)
52 Meal fragment
53 Dakota Indian
54 Make a mistake

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for Answers. ● Touch- tone or Rotary Phones 95¢ per minute● 1-900-454-3535 ext. code 100



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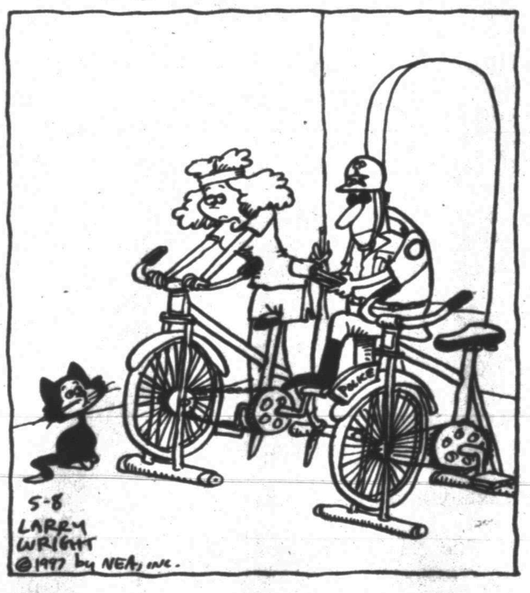
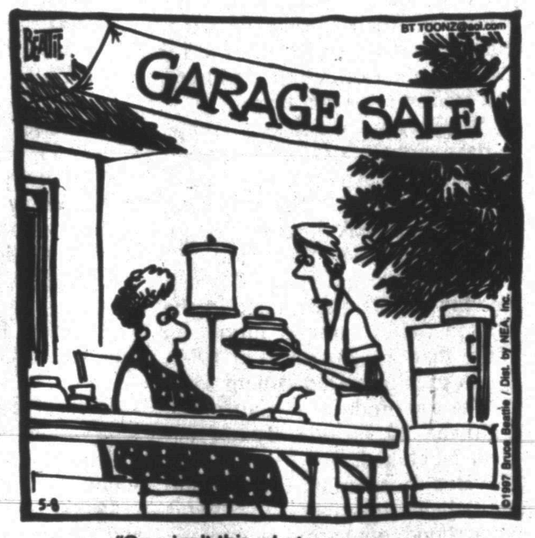
KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



"Hurry, Roger...before the steaks get polluted!"

BEATTIE BLVD.® by Bruce Beattie



"Say, isn't this what we gave you as a wedding present?"

"IT'S YOUR SON, MR. MITCHELL. HE HOPES YOU'RE SITTING DOWN BECAUSE HE WANTS TO TELL YOU SOMETHING."

SPORTS

Sports Briefs

Coaching for the bucks!

By The Associated Press

The salary scale for coaches has gone wacky this week, and it might get even crazier when Phil Jackson decides what he'll do next.

The coach of the Chicago Bulls has the right to listen to offers from other teams because of a unique clause in his current one-year contract — a clause that Bulls owner Jerry Reinsdorf reportedly insisted upon in negotiations last summer.

Jackson and his agent, Todd Musburger, have been publicly mum, but a source who spoke on condition of anonymity said the Orlando Magic and Golden State Warriors have emerged as the two main bidders who will try to lure Jackson away from Chicago.

The Philadelphia 76ers acknowledged talking with Jackson before they hired Brown on Monday, but they didn't want to wait until the Bulls won the championship again or were eliminated from the playoffs. So they took Larry Brown's now-or-never ultimatum and made him the highest salaried coach in league history.

Brown's record lasted only one day.

He was surpassed on the salary scale Tuesday when the Boston Celtics gave Rick Pitino a 10-year contract worth a reported $68 million to $70 million.

Coaching posts remain vacant in Indiana, Denver, Golden State and Vancouver, and changes are rumored to be in the works in Orlando, Portland and possibly even Detroit.

Brian Hill, Bob Hill, John Lucas, Garry St. Jean, Paul Westphal, Mike Dunleavy and Allen Bristow are among the candidates.

Bird is pondering an offer from the Indiana Pacers reportedly worth $4.5 million annually, but that figures to be the last big-money contract signed until Jackson's status is resolved.

A&M ace to miss Tech series

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — A blood clot has sidelined Texas A&M pitcher Ryan Rupe for the season, the team announced Wednesday.

Texas A&M University baseball coach Mark Johnson said the condition isn't life threatening and won't put Rupe's career in jeopardy.

"There's the possibility of surgery in another week or so," Johnson said.

The Aggies have a series at Texas Tech remaining this weekend before playing in the Big 12 Tournament the following weekend. A&M, which is 36-17, is expected to earn an NCAA regional bid.

Snyder to host softball playoff

Andrews and Weatherford will clash Friday for the right to advance to the Class 4A state softball tournament.

The Region I championship game is set for 6 p.m. Friday at Cates Field. Admission is $4 for adults and $2 for students.

Lions Club golf tournament

Snyder Lions Club will sponsor a 4-person scramble May 17 at Western Texas College Golf Course. Entry fee per team is $240. Prizes will be $800 for first place, $600 for second, $500 for third and $340 for fourth. Sign up at WTC or Snyder Country Club before May 16.

Mens' basketball tourney

A men's basketball tournament will be held May 23-24 at Snyder High School. Entry fee is $100 per team and teams may have up to seven members. Deadline to enter is May 21. Call Daniel Flores at 573-5574.

Men's softball signup

Signup for Men's Slow Pitch softball is underway. Deadline is Saturday. Contact Chris Maxfield at 573-6862 during the day or 573-4332 at night.

SCC Pumpjack Tournament

The Snyder Country Club will hold its annual Pumpjack Partnership Tournament May 17-18.

Deadline to enter is Wednesday 14 and entry fee is $150 per team. The first 60 paid teams will be accepted.

Format is a scramble both days and all handicaps will be verified.

Ladies match play

The Women's Golf Association at Snyder Country Club will match play Tuesday and Wednesday. Tee time each day will be 8:30 a.m.

Monthly MGA at SCC

The Men's Golf Association will hold its monthly tournament starting at 12:30 p.m. Saturday. Weekly play is each Thursday at 5:30 p.m. and a scramble for all members is held each Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

Memorial Day Scramble

A holiday scramble will be held May 26 with a 9 a.m. shotgun start. Entry fee is $20 per player. To sign up call the pro shot at 573-7101.

Junior golf clinic

A junior golf clinic will be held June 4-6 at Snyder Country Club. Instructors will be Rick Mammolite, club pro, and Chris Beaty, assistant pro. Call 573-7101 to register.

Men's softball tourney

A men's softball tournament is set for Saturday, May 17, at Winston Field. Entry fee $90 per team and deadline to enter is May 16. Call Henry Ramos at 573-2037.

With Rockets...

SuperSonics even series

HOUSTON (AP) — After losing the opener of their playoff series against the Houston Rockets, the Seattle SuperSonics promised to be more intense in Game 2 Wednesday night. They kept their promise.

Shawn Kemp had 22 points and 15 rebounds, and Sam Perkins battled Hakeem Olajuwon to a standoff as the Sonics built a big halftime lead and then held on for a 106-101 victory that evened their Western Conference semifinal series at one game apiece.

"We put pressure on them and tried to get good shots on every possession," Perkins said. "The game was decided by our aggressiveness on defense."

Perkins, who got a rare start at center, scored 18 points, only one fewer than Olajuwon.

"I tried to take away what he likes," said Perkins, who started only four games in the regular season. "I tried not to let him get the ball where he likes it. It was a team effort."

Perkins made four 3-pointers, including a crucial one with 3:45 left after the Rockets pulled within two points.

"Sam is just a guy that I believe in," Seattle coach George Karl said. "He's been a big part of our success against Houston. He knows our half-court traps a little better and Hakeem doesn't like to chase him around the perimeter."

Hersey Hawkins added 21 points for Seattle, which led by 18 points at halftime before Houston rallied in the second half.

Game 3 of the best-of-7 series will be Friday in Seattle.

"We had a lot of miscues that led to fastbreaks," Houston coach Rudy Tomjanovich said. "I thought they beat us to a lot of loose balls. ...

"We knew it was going to be a tough series. Now we have to go back into our road warrior mode. I just think Seattle came out with fire and with a purpose."

The SuperSonics, who lost the series opener 112-102, went on a 31-8 run in the second quarter to take a 65-47 halftime lead.

But the Rockets stormed back in the second half, scoring nine straight points to cut Seattle's lead to 90-88 with 4:04 left. The spurt featured a three-point play by Olajuwon, a 3-pointer by Clyde Drexler, a tip by Olajuwon and a free throw by Mario Elie.

But Perkins, who started only four games in the regular season, then hit a 3-pointer to put the Sonics up 93-88 and they held on behind the scoring of Kemp and Detlef Schrempf. Kemp scored seven points and Schrempf made four free throws down the stretch for Seattle, which was 31 of 33 from the line.

Olajuwon said the game wasn't decided by his matchup with Perkins.

"We play against Seattle, we don't play against one person," Olajuwon said. "They just played much harder and tougher than we expected. They wanted it more than us."

Knicks turn up the Heat

MIAMI (AP) — New York Knicks coach Jeff Van Gundy says one win at Miami Arena isn't enough.

The Knicks landed the first blow Wednesday night, beating the Miami Heat 88-79 in the opener of the Eastern Conference semifinals. Game 2 is Friday night at the arena before the series moves to Madison Square Garden.

"Miami was the best road team in the league this year," Van Gundy said. "If you're counting on winning just one game here and winning the series, you're making a mistake. We're going to have to win once, maybe twice more here to win the series."

Miami lost at home for the first time this postseason.

"It does put a little pressure on you," coach Pat Riley said. "We've got a real big, big game on Friday."

New York stole the homecourt advantage with near-perfect free-throw shooting in an otherwise messy game. While the Heat made just 18 of 31 from the line, the Knicks sank 30 of 32.

"Obviously free throws are very important in the playoffs," Van Gundy said. "We hit an extraordinary percentage."

The Knicks improved to 3-0 this season at Miami Arena. Transplanted New Yorkers cheering for the Knicks made up a fair portion of the sellout crowd of 14,870.

NBA playoffs

By The Associated Press

SECOND ROUND
(Best-of-7)

Sunday, May 4
Utah 93, L.A. Lakers 77

Monday, May 5
Houston 112, Seattle 102

Tuesday, May 6
Chicago 100, Atlanta 87, Chicago leads series 1-0
Utah 103, L.A. Lakers 101, Utah leads series 2-0

Wednesday, May 7
New York 88, Miami 79, New York leads series 1-0
Seattle 106, Houston 101, series tied 1-1

Thursday, May 8
Atlanta at Chicago, 7 p.m.
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

Friday, May 9
New York at Miami, 7 p.m.
Houston at Seattle, 9:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 10
Chicago at Atlanta, noon.
Utah at L.A. Lakers, 2:30 p.m.

