THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

March 15, 2000
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10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Melody Weaver

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WT-Int. Crude - $31.80
WTIC Posted - $29.00

Limmer weathers strong challenge...

Primaries are over; runoffs are next

Scurry County Republican voters made a clear cut choice for one commissioners' nominee Tuesday, while the Democratic choice will be decided in a runoff election.

Also headed for the April 11 runoff election is the Precinct 1 Justice of the Peace race.

In the Republican primary, incumbent Precinct 3 commissioner Howard Limmer held off a challenge by Joe Bass by a total of 36 votes – 388 to 352. Limmer will now face Donna Gray, the lone Demo candidate, in the November general election.

In the Democratic primary Cloyce Scarberry and incumbent Precinct 1 commisioner Ralph Trevey face off in next month's runoff, an election that will likely decide the race since there is no Republican candidate after Carl Burleson withdrew before the primary.

In Precinct 1, only six votes separated the two vote getters. Scarberry garnered the most votes Tuesday, 126, while Trevey tallied 120. Bill Baldwin received 33 votes, forcing the runnoff.

In the Precinct 1 justice of the peace race Deborah Boyd - a clerk in the JP office - led the ticket with 465 votes.

Ben Smith garnered 420 votes and will be also be on the runoff ballot.

The two will be vying for the spot vacated by Charlie Reynolds who resigned in January.

In this race, Kirby McCravey received 288 votes while Dwaine Merritt tallied 260. There was no Democratic candidate for JP.

In the Republican race for Precinct 1 constable, Pat Alexander outdistanced Kirk Taylor by 316 votes – 800 to 484. Alexander does not have a Democratic opponent in thee general election.

Early voting for the Precinct 1 commissioners race and the Precinct 1 justice of the peace race will begin April 3 and end April 7.

In other local Democratic election returns, Diana Williamson for tax assessor-collector, Darren Jackson for sheriff and Jeff Duck for Pct. 4 constable were all unopposed and do not have opponents for the general election.

On the Republican side, District Judge Ernie Armstrong, District Attorney Dana Cooley, County Attorney Mike Hartman and Travis Brackeen for Precinct 2 JP were unopposed in the primary, and only Brackeen has an announced opponent for the general election.

Pam Bryant is seeking the post as an independent candidate.

Gov. George W. Bush received 1,360 votes in the Republican primary, while Al Gore received 472 on the Democratic ballot.

Darrell Clements outdistanced Shane Hunt for the Republican spot for District 17 U.S. Representative. Clements received 853 votes while Hunt received 243 votes in Scurry County.

Clements will now face incumbent Charlie Stenholm in the November election. Stenholm did not have a primary opponent.

Republican voters also gave their approval locally to prayer before school athletic events. The voters cast their ballots overwhelmingly in the straw vote on the Republican ballot, 1,437 for and only 37 against.

A total of 2,338 voters cast ballots in the primaries. That is just over 21 percent of the registered voters in the county.

County Clerk Joan Bunch said 1,540 persons voted in the Republican primary, while 798 cast ballots in the Democratic primary.

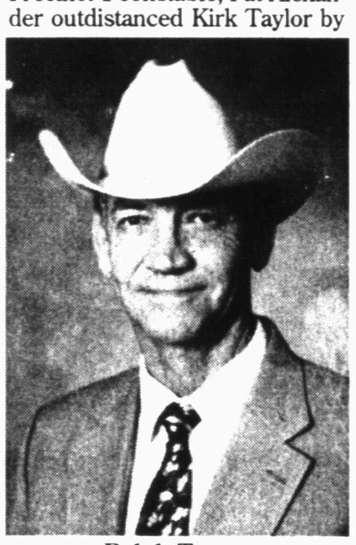
There are a total of 11,038 registered voters in Scurry County.



Howard Limmer



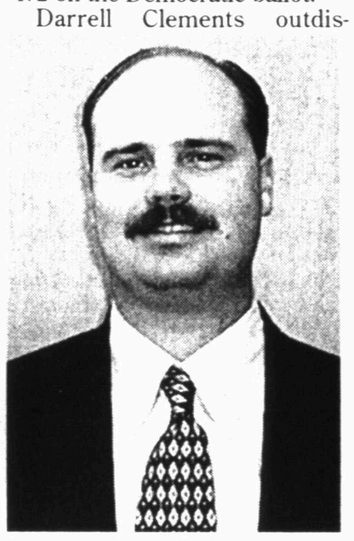
Cloyce Scarberry



Ralph Trevey



Deborah Boyd



Ben Smith



Pat Alexander

Subscription rate hike caused by higher fuel costs

Effective April 1, home delivery subscription rates to the Snyder Daily News will increase 25 cents per month.

SDN Publisher Roy McQueen said the 25 cents, less than one cent a day per delivery, will be used to offset increased fuel costs incurred by home delivery carriers.

Newsstand prices will remain unchanged at this time, the publisher said.

Water district to hold meet

Water quality in the E.V. Spence Reservoir will be the topic of a public hearing of the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Slator Park in Odessa.

The lake is one of the Colorado River Municipal Water District's lakes, and water from it has been mixed with Lake Thomas water to serve Snyder residents.

Gov. Bush, Al Gore readying for eight-month battle until Nov. general election

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. (AP) — Their presidential nominations at last secured, Al Gore and George W. Bush dug in for the eight-month battle to November. Bush said he was braced for Gore's "politics of personal destruction and distortions," while Gore argued Bush's "risky tax scheme" would hurt the economy.

Gore used rhetoric today from Bush's defeated rival, John McCain, tying Bush to conservative evangelists. Gore, who supports abortion rights and tighter gun laws, said Bush shares the anti-abortion views of Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell and also is a strong supporter of the National Rifle Association.

Gore said his own fund-raising mistakes in 1996 have enhanced his commitment to reform. "I bring a new passion to it born of personal experience, just as John McCain did," he told ABC's "Good Morning America."

Bush brushed off as a stunt Gore's latest challenge, his promise to hold off on television ads funded by "soft money" as long as Bush does, too. Saying he relished competition, Bush predicted McCain supporters would come to his side and his "passion for improving education" would attract women voters.

"The Clinton-Gore team love the politics of personal destruction and distortions and I understand they're going to throw everything they've got at me," Bush said in an ABC interview aired today.

The son of a president who lost the White House in 1992 to Democrats Bill Clinton and Gore, Bush cast his own Republican effort as pay back for his father's defeat.

"We must face one more Clinton-Gore campaign. ... This time we will prevail and they will fail," he told a cheering crowd in Austin, Texas, on Tuesday.

Gore, whose late father was a longtime Tennessee senator with unfulfilled White House ambitions, was equally personal in describing himself as better prepared to manage the economy.

"There are two avenues leading from November of 2000. The path that I want to lead our country toward continues our prosperity, uses the surplus for constructive purposes," Gore told supporters at a Tallahassee, Fla., high school gym.

"The other fork in the road leads off toward the right wing and curves around back toward the approach that failed during the Bush-Quayle years," he said. Today he said Bush's "risky tax scheme" threatens Social Security and would build up the national debt.

Both Bush, the Texas governor, and Gore, the Democratic vice president, celebrated Tuesday night after anticlimactic primaries in six Southern states — Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee and Texas — pushed each man well beyond the number of delegates needed to win their parties' presidential nominations at the national conventions this summer.

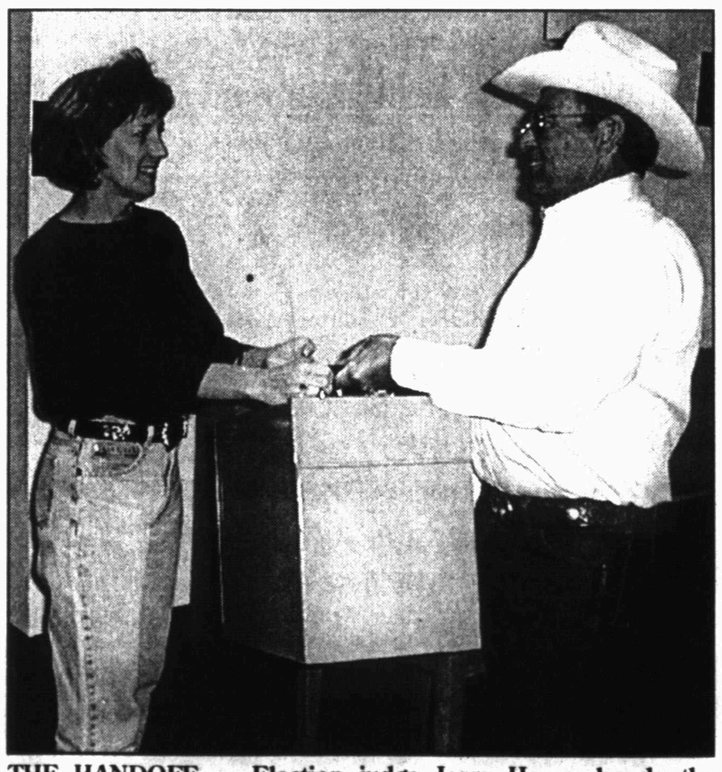
An AP analysis showed Bush's delegate count would reach 1,093, and Gore's would reach at least 2,530 — far more than required by each party.

All suspense was drained from the primaries last week when McCain and Democrat Bill Bradley bowed out of a race that had spurred record-breaking voter turnout. Former ambassador Alan Keyes remained on GOP ballots, but was not a threat to Bush.

Turnout was low Tuesday but exit polls exposed general-election vulnerabilities for both candidates: Gore's supporters were not as motivated as Bush's, while Texas Republicans reported disappointment with Bush's education agenda.

After 21/2 grueling months of virtually nonstop campaign travel, Gore promised "there will be no let up at all." He was headed today to Pennsylvania to address an AFL-CIO state convention and attend a fund-raiser in Philadelphia.

Bush planned to savor his victory and try to wipe out a lingering cold by relaxing at the Governor's Mansion. A brief vacation also was planned following a day trip Thursday to Illinois.



THE HANDOFF — Election judge Jerry House hands the Precinct 7 voting box to County Clerk Joan Bunch shortly after 7 p.m. Tuesday. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The best reason for brothers and sisters is having someone else with which to share the blame."

If you're in the middle of Spring Break, and the kids are about to drive you batty, you have empathy from a Nolan County man.

In a letter to the editor to the Sweetwater Reporter, the man said his hindsight is 20/20. It reminds us of the line about insanity being hereditary – you get it from the kids.

This was an actual letter and the writer, Roy Dillon, signed his name.

"You know, I have this friend who is 79 and seems to have everything good going for him. His children seldom, if ever, visit him. I envy him; he doesn't know how good he's got it."I'm 72, and not as fortunate as he. I have two teen-agers still at home, and nothing I do is good enough for those kids. These '90s teen-agers are pure hell. If I had know this 24 years ago, I'd never been married a third time.

"I had no idea it would be like this. I had life on a silver platter, and didn't know it. Hindsight is really 20/20.

"I'm sure the real culprit here is the age difference. I'm hoping they grow up soon and leave, so I can get back to a more normal life.

"If you are old, living alone, and your kids have nothing to do with you, cherish your freedom, because this is as normal as it gets."

With all the closeness, things can get a little tense.

It reminds us of the kid who got upset at the way things were going around the house, so he decided to run away from home.

After wandering around for two hours, he got hungry and decided to sneak back into the house.

Nobody paid any attention to him, or even remotely acted like they had missed him.

The kid wandered aimlessly about the house, hoping for some faint sign that would indicate that his absence had been felt.

Just as he was about to give up, the family mutt ran up and licked him in the face.

"Hey mom," the youngster shouted. "Is this the same dog you had when I went away?"

Then there was the big sister who said her little brother was a gift from heaven. She continued, "They must like it quiet up there."

ASK US

Q—How long does a criminal trespass warning stay in effect?
A—The warning, which is a written notice from the police department, is in effect for one year after it is served. It can be refiled at that time, if necessary.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 72 degrees; low, 49; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 49; no precipitation; total for 2000, 1.83 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clouds, 30% rain chance, windy, cooler overnight. Low, mid 40s. S-SW wind, 10-15 mph, then N, 20-30 mph; Thursday, breezy, 30% rain chance; high mid-50s, N wind 5-25 mph.



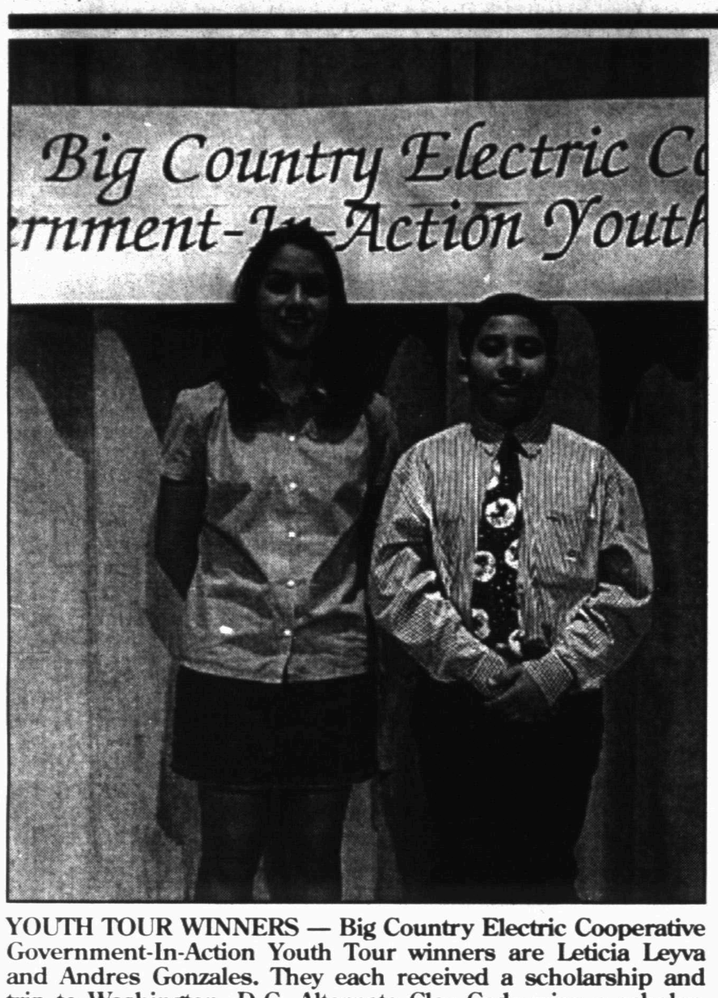
Jayme Tomlinson
Cooler

Sunset:
6:53 p.m.
Sunrise:
6:53 a.m.
Of 74 days in 2000, the sun has shone 73 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Achievement comes when you decide to live your possibilities.

