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WT-Int. Crude - $26.33
WTIC Posted - $23.00
Natural Gas - $3.205

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

April 1, 2002
Vol. 53 No. 286
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Jason York

Firm hired to develop master plan for parks

By Roy McQueen
SDN Publisher

Scurry County commissioners court heard a positive report on the future of parks, but a former commissioner said the future of the industrial park is in question without competitive electrical rates.

The court approved the draft of a contract with a consulting firm to develop a master plan for the parks at a fee considerably less than the $80,000 budgeted.

The court, meeting this morning, unanimously approved a recommendation from the county parks committee to hire Schrickel Rollins and Associates at a fee not to exceed $55,000.

Presented by parks department head Scott Crenwelge, the contract calls for an expenditure of $41,500 to develop the master plan and a fee of $13,500 to prepare a grant application to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Crenwelge said the master plan will be in three phases over the next 15 years. The plan will entail all recreational facilities in the county.

Crenwelge also noted that the selected firm has a success rate in excess of 90 per cent in obtaining grants.

In response to a question by Precinct 3 Commissioner Howard Limmer, Crenwelge said all future expenditures on the parks plan must be approved by the court.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Cholanne Lindsey emphasized that just because other facilities, like golf courses, will be included in the master plan does not mean that the county is committing to taking over operation of them.

Crenwelge said the county's efforts would be focused mainly on Towle Park and on the Scurry County Coliseum.

Former county commissioner C.D. Gray Jr. addressed the court concerning economic development. He specifically noted that competitive electric rates are necessary to attract industry to Snyder.

"We have a problem that needs to be fixed," Gray said. "I just don't know how to start. I came here because the county has always been interested and participated in projects."

Gray presented two letters to the court, one asking for county officials to write letters to Lorber Industries "in support of resolution of any difficulties that Lorber Industries of Texas might have."

During 50 minutes of discussion with the court, Gray alluded to possible lawsuits that may be filed by creditors of Lorber of Texas and by governmental entities over back taxes.

Gray said the most pressing issue is competitive electrical rates, saying that Lorber was paying as much as three times more for power than the prison unit.

Gray said Lorber was paying more for power in Snyder than it was paying for electricity in California. "One of the things that attracted Lorber here was economical energy."

County Judge Ricky Fritz said the county is limited in what it can do since the industrial park is located inside the city and is under the oversight of the Development Corporation of Snyder.

Commissioner Limmer suggested that Gray might want to visit with the city and the DCOS.

Gray also presented a letter from Dick Crill, a former Big Country Electric Cooperative industrial development representative, who worked on bringing Lorber to Scurry County.

The letter concluded, "Lorber Industries is an example of major manufacturing possibilities for this area. It would seem that everyone's attitude should be that we need to help..."

Lorber Industries of Texas closed its doors on Oct. 31 after beginning a cotton spinning mill operation in the industrial park in 1998.

In other business, the court adopted a resolution to waive taxation on travel trailers. Affected in Scurry County are some 364 units and a total tax of $9,646.

Judge Fritz said the legislature has realized some faults with the bill and plans to repeal it next session. County Tax Collector Diana Williamson noted that the county would likely lose money if it attempted to collect the tax since owners would likely register them elsewhere.

The court also approved two resolutions – one proclaiming April as "Sexual Assault Awareness Month" and another proclaiming the month "Child Abuse Prevention Month."

Two line-item transfers were approved, one in the amount of $1,497 for the sheriff's department and one for $902 for the Precinct 1 Peace Justice office.

Judge Fritz presided and commissioners present were Lindsey, Limmer, Roy Idom and Ralph Trevey.

EASTER IN THE PARK — Austin Worley, 3, and Brandon McFall, 7, were with family members enjoying Easter Sunday in Towle Park. Being little boys, they couldn't resist playing in the water after Snyder's beneficial rains Friday and Saturday. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Lake Thomas benefits...

Over 2 inches of rainfall here

It wasn't April showers, but it was close enough.

Over two inches of rain was measured at the Snyder water treatment plant Saturday to bring this year's total moisture to 5.37 inches – just over last year's total at this time of 5.21 inches.

Friday's total was .42 inches bringing the two-day total to 2.60 inches.

Other two-day totals ranged from a high of 2.5 inches at Ira to 1.1 in the Loyd Mountain area.

Lake Thomas should see a vertical rise of about 12 inches, according to Chris Wingert, assistant general manager of the Colorado Municipal Water District.

The results of lightning and high water kept Snyder's emergency crews busy as the fire department was first called to a tank battery fire Saturday morning at 7:30 on FM 1609.