Sunday, May 11
Miami at New York, 11:30 a.m.
Houston at Seattle, 2 p.m.
Chicago at Atlanta, 4:30 p.m.

Monday, May 12
Miami at New York, 7 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Utah, 9:30 p.m., if necessary

Yankees get 5-2 win over Rangers

NEW YORK (AP) — John Wetteland's return to Yankee Stadium didn't make Mariano Rivera uncomfortable at all.

Last year, when Wetteland finished a game for the New York Yankees, Rivera was in the dugout or the clubhouse. This time, Wetteland was still in the bullpen, waiting for Texas to give him a lead to protect.

"If he was in a situation to get a save, he wouldn't care if I was there or not," Rivera said after closing out New York's 5-2 victory over the Rangers on Wednesday night.

David Cone (4-2) left after six innings, and Jeff Nelson struck out four in two innings of two-hit relief.

Last year, Rivera would have filled Nelson's role, setting up Wetteland for the finish. But after winning the World Series MVP award, Wetteland became a free agent and signed a $23 million, four-year contract with Texas.

"I can't do anything about that," Rivera said.

After blowing three of his first six save chances this season, Rivera has converted seven straight. He ended Wednesday's game by getting AL MVP Juan Gonzalez to fly out on a slider.

"I'm working that pitch, trying it more often," Rivera said. "All these guys are sitting on the fastball. I have to have more pitches."

Cone won his fourth consecutive start, again pitching in cold weather.

It was 54 degrees at Yankee Stadium, and the wind made it feel much colder.

Astros bow to Mets, 4-1

HOUSTON (AP) — Armando Reynoso was advised to increase his speed to change his luck against the Houston Astros.

Reynoso (2-0) defeated the Astros for the first time since May 15, 1994 in the New York Mets' 4-1 victory Wednesday night.

"They had good success jumping on him in the past," New York manager Bobby Valentine said.

Reynoso believed he went too easy on the Astros previously.

"I threw too many changes and soft pitches against them in the past,' Reynoso said. "Bobby told me to throw more fastballs."

Even a first-inning homer by Houston's Jeff Bagwell did not change the game plan for Reynoso.

"I continued to try to work the fastballs in and out on them," Reynoso said.

There was no margin for error for Reynoso in the game, which was 1-1 entering the ninth inning.

"I knew I didn't have any room for mistakes," Reynoso said.

Valentine was certainly happy with the results.

"Armando was the savior," Valentine said. "He managed his fastball very well, and that was the difference. It was a great, professional pitching job."

The Astros were not as impressed with Reynoso, even though he allowed only four hits and one run while striking out seven in eight innings.

4A baseball playoff pairings

Bi-District

Frenship 7, Dumas 0.
Estacado 5, Canyon 2.
Plainview (bye)
Andrews (bye)
El Paso Ysleta 3, Fort Stockton 2; Fort Stockton 7, EP Ysleta 0; EP Ysleta 2, Fort Stockton 0.
Weatherford 4, Western Hills 2; Weatherford 7, Western Hills 5.
Brewer 5, Denison 2; Brewer 13, Denison 7.
Saginaw Boswell (bye)
El Paso Riverside (bye)
Fort Worth Eastern Hills (bye).
San Angelo Lake View 2, El Paso Burgess 0; EP Burgess 5, Lake View 0; Lake View 11, Burgess 0.
Canyon Randall (bye)
Fort Worth Arlington Heights 12, Graham 0.
Sherman (bye)
Azle 4, Denton 0.
Granbury (bye)

Area Round

Estacado vs. Andrews, 6 p.m. Thursday at Seminole.
EP Ysleta vs. Plainview, 4:30 p.m. Friday at Midland.
Weatherford vs. Saginaw Boswell, 8 p.m. Friday Fort Worth and 2 p.m. Saturday in Weatherford.
Fort Worth Brewer vs. Fort Worth Eastern Hills, 7 p.m. Friday and 11 a.m. Saturday in Fort Worth.
Frenship vs. El Paso Riverside, 5:30 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Saturday in Roswell, N.M.
Lake View vs. Caynon Randall, Friday and Saturday in Lubbock. Time TBA.
Arlington Heights vs. Sherman, 7 p.m. Friday in Arlington and 1 p.m. Saturday in Sherman.
Azle vs. Granbury, 7:30 p.m. Friday and noon Saturday in Keller.

4A softball

Andrews 5, Graham 2
Weatherford 15, Big Spring 1

Region Championship

Andrews vs. Weatherford, 6 p.m. Friday at Cates Field in Snyder.

MAJOR LEAGUE BASEBALL

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Atlanta	23	9	.719	-
Montreal	17	14	.548	5½
Florida	17	15	.531	6
NewYork	16	17	.485	7½
Philadelphia	10	21	.323	12½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Houston	18	15	.545	-
Pittsburgh	17	15	.531	½
St.Louis	15	17	.469	2½
Cincinnati	10	22	.313	7½
Chicago	8	23	.258	9

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Colorado	21	10	.677	-
SanFrancisco	19	12	.613	2
LosAngeles	18	13	.581	3
SanDiego	12	18	.400	8½

Wednesday's Games
Montreal 19, San Francisco 3
Atlanta 3, Florida 2, 10 innings
N.Y. Mets 4, Houston 1
St. Louis 14, Philadelphia 7
Pittsburgh 14, Colorado 3
Los Angeles 4, Cincinnati 2
San Diego 6, Chicago Cubs 3

Thursday's Games
N.Y. Mets (Reed 3-1) at Houston (Hampton 1-3), 1:35 p.m.
Philadelphia (Beech 0-0) at St. Louis (An.Benes 1-1), 1:35 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Loaiza 3-0) at Colorado (Wright 4-1), 3:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Mulholland 2-3) at San Diego (Valenzuela 1-3), 3:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Glavine 4-1) at Florida (Saunders 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
Only games scheduled

Friday's Games
Colorado (Bailey 4-1) at Philadelphia (Maduro 2-3), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (Kile 2-2) at Florida (Brown 3-2), 7:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Wade 1-1) at Pittsburgh (Cordova 1-3), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Clark 3-2) at St. Louis (Stottlemyre 1-1), 8:05 p.m.
Montreal (Hermanson 1-2) at Los Angeles (I.Valdez 1-4), 10:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Smiley 2-5) at San Diego (Worrell 2-3), 10:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Trachsel 1-4) at San Francisco (VanLandingham 1-2), 10:05 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Baltimore	21	9	.700	-
NewYork	18	15	.545	4½
Toronto	15	15	.500	6
Boston	15	16	.484	6½
Detroit	13	19	.406	9

Central Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Cleveland	16	14	.533	-
Milwaukee	15	14	.517	½
KansasCity	15	15	.500	1
Minnesota	13	20	.394	4½
Chicago	10	19	.345	5½

West Division

	W	L	Pct.	GB
Seattle	19	12	.613	-
Texas	16	13	.552	2
Anaheim	14	16	.467	4½
Oakland	15	18	.455	5

Wednesday's Games
Milwaukee 1, Oakland 0
Seattle at Chicago White Sox, ppd., rain
Cleveland 7, Toronto 1
Detroit 12, Kansas City 3
Boston 11, Minnesota 3
Baltimore 3, Anaheim 0
N.Y. Yankees 5, Texas 2

Thursday's Games
Kansas City (Belcher 3-3) at Detroit (Moehler 2-1), 1:05 p.m.
Toronto (Guzman 2-2) at Cleveland (Ogea 2-2), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Robertson 2-1) at Boston (Wakefield 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Oliver 1-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Pettitte 5-1), 7:05 p.m
Seattle (R.Johnson 4-0) at Baltimore (Mussina 3-1), 7:35 p.m.
Oakland (Mohler 0-3) at Chicago White Sox (Baldwin 0-4), 8:05 p.m.
Only games scheduled

Friday's Games
Cleveland (Nagy 4-2) at Detroit (Sager 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
Texas (Witt 5-0) at Boston (Wasdin 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Rusch 2-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Rogers 2-1), 7:35 p.m.
Seattle (Moyer 1-0) at Baltimore (Coppinger 1-0), 7:35 p.m.
Anaheim (Hasegawa 1-1) at Milwaukee (Eldred 3-3), 8:05 p.m.
Toronto (Hentgen 2-1) at Minnesota (Rodriguez 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
Oakland (Prieto 2-2) at Chicago White Sox (Navarro 3-1), 8:05 p.m.

On The Farm Tire Service
Goodyear Tires available:
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Dance To
Johnny Bush
Friday, May 9, 1997
Doors Open At 7:00 p.m.
Dance 8:00 - 12 Midnight
Tickets Can Be Purchased Each Day Until Day Of Dance After 3:00 p.m. At VFW
NO RESERVATIONS
4 Gold Records, Numerous TV Appearances, Award Winning Performer!

Johnny Bush
VFW
Members & Guests

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010 LEGAL NOTICES

BID NOTICE

West Texas Centers For MHMR is now accepting bids for the following items:
* (2) 8-passenger wheelchair vans with mechanical lift.
* (2) 15-passenger express vans.
* (5) 8-passenger mini-vans.
* (1) 2 wheel drive crew cab, 8' box, 168.5" wheelbase.
* (1) Cargo Van with 2 passenger seating.

Specifications will be supplied upon reguest. Alternate bids to be considered. Bids must be submitted by May 20, 1997. Delivery date of vehicles: June 15, 1997.
Contact and bids submitted to:
West Texas Centers for MHMR
319 Runnels
Big Spring, Texas 79720
(915) 263-0007
Attention: Clyde Alsup

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of sanitation boxes. This bid will be for 3 yard and 4 yard boxes. The bids will be received until Thursday, May 22, 1997 at 11:00 a.m. at the City Hall in Snyder. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BID NOTICE

The City of Snyder is accepting bids for the purchase of a fuel management system. The bids will be received until Thursday, May 22, 1997 at 11:00 a.m. at the City Hall in Snyder. The City of Snyder reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

BID NOTICE

Western Texas College will be accepting bids on (2) Toshiba Laptop Computers and (2) Portable Printers until 1:00 p.m., May 16, 1997. Further information concerning the bid may be obtained by contacting the Business Office at Western Texas College, telephone 915—573-8511, Ext. 203.