MAR 15 2000



YOUTH TOUR WINNERS — Big Country Electric Cooperative Government-In-Action Youth Tour winners are Leticia Leyva and Andres Gonzales. They each received a scholarship and trip to Washington, D.C. Alternate Clay Cade wins a scholarship. (Contributed Photo)

GM quits global warming lobby

DETROIT (AP) — Environmentalists are claiming victory following General Motors Corp.'s decision to quit a lobbying group that has led the opposition to a 1997 global warming treaty.

GM notified the Washington-based Global Climate Coalition this week that it was ending its membership, GM spokesman Bill Noack said Tuesday. Ford Motor Co. and DaimlerChrysler Corp. had withdrawn earlier.

"GM's withdrawal ... makes me hopeful that opposition to real solutions is in permanent decline," said John Passacantando, executive director of Ozone Action.

GM remains opposed to the agreement reached in Kyoto, Japan, but acknowledges that carbon dioxide buildup in the atmosphere could be changing the world's climate, Noack said.

"Our company has taken more of a global focus," he said.

After GM's announcement, coalition Executive Director Glenn Kelly said the group was restructuring and individual companies no longer could join. Instead, he said membership would consist only of trade associations.

Weed Control Clinic set for Monday

In preparation for the 2000 cotton crop, Dr. Peter Dotray, Weed Specialist from Lubbock, will be leading a pre-emerge Weed Control Clinic on Monday, at 8:30 a.m. at the Fluvanna Community Center.

Dr. Dotray is a weed scientist and works cooperatively with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station, the Texas Agricultural Extension Service and Texas Tech University. Dr. Dotray will be presenting an update on herbicide for pre- and post-emerge weed control in cotton.

Everyone is welcome. For further information, contact Greg Gruben, county extension agent at 915-573-5423.

Winners in youth tour are named

Big Country Electric Cooperative announces the winners of the annual Youth Tour Speech Contest. The contest was held Feb. 29 at Hamlin High School auditorium.

The two winners are Andres Gonzales of Stamford and Leticia Leyva of Roby. They will join approximately 1,500 other teens across the country for a 12-day all-expenses-paid trip to Washington, D.C. in June.

Along with the trip to D.C., the students will each receive a $500 scholarship. Clay Cade of Rotan will also receive a $500 scholarship and will serve as alternate in the event one of the students is unable to go on the trip.

The purpose of this tour is to provide an opportunity for youth to visit monuments, government buildings and cooperative related organizations in order to become familiar with the historical and political environment of our nation's capital. They will enjoy the best of Washington, D.C., tour the Smithsonian Institute, Ford's Theatre, the FBI Building, the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, Mount Vernon and countless others. They will also visit Arlington National Cemetery, the Vietnam Memorial, and witness the changing of the guard at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier. They will visit their Congressman's office and find out face to face what's going on in National Government. Congressmen will meet with students from their districts and answer questions about current governmental issues.

Big Country Electric Cooperative wants to offer other area youth a chance for such an experience. Other contestants were Jennifer Andrus, a Sophomore at Hamlin High School; Katrina Bilbrey, a Sophomore at Hamlin High School; Caleb Callaway, a Senior at Hermleigh High School; Lindsay Ivey, a Junior at Stamford High School; and Cole Wolsch, a Junior at Rule High School.

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Minnesota is also known as the Gopher State.



CONTESTANTS — Contestants in Big Country's Electric Cooperative Government-In-Action Youth Tour Speech Contest are front row from left, Lindsay Ivey, Andres Gonzales, Katrina Bilbrey, Leticia Leyva. Back row from left, Caleb Callaway, Clay Cade, Cole Wolsch, Jennifer Andrus. (Contributed Photo)

Compensation sought for loss of grazing pastures

COLLEGE STATION — Dry winter weather in the Panhandle, South Plains and North Central areas of the state is causing major losses of grazing from small grain crops of wheat, oats, barley, rye and triticale. Grazing is severely damaged or lost on an estimated 2.5 million acres.

Losses of small grain forage production may be eligible for compensation from the Noninsurance Crop Disaster Program (NAP) offered by USDA's Farm Service Agency. Implementation of NAP and determinations of producer eligibility depend heavily on information reported by producers.

"Producers must understand that destroying small grain acreage, or making other use of it prior to inspection by FSA, could jeopardize their eligibility for a NAP payment for the grazing loss," said Wayland Shurley, state executive director of the Texas FSA. "We want producers to benefit from the NAP program, but we need their help."

Producers who believe they qualify for NAP benefits for loss of small grain forage production in the fall and winter months must notify FSA no later than 15 days after the FCIC pull off date. FSA must have an opportunity to inspect acreage to verify damage to the small grain forage.

Federal crop insurance policies on wheat and oats provide protection against loss of grain production in these areas of the state. Late last week, crop insurance industry officials discussed the possibility of releasing small grain acreage that is no longer in dormancy, even though the established pull-off dates were still a week away. In some areas, the outlook for grain production is bleak. As a result, much of the acreage could be released in the next few weeks. Release of acreage by crop insurance companies means producers can make other use of the land.

Farmers need to remember, however, that release of the insured small grain crop by the crop insurance industry does not mean their forage acreage can be destroyed without affecting the potential eligibility for NAP benefits.

In areas where high winds cause potential erosion problems, producers who request and receive permission from the crop insurance companies to perform emergency tillage must also notify FSA prior to destroying crop acreage to avoid jeopardizing their eligibility for NAP assistance.

Producers needing more information about NAP should contact FSA at the local USDA Service Center.

Colorado City livestock auction

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 480 head of cattle for the Saturday, March 11, sale. Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers were firm to $4 higher. Slaughter cows were $1-$2 higher. Bulls were $1 higher. Bred cows and pairs were steady. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 121-127
300-400: 115-125
400-500: 107-116
500-600: 87-92
600-700: 83-85.50
Feeder heifers:
200-300: 111-118
300-400: 102-112
400-500: 97-105.50
500-600: 88.50-94.50
600-700: 81.50-87
Replacement cows:
Young bred cows: 560-670
Bred cows: 430-530
Pairs: 665-770
Aged pairs: 560-630
Slaughter cows: High yielding: 43-47
Slaughter bulls: High dressing: 51-53

Poison prevention week is set to start

Sunday begins National Poison Prevention Week, according to Cathy Boden, education manager at Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

For the past 30 years, Poison Prevention Week has focused on preventing poisonings among children under six years of age and they should remain the primary focus of concern. But accidental poisonings can happen to anyone, according to the Poison Prevention Week Council.

"Even the most observant parent can be distracted, and a child can quickly find a poisonous substance," Boden said. "For that reason alone, adults must make sure that household chemicals and prescription and nonprescription drugs be stored away from children at all times. It is also important to know what to do in case poisoning occurs. Many times this information is right on the package label.

Safety packaging of medicines and household chemical products has reduced the number of accidental poisoning of youngsters, but children are not the only ones at risk.

"Poisonings can happen to older people who cannot read labels or who fail to follow instructions," Boden said. "Always leave medicine and hazardous chemicals in their original packaging. Never store them in unmarked containers or containers that are easily recognizable with a food or beverage products," she said. When you store poisonous materials in any container make sure that it is carefully and permanently labeled. When disposing of poisons, make sure that you follow the recommended disposal guidelines to insure that children and animals can't get into the packaging. The Poison Control telephone number is 1-800-Poison (1-800-764-7661).

The best way to prevent accidental poisoning is to check your home for dangerous substances, be sure that all medicines and household cleaners are stored out of reach of children, and read labels carefully.

Harry Hoyt, registered pharmacist, urges people to contact their pharmacist if they have a question about medicines or other substances. As health care professionals, we're trained to be expert in this area," he said. "We're always anxious to provide information and prevent a tragedy."

Lubbock Stockyards livestock auction

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 515 head of cattle for the Thursday, March 9, sale. Cows $1 better. Calves and yearlings were $1 to $2 better. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 37-44
Canner and low cutters: 30-36
Slaughter bulls: 44-55.50
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 105-130
400-500: 90-115
500-600: 85-100
600-700: 83-90
700-800: 80-85
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 90-110
400-500: 85-100
500-600: 80-85
600-700: 77-84
700-800: 75-80
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 85-95
700-800: 70-82
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 650-800
Grade: 550-650
Springers: 425-650
Baby calves: 125-200
Doodlers: 175-240

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Thomas Jefferson introduced ice ceam, waffles and macaroni to the United States.

FACTS!!!

In times of uncertainty, consumers are careful and a little reluctant to spend. They want to be sure before they buy; they want information. One of the main ways they get information about products, services, prices and values is from advertising. Yours....or somebody else's.

Maybe you figure other retailers in your line are going to cut back their advertising, so it's safe for you, too. Right? WRONG! You're in competition for the consumer's dollar with every other retailer in town, no matter what he sells. People have only so many dollars to spend, and if they don't spend them for something else.

ADVERTISE IN THE
Snyder
Daily News

3600 College Ave. 573-5486

WTC Western Texas College
Continuing Education Division
EMS Program
Emergency Medical Technician - I
Approved for CE credits
Tuesdays & Thursdays, March 22, 2000 - June 6, 2000
WTC, LRC Building, Room 102
Linked via ITV to Stamford High, Wetherbee Campus
301 South Wetherbee, Stamford, TX 79556
Pre-Registration deadline - 12:00 Noon, March 10, 2000
$50 Deposit Required; Book Costs: $68
Course costs: EMT Basic: $390; Liability Insurance: $37
"Plan to pre-register early as class spaces are limited"
For further information, call (915) 573-8511 ext. 390
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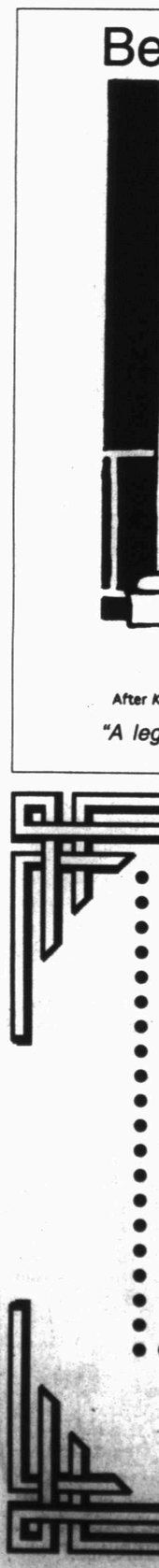
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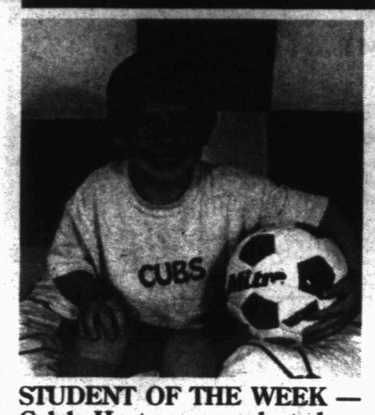
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STUDENT OF THE WEEK — Caleb Hester was selected as Student of the Month for February in Brownfield. Hester is a kindergartner at Colonial Heights. His parents are Ron and Laura Hester of Brownfield. Grandparents are Tommy and Charlotte Hester of Snyder. (Contributed Photo)

Demand great for King's online book

NEW YORK (AP) — Getting a copy of Stephen King's new ghost story is proving to be a nightmare.

"Riding the Bullet" is available only on the Internet and was made available at 12:01 a.m. Tuesday. Web sites including Amazon.com and Barnes & Noble.com were swamped by high demand for the horror master's 66-page work, and downloading it was downright impossible.

"All the servers have reached 100 percent capacity and gone over several times today," said Pat Eisemann, a spokeswoman for Scribner, the co-publisher with King's Philtrum Press. "Everybody is pretty much crashing and you can't get through."

The story went online at several book-related Web sites at a cost of $2.50, although Barnes & Noble made it available for free on Tuesday and Amazon has no plans to charge for the download at all, according to company spokeswoman Kristin Schaefer.

An Associated Press reporter began trying to download "Riding the Bullet" via Barnes & Noble and Amazon at 10 a.m. and had not succeeded by 5 p.m.

King wrote the story while recuperating from serious injuries he sustained when he was hit by a van last June.

Internet figures in insider trading scam

NEW YORK (AP) — Nineteen people have been charged with illegally pocketing more than $8 million from secrets traded in online chat rooms, an insider trading case that prosecutors say was the first to use the Internet.

Richard Walker, director of enforcement for the Securities and Exchange Commission, called the case "one of the most elaborate insider trading schemes in history."

The Internet figured so prominently in the scheme that U.S. Attorney Mary Jo White and the SEC noted that the case was the first ever alleging that the Internet was used to pass inside information.

FBI Assistant Director Lewis Schiliro said the defendants made the mistake of thinking they were anonymous in cyberspace.