The tanks belonged to RAW Oil and Gas of Slaton and it was on the Devonian Energy lease some two miles south of Union.

"The tanks were definitely hit by lightning," said Fire Marshal Cy Posey. "The tops of them were blown off."

Posey said three fire trucks and 14 firefighters responded to the call.

"It was a situation where we basically had to let them burn," said Posey. "The tanks around the tanks were already full of water and if we had tried to extinguish them, the water would have run down a nearby creek."

"With respect to the environment, letting the two fiberglass tanks burn was the prudent thing to do," said Posey.

Posey said the fire department answered a number of fire alarms that were triggered by the weather, but the tank battery was the only fire.

The fire department did respond to a pickup pulling a horse trailer jackknifing at the intersection of Highways 208 and 180.

"The trailer gate came open and the horse fell out," said Posey, noting the horse received only minor injuries.

Snyder police officers assisted motorists stuck in high water crossings following a heavy shower around 3:30 Saturday afternoon.

Officers were called to 17th St. and Avenue M, plus 18th Street and Ave. O due to cars stalling in the high water.

DPS trooper Rick Campos reported high water in the low water crossing on Blockline Rd. around 5 p.m. Saturday.

At 6:30...

Numerous agenda items await city council this evening

Two items of old business and several new await the Snyder city council when it meets at 6:30 this evening.

Last month, the council discussed the contract between the city and Borden County for the use of fire-fighting equipment, and the contract the school district has for use of the east and west fire stations.

The council tabled the Borden County contract and asked for more exact costs on responding to fires in Borden County. Also, the council asked the city administration to explore the transfer of titles of the former fire stations to the Snyder school district.

One bid item will be reviewed and that is for a scraper for the landfill.

In new business, the council will consider a request for a special use permit by Kyle Herrley for a firearms refurbishing business at 2911 23rd St., review the quarterly investment report, and review the contract between the city and Hammerman & Gainer for work related to worker's compensation claims.

Also on the agenda is appointments for the city's board of adjustment, planning and zoning commission, and the builders board of appeal.

The council also will consider a resolution exempting travel trailers from ad valorem taxes, and hear a request by Sharp Image Energy Inc., to drill a well inside the city, just north of the Houston Parkway on property owned by Annette Blum Mulkey.

The council also is expected to cancel the election in Districts 1, 3 and 4, and declare Vernest Tippens, James Ashley and Ron Shaw as council members as they drew no opponents for the May 4 election.

The council will also go into executive session to continue the review of City Manager John Gayle.

Rainfall Reports

Snyder	**2.18**
North of city	**1.5**
East of city	**2.0**
Lake Thomas	**2.3**
Hermleigh	**2.25**
Fluvanna	**2.3**
Polar	**.60**
Loyd Mountain	**1.1**
Camp Springs	**1.0**
Dunn	**1.8**
Ira	**2.5**
Dermott	**1.75**
Union	**1.9**
Gail	**2.0**
Gins	
Farmers Co-Op (E)	**2.0**
Inadale	**1.4**

Totals as reported by area residents for the weekend.

Classification changes should deter escapes from prisons

From staff and wire reports

HOUSTON (AP) — A new inmate classification system should help prevent escapes like the one at the Connally Unit in South Texas that led to the death of an Irving police officer, prison officials said.

The changes affect inmates serving lengthy prison terms, as well as those with a history of past escape attempts, preventing them from working low security jobs.

"If you asked me, is this going to stop escapes, I'll say no. But it's going to make it harder for them to leave our system," Ed Owens, operations division director for the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, said in Sunday's editions of the Houston Chronicle.

The previous system labeled inmates who showed they had adjusted to prison life by serving without incident or incurring disciplinary action as "minimum in."

It made them eligible for low-risk job assignments and dormitory housing.

Under the new policy, which takes effect today after a year of review, inmates must serve a minimum of 10 years before they can receive a low-risk classification.

The rules come after a study commissioned by the TDCJ found that an inmate's current offense, prior criminal history and time remaining on sentence were considered during the initial classification but ignored in subsequent reviews.

Under the changes, about 700 of 4,000 inmates previously classified as "minimum in" will be reclassified to a higher-risk rating.

Warden Wilhelmenia Howard said this morning that less than a dozen inmates of the Price Daniel Unit are affected by the new classification.

"Those inmates have already been moved to a higher classification unit," said Warden Howard.

All ACU students...

DPS investigating cause of accident that killed 5 students

ABILENE (AP) — Authorities were continuing today to investigate what caused a sport utility vehicle to careen off Interstate 20 near Weatherford and crash onto a concrete embankment, killing five Abilene Christian University students.