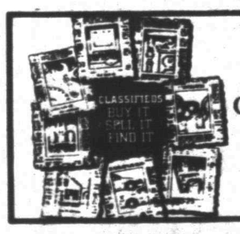
NOTICE TO CREDITORS

The State of Texas §
County of Scurry §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of WELDON W. SUMRULD, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,356:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executrix of the estate of Weldon W. Sumruld, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by RICKY FRITZ, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 6th day of May, 1997, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to Velesta Black, 11 CR 529, Baird, TX 79504, within the time prescribed by law.

Excecuted this 6th day of May, 1997.
(s) Velesta Black
Independent Executrix
of the estate of
Weldon W. Sumruld, deceased



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The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within 5 days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement. All out of town orders must be accompanied by cash, check or money order. All ads are cash unless customer has an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
The Publisher is not responsible for copy ommissions, typographical errors, or any unintentional error that may occur further than to correct it in the next issue after it is brought to his attention.

090 VEHICLES

F-350, 1995 45,000 miles, XLT, auto, windows, locks, sound system. Clean. 351 with goose neck ball. $16,900. 915-728-3495, 338-3495 or 573-2215. May trade.

1996 Ford ½ ton pickup, loaded, 30K, $17,000 or best offer. 573-1536 after 5 pm.

150 BUSINESS SERVICES

Interior/Exterior Painting, Home Repairs, Carpentry & Chimney cleaning. FREE Estimates. Walter Banks, 573-4736 leave message.

Sink & Sewer Lines Cleaned. References. Jim Coventry. 915-735-2510. Formerly with local company.

152 STUDENT WORK

STUDENT will mow, edge, weed eat, etc.! Reasonable prices. Call 573-6336.

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THE CLASSIFIEDS
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160 EMPLOYMENT

Taking applications for a Parts-Persom. Apply Key Brothers Implement Co., Inc. 507 E. Coliseum Drive.

Wait person needed. Hiring for all shifts. Apply in person, between 1:30 & 5:00 pm., Pizza Inn.

NEEDED: LVN-Good Benefits=Insurance, meals, holiday pay, vacation. Apply at Kristi Lee Manor, Inc., 1941 Chestnut, Colorado City, Texas.

NEEDED: Small Engine Mechanic, experience a must. Apply at The Rental Store & More, 1300 25th Street. No Phone Calls Please!

Sandblasting Help Needed. Clean driving record required. 3220 W. Hwy. 180. Rhodes Operating.

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GREAT PAY & BENEFITS
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TO APPLY, CONTACT
TROY BAKER
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Immediate Permanent Openings for OT/COTA/ST, in Aspermont, Rotan, Hamlin and Eastland Skilled Nursing Facilities. Call 888-290-0602 or 806-351-1407.

Immediate opening for experienced hydraulic service technician. Duties to include fabricating, and servicing hydraulic pumping systems. Salary commensurate with experience and ability. Send resume to Paul Bush at Lubbock Electric Co., 1108 34th St., Lubbock, TX 79405.

MACHINIST WANTED: Snyder Machine Shop. 304 Old Lubbock Hwy. 573-5097.

Sun Loans is now hiring Manager trainees who are willing to relocate. We offer paid vacation, holidays, sick days & benefits. Pick up applications at Sun Loans in Snyder, 2519 College Ave. No phone calls please.

AMERICAN ENERGY SERVICES is now hiring Equipment Operators. Class A CDL license is required. Experience is preferred. Excellent benefits including medical, dental and optical insurance. 401 K retirement plan. Top pay. Apply at 2401 E. I-20 Access Rd. Midland, TX or call (915) 570-4899.

Computer Support Company seeking a hardware/software technician to work in Snyder. Must have experience with windows 3.X & 95. A+, MSCE, CNE or CNA are a plus. Send resume to: Lan Solutions of Midland, Inc., 3303 N. Midkiff Rd. 191, Midland, Texas 79705.

Delta Loan is now hiring for Assistant Manager. Experience preferred but not necessary. Come by 1908 37th. No phone calls.

Experienced Foreman & Laborers. Come by E D Walton Construction, 900 Old Lubbock Hwy. Fill out application.

NEEDED: 55 People to Lose 8-30lbs! No willpower required, 100% Natural, 100% Gauaranteed. Dr. Recommended.Call 305-668-7426.

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Your Snyder Daily News should be delivered to you by 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Your Carrier strives to give Prompt Service, but should your paper be missing...

PLEASE CALL
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Before 6:30 p.m.
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RN BRANCH SUPERVISOR

Outreach Health Service's mission is to honor God in all we do by providing superior service to our patients, clients, families and the medical community.
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If you are ready to become a vital part of a highly professional, established and dedicated team in the home health industry, please contact:
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1-800-569-2272
Snyder - 573-7961
EOE/ADA
OUTREACH HEALTH SERVICES

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS ALWAYS A WINNER

180 INSTRUCTIONS

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of Defensive Driving Course. Mon. & Tue., May 12th & 13th, 6 p.m.-9 p.m., Snyder Savings & Loan Community Room, 27th & College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of Defensive Driving Course. Saturday May 10th, 8 a.m.-3 p.m., cost $30. Snyder Savings & Loan. No reservations necessary. Call 573-2850. CO199-CP315.

210 WOMAN'S COLUMN

Custom made garments and alterations. Call 573-5096 or come by 3741 Rose Circle.

Housecleaning Wanted. Weekly by Weekly. Years of experience. Call afternoons, 573-0420.

NEED A TAILOR? see PAT TAYLOR for ALTERATIONS/ SEWING. 573-3810 or 710 30th Street.

220 FARMER'S COLUMN

BIG SPRING LIVESTOCK AUCTION * Saturday, May 10th, 1997, 1:00 p.m. * Special Horse, Saddle & Tack Auction. Commission on horses 5%. No PO fee. Everyone welcome to buy, sell or visit. 806-792-5919 or 740-5262. Lance Folsom, TXs 8148.

COASTAL BURMUDA HAY, SQUARE BALES. Fertilized & clean. $3.95. Jeff Brown-573-5980.

FIELD SEEDS: Hybrid Sudan, Grain Sorghum. Rox Candy #1 baleing variety in this area. Call Snyder Farm & Ranch. 573-0767.

FOR SALE: Coastal hay. 1-915-728-5550 (Colorado City).

HAY FOR SALE: COASTAL or SUDAN. MICHAEL WHITFIELD 915-667-7470.

240 SPORTING GOODS

Men's & ladies' golf clubs w/bags $100 ea. Tommy Armour Hot Scott driver $125. 573-4990.

250 RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Older model, 28 ft. camping trailer, & utility trailers. 573-6839.

251 BOATS

14 ft. wide gauge aluminum boat. 20hp merc. with trolling motor, swivel chairs & trailer. 573-0135 days 573-5116 nights.

260 MERCHANDISE

12x16 portable building sale. Overstocked! 4 different models to choose from. $69/down + $69/month. Morgan Buildings (806) 794-6772. Free delivery this week!

18 Hp. Craftman riding mower. Looks new-runs great. New $2500 asking $1650. 2300 37th.

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, Etc.
Sales & Rentals
3706 College 573-7582

FOR SALE: Casing Steel Bar-B-Que Pit, 55"x24". Call 573-7271.

FOR SALE: Stacked washer & dryer-220. White Westinghouse upright freezer-21.2 cw. ft. 573-6720.

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES: Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers. WESTERN AUTO 2510 AVE. R.

Handi-capped Dynamo Scooter for sale. Almost new. 573-8085.

Hot Tub Blowout! 5 person spa with cover + chemicals. $79/down + $79/month. Free delivery this week! Morgan Spas (806) 794-6772.

SPRING TIME SPECIAL!!! Have your Central A/C System serviced before summer. Right now for a limited time, Service Calls $30.00 + Parts & Tax. Call Cooper A/C Inc. 573-6269 or 573-6226.

PRIMESTAR! THE BEST VALUE IN HOME ENTERTAINMENT. No equipment to purchase. Free maintenance. No committment and better than ever with 160 available channels. Call now for details and a special installation price in May. 573-6269 or 573-6226.

Sand fighter, 30 ft. wide, good shape, $350. Good riding lawn mower, $225. Call 573-3911.

Swimming Pool Sale! 24' round with liner, ladder, filter, pump + vacuum. $49/down + $49/month. Hurry! Limited Supply. Morgan Pools. (806) 794-6772.

290 DOGS, PETS, ETC.

AKC Pomeranian Pups & AKC Sheltie Pups. 573-6839.

FOR SALE: Rat Terrier (mother dog & puppies). Naturally bob tail. 776-2608 (Roby).

HELP! I'm Beautiful. I need lots of loving. I'm White Persian & I've been spayed. 573-7993.

TO GIVE AWAY: Black Shar-Pei, female, 1½ years old. Full Blood. 573-0944 after 5.

USE THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS CALL 573-5486

310 GARAGE SALES

4 FAMILY GARAGE SALE
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Friday 8:30 - ?
Leather couch & chair, Fisher Price kitchen set Too Much To List!

GARAGE SALE
1205 28th Street
Thursday, Friday, Saturday
10 speed (new) bicycle, T.V.'s, smoker & lotd more! Come See!!

GARAGE SALE
Lamesa Highway Turn Right
At Ponderosa Motel
1 mile on CR 221
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2:00-6:00 pm only
BRING SMALL CHANGE

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STORAGE BLDG. #A-1
Behind Skinneys on 37th
Friday 9-1
Lots of clothes, good used couch, full size mattress & misc.
Bag Sale $5. Bags furnished.

PATIO SALE
1406 24th Street
Saturday & Sunday 8-5
Electric dryer, vacuum, dishes, and lots of stuff.

315 WANT TO BUY

WANT TO BUY: PUMPER'S ROUTE. 573-1536 after 5;00 pm.

GREAT PLACE TO BUY...SELL TRADE OR RENT 573-5486

320 RENT OR LEASE

KEY MOBILE HOME PARK on West 37th St. Large Lots. Now Locally Owned. 573-2149.

325 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

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700 E. 37th 573-3519

1 bedroom furnished apartment for rent. No utilities paid. 573-9047.

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Western Crest Apartment, unfurnished 2 bedroom apartment featuring washer/dryer connections, covered parking, swimming pool & playground. Call 573-1488.

Windridge Village, Beautiful single story apartment homes, featuring swimming pool & laundry room. Call 573-0879.

330 HOUSES FOR RENT

2220 45TH Street: 3 bedroom 2 bath 1 car garage. Fenced yard & storage building. $500/month. 573-6193,

2 bedroom house for rent. No pets. References must be furnished. 573-9047.

FOR RENT: 3 Bedroom 1 Bath. $275 month $150 deposit. For more information call 915-690-6352 afternoons.