"Those who rely on the myth of anonymity in using the Internet to pursue their criminal activity should understand that law enforcement has the ability to pierce the veil they hide behind," he said.

John Freeman, 34, of New York and James Cooper of Bowling Green, Ky., pleaded guilty to conspiracy to the insider trading charges.

"I met an individual over the Internet who ... had access to information. I look the information over a period of about 21/2 years and traded on that information for profit," Cooper said Tuesday.

Freeman declined to comment after entering his plea.

At the core of the scheme, authorities said, was Freeman, a part-time computer graphics worker who allegedly stole information from two investment banks, Goldman Sachs & Co. and Credit Suisse First Boston, for whom he was working.

The criminal complaint accused Freeman of starting the scheme in mid-1997 after he lost money investing in a helmet manufacturer.

Freeman went online and found other disgruntled investors of the company in America Online chat rooms, prosecutors said. Before long, he was speaking with Cooper, an insurance agent and Benton Erskine, a West Virginia day trader and computer supply store owner.

Freeman allegedly offered to pass inside information on clients of Goldman Sachs and Credit Suisse First Boston to Cooper and Erskine in exchange for a percentage of any profits they earned by acting on it.

During the next 21/2 years, Freeman passed inside information to Cooper and Erskine, communicating almost solely through online chats and instant messages, authorities said.

Prosecutors said Freeman earned between $70,000 and $100,000 in kickbacks while Cooper made $227,000 and Erskine $273,000.

Sentencing for Freeman and Cooper was set for Sept. 15, when the defendants could face up to 10 years in prison and $1 million in fines.

Authorities said 15 of the defendants had been arrested.

Date Book

Wednesday, March 15, 2000

Today is the 75th day of 2000 and the 85th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 44, Julius Caesar was assassinated in Rome.

On this day in 1917, Nicholas, the czar of Russia, abdicated.

On this day in 1958, Elvis Presley was drafted by the U.S. Army.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Andrew Jackson (1767-1845), U.S. president; Harry James (1916-1983), musician-bandleader; Norm Van Brocklin (1926-1983), football star-coach; Ruth Bader Ginsburg (1934-), Supreme Court justice, is 66; Judd Hirsch (1935-), actor, is 65; Harold Baines (1959-), baseball player, is 41; Terence Trent D'Arby (1962-), musician, is 38.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1987, golfer Dan Pooley scored a hole-in-one at the 17th hole of the Hertz Bay Hill Classic, winning a million-dollar bonus.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Mere precedent is a dangerous source of authority." — Andrew Jackson

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (March 13) and full moon

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Prices will be told

WASHINGTON (AP) — Meatpackers will be required to disclose the prices they are paying for livestock, under rules proposed by the Agriculture Department.

The program outlined Tuesday, which was authorized last year by Congress, is intended to give cattle, hog and sheep producers more leverage in bargaining with processors.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Son's faraway wedding is not on parents' horizon

DEAR ABBY: I have read your column since I was in high school but never dreamed that one day I would be writing to you.

My 21-year-old son and his 23-year-old girlfriend have been living together for nearly a year. They recently became engaged. My husband and I were delighted, because we were never happy about their living arrangement.

They have decided to be married on the beach in Hawaii. Her family owns a condo there. This presents a problem. My husband was recently laid off from his job, and money is tight. I explained to my son that my husband and I will be unable to attend the wedding. I asked them to please reconsider the ceremony in Hawaii, and to take their vows here. The trip to Hawaii could be their honeymoon.

He is my only son, and I have always dreamed of the day I would attend his wedding. However, after many lengthy discussions with him — some not so nice — it appears that I will not fulfill my dream. They told us that they have no intention of changing their plans. Of course, her parents will be at the wedding. They have much more money than we will ever have, and they planned on going anyway.

I feel betrayed and hurt by my son and his fiancee. I thought we had a good relationship. Am I right to feel this way? I have told my husband that if you say I should get over it, I will try. My daughter, who is 17, also feels that her brother is abandoning us for the new, wealthier family. Abby, perhaps I should mention that the future in-laws are planning on buying a house for the newlyweds.

I am heartbroken because of my son's disregard for my feelings. Every day that goes by drives a bigger wedge in my relationship with him. Please hurry your answer. — **MOTHER OF THE GROOM**

DEAR MOTHER: I understand how hurt and saddened you are by the wedding plans. However, since the bride's family traditionally plans and pays for the wedding, it is up to them to decide where the ceremony will take place. The bride may have always dreamed of being married on the beach, and her dream must come before yours.

Your son is caught in the middle. He is trying to make his bride happy, form a good relationship with his new in-laws, and take your feelings and financial circumstances into account.

Perhaps your budget could be stretched to allow one of you to travel to Hawaii for the wedding, or you can host a small reception for the honeymooners when they return to the mainland. But please, do not make your son feel guilty.

**

DEAR ABBY: For the most part, the letter you printed from "No Name, No City, No Church" expressed some understandable sentiments. However, there was one statement made by "Ms. No" that caused me to take umbrage. She said, "If they (the men at church) were still unmarried in their 40s, there was usually a very good reason for it."

I am in my 40s. I am unmarried, and I often remark to friends that I love being single. There are many of us 40-ish men who are unmarried because we want to be — not because we are warped, psychotic, too attached to our mothers, immature, have smelly feet, or for any other reason. It's because we like it that way.

"Ms. No's" statement would seem to imply that there is some defect in us, and I just don't think that's true. — **MIDDLE-AGED, SINGLE AND CONTENT IN ANDERSON, S.C.**

DEAR MIDDLE-AGED: You'll get no argument from me. Men like you are called confirmed bachelors. Your female counterparts are equally committed to singlehood. Since you are happy, and your social lives give you all the satisfaction you desire, enjoy!

**

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS, and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Killer is executed

SAN QUENTIN, Calif. (AP) — A serial killer who threw an 11-year-old girl more than 100 feet to her death was executed by injection early Wednesday after losing a court bid to hold an American Indian ceremony.

Corrections spokesman Bob Martinez said Darrell Rich's final statement was one word: "Peace."

Rich, 45, was sentenced to die for the death of the girl, Annette Selix, and the murder of 28-year-old Linda Slavik. He also was convicted of murdering two other women in and near the town of Redding during what prosecutors called a "reign of terror" in the summer of 1978.

Rich killed the two women by crushing their skulls with rocks and he fatally shot Slavik. He assaulted the girl and threw her 105 feet from a bridge.

Rich said he had reformed after discovering his Cherokee heritage in prison and he spent the hours leading up to his execution seeking legal permission to take part in a sweat lodge ceremony as a last rite.

Sweat lodges are used in some American Indian religious ceremonies to purify the spirit. Participants sit within an enclosed structure and pray while water is poured over fire-heated rocks.

Thanks

Thank you for the support you gave to me in the Primary. I would deeply appreciate your continued support in the run-off election April 11.

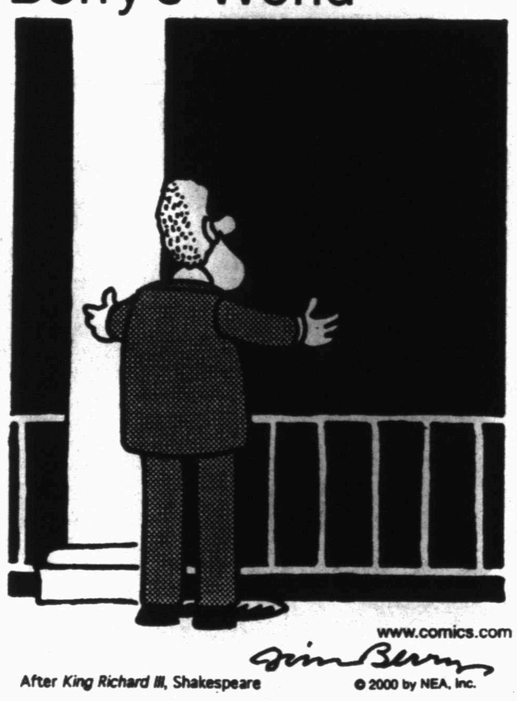
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PUBLIC NOTICE

On January 25, 2000, TXU Electric Company (TXU Electric) filed a Tariff Filing with the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) and all cities with original jurisdiction over its rates. This Tariff Filing was made pursuant to Substantive Rule 25.241. The Tariff Filing requested revisions to 27 of its retail rates/riders to be effective March 1, 2000. The primary purpose of this Tariff Filing is to modify, close, or delete certain existing tariffs in order to facilitate the transition to a competitive retail market as of January 1, 2002, pursuant to Senate Bill 7. Specifically, TXU Electric proposes to (1) close certain existing retail tariffs to new customers for services deemed competitive energy services by the Commission's Substantive Rule 25.343; (2) close and/or modify optional retail tariffs with contract provisions that extend beyond the January 1, 2002, start date for full retail market competition or that are no longer necessary; (3) modify retail tariffs for basic rates to limit contract terms to December 31, 2001; and (4) delete retail tariffs that are no longer being utilized.

The Tariff Filing does not propose to either increase or decrease any existing charge or rate, and TXU Electric does not anticipate any change in revenues as a result of these proposed tariff revisions. The changes proposed in this Tariff Filing are designed to address new customers and do not directly impact current customers receiving service under these rates.

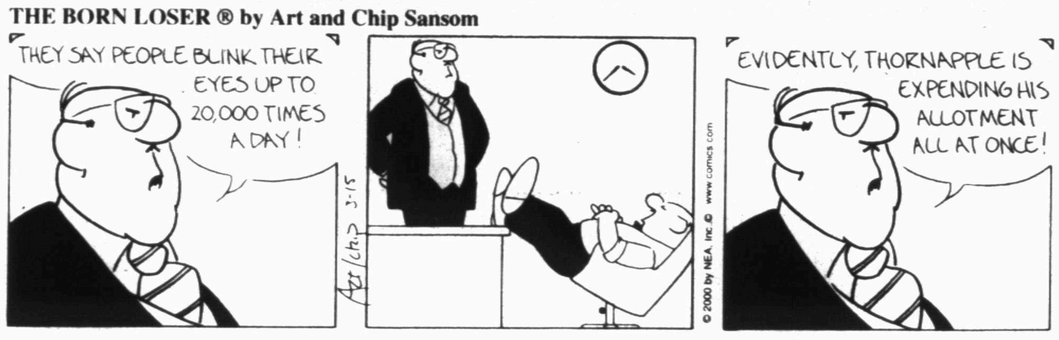
The Commission has established Docket No. 22051, "Application of TXU Electric Company to Revise Retail Rates/Riders, Pursuant to P.U.C. SUBST. R.§25.241" to address these proposed revisions and has suspended the proposed effective date until June 30, 2000. Persons who wish to intervene in the proceeding or comment upon action sought, should contact the Public Utility Commission of Texas, at P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326, or call the Public Utility Commission's (commission) Office of Customer Protection at (512) 936-7120 or (888) 782-8477. Hearing- and speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the commission at (512)936-7136 or use Relay Texas (toll-free) 1-800-735-2989. The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is March 27, 2000 and a letter requesting intervention should be received by the commission by that date. Correspondence concerning this proceeding should reference Docket No. 22051.

TXU ELECTRIC COMPANY

MAR 15 2000

Comic Page — THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



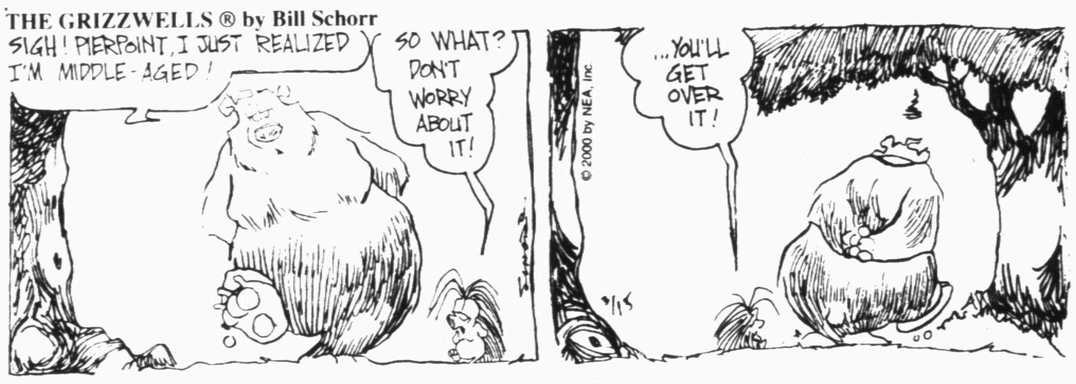
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Outburst of rage
7 Rabbi's place
13 — Madre mountains
14 Less fresh
15 Silvery (poet.)
16 Courageous people
17 Gather
18 Oriental sash
20 Bronte heroine Jane —
21 Horse noise
23 Woo
27 Olympics participant
32 Type of tube
33 OPEC vehicle
34 Anatomical networks
35 Brown pigment
36 Disintegration
39 Urges on
40 One's pledged fidelity
42 Unemployed
46 Genetic material (abbr.)
47 Egyptian goddess
51 Grow molars
53 Shipworm
55 Two- — (small car)
56 Maintenance
57 Cartoonist Charles —
58 Some church services

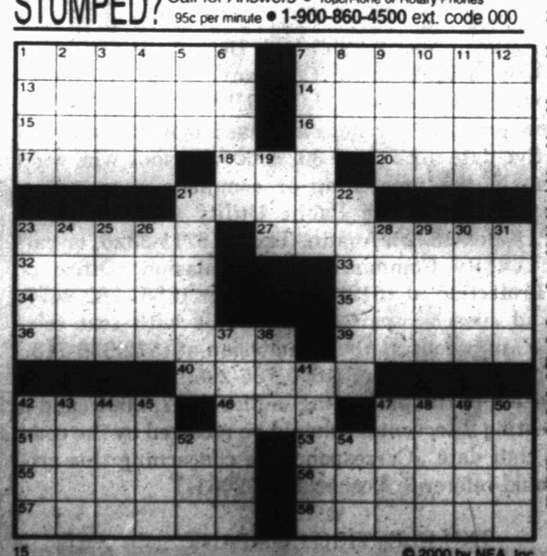
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8 French season
9 Stable resident
10 Clever maneuver
11 Certain glance
12 Scottish-Gaelic
19 Large snake
21 Neck of water
22 However
23 Glossy fabric finish
24 Something remarkable
25 Biblical preposition
26 Old Portuguese money
28 CEO's wheels
29 Napoleon's island
30 Set up (golf balls)
31 Transgresses
37 Commands
38 French negative
41 Actress O'Neal
42 "— — deal!"
43 Exploit
44 Be ahead
45 Miss Kett
47 Displeases
48 Observes
49 — fixe (obsession)
50 Soaks
52 Skirt bottom
54 Smog-control org.