DPS Trooper Jeremy Smith said the students left Houston about 10 p.m. Saturday. It was 6:35 a.m. Sunday when their vehicle slammed through a concrete embankment.

Investigators were awaiting autopsy results, but Smith said it did not appear that alcohol or drugs were involved. It had rained Saturday night, but weather was not likely a factor because the 18-year-old driver, Kolawole "Kola" Sami, did not hit the brakes, he said.

The two men and three women, all from Lagos, Nigeria, died instantly, Trooper Gary M. Rozzell said.

Abilene Christian identified the students as Sami, an industrial technology major; Olutomi "Tomi" Aruwajoye, 17, an accounting major; Iyadunni "Dunni" Bakare, 18, a biology major; Abimbola "Abola" Orija, 19, a management major; and Toluwalope "Tolu" Olorunsola, 18, undeclared major.

ASK US

Q—When is the next event scheduled for the Ritz Theatre?
A—The community choir will have a program April 26.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Saturday, 53 degrees; low, 48; high Sunday, 69; low, 46; 7 a.m. Monday, 50; 2.18 inches of precipitation; total for 2002, 5.37 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy; low 50-55; S winds 10-20 mph. Tuesday, partly cloudy, slight rain chance; high 70-75; SW winds 10-20 mph.

Jonathon Castaneda
Partly Cloudy

Sunset: 7:03 p.m.
Sunrise: 6:31 a.m.
Of 90 days in 2002, the sun has shone 85 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Where we stand is not as important as the direction in which we are moving.
—Oliver Wendell Holmes

APR 01 2002

Woman accused of killing husband commits suicide

BROOKSVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The suicide of a woman accused of poisoning her husband with a horse tranquilizer does not mean the bizarre case is finished.

Several days before she hanged herself, Laren Sims wrote a three-page confession detailing how she and Sarah Dutra, a 21-year-old secretary from her husband's California law firm, killed Larry McNabney and then buried his body, police said.

Dutra was arrested on murder and conspiracy charges a week ago in California. She has not yet entered a plea and was scheduled to be arraigned Wednesday.

"I think the truth will come out," said attorney Kevin Clymo, who represented Dutra at a recent hearing. "I think the truth is that Sarah is not guilty of murder and I do believe as this story evolves and is presented that that's what everybody will see."

He said Sims' suicide suggests she was feeling a "consciousness of guilt."

Sims, 36, had been held without bail in the Hernando County jail since her arrest on March 18 in Destin. Sheriff's officials in California were seeking her extradition.

Sims was found hanging from a braided bed sheet early Saturday morning in an apparent suicide, and died Sunday, Hernando County sheriff's Capt. Alan Arick said.

McNabney, 53, was last seen alive Sept. 10 being pushed in a wheelchair by Sims at a Los Angeles horse show. A day later, authorities said, Sims started clearing out his office and sold his $110,000 horse trailer and truck. She shut down his law practice in January and disappeared with about $500,000 of his assets.

Authorities say Sims had a 113-page criminal record, was wanted in Florida and Washington for credit card and grand theft charges, and had more than a dozen aliases and multiple Social Security numbers. Three Florida counties with charges against her dropped them last week to speed her return to California.

McNabney apparently never knew Sims' real name. When he met her in 1995, she had gone by Elisa Barasch, the last name of a former celimate in Florida, where she served seven months for violating her parole for grand theft and fraud.

Her latest arrest records in Florida refer to her as Elisa McNabney, Arick said. He confirmed that her maiden name is Sims.

Sims' death early Sunday appeared to be well-planned, Hernando County Sheriff's Lt. Phillip Wood said. She had been in the jail's medical unit, and officers said they had been regularly checking on her every 15 minutes.

Her lawyer, Tom Hogan, didn't immediately return phone calls Sunday.

INS: Egyptian man carrying boxcutters arrested at airport

MIAMI (AP) — An Egyptian man who was deported earlier this year was arrested on immigration charges after he arrived in Miami on a flight from Spain, carrying boxcutters in his briefcase, authorities said.

Aly Sabra Galal Abdell, 29, was arrested Friday night as he arrived at Miami International Airport on Iberia Airlines Flight 6123 from Spain, said Patricia Mancha, a spokeswoman for the Immigration and Naturalization Service in Miami.

The man was stopped by inspectors after they ran his name and found he had been deported in January by a New York immigration judge. He had arrived in the country just before the Sept. 11 attacks.

A search of the suspect's briefcase, which he carried aboard the plane, turned up the boxcutters, officials said. Federal officials have banned passengers from carrying small blades, including boxcutters.

events

RESULTS

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) No ticket matched all six numbers drawn Saturday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $21 million.