HOUSE FOR RENT: 3789 Highland. 3-2. Call Elizabeth Potts Realtors. 573-8505.

HOUSE FOR RENT: Prestigious House, $800/month. 2212 Towle Park Rd. Call 573-2649 before 6 p.m.

335 MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT

2 & 3 BEDROOM Mobile Home for rent starting at $275. 573-1711.

2 bedroom mobile home for rent. $200/mo. $100/dep. 507 27th. Available May 6th. 573-4474.

Your "extras," particularly the old and unusual, may indeed be valuable to them. Call us today to place a garage sale listing. You'll be "collecting" cash on the miscellaneous odds and ends!
573-5486

360 REAL ESTATE

3-2-1 CH/A, Highland Park area. Bank finance or FHA with good credit. 573-2251.

3-2-2 House For Sale By Owner. Will trade for equity. With good credit, can assume . 4005 Eastridge. 903-463-3138.

3700 Muriel: 2 bedroom 1 bath. Nice! $11,900. Cash or Bank Finance only. 573-9001.

FOR SALE: 3104 39th, 3 bedrooms, wall heater, fenced. $100 down, $210/mo. First payment 9-1-97. Must have excellent credit history. (806)794-5964.

FOR SALE BY OWNER: Large Family Home, over 3,000 square feet, 4-3-2, skylights, custom rugs, formals, builtins, too many amenities to list. 2611 37th-$97,000. For appointment call Mon.-Fri. 8-5, 573-1823 or evenings and weekends 573-7143.

GREAT LOCATION! 4-2-2cp, 2 living areas, outside storage. 2905 36th. 573-6877 or 573-1133 for appointment.

HOUSE FOR SALE: 304 23RD Street. 2 bedroom 1 bath with separate dining/utility room, plus an extra large den with fireplace. $25,000 cash or bank finance. 573-4409.

LOTS IN HERMLEIGH. FOR SALE. Call 915-863-2342.

Nice 2 bedroom 1 bath & garage. 1448 square feet. Storage building. Nice neighborhood. 573-6720.

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Hernleigh 2 & 3 bd $18T & up
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Country 3-2-2cp 1A $75T
3213 40th 3bd LR Den $30's
404 32nd 3-2-3cp Shop & Nice
208 32nd 2-1-1 only $12,500
Owner Says Sell 2-1 1811 M
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1-Year: $99.00
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Sam Sheppard's son goes to court to clear his father's name

CLEVELAND (AP) — The trial of a lawsuit to clear Dr. Sam Sheppard's name in the 1954 beating death of his wife should start no later than October, the attorney for Sheppard's son told a judge today.

In a hearing to discuss questions of evidence and scheduling, Terry Gilbert again accused the Cuyahoga County prosecutor's office of trying to delay the trial.

"They simply would love this case to disappear," he told Common Pleas Judge Ron Suster. Suster did not immediately rule on the request to start the trial within months, instead calling the attorneys into a private meeting after listening to Gilbert for about 10 minutes.

Carmen Marino, an assistant county prosecutor, also has said the trial could begin this fall. He has denied trying to delay the proceedings.

Sheppard's 50-year-old son, Sam Reese Sheppard, wants the judge to declare that his late father was wrongly convicted and imprisoned for the killing. The elder Sheppard served 10 years in prison before he won a second trial in a landmark ruling; he was acquitted the second time, in 1966. The sensational case helped inspire the television series "The Fugitive."

The younger Sheppard, who lives in Oakland, Calif., traveled to Cleveland for the hearing, the first time he has entered a courtroom on his father's behalf since the 1966 trial. He was not expected to speak in court today, but said he wanted to attend the hearing to keep the case in the public eye.

"It is now time to walk into the courtroom, look the judge in the eyes and say 'It's time for this case to move on,'" Sheppard said earlier.

Throughout his life, Sheppard's father said that a "bushy-haired intruder" killed his pregnant wife, Marilyn, then knocked him unconscious in July 1954. Their son was just 7 at the time.

Sheppard was convicted in December 1954, but a federal appeals court ruled a decade later that heavy publicity tainted his trial. Sheppard was acquitted in a second trial and died in 1970 at age 46.

Terry Gilbert, the lawyer for Sheppard's son, believes evidence uncovered in DNA tests on blood from the crime scene will pin the slaying on the Sheppards' former handyman and window washer, Richard Eberling, now 67.

In 1959, Eberling was caught burglarizing homes in Cleveland, and two of Mrs. Sheppard's rings were in his possession.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Jim Hogg, Big Spring; Oralia Martinez, 2701 Ave. L; Robbie Tindol, 1905 West Drive; Eulala Hickey, P.O. Box 411; Roxanne Renteria, 512 33rd.

DISMISSALS: Cleo Chandler, Rebecca Gray, R.T. Lovelady.

CENSUS: 55 (Med., Surg.-13, Long-term Care-35, CCU-3, OB-3, Nursery-1).

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEWYORK(AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	95	93	94⅝	+1⅝
AT&T Corps	32⅝	31⅞	32⅛	— ⅛
AirTouch		25⅛	24⅞	24⅞
Albertsons	33¼	32⅞	33	— ⅛
AlldSignal	74⅝	73⅝	74⅝	+ ⅛
Alltel	32⅝	31⅞	32⅝	+ ⅛
AlstomUnlide	51⅝	49⅝	51	+ ⅝
AmStores	46⅝	46⅝	46⅝	+ ⅛
AmerBrds	62⅝	61⅝	62⅛	+ ⅛
Amoco	84⅝	83⅝	84⅝	+1
AndarkPtr	62	61	61	+ ⅛
Amcoinc	3⅝	3⅝	3⅝	— ⅛
AtlRichfld	143⅝	142⅝	143⅝	+ ⅛
ATMOS Egy		23⅝	23⅝	23⅝
Aviall	13⅝	13⅝	13⅝	— ⅛
BakerHughes	35⅝	35⅛	35⅝	+ ⅛
BellAtl	69⅝	67⅞	69⅝	+ ⅛
BellSouth	44⅝	43⅞	44⅝	+ ⅛
BethSteel		9⅝	9⅝	9⅝
BritPet	140⅝	139⅝	140⅝	— ⅛
BurlNoSFe	78⅝	78⅛	78⅝	+ ⅛
Caterpillar	94⅝	92⅛	93⅝	+1⅛
CenSoWst	21⅝	21⅛	21⅝	— ⅛
Chevron	70⅝	69	70⅝	+ ⅛
Chrysler s		30⅝	30⅝	30⅝
Coastal	49⅝	48⅝	49⅝	+1⅛
CocaCola	65⅝	64⅝	65⅛	— ⅛
ColgatePalm	110⅝	109⅝	110⅝	+ ⅛
ColgatePalm wi	55	55	55	— ⅛
ComclMetals	28⅛	28	28	— ⅛
Cooperin	47⅝	46⅝	47⅝	+ ⅛
CyprusAmax	23⅛	22⅞	23	+ ⅛
DallSemicn	38⅝	38⅝	38⅝	— ⅛
DeltaAirl	95⅞	94⅝	95⅝	+1⅛
DigitalEq	31⅛	30⅝	31	+ ⅝
Dillard	31⅛	30⅝	31⅛	+ ⅝
DowChem	87	86⅛	86⅞	+ ⅛
Dresserind	30⅝	29⅝	30⅝	+ ⅛
DuPont	108⅝	106⅝	108⅝	+1⅝
EastmanChem		52⅝	52⅝	52⅝
EstKodak	81	80	80⅝	— ⅛
EDS Corp	37⅝	36⅛	37⅛	+ ⅛
Enserch	20⅛	20⅛	20⅛	— ⅛
Entergy	25⅛	24⅝	25⅛	+ ⅛
Exxon s	58⅝	57⅝	58⅝	+ ⅛
Flowers s	17	16⅝	17	+ ⅛
FordMotor	35⅝	35	35⅛	+ ⅛
GTE Cp	44	43⅛	43⅞	+ ⅛
GenDynam	72⅝	72⅛	72⅝	+ ⅛
GenElec	116⅝	115⅝	116⅝	+ ⅛
GenElecwi		58⅛	57⅞	58⅝
GenMills	63	61⅞	62⅝	+ ⅛
GenMotors	57⅛	56⅝	57⅛	— ⅛
GaPacif	79⅝	77⅞	79⅝	+2
GlobalMar	19⅝	18⅝	19⅝	+ ⅛
Goodrich	41⅝	41	41⅝	+ ⅛
Goodyear s	53⅝	53⅝	53⅝	+ ⅛
GtAtlPac	25⅝	24⅝	25⅝	+ ⅛
Haliburtn	72⅛	70⅝	72⅛	+2
Hanson ADS n	25⅝	25⅛	25⅝	+ ⅛
HarteHanks	28⅛	28	28⅛	— ⅛
HomeDepot	58⅛	57⅛	58⅝	+ ⅛
HoustonInds	22⅛	22⅛	22⅛	— ⅛
IBM	167⅞	163⅝	166⅞	+4⅝
IBMwi		83⅝	83	83⅝
IntlPaper	44⅛	43⅝	44⅛	— ⅛
JohnsnJn s	60⅝	59⅝	60⅝	+ ⅛
K mart	13⅝	13⅛	13⅛	— ⅛
Kroger s	27⅞	27	27⅝	+ ⅛
Litton	44⅝	43⅝	44⅝	+ ⅛
LockhdMart	91⅝	91⅛	91⅛	— ⅛
Lowes Cos	37⅞	36⅝	37⅞	— ⅛
Lubys	19⅝	19	19⅝	+ ⅛
LucentTech	62⅝	61⅛	62⅝	+ ⅛
MayDeptStrs	46⅛	45⅛	46⅛	+1
Medtronic	66⅝	65⅝	66⅝	+ ⅛
Mobil	132	130⅝	132	
Monsanto s	44⅝	43⅝	44⅝	+1
MorganJP	102⅝	101	102⅝	+1⅛
Motorola	62⅛	61⅛	62	+ ⅝
NCR Corp n	30⅝	29⅝	30⅝	+ ⅛
NationsBk s	60⅝	59⅝	60⅝	+ ⅛
Navistar	12⅝	11⅝	12⅝	+ ⅛
NoramEngy	15⅝	15	15⅝	+ ⅛
Norwest	51⅝	50⅝	51⅝	+ ⅛
Nynex	53	51⅝	53	+ ⅝
OryxEngy	20⅝	20⅝	20⅝	+ ⅛
PanEnergy	46	45⅝	45⅞	— ⅛
Penney JC	49⅝	48⅝	49	+ ⅛
Pennzoil	52⅝	51⅝	52⅝	+ ⅛
PepBoys	33⅝	33⅝	33⅝	+ ⅛
PepsiCo	36	35⅝	36	— ⅛
PhelpDodge	79	77⅞	78⅞	+1⅛
PhilipPet	41	40⅝	41	+ ⅛
PilgrimPrd		10⅝	10⅝	10⅝
Polaroid	48⅛	47⅝	48⅛	— ⅛
Praxair	51⅝	51⅛	51⅝	— ⅛
ProctGamble	131⅝	129⅝	131⅝	+1
PubSNwMx	17⅝	17⅛	17⅝	+ ⅛
RoyalDutch	183	180⅝	183	+1⅝
SBC Comm	56⅝	55⅝	56⅝	+ ⅛
SaraLee	42⅝	41⅝	42⅝	+ ⅛
SearsRoeb	50⅝	49⅝	50	+ ⅛
SherwinW s	31⅝	30⅝	31⅝	+ ⅛
SmithBc ADS	81⅛	80⅝	81⅛	+1⅛
SouthernCo	21⅛	20⅝	21⅛	+ ⅛
SwstAirlines	27⅛	26	27⅛	+ ⅛
Sprint	46⅛	45⅛	46	+ ⅛
SunCo		28⅝	28⅝	28⅝
TNP Ent	23⅛	22⅝	22⅝	— ⅛
Tandy	53	52⅝	53	+ ⅛
TempInl	57⅞	56	57⅞	+1⅞
Tenneco	42⅝	41⅝	42⅝	— ⅛
Texaco	108⅛	107	108⅛	+2
TexasInds	22⅛	21⅞	22⅛	+ ⅛
TexasInst	95⅝	94⅝	95⅝	+1⅝
TexUtil	36⅛	36	36⅛	+ ⅛
Textron	114⅝	113	113⅝	+ ⅛
Travelers s	54⅝	53⅝	54⅝	+ ⅛
TrinityInds	26⅝	26⅛	26⅛	— ⅛
TritonEngy	39⅝	38⅝	39⅝	+ ⅛
Tyler	1⅝	1⅝	1⅝	— ⅛
US WestCm	35	34⅛	35	+ ⅝
USWstMda		17⅝	17⅝	17⅝
USX Delhi	13	13	13	— ⅛
USX-Marathn		28⅛	27⅞	27⅞
USX-USS	30⅝	30⅛	30⅝	+ ⅛
UnCarbde	48⅝	47⅝	48⅛	— ⅛
UnPac s	66⅝	64⅝	66⅝	+1⅝
UnitedTech s	77⅛	77⅛	77⅛	+ ⅛
Unocal	40⅝	39⅝	40⅛	+ ⅛
WalMart	28⅝	28⅝	28⅝	+ ⅛
WstnGasRs	16⅝	16⅛	16⅝	+ ⅛
WestghEl	17	16⅝	16⅞	+ ⅛
WinnDixie	36⅝	35⅝	36⅝	+ ⅛
Woolworth	21⅛	20⅝	21⅛	+ ⅛
XeroxCp s	64⅝	63⅛	63⅝	— ⅛
ZenithE	11⅝	11⅛	11⅛	+ ⅛