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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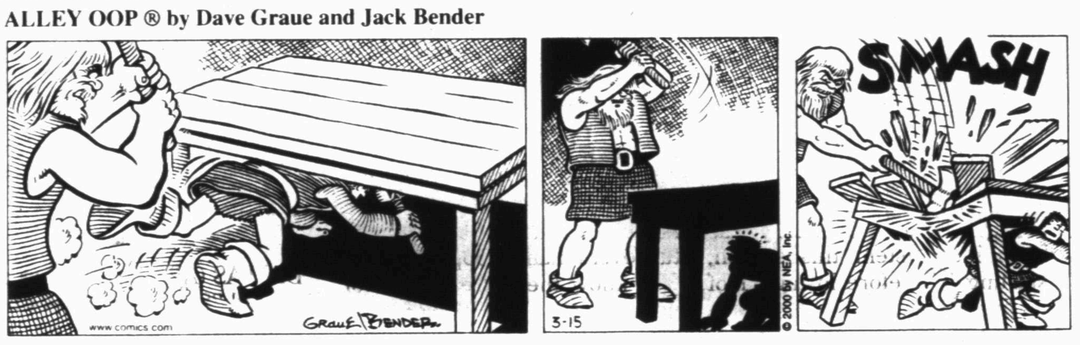
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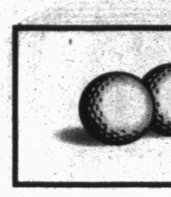


HERMAN® by Jim Unger



"Did you see where that one went?"





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SPORTS

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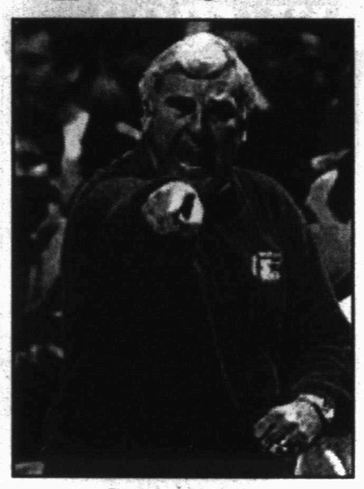
Hoosier players defend coach

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Neil Reed portrays Bob Knight as a bully who abuses his players. Knight's defenders portray the former Indiana player as a crybaby who couldn't meet the volatile coach's demanding standards.

"Without this system, without coach Knight challenging me, that would not have been possible," senior A.J. Guyton said of his selection this week as first-team All-America by The Associated Press. "I say that because at Indiana you know you're going to be challenged.

"I don't think Neil Reed understood that," Guyton said Tuesday night. "In order to become an All-American, you're going to be challenged by a coach that pushes you to the limit. It's all a process of a boy becoming a man."

The accusations by Reed, who transferred from Indiana after his junior season three years ago, were released earlier Tuesday by CNN/Sports Illustrated for broadcast that night. Reed accused Knight of choking him during an argument at practice. He said when he transferred to Southern Mississippi in 1997 that



Bobby Knight

Knight had abused him physically and mentally, but did not elaborate.

In Tuesday's CNN/SI story, Reed said Knight choked him for about five seconds and that other coaches had to separate them.

"He came at me ... and grabbed me with one hand," Reed said. "I grabbed his wrist and started walking back, and by this time people ... grabbed coach Knight and pulled him away."

Former Indiana player Richard Mandeville also was interviewed by CNN and said Knight once came out of a bathroom, pants around his ankles, and showed players soiled toilet paper, saying, "This is how you guys are playing."

At a news conference at Assembly Hall in Bloomington on Tuesday night, Indiana basketball media director Todd Starowitz read statements from former assistant Dan Dakich, who denied Reed and Knight had to be separated, and from former player Robbie Eggers, who disputed the bathroom incident.

Knight did not attend the news conference and did not return a phone call from the AP for comment.

Eggers said in his statement: "I would certainly remember if an incident like that occurred. ... Coach Knight walked in the locker room one day with a roll of toilet paper and acted as if he was wiping himself through his pants and used that to describe our poor play. Any statement to the contrary is false.

"The statement that he (Reed) was choked by coach Knight is totally ridiculous," Eggers said.

Dakich, now the head coach at Bowling Green, said in his statement: "I was an assistant when Reed was playing, and his allegation that I had to separate him from coach Knight is totally false."

Senior Michael Lewis said the timing of the CNN story "was not by accident. ... They planned it to come out the day before the (NCAA) tournament, so we thought we should make a statement.

"I don't think it's going to bother us as a team," Lewis said. "We've been through a lot. That's one reason were talking now, so we don't have to deal with it Thursday and Friday."

Starowitz also said the timing of the CNN report was "calculated" to embarrass Knight, who was aware the story was in the works, but refused to comment to CNN.

Reed also said Knight threw Indiana president Myles Brand out of a practice.

"Coach Knight could hear him and just stopped practice and said, 'Quit that talking. I don't come in your office and talk while you are working. Get the hell out of here.'"

Brand denied the claim. "Anyone who suggests otherwise is totally incorrect," he said in a statement.

University vice president Christopher Simpson said he was with the president at every practice he attended during Reed's years, and just about every one since. He told the AP the report is a "total fabrication."

Simpson said he has never seen Knight physically abuse a player, although he acknowledged Knight yells at players.

"But don't most coaches?" Simpson said. "I'm not an expert on basketball, but I saw nothing at any of the practices I attended that I wouldn't expect to see at any other top-ranked team's practice."

Bulldogs batter Longhorns, 16-6

HAMLIN — Ira has looked sharper in the field. But any shortcomings the Bulldogs had with the glove, they more than made up for with the bat.

Ira committed nine errors but pounded out 16 hits Tuesday to roll past Gordon, 16-6.

Ira improves to 4-1 on the year thanks to its offensive power, which is more potent than last year, according to Head Coach Bubba Edwards.

"We are hitting the ball extremely well this season," said Edwards, now in his second year as skipper of the Bulldogs. "Last year we worked a lot on fundamentals at the plate. I think this year, they remember those things and they've picked up right where they left off."

Jerek Brown and Drew Wall belted doubles for the Bulldogs, who scored five runs in the first and five more in the fourth to fuel the rout.

The Longhorns tallied only six hits, but scratched out six runs due to nine Ira errors.

"We made way too many errors," said Edwards. "We'll need to tighten up our defense before district starts. But that's the good thing about hitting the ball so well, it can overcome some of the problems in the field."

Jerek Brown picked up his second win on the mound, before yielding to Jase Olvera who worked the final two frames.

The Bulldogs won't be in action again until March 24 when they host a doubleheader with Wilson.

Inconsistent Tar Heels look to salvage season

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — North Carolina, an underachieving team that starts five former prep All-Americans, has one last chance to salvage its season in the NCAA tournament.

One of the best programs in college basketball history has been inconsistent this season, starting 8-2 before losing 11 of its final 21 games — some with seemingly uninspired play.

In last Friday's first-round game in the Atlantic Coast Conference tournament, the Tar Heels managed a season-low 52 points in a loss to Wake Forest.

"I didn't expect 18-13, but it could have been worse. It could have been not making the tournament," senior point guard Ed Cota said of North Carolina's worst season in 10 years. "We're in there now, and we have new life."

The Tar Heels aren't favored to advance to the round of 16, and some doubt they can even beat No. 9 seed Missouri in their South Regional opener Friday in Birmingham, Ala.

"We've running out of opportunities to start (winning)," coach Bill Guthridge said Tuesday. "But I've been pleased with our work this week. The players have done a good job of keeping their spirits up."

Poor defense and turnovers have been North Carolina's two major weaknesses. The nation's best field-goal shooting team has committed 112 more turnovers than its opponents.

"I know there are plenty (of doubters) out there," said Cota, who is seven assists shy of becoming the third player in NCAA history to reach 1,000 for his career. "I don't blame them, but we've got a good enough team to make a run."

North Carolina's first-round game against Missouri (18-12) is not an easy game. First-year coach Quin Snyder is a former Duke player and assistant coach under Mike Krzyzewski.

Snyder's job for Krzyzewski last season was advance scouting, meaning he knows the Tar Heels well.

"And having been on the sideline, he has an advantage," Guthridge said. "In a way, it's like we're not going outside the conference. We're playing a team that knows us pretty well. I hope by Friday we know Missouri well."

Mavs pummel Pacers

DALLAS (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki scored 28 points — 13 during a 15-0 run to open the second half — and the Dallas Mavericks beat the Indiana Pacers 111-90 on Tuesday night.

Steve Nash added 21 points and Michael Finley had 16 points and 11 assists to help the Mavericks to their second-largest margin of victory this season.

Travis Best led Indiana with 26 points and Jalen Rose added 18 points and 13 rebounds. Austin Croshere had 10 points and 13 rebounds for the Eastern Division-leading Pacers.

Reggie Miller had only seven points, 12 under his team-leading average and just one better than his lowest scoring game this season. Miller has been bothered by a bruised right quad and was listed as questionable for the game.

Dallas took a 36-18 first-quarter lead and was in front by as many as 20 in the second quarter. Best scored 15 points in the second quarter to keep the Pacers within range, but Dallas held a 60-46 halftime lead.

The Mavericks maintained first-half momentum by opening the third quarter with 15 straight points, including three 3-pointers by Nowitzki, for a 75-46 lead.

Indiana, which had won four of its previous five games, failed to score over the first four minutes of the third quarter.

Dallas went on to lead by as many as 32 points in the third quarter and took an 86-61 advantage into the final quarter.

Elliott makes return after seven months

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Sean Elliott's basketball dream came true.

He completed his comeback to the NBA on Tuesday, seven months after a kidney transplant, and thrilled the Alamodome crowd with a dramatic dunk as the San Antonio Spurs defeated Atlanta 94-79.

Playing 12 minutes and shooting 1-for-3 from the field, Elliott missed a 22-foot jumper and a layup in the third quarter. Then, with a quick step around defender Roshown McLeod, he drove the lane and slammed the ball in with his right hand.

It was the kind of play he'd envisioned for months during his rehab.

"Yeah, oh yeah. You always dream about that," Elliott said, adding that the shot may have been more memorable than his famous off-balance 3-pointer that helped the Spurs win a crucial playoff game over Portland last year in the Western Conference finals.

Spurs teammate Mario Elie joined in the applause after the dunk, clapping as he ran back down the court.

Hawks center Dikembe Mutombo simply smiled.

"I was surprised the way he dunked the ball," Mutombo said. "He has a lot of courage. I was really touched. The whole thing is amazing that someone can recover that fast to come back and do something they love — play basketball."

Elliott's basket sparked a 6-0 spurt for San Antonio, though Atlanta quickly recovered and pulled ahead 66-64 by the end of the third quarter.

The score remained close early in the fourth, but the Spurs moved ahead 76-75 on a basket by David Robinson with 7:21 left. Robinson added the next five points, upping San Antonio's edge to 81-75 with 3:40 remaining.

Atlanta got no closer the rest of the way.

McLeod said Elliott looked like "the old Sean Elliott to me."

"I was thinking he wasn't going to be that quick. He surprised me," McLeod said.

Elliott was a little surprised at how good he felt on the court.

"I thought I wouldn't feel my legs to start the game," he said. "The biggest things that were in my way were my nerves."

Robinson led San Antonio with 26 points and eight rebounds, while Avery Johnson had 22 points and 10 assists and Tim Duncan had 21 points and 13 rebounds.

Jim Jackson scored 22 points for the Hawks, and Mutombo had 14 points and 12 rebounds.

Elliott became the first pro athlete in a major sport to return to competition after a kidney transplant.

Spurs coach Gregg Popovich started Elliott at small forward.

Sports Briefs

Bass tourney approaching

Snyder Bass Club will host a tournament Saturday at Lake Alan Henry. Fishing runs from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The top two finishers will receive cash, with third through fifth places receiving prizes. Anglers can register at Scifres Tire or Grub's Bait and Grill.

Senior league needs help

Snyder Senior Baseball League is in need of board members. Anyone interested in serving on the board, or helping in any capacity, should contact Joel Hook at 573-4872 or 573-5213.

Pitching clinics held weekly

Fastpitch softball pitching clinics will be held every Wednesday. Class size is limited. For more information, contact Herman Martinez at 573-0390.

Lady Raider leaves team

LUBBOCK (AP) — Freshman forward Nikki Hendrix has decided to leave the Texas Tech Lady Raiders basketball program for personal reasons, head coach Marsha Sharp announced.

Sharp declined further comment on the matter.

Hendrix has appeared in 10 games for 11th-ranked Texas Tech, averaging 0.9 points and 0.6 rebounds per game. Hendrix will not be in uniform when the Lady Raiders open NCAA Tournament play Saturday against Tennessee Tech. The Lady Raiders are the No. 3 seed in the Mideast Regional.