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 13-28-32-41-50-53

Wednesday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $26 million.

Pick 3

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

7-2-6

The Rain Stops In Texas

A Woman's Struggle From Oppression To Freedom

By Ellie Kamran Belfiglio

Ellie Kamran Belfiglio, a former professor - an immigrant, a recent American citizen, a poet, an author, a mother, a wife, a designer and couturiere - is the survivor of many political and economic hardships. She has a M.A. in Persian literature from the University of Tehran. The Rain Stops In Texas is the story of her life, escape from Iran, and revolution. The theme of her book - Texas as a safe haven for political refugees from oppressive foreign regimes has not been sufficiently explored by another author. The experiences of migrants are exemplified by Ellie's family. In this book she demonstrates how the revolution adversely affected her personal life and the lives of millions of other people.

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Snyder Daily News

3600 College Ave. 573-5486

Fortune 500: Wal-Mart is biggest company in world

NEW YORK (AP) — It started out 40 years ago as a discount retailer that carved out a niche in small-town America by selling everything from toothpaste to toys.

Now, Wal-Mart Stores Inc. is the biggest company in the world on the annual Fortune 500 list with nearly $220 billion in revenues.

Wal-Mart, No. 2 on the list a year ago, overtook oil giant Exxon Mobil Corp. in the rankings compiled on the basis of companies' annual revenue figures. The retailer's ascendancy was expected after both companies issued their 2001 results earlier this year.

The list, published in the Fortune issue that reaches newsstands April 8, did have some surprises, most notably the appearance of bankrupt Enron Corp., which moved up two notches to No. 5 despite its downward spiral into bankruptcy.

Carol Loomis, a member of Fortune's board of editors, said Enron made the list because the magazine used Enron's restated earnings from Jan. 1 to Sept. 30, which gave it revenues of $139 billion. The company's bankruptcy filing on Dec. 2 didn't make in ineligible for consideration, and the company has yet to report fourth-quarter results.

The magazine also took into account the fact that energy companies are permitted to list the gross value of energy trading contracts as revenues — a fact that enabled other energy companies to rise quickly in the Fortune 500.

From its founding four decades ago, Wal-Mart has seen its annual revenues and sales surge, going from $1 billion in sales for all of 1979 to sometimes making that much in a single day last year. The Bentonville, Ark.-based company remained the company with most employees on the list, with more than 1.2 million workers worldwide.

The list of the largest publicly held companies has been compiled annually since 1955 by the editors of Fortune. GM, which had held the top spot on the list for 15 years until 2000, stayed at No. 3 with revenues of $177.26 billion.

Despite Exxon Mobil's slip to No. 2, energy companies fared well in 2001, with ChevronTexaco at No. 8, rising from No. 20 because of the merger of Chevron Corp. and Texaco Inc.

Mergers lifted other companies, including AOL Time Warner Inc., which jumped to 37th place from 271 thanks to the combination of Time Warner and America Online. The company had $38.23 billion in revenues, making it the largest Internet and entertainment company on the annual list.

The top 10 also included Ford Motor Co. at No. 4, a position it held last year. General Electric Co. dropped one place to No 6, while Citigroup Inc., the largest financial services company in the nation, fell to No. 7 from No. 6.

Total profits for the 500 corporations fell 53 percent to $206 billion, compared with 2000's 8.4 percent increase. The magazine's editors said it was the largest drop in profits since the magazine started compiling the list.

Revenue grew by 3 percent to a combined $7.4 trillion, compared with $7.2 trillion in 2000.

One of nation's wealthiest counties is poorly managed

MINEOLA, N.Y. (AP) — The mental health department cannot supervise its patients — including a man who allegedly murdered a priest during Mass last month.

Hundreds of vehicles seized in drunken-driving sweeps had to be returned to their owners because paperwork wasn't processed in time.

Taxpayers still pay for 2,000 unused telephone lines, some going to buildings torn down years ago.

Welcome to Long Island's Nassau County — one of the wealthiest counties in the nation but also one of the worst-managed.

The new county executive was to submit his first budget to a state-appointed financial oversight board, a spending plan calling for property tax increases, a cut in the county work force, and millions in union concessions. The plan tries to erase a projected $428 million deficit by 2005.

"We said it was bad," said County Executive Thomas Suozzi, who won election last fall on a fiscal reform platform, "but we didn't know it was this bad."

The situation is bad enough that Nassau received the only failing grade for financial management in a recent Syracuse University study of 40 county governments nationwide, precarious enough that Standard & Poor's has assigned Nassau a credit rating just one notch above junk status.