1 arrested by deputies

Snyder area peace officers responded to a number of calls Wednesday and early today.

An 18-year-old female was arrested at 5 p.m. Wednesday at the Law Enforcement Center on a misdemeanor warrant to revoke her probation.

Kenneth May requested to speak to a deputy at 10:05 a.m. Wednesday in reference to damage to his windshield on his 1997 Dodge pickup. An offense report for possible criminal mischief was submitted.

A deputy was requested at Willow Park Inn at 5:14 p.m. in reference to a disturbance in the restaurant. No charges were filed, but a person was advised not to return to the business.

Offices were called to McDonald's at 9:07 p.m. in reference to juveniles breaking a sign. An offense report for criminal mischief was submitted.

Officers were called to the 300 block of 24th Street at 11:09 p.m. in reference to a possible prowler.

A person went to the sheriff's office at 11:18 p.m. in reference to receiving harassing telephone calls on her cellular telephone.

At 6:26 this morning, a 911 call was received by dispatchers from the 3000 block of Avenue H in reference to a fire in the yard of a residence. The fire department was dispatched and extinguished a mattress. There was no other damage.

New U.S. spy satellite system planned

WASHINGTON (AP) — Watching Soviet forces from spy satellites during the Cold War was tough enough. Now the U.S. intelligence community must cover the globe with its eyes in the sky — and do so with less money.

At the center of this problem is a secretive, little-known agency called the National Reconnaissance Office, operator of the nation's multi-billion dollar spy satellite system.

Beyond the view of all but a handful of lawmakers and top defense and intelligence officials, the NRO is about to begin a major investment in a new constellation of smaller, cheaper satellites.

As the venture gets under way, a newly declassified report by an independent review panel found problems within the NRO that raise questions about its ability to manage a major technological innovation.

NRO officials say that most of the recommendations in the report have been adopted into new policies over the past nine months since the report was first presented in classified form. Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., vice chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, once one of the NRO's toughest critics, praised its efforts to streamline.

The review, headed by retired Adm. David Jeremiah, former vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, found the NRO labors under an overly secretive, ponderous bureaucracy, is slow to embrace new ideas and no longer is widely considered a technology leader.

"The future security of the nation depends on its ability to conduct surveillance from space," the panel found. But that surveillance can no longer focus on fixed installations such as Soviet rocket bases or naval shipyards. Now it must "support military operations involving new coalition partners ... (provide) real-time collection and reporting" and, in wartime, convey "sensor to shooter" information.

Members of the Senate Intelligence Committee, who have been briefed on the small satellite plan, raised concerns that reflected some of the criticisms cited by the review panel.

"My concern is that this is not going to be done aggressively enough in the near term," said Sen. Jon Kyl, R-Ariz., during CIA Director-designate George Tenet's confirmation hearing. "I'm wondering whether you need some new technical people at the NRO who are from the outside, who are committed to a very aggressive streamlining and downsizing."

Tenet said he was convinced the NRO would move aggressively, but not without making sure its ambitious new plans would work.

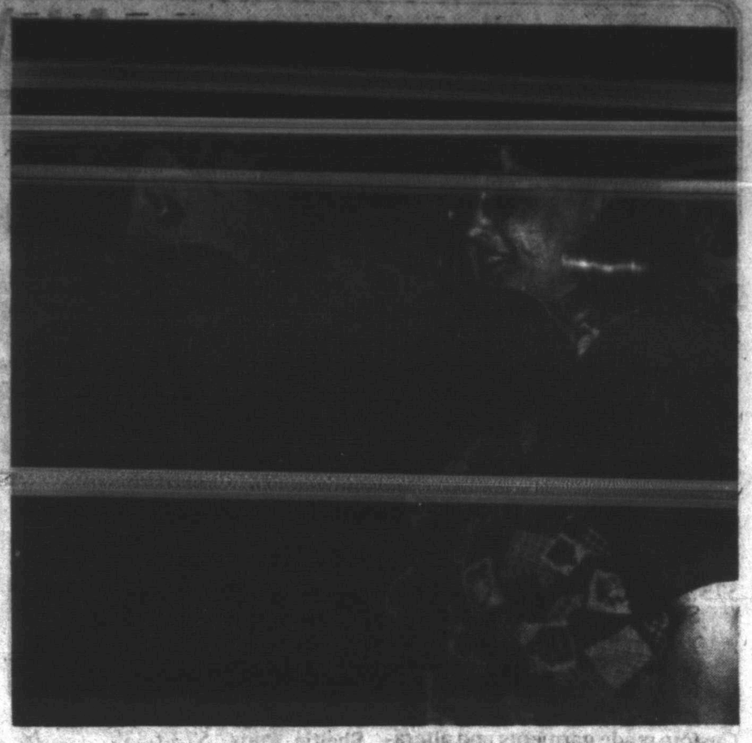
"When we're going to make such a significant capital investment, we need to understand how the architecture hangs together," Tenet said. "But there is no doubt that we have made a decision to get off the Titan. We're going smaller, and there's no turning back from that decision."

The Titan rocket is the large, expensive booster the NRO uses to get its heavy and highly capable spy satellites into space. Because of the cost of launch and of the satellites, the agency manages only a few in space at a time. The precise number is classified.

The new system will involve smaller, lighter satellites thrust into space aboard cheaper rockets. Under the NRO plan, they would provide much broader global coverage — including the ability to "dwell" over battlefields and provide a running stream of images.

Tenet, while expressing confidence in the NRO's ability to tackle its mission, nevertheless told the Senate Intelligence Committee that the agency must be carefully watched.

"There's risk, there's technology we've never utilized before, and we have to be careful about this because it's not like just buying a car off the lot," Tenet said. "Some of these will be first-time acquisitions — smaller satellites, better payloads. So I think we have to continue our vigilance."



GOLDEN APPLE AWARD — Snyder Independent School District held its Second Annual Golden Apple Awards Banquet recently in the cafeteria of Snyder Junior High. Assistant superintendent Ann McCabe presented 40 awards to those participating in the Adopt-A-School program and other volunteers, including Donna Billingsley, right. Mary Ann Juarez, SISD home/community liaison, was master of ceremonies. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Too much sugar is bad idea

By Peter H. Gott, M.D.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My daughter, who eats candy constantly, encourages her 3-year-old child to eat sweets, too. Being of a different generation, I have always assumed that this practice rots the teeth, affects the immune system and ruins the appetite, not to mention providing excess calories. She won't listen to me but, I hope, she will pay attention to you.

DEAR READER: Concentrated sweets — in the form of candy, soda and desserts — do have a profound effect on the body, as you mentioned. Sugary products do lead to tooth decay, may (in some people) reduce immunity, and affect nutrition. Such substances do provide "empty" calories that certainly contribute to obesity. Sugar also reduces our appetites and, if substituted for more nutritious foods, can lead to various metabolic deficiencies.

Nonetheless, sweets taste good and are, for many Americans, a dietary staple.

I believe that the key word here is moderation. Your daughter is unlikely to modify her behavior until she is motivated (by diabetes, obesity and other complications) to do so.

However, she could easily moderate her (and her child's) sugar consumption in order to achieve a better dietary balance. For example, it would be entirely reasonable for her to insist that the child eat and complete a well-balanced meal before consuming sweets: As I'm sure your own mother harped, the desserts and treats come AFTER you've finished your peas.

In addition, your daughter and her family would probably enjoy better health if she were to limit her snacks to fruit or sugar-free foods. Above all, substituting sugary substances for protein, starches and vegetables is totally inappropriate for adults, as well as children.