NFL disciplines four players

NEW YORK (AP) — The NFL disciplined four players under its new anti-crime policy, three offensive linemen involved in a fight outside a bar last summer.

Matt O'Dwyer, now of Cincinnati, and Jumbo Elliott of the Jets, who recently retired, were suspended two games, and Jason Fabini of the Jets was fined $14,000 for his involvement in the bar fight.

Tennessee cornerback Denard Walker was suspended two games after pleading guilty to assault on his son's mother.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Miami	40	23	.635	—
New York	39	24	.619	1
Philadelphia	35	27	.565	4½
Orlando	31	33	.484	9½
Boston	27	36	.429	13
New Jersey	27	36	.429	13
Washington	20	45	.308	21
Central Division				
Indiana	43	21	.672	—
Toronto	37	26	.587	5½
Charlotte	34	28	.548	8
Detroit	31	31	.500	11
Milwaukee	30	34	.469	13
Cleveland	25	38	.397	17½
Atlanta	24	38	.387	18
Chicago	13	49	.210	29
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Utah	42	20	.677	—
San Antonio	41	23	.641	2
Minnesota	37	26	.587	5½
Dallas	26	37	.413	16½
Denver	26	38	.406	17
Houston	24	39	.381	18½
Vancouver	18	46	.281	25
Pacific Division				
x-L.A. Lakers	53	11	.828	—
x-Portland	49	15	.766	4
Phoenix	40	23	.635	12½
Seattle	39	26	.600	14½
Sacramento	36	27	.571	16½
Golden State	16	47	.254	36½
L.A. Clippers	14	50	.219	39

x-clinched playoff berth

Tuesday's Games

Toronto 85, Golden State 78
Orlando 107, Washington 98
Miami 108, Milwaukee 104
Philadelphia 98, Cleveland 97, OT
New York 91, Houston 85
Dallas 111, Indiana 90
San Antonio 94, Atlanta 79
Phoenix 107, Minnesota 100
L.A. Clippers 110, Denver 106
Portland 96, Sacramento 91

Wednesday's Games

Golden State at Boston, 7 p.m.
Indiana at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Orlando at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Chicago at Charlotte, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Thursday's Games

L.A. Lakers at Washington, 7 p.m.
Utah at Cleveland, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Houston at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Dallas at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Portland, 10 p.m.
Vancouver at Seattle, 10 p.m.

NIT Tournament Glance

All Times EST

First Round

Tuesday, March 14

North Carolina State 64, Tulane 60
Wake Forest 83, Vanderbilt 68

Wednesday, March 15

Georgetown (18-14) at Virginia (19-11), 7 p.m. (ESPN)
Princeton (19-10) at Penn State (15-15), 7:30 p.m.
Delaware (24-7) at Villanova (19-12), 7:30 p.m.
Marquette (15-13) at Xavier (20-11), 7:30 p.m.
North Carolina Charlotte (17-15) at Mississippi (17-13), 8 p.m.
Michigan (15-13) at Notre Dame (18-14), 9 p.m. (ESPN)
Bowling Green (22-7) at Brigham Young (20-10), 9 p.m.
New Mexico State (22-9) at Arizona State (18-12), 10:30 p.m.
Long Beach State (24-5) at California (16-14), 10:35 p.m.
South Florida (17-13) at New Mexico (17-13), 11:59 p.m. (ESPN)

Thursday, March 16

Massachusetts (17-15) at Siena (23-8), 7 p.m
Rutgers (15-15) at Kent (21-7), 7 p.m.
Southern Illinois (19-12) at Colorado (18-13), 7 p.m.
Southern Methodist (21-8) at Southwest Missouri State (22-10), 8:05 p.m.



Thanks!!

Thank you for your show of confidence in me for Constable, Precinct 1.

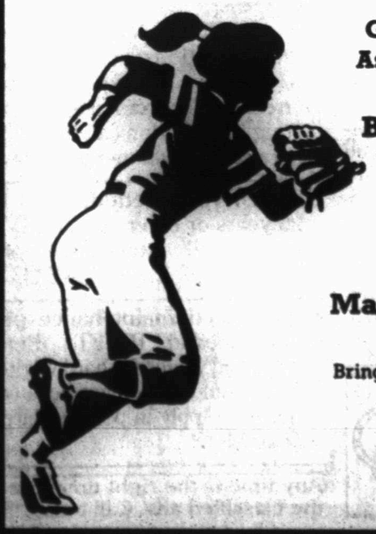
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Legal Notice

APPLICATION FOR PRIVATE CLUB REGISTRATION PERMIT

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Private Club Registration Permit by Friends Pub, dba Friends Pub, to be located at 1910 35th Street, Suite A, Snyder, Scurry County, TX 79549. Officers of said club are: Ricardo Martinez, Jr. President, Glenn Ray Coy.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Spalding Energy Inc.–P.O. Box 3332–Abilene, TX 79604 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the San Andres Formation, Fuller Lease, Well Number 6. The proposed injection well is located 2 Miles North of Fullerville in the Corazon (San Andres) Field, in Scurry County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2069 to 2166 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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House Cleaning Available, mornings only. 573-9834 afternoons/574-1594.

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Employment

HELP WANTED
Dairy Queen located at 108 E. Coliseum Dr. now taking applications for full and part time help. Day and night shifts. Cook and counter positions. Flexible, non-smoking work hours. Drug test required. Apply in person.

HELP WANTED
Manager needed for local Dairy Queen location. Need friendly, customer service leader. Drug test required. Richeson Companies, Barbara at 940/549-5041 or fax resume to 940/549-6106.

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Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital, Sweetwater, TX, a J.C.A.H.O. accredited 85 bed hospital, is currently seeking a Full Time Medical Technologist. BS/MT or equivalent required. Previous experience preferred. RPMH offers excellent benefits, competitive salary, modern facility and friendly community. Send resume to Personnel Department, P.O. Box 690, Sweetwater, TX, or fax to 915-235-1783 or call 915-235-1701, ext. 260 for more information.

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2 rail trailer with 14" wheels, tool box, gas can rack, $1,000.
Entire package, $8,995. Call **573-9001** or 573-0774. See at Jack's Used Cars, 1212 25th.

Camper shell for extended cab P/U, tinted glass. Like new, w/clamps, air boot. **573-7069.**

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Office furniture, Couches, Exercise machine, Tent, 1985 Chevy P/U, Washer/Dryer, Freezer, Microwave, 8 pc. queen bedroom suite, King head & foot boards, box springs & mattress.

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

HUGE GARAGE SALE
4509 Galveston
Thursday Noon till ??
Salton Cappuccino Espresso maker, Coat tree, Child's desk, New crafts, lots of misc.!!

Roggenstein Estate Sale
9:00 a.m. Saturday, March 18
2892 County Road 1113, Snyder, TX

Directions: At the old Snyder cemetery go east on the Camp-Springs/Hobbs road 10 miles to the Northeast Community Center. 1 mile east of the Community Center turn left at CR 1113. Go north 2 miles to brick home on the right.

House, garage, barn full of items priced to sale. Some antiques, love seat, sofas, recliners, bedroom suites, freezers, washer, dryer, table & chairs, computer table, sewing machine, dishes decor items, old tools, nuts, bolts, washers, tractor parts, pickup, etc.

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Real Estate

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2 bedroom, 1 bath, 1 car garage 3733 Highland. $2,000 down/ payments under $200. 915-425-9995.

VA Repo – 100% Financing available. 3–2, brick home. 4113 Eastridge Dr. $22,000 listing price. Sold by sealed bid. All bids due by Monday, March 20, 4:00 p.m. For information contact David Bennett at Bennett and Assoc., Realtors. (915)236-6321. SR-2 and LBP apply.

Very nice house for sale. Clean & neat!! 3–1, remodeled bathroom, new carpeting, large fenced back yard. 3406 44th. 573-5495 or 573-9872.

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Eliabeth Potts, Realtors
1707 30th, Suite C 573-8505
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573-2075

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Vouchers struck down in Florida

PENSACOLA, Fla. (AP) — Janie Cleveland says she will do whatever it takes to keep her 10-year-old daughter in private school if a judge's decision to throw out Florida's tuition voucher program stands.

"If it takes me to get a second job, I'll do that," said Cleveland, a cook at the University of West Florida whose daughter is getting As and Bs at Sacred Heart School. "She's not going back to one of those substandard schools."

Circuit Judge L. Ralph Smith Jr. of Tallahassee ruled Tuesday that the nation's first statewide school voucher system violated Florida's Constitution, which bars public money from being spent on private education.

"Tax dollars may not be used to send the children of this state to private schools," Smith said. The students can finish the year, but the state cannot implement the program in any other way, the judge said.

Gov. Jeb Bush, who championed the program, promised to find the money to keep it going despite what happens in court. An appeal is certain.

"We'll raise the money," Bush said. "This is the first inning of a long, drawn out legal battle."

And one likely to surface in the presidential race, with Bush's brother, Republican contender George W. Bush, in support of vouchers and Democrat Al Gore flatly opposed.

Under the program, students at schools rated as failing by the state can seek taxpayer-funded vouchers for private tuition. Voucher values vary based on how much a failing school spends per student but are generally worth $3,000 to $4,000.

Only two of Florida's 2,500 public schools — both of them elementary schools in Pensacola — qualified for the program this year. Five Catholic and one non-religious private school accepted the 52 voucher students.

Ron Meyer, a lawyer for a coalition of voucher opponents that includes the state's teachers' union, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Florida PTA and the League of Women Voters, claimed victory, "lock, stock and barrel."

Matthew Berry, a lawyer with the Institute for Justice, a nonprofit Washington law firm that has defended vouchers around the country, said courts in other states have upheld vouchers.

Maine and Vermont have narrow programs to assist students in rural areas while Milwaukee and Cleveland have citywide voucher plans.

A federal judge ruled in December that Cleveland's program violates the constitutional separation of church and state. It remains in place pending appeal.

In 1998, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to consider a challenge to Milwaukee's program, and in December the justices said Maine can subsidize rural children in private but not religious schools.

Mary E. Smith is using vouchers to send her niece and nephew to St. John the Evangelist School. Smith, who has custody of 11-year-old Angela Atwood and 7-year-old Antonio Held, called Tuesday's ruling unfair.

She said she has seen a major difference in the children since they started at the parochial school but she can't afford to keep them there without vouchers.

"They knew there was a chance that they might stop the program from the beginning," she said. "I'm just going to tell them like it is. I'll tell them we're going to pray about it and appeal."

Bank teller Dermita Merkman's daughter, Jessica, is attending kindergarten at Pensacola's St. Michael Interparochial School on a voucher.

"The discipline is good and she's learning about God. We're not Catholic, but we live in a Christian home," Merkman said. "If we're not able to use the voucher next year, I'll have to pull in all of my resources and one way or another she'll be able to stay."

Nutrition

By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Can chitosan block fat?

By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: You have written that it is probably not a good idea to take chitosan at every meal. Could one take it at just one meal a day if one supplemented it with the nutrients that it is supposed to affect negatively? Would it still work? Thank you. — A.M., Mount Vernon, Wash.

Dear A.M.: At first glance this seems like a simple, straightforward question. The short answer is "Yes, to a degree," but I encourage you to continue reading.

Chitosan is touted as a substance that can absorb approximately four times its weight in fat. Chitosan's attraction is that, when it is taken with a fat-containing meal, a portion of the fat will not be absorbed. The concept suggests the advent of being able to eat high-fat foods without suffering the caloric consequences. Infomercial demonstrations aside, does chitosan really work for weight reduction?

At this point, the evidence is flimsy at best. For example, The British Standards Advertising Authority, an independent organization set up to verify that advertisements are "legal, decent, honest and truthful," concluded that, given the existing evidence, "the ability of Chitosan to prevent the absorption of enough dietary fat to affect energy balance in humans had not been substantiated."

A study in the May 1999 European Journal of Clinical Nutrition seems to affirm this conclusion. It found that taking four capsules of chitosan a day for 28 consecutive days did not reduce body weight in overweight subjects.

Then there is the flip side of the issue, namely that chitosan — if it does work — might also absorb healthful compounds. Aside from the fat-soluble vitamins and essential fatty acids, there are a host of beneficial phytochemicals that have fat-like structures. Using chitosan might prevent the absorption of these compounds, as well.

What if, as in your question, you were to take the pills for just one meal a day? Because chitosan does not appear to be absorbed, the effects would be limited to the foods eaten at that meal. You could make sure that all the essential nutrients were present at the remaining meals.

But would you lose weight? If you took three 400 milligram pills, the chitosan would grab on to about 1.2 grams of fat, which equals about 43 calories. If your diet and activity pattern remained the same, you would lose one pound of body fat every 81 days.

However, what if you decided to indulge in high-fat foods and use chitosan to carry away the evidence? A cup of super-premium ice cream contains about 40 grams of fat. It would take 100 capsules to make it go away. Unfortunately, though, it doesn't go away. It runs straight through the system with rather obvious consequences.

As you can see, chitosan may be promising a bit more than it can deliver.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: Could you please give me some information on carob? I understand it contains calcium, is low in calories and has no cholesterol. — A.M., Santa Fe, N.M.

Dear AM: Carob, a relative of the pea, comes from the seeds of the carob tree, originally found in Mediterranean regions. Carob is also called locust or St. John's bread for its biblical role as John the Baptist's source of sustenance as he wandered through the wilderness.