If your daughter digs in her heels and refuses to alter her eating behavior, I think that you have every right to call your grandchild's pediatrician and explain the situation.

Given the information you supply, he may choose to address the nutritional issue during the child's next routine exam. Further, by involving the pediatrician, you will successfully shed the burden of responsibility that has caused part of your anxiety. Remember, of course, that such action may cause major waves in the family.

Show your daughter my response, which may help her understand that a high-sugar diet isn't such a good idea.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have droopy eyelids that interfere with vision. My ophthalmologist wants to operate. Should I see a plastic surgeon? Is the operation dangerous?

DEAR READER: The removal of baggy skin from the eyelids is a simple, quick and safe operation that could be performed by either an ophthalmologist or a plastic surgeon.

If you have confidence in your eye specialist, I'd follow his recommendations.

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Historic landmark

ALEXANDRIA, Va. (AP) — It's no Mount Vernon or Monticello, but the split-level house former President Ford and wife Betty called home for nearly 20 years is now a state historic landmark.

It's a bit of a shabby one, though. The Fords sold the house in 1976 and the new owner has had a series of tenants who have run the place down.

Older women...

Managed health care poses challenge

WASHINGTON (AP) — Advocates for older women say they must struggle to get medical attention from managed care health plans.

"Older women have more illness than men, and as a result, need more access to specialists, leading-edge medicines, and technology," said Johnetta Marshall, president of the Older Women's League. "Managed care, by design to save money, attempts to restrict these things."

The league presented a report to Congress on Wednesday about how women over 50 are faring in ever-more-popular managed care health plans, which coordinate the work of doctors and medical facilities.

The report praised the plans for offering older women low-cost comprehensive health care, including preventive screenings for reproductive cancers, osteoporosis and other conditions.

But it cited a new study by doctors at the University of Utah showing that managed care restrictions, such as limits on prescription drug coverage, may adversely and disproportionately affect older women.

"I think that we all in the health care delivery system need to be sensitive to the needs of older patients, both women and men," said Don White, spokesman for the American Association of Health Plans. "I think we are already seeing some of those changes and will continue to see more."

White said, for example, more managed care providers are letting patients see doctors outside the plan network or get brand-name drugs at a higher price instead of generics.

The Utah study looked at 13,000 managed care patients suffering from hypertension, arthritis, ulcers, depression and anxiety disorders.

It found that when women over 50 were compared to their male counterparts, they received medicine from managed care plan "formularies," or pre-approved lists of reimbursable drugs, only slightly more often.

But the same women used substantially more total prescriptions — 32.7 compared to 25.6 for men — and paid an average $100 more for drugs than men over 50. The women also made more visits to a greater number of health care providers.

"Researchers found that the stricter the formulary, the more trips women made to the doctor, to the hospital emergency room, and even to the pharmacist," said Marshall.

Marshall said that calls into question whether managed care plans are adequately taking older women's particular health needs into account when setting restrictions on other types of specialized care, including mental health services.

Legislation in Congress and state legislatures may help by guaranteeing access to specialists and a full range of available treatments, plus strengthening grievance procedures.

But women also need to speak up for themselves, said Rep. Connie Morella, R-Md., who chairs the congressional Older Americans Caucus.

"We have to educate people so they ask the questions and make the demands of what they should be getting through managed care," Morella said.

The Older Women's League recommends that consumers considering managed care:

—Ask about coverage limitations, pre-approval requirements for specialized care, and what it costs to get care outside a plan's network of doctors.

—Find out what specialists a plan has in its network and what to do if a specialist cannot be seen promptly.

—Ask how to get drugs not on a plan's approved list.

—Learn about grievance procedures.

Judge to allow woman to attend rehab facility

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. (AP) — A woman accused in the drowning death of her infant son will be allowed to leave jail early to enter an alcohol rehabilitation program, a judge ruled Wednesday.

Judge Robert B. Stone refused to reduce Lisa Fanska's one-year sentence, but he agreed to allow her to leave the Monongalia County Jail during the final month to participate in the program.

She would be eligible on June 23 if, as expected, her sentence is reduced by two months for good behavior.

"It is in the best interest of both the defendant and the community that there be alcohol treatment," Stone said.

Ms. Fanska and her husband, who were homeless, were accused of throwing their 1-year-old son Nicholas over an embankment into a Monongahela River tributary during an afternoon of drinking March 16.

Date Book

May 8, 1997

Today is the 128th day of 1997 and the 30th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1794, Antoine Laurent Lavoisier, the father of modern chemistry, was guillotined in Paris for having been a tax collector.

On this day in 1942, the Battle of the Coral Sea began between the United States Navy and Imperial Japanese Navy.

On this day in 1945, VE Day was proclaimed following the official surrender of Germany in World War II.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Harry S. Truman (1884-1972), U.S. president; Edmund Wilson (1895-1972), critic; Robert Johnson (1911-1938), musician; Don Rickles (1926-), comedian, is 71; Albert Finney (1936-), actor, is 61; Thomas Pynchon (1937-), novelist, is 60; David Keith (1954-), actor, is 43; Ronnie Lott (1959-), football player, is 38; Melissa Gilbert (1964-), actress, is 33.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1929, New York Giants pitcher Carl Hubbell threw a no-hitter against the Pittsburgh Pirates.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "We need no more scientists in France." — the Revolutionary Tribunal

TODAY'S WEATHER: On this day in 1803, snow fell across the eastern United States from Indiana to New England.

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

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (May 6) and first quarter (May 14).

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, May 9, 1997

Favorable developments could be in the offing for you in the year ahead pertaining to your three most important involvements. Somehow you will manage to blend their benefits through a unique arrangement.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Small opportunities for personal gain might develop for you today through several sources. Do not treat these benign developments with disdain just because they're little. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions today by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Try to go someplace different today where you can mingle with a new group that offers fresh faces, ideas and experiences to refresh your attitude on life.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Friends will sense you're a person they can confide in today. Take care not to betray their trust regarding anything confidential that they tell you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Read, attend a lecture or do something constructive today that reinforces your basic philosophy of life. Knowledge is power.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) The ideas that prove to be the most advantageous for you today are likely to originate from others. Keep your eyes and ears open!

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) An honest discussion with your mate today can iron-out a matter that has been a source of irritation lately. Take the initiative and converse freely.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) An endeavor you've been avoiding because you thought it was too overwhelming can be achieved with relative ease today. Try it and see for yourself.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Your enthusiastic attitude will be a plus for you as well as for others today. Your presence alone will lift companions' spirits.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Ideas that get you on the way to beautifying and enhancing your living space should be followed today; they'll produce lasting, favorable effects.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Today will be more enjoyable for you if you get out of the house and move around a bit. Plan special errands that allow you to surprise-visit old friends.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Your instincts for spotting bargains could be sharper than usual today. If you can't get out to shop, at least browse through the mail-order catalogs.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Be both a good listener and a keen observer today, especially when around persons you admire. What you'll learn from them you'll later use for yourself.

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Lesser charges OK'd

FORT LEONARD WOOD Mo. (AP) — A collective "hooah" could be heard in the courtroom gallery as an Army drill sergeant was declared innocent of using threats to extort sexual favors from trainees.

Although convicted Wednesday of four less serious allegations, Staff Sgt. Steve A. Holloway smiled broadly and shook hands with a group of drill sergeants present for the verdict.

Some broke out with the military idiom "hoo-ah" to register their approval when the military judge's decision was announced.

Holloway, 32, of New Bern, N.C., was accused of sodomy and trying to force trainees to have sex with him. He was found innocent on 14 of those charges, but convicted of forcing a kiss on a trainee and having consensual sex with another.

He faces up to seven years in prison and a dishonorable discharge for maltreatment, assault and battery and violating a regulation prohibiting personal relationships with trainees.

The judge also convicted him of soliciting to obstruct justice for trying to get one woman to change her story. His sentence hearing was scheduled for today.

Defense lawyers maintained Holloway was a tough drill sergeant — sometimes called Hurricane — who was wrongly accused by people with a grudge or questionable character.

"They thought I was a drill sergeant from hell," Holloway said of the trainees. "But in the very end, they understood my philosophy and my way of training."

Prosecutors said Holloway knew of a system where instructors helped each other carry out personal relationships with female trainees.

The military judge said he did not believe the stories of some of the six trainees who testified against Holloway.

One former 17-year-old private said Holloway forcibly kissed her and fondled her at a time when defense witnesses said he was at the mess hall.

Holloway is the sixth instructor at this south-central Missouri post to be brought to a court-martial since sexual misconduct charges were announced last November, days after the sex scandal at the Army's Aberdeen Training Ground in Maryland came to light.

Mayor, 'Spidey' meet in comics

NEW YORK (AP) — One is a web-slinging, crime-busting New York hero; the other is merely the mayor.

Spider-Man and Rudolph Giuliani met this week on the funny pages, where the mayor's pen-and-ink alter ego assisted Spidey against the city's latest quality of life offense: a rampaging mummy named Tut Ammon.

"We can't let our citizens live in fear!" the mayor announced breathlessly in Tuesday's installment, which appeared in 500 newspapers around the country.

Giuliani debuted a day earlier, and leaves the life of Spidey this Saturday.

The mayor, who has been praised for the drastic drop-off in real-life New York City crime, was quite pleased with his appearance. Turns out the former federal prosecutor is a fan of Spider-Man.

Giuliani "reads the strip occasionally and is in 100 percent agreement with the statement attributed to him," said mayoral spokesman Colleen Roche. "That has been the cornerstone of his administration, making the city safe for the citizens."

The wood of the giant sequoia tree is exceedingly brittle.

STAHL WINS TOOLS — Jacob Parra, president Scott Squires, vice president Matt Melton and Terry Leatherwood, instructor of Industrial Technology Club, show Tim Stahl his ticket that won him a 198 piece Craftsman tool set. The proceeds were used toward state contest expenses. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

AG reverse 'hometown' lottery ruling

AUSTIN (AP) — An $11.3 million lotto winner's hometown is not part of his "street address" and is not secret information, according to the Texas attorney general's office.

Assistant Attorney General Loretta DeHay on Monday notified the Texas Lottery that she was reversing a previous AG decision declaring the Houston winner's hometown part of his street address. The Associated Press was notified of the reversal Wednesday.

The winner, who has sued the lottery and the attorney general to keep his name secret, claimed the lotto jackpot drawn last Christmas as A.M.R. Partnership. When the prize was claimed in January, the AP requested the names, ages and hometowns of A.M.R.'s main partners.

The lottery has generally made available such information about winners since the game began in 1992. Some winners have sought minimal publicity, but none have fought to keep their identities secret.