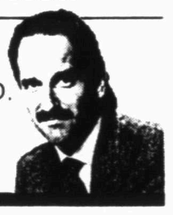
The powder from the carob bean is similar in color and fragrance to cocoa. Compared to cocoa, carob flour is lower in fat and higher in carbohydrates and calcium. Cocoa, on the other hand, is higher in niacin, vitamin E, iron, zinc, selenium and phosphorous. Since they are vegetable foods, carob and cocoa don't contain cholesterol. Many people have experimented with carob flour as a low-fat cocoa substitute. Because it has a milder taste, count on using about three parts carob to replace one part cocoa.

Although carob candies, chips and coatings may start with low-fat carob powder, they're far from being low-fat foods. These confections are often made by combining carob with partially hydrogenated vegetable oils, which results in a final fat content comparable to chocolate. Not only does this mean carob treats don't have less fat than chocolate, but there is the added onus of partially hydrogenated fat, a food ingredient you should seek to eliminate from your diet.

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

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

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NUTRITION
ED BLONZ, PH.D.


Philbin nominated in 2 categories

NEW YORK (AP) — Now that Susan Lucci has finally won, the Daytime Emmys needs another lovable loser looking for that first trophy. Would you believe Regis Philbin?

The host of "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" earned Daytime Emmy nominations today for best game show host and best talk show host.

Philbin has been nominated seven times before for his role on "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee," but has never won an Emmy.

"Who Wants to Be a Millionaire" earned a nod for best game show. Even though it is routinely the top-rated show in prime-time, "Millionaire" was shunted off to the Daytime Emmys, much to the annoyance of ABC and the show's producer.

Philbin's "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee" will compete with "Donny & Marie," "The Martin Short Show," "The Rosie O'Donnell Show" and "The View" for best talk show.

Kathie Lee Gifford, who announced she will stop doing "Live with Regis and Kathie Lee" this summer, shared a nomination with Philbin for best talk show host. She's been nominated six times before with no wins. The show itself has earned 25 nominations and zero wins.

Lucci knows something about paying dues. She won her first Daytime Emmy as best soap opera actress last year in her 19th try. She was not nominated this year for her role as Erica Kane on "All My Children."

Nominees for best actress on a daytime soap opera were Finola Hughes of "All My Children"; Susan Flannery of "The Bold and the Beautiful"; Hillary B. Smith of "One Life to Live"; Jeanne Cooper of "The Young and the Restless"; and Jess Walton of "The Young and the Restless."

Best actor nominees for soap operas were David Canary of "All My Children"; Anthony Geary of "General Hospital"; Robert Woods of "One Life to Live"; Peter Bergman of "The Young and the Restless"; and Eric Braeden of "The Young and the Restless."

In addition to Philbin and Gifford, nominees for best talk show host were Donny and Marie Osmond, Short, O'Donnell and the crew from "The View": Barbara Walters, Meredith Vieira, Star Jones and Joy Behar.

The awards will be given out May 19 in a ceremony at Radio City Music Hall in New York.

The winners are selected by members of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences and the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences.

Slander lawsuit said dismissed

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A lawsuit accusing "Tonight Show" host Jay Leno of slandering a car designer has been dismissed, Leno's attorney said.

However, an attorney for auto designer Claudio Zampolli, who sued Leno in November 1999 for $150 million, has appealed. Tristram Buckley is asking the state's appellate court to reinstate the case and name a new judge.

The lawsuit alleges Leno damaged Zampolli's reputation by calling him names during a 1998 classic car show in Los Angeles. The suit claims Leno called Zampolli a "crook" and spread rumors that Zampolli promised cars but never delivered them.

Leno's attorney, Ronald Berg, said the suit was dismissed earlier this month after Buckley, failed to follow court procedures.

Buckley contends the judge assigned to the case was biased in favor of Leno.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	59 1/8	57 3/4	59 1-16	+ 1 1/4
AT&T Corp s	53	51 3/4	52 1/8	— 7/8
Albertsons	25 7/8	25 3-16	25 5-16	+ 13-16
Alltel	68 1/2	67 7/8	68 1/4	— 7-16
AmerOnline s	62 3/4	61 3-16	61 9-16	— 1/8
AndarkPtr	31 15-16	31	31 3/8	—11-16
AtlRichfld	83 1/2	82 1/2	82 1/2	+ 3 1/2
ATMOS Egy	17 7-16	17 1/4	17 5-16	+ 1-16
Aviall	9 1-16	8 1/2	8 9-16	— 3/8
BP Amoco s	53 7-16	52 1/4	52 1/4	+ 1 1/8
BakerHughes	27 1/8	25 3/8	25 3/4	— 1
Bank of Amer	44	42 5/8	43 7/8	+ 1 1/4
BellAtl	56 3-16	55	55 3/8	—11-16
BellSouth	45	44 1/2	44 5/8	— 3/8
Beth Steel	7 1-16	6 11-16	7 1-16	+ 7-16
BurlNoSFe	19 3/4	19 5-16	19 3/8	— 1-16
CBS Corp	55 13-16	54 7/8	55 9-16	+ 1/4
Caterpillar	36 3/8	35 13-16	35 15-16	+ 1/8
CenSoWst	15 15-16	15 1/2	15 7/8	+ 3/8
Chevron	83 3-16	81 3-16	81 7/8	— 1
Citigroup s	51 3-16	48 7/8	51	+ 1 1/4
Coastal	43 1-16	41 7/8	41 15-16	—1 1-16
CocaCola	44 3-16	43 1/2	44 1-16	+ 11-16
ColgatePal s	44 7/8	43 3/4	44 5/8	+ 1 9-16
ComclMetals	23 1/4	22 5/8	22 7/8	— 1-16
CooperIn	30 15-16	30 11-16	30 7/8	+ 1/8
DaimlrChry	63 1/8	62 1/4	63	+ 7-16
DallSemicn s	40 5-16	39 1/4	39 15-16	— 3/4
DeltaAirl	49 15-16	48 3/4	49 3/4	+ 1 1-16
Dillards Inc	15 1-16	14 13-16	14 13-16	— 3-16
DowChem	99 7/8	97 3/4	99 5/8	+ 2 3/8
DuPont	49 7/8	47 15-16	49 13-16	+ 2
EastmanChem	37 3/8	35 11-16	37 5-16	+ 1 15-16
EstKodak	54 3-16	53 3/4	53 7/8	— 1/8
EDS Corp	62 5-16	58 5/8	60 13-16	+ 3/8
Entergy	17 7/8	17 1/2	17 7/8	+ 5-16
ExxonMobil	77 11-16	74 15-16	75	— 2 1/4
Flowers	12	11 3/4	11 3/4	— 1/4
FordMotor	41 1/2	40 7/8	41 3/8	+ 1 1/8
GTE Cp	66	64 3/8	64 3/4	— 1 1/4
GenDynam	41 11-16	40 11-16	41 3/8	+ 1 1/4
GenlElec	128 1/2	126 1/4	128 1/8	+ 1 1/8
GenMills s	31 3/8	30 3/8	31 1/8	+ 1/2
GenMotors	76 11-16	75 1/2	76 5-16	+ 1/4
GaPacGP s	36 3/8	34 5-16	35 3/4	+ 9-16
GlobalMar	21 7/8	20 5/8	21 1/4	—11-16
Goodrich	28	27 1/4	27 5/8	+ 5/8
Goodyear s	20 3/4	20 7-16	20 11-16	+ 5-16
GtAtlPac	19 1/8	18 3-16	18 1/2	— 3-16
Halliburtn	39 1/8	37 1/4	37 9-16	— 7/8
Hanson ADS	28 1/2	27 3/8	28 3/8	+ 1 1/8
HarteHanks	20 3/8	20 1-16	20 3/8	+ 5-16
HomeDepot s	53 1/8	51 7/8	53	+ 11-16
HoneywellIntl	44 1/4	43 1/2	43 3/4	— 1 1/4
IBM s	108 1/4	106 11-16	107	— 2
IntlPaper	35 1/8	34	34 13-16	+ 5/8
JohnsonJn	75 3/8	71 13-16	75 1/4	+ 2 11-16
K mart	8 15-16	8 13-16	8 13-16	— 1-16
Kroger Co s	14 1/2	14 1/8	14 1/4	— 3-16
Litton	33 3/4	33 1-16	33 3-16	+ 3 1/4
LockheedM	16 5/8	16 9-16	16 5/8	
Lowes Cos	42 7/8	41 7/8	42 3/4	+ 3/8
Lubys	9 7/8	9 13-16	9 13-16	
LucentTech	69	67 3/4	68 1-16	+ 1
MayDeptStr	25 7-16	25 1-16	25 3-16	+ 1-16
MediaOne	76	75 1/4	75 3/4	— 5-16
Medtronic s	48 3/8	46 9-16	48	+ 1 1/8
Monsanto	42 1/4	41	42	+ 7/8
MorganJP	113 3/8	110 1/8	113 1/4	+ 2 3-16
Motorola	163	153 9-16	155	—6 3-16
NCR Corp	42 3-16	41 1/2	41 11-16	— 5-16
Navistar	37 1/4	36 5-16	36 15-16	+ 11-16
Penney JC	13 15-16	13 3/4	13 13-16	— 1-16
PepBoys	7 1/4	7	7	+ 1-16
PepsiCo	31 1/8	30 5-16	31 1/8	+ 7-16
PhelpDodge	46 3/8	45 3/8	46 1/8	+ 15-16
PhilipPet	39 3/4	38 7-16	39	— 7-16
PilgrmPrd B	6 5/8	6 9-16	6 9-16	— 1-16
Polaroid	27	26 9-16	26 15-16	— 1/8
Praxair	35 1/4	33 7/8	35 1-16	+ 1 7-16
ProctGamb	56 7-16	54 5/8	55 3/4	+ 5-16
PubS NwMx	15 1-16	14 5/8	15 1-16	+ 1/4
ReliantEngy	21 9-16	21 1/8	21 1/2	+ 1/4
RoyalDut	56 3-16	55 3/8	55 3/4	+ 3-16
SBC Comm	43	42 7-16	42 1/2	+ 3/8
SaraLee	15 1-16	14 5/8	15	+ 5-16
Scripps EW	43	42 3/8	42 9-16	— 3/8
SearsRoeb	28 1/8	27 13-16	27 7/8	— 1/4
SherwinW	19 13-16	18 13-16	19 3/4	+ 15-16
SmithKlBchm	63 11-16	62 3/4	63 3/8	+ 2 13-16
SouthernCo	21 1/8	20 5/8	21 1/8	+ 9-16
SwstAirl s	19 1/4	18 7/8	19 1-16	+ 1/8
SprintFON s	58	57 1/4	57 15-16	+ 1/4
SprintPCS s	59 1-16	54 5/8	58 7-16	— 9-16
Sunoco Inc	27 3/4	27 7-16	27 9-16	+ 3-16
TNP Ent	43 5/8	43 9-16	43 3/8	+ 1/8
Tandy s	40 11-16	39 9-16	40 3-16	+ 7-16
TempleInland	46 1/8	44 1/2	45 3-16	+ 13-16
Texaco	49 7-16	48 9-16	48 13-16	+ 1-16
TexInd	32 5-16	31 1/2	32 5-16	+ 1
TexasInst s	157 1/2	151 7/8	153	—4 1-16
Tex Util	27 5/8	27 1-16	27 5/8	+ 13-16
Textron	52 1-16	51 7-16	51 5/8	+ 1/8
TriconGlbR	27	26 1/2	26 9-16	+ 1-16
TrinityInds	20	19 3/4	19 15-16	+ 1-16
TritonEngy	31 1/2	30 3-16	30 5-16	— 1
TylerTech	5 3/4	5 7-16	5 7-16	— 5-16
US West Inc	70 5-16	66 1/4	69 11-16	+ 2 7/8
USX-Marathn	24 1/2	23 3/4	23 15-16	— 3/4
USX-USS	22	21 7-16	21 15-16	+ 7-16
UnCarbide	48 3/8	47 1-16	48 5-16	+ 2 3-16
UnionPacif	35 1/2	35 1/8	35 5-16	+ 1-16
UnitedTech s	50 3/8	49 3/8	50 1-16	+ 1/8
Unocal	27 3/8	26 13-16	26 7/8	— 5/8
Venator Grp	6 13-16	6 3/4	6 13-16	— 1-16
WalMart s	47 1/2	46 1/2	47 3-16	— 1/2
WellsFargo	32 15-16	32	32 15-16	+ 1 1-16
WstnGasRs	15 3/8	14 15-16	15 3/8	+ 9-16
WinnDixie	15 13-16	15 3/8	15 7-16	— 3/8
Xerox Cp	24 5-16	23 9-16	24 1-16	+ 1/2

Local Interest
STOCKS

Patterson	24 1/2	-11 16
Dell	54 13/16	-1 1/8
Wal Mart	47	-11 16
Compac	30 5/16	+5 16
Dol. Gen.	20 1/2	+3/8
GTE	64 9/16	-1 7/16
SBC Comm.	42 13/16	+11 16
BJ Services	63 15/16	-1
LU	68 1/16	+13 16
Cisco Sys.	132 1/16	+5 16

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MAR 15 2000

Gas tax suspension plan lacks support

WASHINGTON (AP) — It seemed like the perfect Republican issue: temporarily roll back gas taxes to help motorists get through a steep price spike and heap criticism on Vice President Al Gore, whose 1993 vote resulted in the tax increase.

But the GOP is growing cool to a plan to suspend the 4.3-cent-a-gallon gas tax. Key Republicans, road builders and even truckers are concerned about the potential impact on highway, bridge and transit projects that depend on the tax.

"Let's not get bogged down on only one dimension of the problem — a short-term dimension that offers scant relief," House Majority Leader Dick Armey, R-Texas, told reporters Tuesday.

Republicans have taken to calling it the "Gore tax" because Gore's vote broke the tie in the Senate vote seven years ago that raised federal gas taxes to 18.4 cents a gallon. But transportation projects are favorites on Capitol Hill, and some estimates conclude that temporarily suspending the tax would cost states $7 billion for those projects.

In a memo to Senate staff, the American Road and Transportation Builders Association said the suspension, combined with a separate proposal for a one-year rollback of the 24.4-cents-a-gallon tax on diesel fuel, would cost highway programs an estimated $10.3 billion. Some truckers agreed that would seriously damage critical road and bridge maintenance and construction plans.

"We think that's going in the wrong direction," said Todd Spencer, executive vice president of the Owner Operator Independent Drivers Association. "Any money that is collected goes to highways, and highways need to be maintained and repaired."

Independent truckers are planning a protest at the Capitol on Thursday — the second this year — to demand action to lower fuel prices. But their top priorities are getting the U.S. government to press harder for the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries to increase supply, to oversee freight rates to ensure they are fair, and to release fuel from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve.

Many lawmakers also questioned whether suspending the 4.3-cent tax would do any good or would even be noticed by consumers. For example, a motorist who drove 12,000 miles a year at 20 miles per gallon would realize savings of only $26, assuming oil companies actually passed on the tax cut to customers.

"I don't know if it has any effect on fuel costs," said Rep. J.C. Watts of Oklahoma, a member of the House GOP leadership. "Supply and demand is driving price right now."

Republican leaders are shifting their focus from gas tax legislation to criticism of the administration's efforts to persuade the OPEC countries to increase supply and improve U.S. domestic oil supplies.

Armey pointed out that the United States prevented Iraqi aggression in the Middle East and helped bail out Mexico during economic hard times and said: "It seems like our diplomatic relationships and our diplomatic standing with these OPEC countries is not what it ought to be."

Rep. Benjamin Gilman, R-N.Y., chairman of the House International Relations Committee, has introduced legislation that would reduce or end any U.S. assistance or arms sales to countries found to be engaging in oil price fixing.

Energy Secretary Bill Richardson, appearing Tuesday on three morning TV programs, said President Clinton had not ruled out suspension of the gas tax but said the focus should be on negotiating with OPEC, getting more gasoline to market and increasing research into alternative energy sources, fuel-efficient vehicles and use of abundant natural gas.

"We're moving ahead with getting refiners and gasoline people and oil companies to get more gasoline out into the market," Richardson said on ABC's "Good Morning America." "We know people are hurting. But we're moving and we're considering a number of options."

Clinton signs Iran Nonproliferation Act

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton has signed legislation to halt U.S. contributions to Russia to help finance the International Space Station if Russian firms are found to have helped Iran develop nuclear weapons.

Clinton said Tuesday he was signing the Iran Nonproliferation Act of 2000 because it was "less problematic" than an earlier version that he felt would harm global efforts to block Iran's nuclear weapons programs. He vetoed a stronger sanctions bill in 1998.

"I want to make it clear that Russia continues to be a valued partner in the International Space Station," Clinton said.

The legislation bars "extraordinary payments" to Russia's space agency for the space station unless the United States confirms that Russia has not transferred missile technology or nuclear, chemical or biological weapons to Iran during the previous year.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	03-15-00
	♠ K Q 4	
	♥ 6 2	
	♦ J 7 6	
	♣ A K 5 4 2	
West		**East**
♠ 5 2		♠ A 10 9 8
♥ 8 7 5 3		♥ K J 10 9 4
♦ Q 4 3		♦ 5 2
♣ Q 10 9 6		♣ J 8
	South	
	♠ J 7 6 3	
	♥ A Q	
	♦ A K 10 9 8	
	♣ 7 3	

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: North

South	West	North	East
		1 ♣	1 ♥
2 ♦	Pass	3 ♦	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♥ 3

Don't keep your ears closed

By Phillip Alder

Woodrow Wyatt, a British journalist and Labour politician, claimed, "Women fall in love through their ears and men through their eyes." Maybe that is why so many men eventually leave their spouses.

It is very important at the bridge table to keep your ears open. You will glean information not only from the opponents' bids, but also occasionally from their passes. Which is the key call not to miss here, and how would it influence your line of play in three no-trump? In answer to his partner's bid, West leads the heart three: two, king, ace.

Perhaps South was sorry he hadn't plowed into five diamonds, which looked like an easy make. Still, three no-trump has lots of chances.

One might cash the diamond ace, cross to dummy with a club, and take a diamond finesse. Here, though, that loses, the defenders clear hearts, and South has only eight tricks. Another line is immediately to play a spade to dummy's queen. Unfortunately, with the bad spade break, this fails too.

The best plan by far is to assume that East has the spade ace for his overcall — virtually an ironclad premise. Play a club to dummy's king, then lead the spade four toward your jack. How can East defend? If he goes in with the spade ace, you have nine top tricks via three spades, two hearts, two diamonds and two clubs. If East withholds his ace, you win with the jack, then promptly continue with the ace, king and another diamond. This establishes nine tricks by way of one spade, two hearts, four diamonds and two clubs.

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U.S. prosecutors to seek death penalty

NEW YORK (AP) — Federal prosecutors will seek the death penalty against at least one defendant in the deadly bombings of two U.S. embassies in Africa, The New York Times reported today.

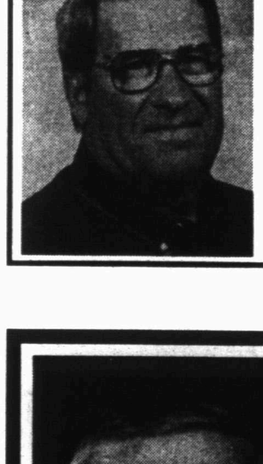
Pending approval from U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno, the U.S. attorney's office will seek the death penalty against Mohamed Rashed Daoud al-'Owhali for his alleged role in the 1998 bombings in Kenya and Tanzania, the Times reported, citing anonymous defense lawyers.

The lawyers said it appeared likely the death penalty would also be sought against two other defendants, Mohamed Sadeek Odeh and Khalfan Khamis Mohamed.

The bombings killed 224 people, including 12 Americans. All three men are charged with conspiracy to murder.

Al-'Owhali, the first suspect brought to New York from Africa after the bombings, acknowledged that he rode in the truck that carried a massive bomb to the U.S. Embassy in Nairobi and that the bombing was intended as a "martyrdom operation," according to federal charges.

The lead defendant in the terrorism case is Osama bin Laden, a Saudi exile believed to be in Afghanistan. He and 16 others are charged in an indictment with conspiracy to kill Americans. Six are in custody in the United States and three overseas.

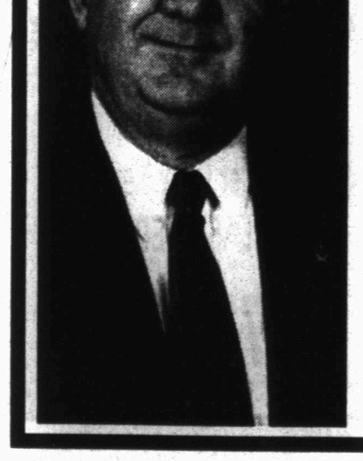


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Cloyce Scarberry

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Thank you all.
Sincerely
Howard Limmer

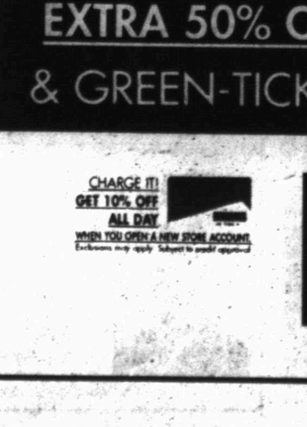
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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Amtrak cars derail in Kansas, 31 hurt

CARBONDALE, Kan. (AP) — Sixteen cars of Amtrak's Southwest Chief derailed early today and injured at least 31 people, one of them critically, authorities said.

The Chicago-to-Los Angeles train carrying about 160 passengers went off the track shortly after 2 a.m. in a field near Carbondale, about 15 miles south of Topeka in eastern Kansas.

"We heard a loud noise, we started rocking and went over," said Richard Gray, 51, of Aurora, N.Y., who was in a sleeper car that overturned. "It was kind of eerie when the bottom is up."

All passengers on the 27-car train had been accounted for, Amtrak spokesman Cliff Black said in Washington. The cause was not immediately known, and personnel from the National Transportation Safety Board were at the scene within five hours.

Six passenger cars, including two sleeper cars, derailed and were lying on their sides. Ten cars carrying mail and other light freight also derailed, Black said.

John Mills, a retired Amtrak district supervisor who was acting as a spokesman for the railroad, said the cars derailed as the train was rounding a "gentle curve" in an area of flat terrain. He said it was going about 60 mph, well within the speed limit for that area.

The train had left Chicago at 3:20 p.m. Tuesday, Amtrak said.

Gray said rescuers reached him and his 92-year-old mother, Dorothy Gray, about 20 minutes after the crash.

"My first thought was, it happened, we derailed," said Gray, a librarian at Cornell University. "But nobody panicked. You keep your head together and try to get out."

Robert Daveler, 19, of Madison, Wis., was in two cars ahead of the cars that derailed. He said he woke up about two minutes before the accident.

29 Americans hurt when bus overturns

VERDUN, France (AP) — A bus carrying American military personnel and their families on a day trip from Germany to Paris overturned on a French highway early Wednesday, injuring 29 people.

Police said the tour bus was traveling on a highway six miles west of the town of Verdun in northeastern France when it keeled over. Eight of the injured were hospitalized, but no one was critically hurt.

The initial investigation suggested that the driver was dozing at the wheel when the bus tipped over at 4:50 a.m. local time, police said.

A statement from Ramstein Air Base in Germany said the bus was carrying 61 passengers on an express tour to Paris. The Americans came from military bases in several German states.

The bus belonged to the Enjoy Tours agency. The agency serves U.S. military communities in Germany, picking up passengers from various bases before heading off on European trips.

The injured suffered severe bruises and other non-life-threatening wounds, doctors said. Three of the eight who were hospitalized were to fly back to Germany later Wednesday or on Thursday morning, police said.

The statement from Ramstein said the passengers who were treated and released by French doctors were expected to arrive back in Germany Wednesday afternoon.

Elsewhere Wednesday, a bus carrying teen-age German students crashed in central France, killing one and injuring about 15 others, the German embassy in France said.

The accident occurred near the town of Dreux, about 60 miles southwest of Paris. The driver of the bus lost control after being passed by a truck. The bus hit the shoulder of the road before bouncing across its lane and through the median and coming to a stop on the other side.

Two students were in serious condition. One of the two was transferred to a hospital in Paris, police said.

Most of the 23 people on the bus were students. They had been on vacation in the Eure region since the beginning of the week. The students, all from the western German city of Recklinghausen, are around 18 years old, a spokesman for the German embassy said.

Police said they had opened an investigation to determine the cause of the crash.

FTC postpones legal action against big oil firms merger

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Federal Trade Commission said today it was putting on hold legal action to block the merger of BP Amoco and Atlantic Richfield Corp., and planned to resume negotiations on the $30 billion consolidation.

"In light of the substantial and constructive proposals made by the defendants, all parties have agreed to seek adjournment of the federal court proceedings," Richard Parker, director of the agency's Bureau of Competition, said in a statement.

He did not elaborate.

The merged companies would become second only to Exxon Mobil among the world's largest nongovernment oil companies.

The statement said the request for a postponement was expected to be approved later today by the court, which had been scheduled to begin hearing the case later this month in San Francisco.

The postponement was described as "open-ended" and would clear the way for resumption of negotiations of the merger that the FTC had sought to block because of competitive concerns, especially in the Alaska and West Coast oil and gasoline markets.

The breakthrough came when BP Amoco offered to sell all its Atlantic Richfield, or Arco, holdings in Alaska, where the two companies together currently control 70 percent of North Slope oil production, according to sources familiar with the discussions.

Arco reportedly has agreed to sell its Alaska crude-oil holdings to Phillips Petroleum Co., which would reduce the new BP Amoco and Arco holdings on the North Slope to less than 50 percent.

A news conference was scheduled for later today in Alaska by the state's governor and officials of Arco and the Phillips Petroleum Co., presumably to make an announcement about the proposal.

The FTC rejected the BP Amoco acquisition of Arco on Feb. 2 and asked the federal court to put the deal on hold, pending a review of a government lawsuit, claiming the merger would harm competition and violate antitrust laws.

The trial had been scheduled to begin March 20.

The FTC opposed the merger of London-based BP Amoco and Arco, which is headquartered in Los Angeles, because of the two companies' large holdings in Alaska. The agency argued that this dominance would lessen competition in the West Coast oil markets, especially retail gasoline sales in California.

The West coast relies heavily on Alaska oil.

BP Amoco initially agreed to reduce its Alaska holdings to about 55 percent, but that was not sufficient to sway FTC antitrust lawyers. BP Amoco argued that oil prices are set in a world market and that its Alaska holdings pose no threat to West Coast competition.

In recent weeks, private negotiations have been under way to jettison all of Arco's holdings in Alaska, but FTC lawyers were said to be concerned about the buyer's standing to compete.

Serbs angry over decision to expel Serb guards from bridge

KOSOVSKA MITROVICA, Yugoslavia (AP) — French peacekeepers fired tear gas and stun grenades today at angry Serbs as NATO took control of a key bridge in a first step toward uniting this ethnically divided city and reasserting international control in Kosovo's most unstable community.

At least 15 Serbs and an undetermined number of peacekeepers and journalists were injured in the melee, Serb sources and witnesses said. Two of the Serbs, including a mother of three, underwent foot amputations because of injuries suffered when stun grenades exploded near them, the chief surgeon at the Serb-controlled hospital, Dr. Radomir Jankovic, said.

The peacekeeping operation, which began at dawn, was supposed to secure the area at the Serb-controlled north end of the bridge and to drive away Serb men were stationed there to keep ethnic Albanians from crossing.