The lottery already had announced the Houston winner's hometown before the attorney general's opinion ruling the information secret. It was prepared to release his name and age after being ordered to do so by the attorney general last month.

The winner sued to block that release.

His attorney, Jeff Frasier, has argued that information about his client is secret. He said his client is fearful for his life and for his family.

The 1991 law establishing the Texas Lottery Commission makes secret winners' street addresses and phone numbers. The lottery argued that the definition of 'street address' does not include a winner's hometown.

Ms. DeHay agreed.

"We believe that by using the phrase 'street address' rather than 'address,' the Legislature intended to limit the confidentiality to a person's numeric street address," she wrote in an informal letter opinion that affects only the Houston winner.

"It is consistent with what we have been doing," lottery spokesman Steve Levine said Wednesday.

Film industry warns of fallout from city ban on gunfire scenes

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The producers of "L.A. Heat: Burning Sanctuary" did everything by the book. They scouted locations in Los Angeles and sought the appropriate permits. Standard Hollywood procedure.

But then the producers of the TV movie about a black church attacked by skinheads asked permission for automatic gunfire to be allowed during production near one of the city's most notorious sites.

The intersection of Florence and Normandy streets in south-central Los Angeles was the flash point of the 1992 riots that followed the acquittal of four police officers in the beating of Rodney King. It was where trucker Reginald Denny was beaten as a TV helicopter hovered overhead.

The producers' request went all the way to the City Council, which unanimously rejected it Tuesday. Now film industry officials are warning of repercussions in a town where art imitating life is a $20 billion business.

"I think it will have a chilling effect," said Cody Cluff, head of the Entertainment Industry Development Corp., a liaison between Hollywood production companies, city officials and residents.

"If we were to continue to have these kinds of problems, they (producers) would choose to go to locations where they can film without governmental interference," Cluff said Wednesday.

"Movie gunfire" is common in the city, he said, and parking problems are usually the biggest headaches of film productions. The industry spent $20 billion in Los Angeles County in 1995, out of $22 billion statewide.

Councilwoman Rita Walters led the push to forbid the movie's gunfire scenes from being filmed in her district. She said it would be "ludicrous" for movie makers to avoid Los Angeles because of one incident.

"I think it was an injudicious request for filming in a neighborhood that has been too often plagued by the reality of gunfire," Walters said.

Pipin, Merhi Entertainment Group, which is producing the TV movie, filmed in the neighborhood Tuesday but canceled production for Wednesday. The ban covers only the proposed gunfire.

Circus tiger kills trainer

CARROLLTOWN, Pa. (AP) — As a circus audience of 200 children and their families watched in horror, a 400-pound Bengal tiger pounced on its trainer, killing the man and dragging him around the ring by the neck.

The tiger, one of three in the ring, attacked 50-year-old Wayne Franzen a few seconds after Wednesday night's performance began, authorities said. The animal attacked when Franzen, the owner of Franzen Bros. Circus, turned his back.

"They said this animal grabbed him by the neck and just dragged him all around," said the Rev. Blane Resko of St. Benedict Catholic School, which was holding the circus fund raiser.

"They tried to beat him off, but they couldn't get him off until he was dead," said Resko. "The little girl that was the announcer was very disturbed, she was in the ambulance crying."

The tiger was under quarantine. No decision has been made on what to do with the animal, Cambria County Coroner Dennis Kwiatkowski said.

Art Deckard said his children were at the circus when the tiger attacked.

"They're pretty shook up," he said. "They understand what happened, but not why it happened."

Last month, a leopard escaped from its cage at an animal sanctuary near Oklahoma City and killed a woman. It was shot to death a few hours later.

Liability still major stumbling block for AGs, tobacco firms

WASHINGTON (AP) — The sticking point in talks involving state attorneys and cigarette markers remains a set of tobacco industry conditions that critics say would severely curtail, if not eliminate, sick smokers' chances of winning damages for smoking-related injuries.

Cigarette makers indicated some flexibility Wednesday on a hard-line proposal to settle the tobacco wars, but state attorneys temporarily halted the negotiations for a week to regroup.

"So far we are nowhere near agreement" on protection from lawsuits, said Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumenthal. "We are breaking the formal talks with some movement, but not enough to applaud or celebrate. ... I still wouldn't rate the chances of a settlement higher than 50-50."

Formal talks were to resume next week. But several attorneys scheduled a conference call to work through the liability issues today, and Mississippi Attorney General Michael Moore remained in Dallas to attempt some back-room negotiations.

Anti-tobacco attorneys spent several hours Wednesday attempting to persuade the industry to back off a condition that to recoup any money from the proposed settlement, sick smokers must prove they were unaware of smoking's dangers.

Tobacco foes also flatly rejected a proposal to block smokers from filing traditional lawsuits against the industry, instead forcing them to resort to fraud causes that require proof they were misled about the risks of smoking.

The industry indicated it may reconsider those conditions, said one source close to the talks. Juries, including one in Florida this week, repeatedly have found smokers largely responsible for their own health problems.

Tobacco foes also have insisted that no settlement could cap the damages a sick smoker could win. Cigarette companies, meanwhile, rejected proposals by state attorneys general that would place a cap on legal damages to be paid each year.

One source said cigarette makers indicated they could reconsider their demand for a $250,000 cap on compensatory damages, although they stood firm on their demand for protection against having to pay hundreds of thousands of dollars in punitive damages.

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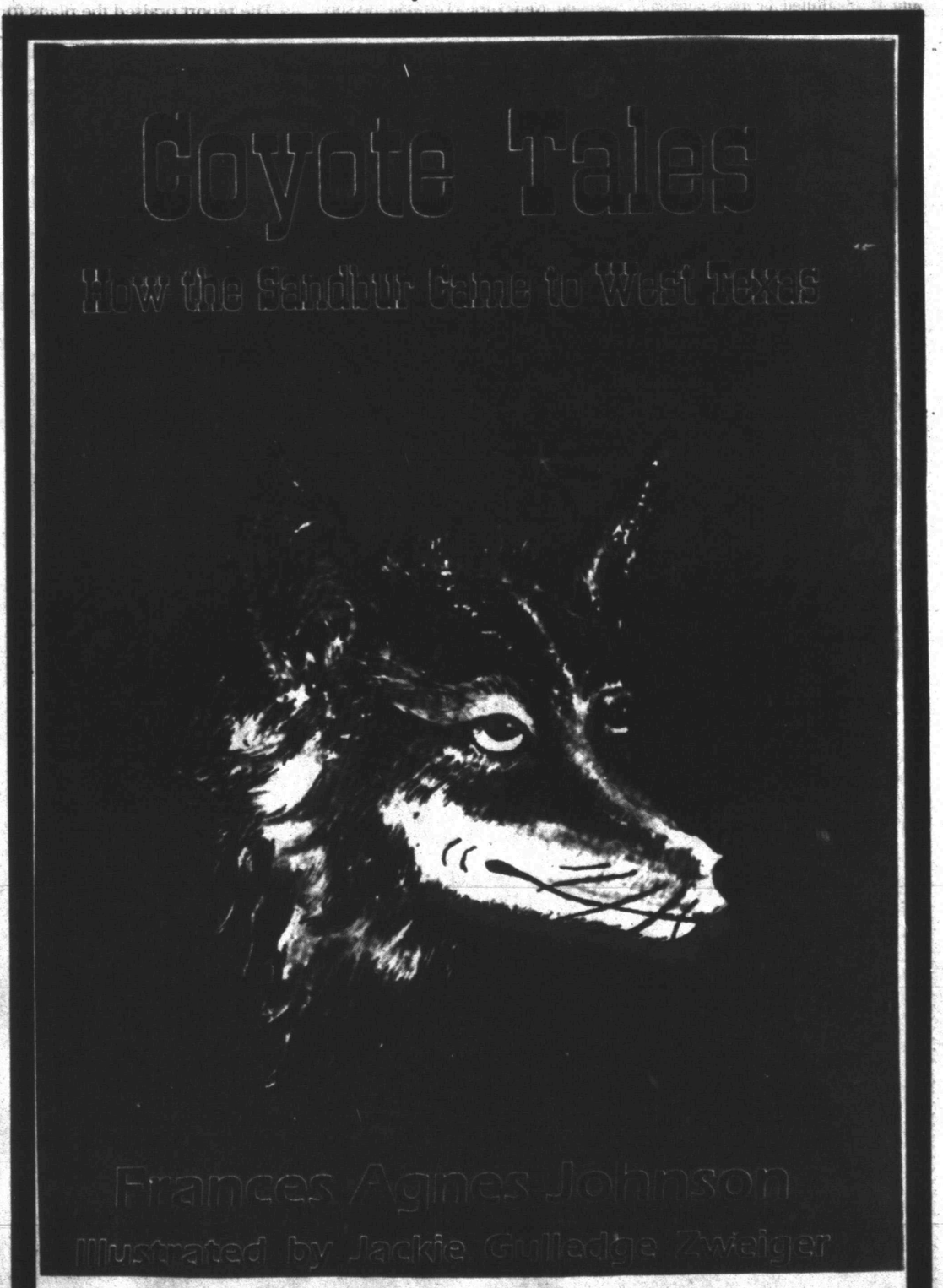

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2ND FRONT PAGE

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Army official charged with sexual abuse

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Army's decision to charge Sergeant Major of the Army Gene C. McKinney takes its sexual abuse investigation into the highest corridors of military power.

It also keeps alive charges that the Army's attempt to deal with accusations of sexual abuse are tainted by racial considerations, given McKinney's position as one of its top black leaders.

The Army charges that McKinney was involved in a dozen counts of sexual misconduct — including indecent assault and adultery — as well as several other counts of obstructing the investigation and maltreatment of soldiers.

The allegations involve one female sailor and three female soldiers, an Army statement said, in incidents that allegedly occurred between October 1994 and March 1997.

McKinney vehemently denied the charges Wednesday and declared: "I am still a soldier, a sergeant and I still believe in human rights, dignity and respect for people."

Air Force Secretary Sheila Widnall today defended the role of women in the military, telling ABC's "Good Morning America" that "our volunteer force could not function without women." And, she said, "not once has women in our pilot force been an issue."

While McKinney vehemently denied the charges of sexual misconduct, the Pentagon rejected accusations that racial motives are behind the Army's investigations.

"That charge is absurd," Pentagon spokesman Kenneth Bacon said earlier this week.

McKinney's attorney, Charles Gittins, said his client would fight the charges, even if they lead to a court-martial.

Gittins said whether race was a factor in the alleged incidents was a matter of "great concern." He said he believed all four of his black client's accusers are Caucasian.