NATO officials described the operation as the first step in reuniting the Serb-controlled north of the city with the ethnic Albanian south bank of the Ibar River.

About 250 French peacekeepers backed by armored personnel carriers and Italian paramilitary police set up a security cordon from the bridge to the nearby, ethnically mixed Little Bosnia neighborhood on the north bank.

Troops in full riot gear ordered the four Serbs who had been guarding the north end of the bridge to leave, and they did so quietly.

Tensions mounted, however, when up to 300 Serbs, including many women, gathered around the security cordon 250 yards from the northern end of the bridge.

When French troops prevented a few Serbs from returning to their apartments in the control zone, the crowd surged forward, and the peacekeepers responded with tear gas and stun grenades.

After a meeting between Serb leaders and French officers, both sides pulled back a few yards — NATO toward the bridge and the Serbs away from the soldiers. The move was aimed at reducing chances of further clashes, Serb leaders said.

Nevertheless, Serb leaders warned that the operation would damage relations between the NATO-led Kosovo Force, or KFOR, and the embattled Serb community.

"Today's events will seriously harm our relations with KFOR," community leader Oliver Ivanovic said. "If they insist on implementing the decision about the safety zone in Little Bosnia, they will face a complete civilian disobedience. We will not cooperate, we will not respect the curfew and everything else that goes with it. It will be civilian disobedience."

As the bridge was being secured, troops strung barbed wire along sidestreets and could be seen searching Serbs in the area.

"This is a brutal reaction by KFOR against peaceful protesters," Ivanovic said.

Warrants land man in jail on Tuesday

Outstanding warrants landed a 23-year-old man in jail Tuesday.

Deputies took the subject into custody in the 400 block of 34th Street on warrants for expired license plate, no valid inspection sticker and failure to appear.

In other activity Tuesday, a woman requested an attempt to locate her 16-year-old daughter at 9:50 a.m. in reference to the girl not returning to the residence. The woman called back at 11:48 a.m. and advised the juvenile had returned home.

Doris Byus requested officers file an offense report at 5:30 p.m. in reference to the theft of a yard statue. A Class B theft report was taken.

At 2:51 a.m. today, officers filed an offense report for assault.

Births

Kenneth and Barbara Martin of Ira announce the birth of their son at 7:02 p.m. on March 14 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed six pounds, 12 ounces.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Kristi Haddox, Barbara Martin of Ira, Penny Perry, Patricia Scott, Jeannie Smith, Lori Baldwin of Hermleigh, Arthur Boudreau, Opalene Brown, Mandy Montgomery and Angel Vasquez.

DISMISSALS: James LaRoux, Leann Hall, William Harris, Tasha Matthews of Hermleigh and Patricia Scott.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Senior Citizens swimnastics

Swimnastics for senior citizens is held from 2-3 p.m. each Tuesday and Thursday at the WTC pool. For more information, call 573-4035.

Children's Bible Club

Northside Baptist Church will host a Children's Bible Club from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday. Designed for grades 1-6, there will be Bible studies, games and activities. For more information, call 573-7105.

Calvary Baptist revival

Calvary Baptist Church, 2405 35th St., will have a revival Sunday through Wednesday, featuring Clark Bosher of Arlington, nationally-known evangelist. Service times are 10:50 a.m. and 6 p.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. each weeknight. A nursery will be provided and the public is invited.

UW board meeting

The board of directors of the Scurry County United Way will be held at noon Monday at the Snyder Area CADA office, located at 2513 College Ave.

Bible study tapes

Bible study tapes air weekly on TV channel 2. The videos to be shown at 7 p.m. Monday are "Why We Need the Church," followed by "Historical Christian Evidences, Lesson 5."

4-H horse club

The Scurry County 4-H horse club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday at East Elementary.

Free tax help

There is free tax help for low income and elderly people each Wednesday at the Snyder Senior Center by an IRS-trained counselor. Times are from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-3 p.m. Call 573-4035 or 573-3822 for additional information.

American Diabetes Association Walk

The American Diabetes Association Walk for East Elementary's fourth graders is scheduled Friday, March 24. Christi Smith, PE instructor, asks everyone to "help the students with this worthy cause." For more information, contact Smith at 573-1769.

Building fund sale

Lighthouse Assembly of God Church is accepting items of any kind for its building fund sale. The church will pick up items. Call 573-5124 or 573-2947.

WTC basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at Western Texas College are taught Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m., and from 6-9 p.m. Classes include G.E.D. and E.S.L. refresher courses. For additional information, call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Windbreak trees

Windbreak tree seedlings have arrived at the Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation office in Snyder. If you missed the ordering deadline, there are plenty of extra trees for sale at the USDA complex, 5309 Big Spring highway.

Immunization clinic

Scurry County Health unit immunization clinics this month are March 23rd and 30th. Thursdays dates in April are the 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th. Hours are 8:30-11:30 a.m. and 1:30-4 p.m.

LCU chorus

Lubbock Christian University's Parise! Chorus will perform at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 25, at East Side Church of Christ. Allison Bowden, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Bowden of Snyder, is a member of the LCU chorus. The concert is free and open to the public.

MAWC luncheon

Martha Ann Woman's Club will host a luncheon Sunday, March 26, starting at 11:30 a.m. Tickets are $8 for adults and $4 for children six and under. For reservations call 573,3427, 573-6443 or 573-6717.

WTC planetarium shows

The planetarium at WTC is available for spring offering of star shows. Presentations will be held on Fridays by special arrangements. Shows are by reservation only and there is no charge. Shows are available to fit any age group. For reservations call 573-8511, Ext. 312.

Snyder Neighbors Sharing

SNS is in need of workers and monetary donations for the April 29 work day. For more information, contact Thomas Fogleman at 573-3538, or Sam Robertson at 573-4053.

Parent education class

East Elementary is hosting a series of parent education classes from 6-7 p.m. on Tuesdays in the school library. Refreshments are served. For more information, call 573-1769.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients is available every day free of charge to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland. For more information call Martha Schiebel at 573-8626 or Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Pick 3

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

9-1-2

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Tuesday by the Texas Lottery:

6-11-18-20-24

Wisconsin to fight fed transplant rules

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Escalating a two-year battle, Wisconsin Gov. Tommy Thompson plans to file suit next week seeking to block federal rules governing how human organs are distributed for transplant.

Thompson said the rules — issued in 1998 but not due to take effect until Thursday — unlawfully substitute the personal judgment of Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala for that of medical professionals in making transplant policy.

"This rule won't save lives; it just allows political appointees to decide which lives are saved," Thompson said Tuesday.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, March 16, 2000
Take a long range view of matters in the year ahead and don't expect something for nothing. Substantial rewards could be in the offing if you're willing to pay the price.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A funky mood could cause you to whine or be caustic in your attitude toward others today. If you find yourself starting to get down in the dumps, shake it off as quickly as possible. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Although you may demonstrate a reasonably generous attitude today toward friends, don't be surprised if someone with whom you're involved turns out to be only a taker.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Of course your personal interests are important, but be careful today not to place yours about those of others. Take into consideration theirs needs, as well.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) In order to avoid any unpleasantness today, stop and think about what you're saying and doing before you act. People will respond to you in kind.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Prudence in your financial or commercial affairs is always called for, but today this may be especially important. The results of what you do now could produce long term effects.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Usually you're a rather introspective person who analyzes things and bounces back after a setback. Today, however, you could let things develop into a heated boil.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) If you go into a situation today thinking things aren't going to work out well, chances are you'll be right. Usually, we make things happen the way we envision them.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Keep your own counsel today, and don't poke your nose into anyone else's affairs. Complications could result in either instance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) To be on the safe side today, count only on yourself and not on others. Although people might make sincere promises to you, they may not be able to honor them.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) You're not apt to perform well today if your heart isn't in your work, so it might be better to temporarily shelve until another day anything that requires your undivided attention.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) If someone attempted to tell you what you could or could not do, you wouldn't like it one bit, so don't do so to others. Being overly demanding is a quick way to turn pals off.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) That usual optimistic attitude you possess could be inoperative today, so you might experience being unreasonably unsure of yourself. If so, back away from doing anything earth-shaking.

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Young gets married

KAILUA-KONA, Hawaii (AP) — San Francisco 49ers quarterback Steve Young has a new teammate — and this one's for life.

The 38-year-old Young married former model Barbara Graham on Tuesday in a small, private ceremony at a Mormon temple on the island of Hawaii.

Young met Graham, a 31-year-old who works in public relations, about 18 months ago through mutual friends.

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Three convicted of manslaughter in GHB poisoning trial

DETROIT (AP) — Samantha Reid asked for a drink at a party, was given a glass of Mountain Dew, sipped it and called it "gross." She drank it anyway.

Samantha didn't know her drink had been spiked with the GHB, the so-called "date-rape" drug. The 15-year-old became violently ill, fell unconscious, and died the next day after she was taken off of life support.

On Tuesday, four young men accused of spiking Samantha's drink were convicted in her death. Jurors found Joshua Cole, 19, Daniel Brayman, 18, and Nicholas Holtschlag, 18, guilty of involuntary manslaughter and two poisoning charges.

The fourth defendant, Erick Limmer, 26, was found guilty of one count each of being an accessory to manslaughter after the fact, poisoning, delivery of marijuana and possession of GHB.

The involuntary manslaughter convictions carry a sentence of up to 15 years in prison. Each poisoning count is punishable by up to five years; jurors rejected more severe poisoning charges carrying a maximum penalty of life in prison.

After the verdict was read, Samantha's mother, Judi Clark, wept softly. The four men sat impassively. A few of Samantha's relatives and friends whispered "Yes!" as the verdicts were read.

"The message is that if you mix and mingle with GHB, you're going to jail," Clark said of the verdicts. "I think justice has been done."

During the trial, prosecutors alleged the four gave Samantha and a friend beverages secretly spiked with GHB during a party in Limmer's apartment. The friend survived.

Cole's attorney, John Courtright, repeatedly told jurors Samantha's death was a "tragic accident." Attorneys for Brayman and Holtschlag argued their clients were unaware GHB was present at the party, and that Cole alone should be blamed.

Courtright acknowledged his client spiked the girls' drinks, but with what he believed was only a harmless intoxicant supplied by Limmer.

Limmer said he was gone or in his bedroom most of the night the girls were drugged. Earlier this month, Drake threw out a manslaughter count against him.

Mixing a few drops of GHB, a colorless, odorless drug, into a drink can render a victim unconscious within 20 minutes.

Last month, President Clinton signed legislation toughening federal laws against possessing, making or distributing GHB.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Alcohol raises liver enzymes

DEAR DR. GOTT: When my husband applied for life insurance, his exam was normal, but he had an elevated enzyme count. How accurate is this reading and what caused the elevation?

DEAR READER: I assume from your question that your husband's blood tests showed an elevated liver enzyme. I haven't the faintest idea how accurate the reading is — or how high — because that depends on the laboratory that analyzed his blood.

Because the insurance company is going to take the reading as gospel and give your husband a hard time in the bargain, let's for a moment assume that 1. he has an elevation of one or more liver enzymes, and 2. the analysis is correct.

To begin with, the liver produces enzymes that are necessary for hepatic function. (Among other duties, the liver acts as a giant detoxifying factory that is responsible, in one way or another, for degrading and metabolizing any chemicals that pass through it.) Although such enzymes are ordinarily confined to hepatic tissue, they do normally leak into the bloodstream in small quantities that can be measured.

In the presence of liver irritation or malfunction, however, these enzymes can literally pour into the blood. For example, the typical liver enzyme level is less than 40; in the presence of hepatitis or gallstone blockage, the level may rise to 1,000 or higher. In contrast, small amounts of liver damage are reflected in lower enzyme counts (such as 80 to 100).

In the United States, the most common cause of minor liver-enzyme elevation is social drinking. Alcohol is detoxified by the liver, and a daily ingestion frequently causes a rise in liver enzymes, the most sensitive being the gamma GT. If your husband enjoys a couple of cocktails at night, he should abstain and insist on a repeat blood test in two weeks.

Of course, as I mentioned, serious disorders — such as hepatitis — can affect hepatic enzymes. Therefore, if your husband is not a drinker or the enzyme level is significantly elevated, he should check immediately with his own physician.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Following an angioplasty, my husband's cholesterol was 218, not bad for a fellow of 65. However, his cardiologist put him on Lipitor to lower the cholesterol further. After six weeks of therapy, my husband's cholesterol was only 126. Now we're worried that too low a cholesterol is dangerous. Is it?

DEAR READER: Several studies have shown that very low cholesterol levels are statistically associated with death due to violent causes, such as suicide or homicide. I don't know what to make of this finding, and my physician colleagues don't either.

But with respect to coronary patients, there is an evolving consensus that the lower the cholesterol, the better, because this substance accelerates arteriosclerosis and arterial blockage. Therefore, I agree with your husband's cardiologist. In my opinion, the benefits of a low cholesterol level far outweigh the risks. Remember that you husband should have periodic blood tests of liver function, because Lipitor and other cholesterol-lowering drugs in its class can cause liver inflammation in some people. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Cholesterol." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Anti-Catholicism statements dropped

COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Bob Jones University has dropped from its Web site statements from its president calling Catholicism and Mormonism cults.

A new message on the site has Bob Jones III recounting how he contemplated on Christmas Eve "the growing worldwide hostility toward the evangelizing efforts of Bible-believing Christians."

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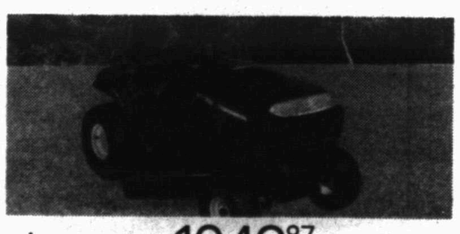
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