'Justice' probes CIA nominee's finances

WASHINGTON (AP) — Key Senate Intelligence Committee members say they are unconcerned about a Justice Department probe into CIA Director-designate George Tenet's failure to report certain financial assets.

The senior Republican and Democrat on the panel indicated Wednesday the problem appeared minor. A White House official said the failure stemmed from the fact that Tenet was unaware he had become the owner of the assets following his father's death.

"We believe we have a good nominee," said Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Ala., chairman of the committee. "Mr. Tenet indicated to us he thinks it's basically worked out."

The probe focuses on Tenet's failure to report ownership of telephone company stocks before 1994, his failure to disqualify himself from official duties that related to those companies, and his failure to report ownership of property and bank assets in Greece before 1994.

President Clinton was aware of the questions surrounding Tenet's personal finances when he nominated Tenet in March. Clinton chose Tenet after the withdrawal of Anthony Lake.

"When the president announced his intention to nominate Mr. Tenet, he was fully aware of these circumstances, and he believes that none of this reflects adversely on Mr. Tenet and believes he ought to be confirmed and that he will make a superb director," White House spokesman Barry Toiv said.

Sen. Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., the vice chairman of the committee, said he did not expect the Justice probe to delay Senate action on the nomination and the matter did not appear to be disqualifying.

The committee questioned Tenet behind closed doors Wednesday after an open session the day before. Shelby said the committee would hold another closed session next Tuesday.

A Justice Department spokesman declined to comment on the inquiry.

A White House official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the probe concerns Tenet's inheritance of telephone company stocks issued in his name. The certificates, along with others issued in the names of his mother and brother, were discovered in 1994 when family members went through a safety deposit box that had been maintained by Tenet's father.

Tenet's father, John, died in 1983.

In 1994, Tenet was serving on the National Security Council staff. From 1988 to 1993 he was staff director of the Senate Intelligence Committee.

"He was not receiving any of the income from the stocks," the White House official said. "That was all going to his mother."

Also in 1994, Tenet's brother, William J. Tenet, discovered that family members had inherited condominiums in Athens, Greece, and bank accounts and certificates of deposit that held the proceeds from the property.

In the case of both the telephone stock and the property, Tenet immediately reported the ownership to government ethics officials, the White House official said.

Full Senate will consider bill to cut property taxes in state

AUSTIN (AP) — Texans could see their local school taxes cut by about 17 cents per $100 in property value under a bill headed to the full Senate.

A Senate committee voted 10-1 in favor of the plan Wednesday. It could be before the full Senate on Friday.

The cuts would mean that a person with a $100,000 home, taxed for schools at the average rate of $1.40 per $100 in value, would see school tax bills drop from $1,400 a year to $1,230. That's a cut of $170, or 12 percent.

The bill is vastly different from an already-approved House plan.

The Senate plan would pay for its $2.5 billion in property tax cuts, which would be spread over two years, by expanding the state franchise tax on business to all companies except sole proprietorships. It also depends on more state funding for schools and other state tax increases to make up the difference.

Texas currently pays for about 47 percent of all school costs. That would go up to 53 percent under the Senate proposal.

Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, cast the lone no vote. He said $1 billion in additional state funds in the bill could be better used on other services.

Other Democrats on the committee, including Sens. Gonzalo Barrientos of Austin, and Gregory Luna of San Antonio, also expressed concerns. They said they voted for the bill in hopes of making it better for poorer and middle class Texans in the full Senate or in a conference committee with House lawmakers.

The committee this week pared down the proposed franchise tax expansion to make it less burdensome to partnerships, which currently don't pay the tax.

The change exempts from the calculation of the tax more money than the House plan would exempt.

That and other differences between the House and Senate proposals are likely to be worked out in a conference committee. Any compromise plan would have to pass the House and Senate before the end of the legislative session, June 2.

The House plan would cut property taxes by about $5 billion every two years. It would pay for the cuts with an expanded business tax, more state education funds, some tax increases and an expansion of the state sales tax to cover more goods and services not currently taxed.

It would amount to a cut of at least 60 cents per $100 in property value from the current average school property tax of about $1.40 per $100.

The tax bill is HB4. An accompanying constitutional amendment is HJR4.

Obituaries

Dorothy Ratliff

1914-1997

Graveside service is set for 11 a.m. Friday in Hillside Memorial Gardens for Dorothy Ratliff, longtime Snyder resident. The Rev. Ernie McGaughey, pastor of First United Methodist Church, will officiate.

Mrs. Ratliff, 82, died at 4:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 7, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital following a sudden illness.

Born on Oct. 22, 1914 in Smithville, she married Dr. Donald Kirk Ratliff on Oct. 20, 1945 in Fort Worth. He died on June 10, 1980.

Mrs. Ratliff moved to Snyder in the mid 1940s. She was a secretary for many years in the special education department and at Snyder High School. She was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Nancy C. Jeffries of Oklahoma City; six grandchildren, Renee Boyd of Burnett, Kay Persinger of Fort Worth, Carol McKenny, Richard Jeffries and Tom Jeffries, all of Oklahoma, and Larry Jeffries of Palm Beach, Fla.; five great-grandchildren, and a special friend, Wanda Bennett of Snyder.

The family suggests memorials to the West Texas Rehab Center in Abilene.

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Reno soft-pedals discord with FBI Director Freeh

WASHINGTON (AP) — Attorney General Janet Reno today downplayed reports that she and FBI Director Louis J. Freeh are seriously divided over her decision not to seek an independent prosecutor to investigate Democratic fund-raising.

"There's a continuing discussion," she said of her conversations with Freeh. "I'm not sure you would characterize it as a difference of opinion." She said she is trying to do what she told Republicans she would do: "look at everything, consider everything."

"Director Freeh and I have a very good working relationship," she told her weekly news conference. "We may have as many as five conversations a day by telephone, or two or three meetings. I could not begin to quantify the number."

Reno has declined to ask for an independent prosecutor to look into allegations of wrongdoing, despite the wishes of Republicans in Congress. She maintains the Justice Department is capable of doing the job properly.

Published reports said Freeh believes the scope and seriousness of the investigation requires an independent probe. Reno said she considers recommendations from anyone in the Justice Department seriously and the process is continuous.

Lawsuit filed

AUSTIN (AP) — A state lawsuit alleges a Bulverde woman belonging to the Republic of Texas separatist group failed to pay about $32,000 in sales tax, Attorney Genera Dan Morales said Wednesday.

Morales also said Republic member Donald Varnell of St. Hedwig has been arrested on two counts of contempt of court.

"State law applies to all Texas citizens regardless of their political beliefs," he said. The Republic group says the annexation of Texas into the United States in 1945 was illegal and that Texas remains an independent nation.

Morales said in his lawsuit against Carolyn Carney that she owes the state, city of San Antonio and the city's transit authority for sales taxes, penalties and interest assessed against her former San Antonio business.

What's Up?

Rabies vaccination day

Residents can have their dogs and cats vaccinated from 3-7 p.m. today at Towle Park Barn. Cost is $7.50. City tags are free.

Pancake supper planned

Parents of Snyder High School seniors are sponsoring an all-you-can-eat pancake supper from 6-8 this evening at McDonald's. All proceeds will go toward the alcohol-free Graduation '97 event. Tickets are $2 and must be purchased in advance from parents or through Caron Perkins by calling 573-5401.

Canvassing of votes

Snyder City Council will meet in special session at noon Friday to canvass the votes from last Saturday's election. No other items are on the agenda.

'Tip-a-Cop' night set

Price Daniel Unit and Snyder Police Department employees will be guest hosts for a "Tip-a-Cop" fund-raiser from 5:30-9 p.m. Friday at Spanish Inn. All funds will go towards Special Olympics.

Balloon bouquets for mom

Lighthouse Assembly of God is selling balloon bouquets for Mother's Day. Prices range from $10-$12. Delivery is available for $2.50 on each bouquet. Call 573-6670 or 573-0581 and leave a message. No orders will be taken after 9 a.m. Saturday.

SNS workday Saturday

The Snyder Neighbors Sharing workday, postponed earlier, is set for Saturday.

Special Olympics fund-raiser

Price Daniel Unit and Snyder Police Department employees will be selling Special Olympics T-shirts and caps from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday at the IGA at 30th Street and College Avenue.

Snyder Springers fund-raiser

Snyder Springers will hold a garage sale all day Saturday at 2803 47th St.

Area reunions scheduled

Barronview, Busby and Center reunions will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Fisher County Courthouse annex. Refreshments will be served.

Blood pressure clinic

Interim Health Care will sponsor a free blood pressure clinic from 2-4 p.m. Saturday at Eckerd Drug.

SHS band banquet

Snyder High School Band Banquet will be held at 7 p.m. Saturday at Snyder Country Club. Entertainment will be provided by the Royce Chambers Jazz Group of Lubbock.

American Legion

The American Legion and Auxiliary will meet at 7:30 p.m. Monday at the post home.

8th grade end of year party

The 8th grade end of year party will be held May 23 at the armory. Organizers are in need of donations from parents of 8th graders to cover expenses. Anyone wishing to help should make a check to: Class of 2001, Melissa Alexander, P.O. Box 768 in Snyder.

Rummage items requested

Scurry County Museum is looking for donations to put in its annual rummage sale. Donations will be accepted May 12-16 and are tax deductible. This is the fourth year the museum has held this fund-raiser.

Quilt objects sought

Scurry County Museum is looking for items made from old or new quilts. Examples would include jackets, pillows, Christmas stockings, doll blankets, hats and toys. The museum wishes to display the items from June 9 through Aug. 22. Individual quilt blocks are also needed for the display.

Help is also needed in presenting the history of quilting and its importance. Call 573-6107 if you can assist the museum with any aspect of this display project.

Ira kindergarten

Ira ISD will have kindergarten registration on Wednesday from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. for students who will turn age 5 before Sept. 1. They will need their birth certificate, Social Security card and updated immunization record with them.

Men's spiritual retreat

The first annual Snyder Christian Men's Retreat will be held May 16-17 at Willow Park Inn. The theme is "A Call to Holiness." Those attending will be taught the principles of transparency and accountability. For information, contact Donnie Burk at 573-5629.

Dermott school reunion

The Dermott school reunion will be June 7 at the Dermott School on the county coliseum grounds. Notices have been sent to all out of town residents. Schedules and activities will be announced later. For questions or information, call Sonny Greenfield at 573-6866.

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Wednesday by the Texas Lottery, in order:
6-2-2
(six, two, two)

Lotto Texas

By The Associated Press

No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night in the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The grand prize jackpot for the drawing was an estimated $15 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 50 were: 1-26-39-41-43-44.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $23 million.