But residents saw a more immediate impact of the management crisis last month when a 34-year-old man was charged with shooting a priest and worshipper to death during morning Mass. By state law, the county should have been providing regular supervision for Peter Troy after his discharge from the Nassau University Medical Center last May.

But Mental Health Commissioner Howard Sovronsky said his department is so understaffed that it never even located Troy. In the last four years, 75 percent of the department's case workers have left and not been replaced.

Suozzi, a lawyer and accountant who is the first Democratic county executive in 40 years, blames mismanagement by the prior administration and one-party rule.

"Every hiring, every contract, everything was based on 'what will this do for the party' and they became so focused on keeping the jobs that they didn't do the jobs," he said.

Suozzi's predecessor, Republican Thomas Gulotta, did not return calls seeking comment. He did not seek re-election last fall.

The county legislature's Republican leader, Peter Schmitt, does not dispute what he called "legendary mismanagement" in county government. But Schmitt noted Democrats and Republicans shared legislative power in the early 1990s — and share the blame for failures in oversight.

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Date Book

Monday, April 1, 2002

Today is the 91st day of 2002 and the 13th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1929, the Marx toy company introduced the yo-yo.

On this day in 1979, Iran declared itself — following a referendum — an Islamic Republic by the Shiite Muslim leader Ayatollah Khomeini.

On this day in 1984, singer Marvin Gaye was shot to death by his father.

On this day in 1999, Nunavut became the third independent territory in Canada. Land was taken from the Northwest Territories to create an area for Canada's Inuit (formerly known as Eskimo) people.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Nikolai Gogol (1809 - 1852), writer; Edmond Rostand (1868 - 1918), dramatist; Lon Chaney (1883 - 1930), actor; Jane Powell (1929 -), actress-singer, is 73; Ali MacGraw (1939 -), actress, is 63; Annette O'Toole (1952 -), actress, is 50.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1938, the Baseball Hall of Fame opened in Cooperstown, N.Y.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "It is no use to blame the looking glass if your face is awry." - Nikolai Gogol, "The Inspector-General" (1836).

TODAY'S MOON: Between the full moon (March 28) and the last quarter (April 4)

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More than half of federal contracts awarded without full competition

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government bought more than half of its products and services last year without bidding or with practices that auditors say do not fully shop the marketplace, an Associated Press analysis of contracting records found.

While such shopping accelerated in President Bush's first year, it has been on the rise since the 1990s when the Clinton administration and the GOP-controlled Congress streamlined purchasing under its "reinventing government" initiatives.

Some of those well-intentioned efforts to cut red tape — epitomized by Al Gore's smashing of a government-issued ashtray on television — may have gone too far, inviting new risks of fraud, contracting experts and watchdogs say.

"Scandals are coming," predicted Charles Tiefer, a University of Baltimore law professor who spent a decade investigating contractor abuses as a House lawyer. "You can see them coming as clearly as you could in the early 1980s looking at the defense buildup then and the lack of safeguards."

In all, the government bought $123 billion of its $230 billion in goods and services in 2001 without bids or with methods that auditors say are frequently used to bypass competition, the computer analysis found.

Everything from computers and office supplies to background investigations of federal workers and education services were bought that way.

Concerns about the government's new-style shopping are simply put: buying without competition often means the public treasury gets overcharged.

A Pentagon review, for example, found the prices paid for commercially available spare parts bought without competition increased more than twice as fast between 1993 and 2000 as did prices for similar parts purchased competitively.

At the Department of Education last year, auditors demanded repayment of 80 percent of the $9.7 million in federal money spent under a contract the Puerto Rico Department of Education awarded without competition for the operation of elementary school learning centers.

Congress enacted legislation in 1984 requiring full and open competition for all government purchases except in special cases, such as utilities with only one supplier or weapons systems made by just one company.

But critics say the contracting reforms of the 1990s, coupled with a government-wide reduction of contracting officers and auditors, have made it easier to bypass bidding.

With fewer buyers and less oversight, "nobody is looking over their shoulders," said George Washington University professor Steven Schooner, who monitors the federal contracting system.

For their part, federal contracting officials say competition often is hard to achieve because contractors will not bid if they are not convinced they have a pretty good shot at closing the deal.

"Because of the costs involved in competing, companies have to judiciously apply where they think they can win," said Tom Reynolds, deputy director of the contracts management division at the Savannah River Site, the government's nuclear weapons facility in South Carolina.

"If they think they would be wasting their money, they just don't compete," he said.

AP's analysis of federal contracting records for the 2001 budget year traced 34 percent of all government purchases to contracts where no bids were solicited.

An additional 19 percent was spent either on contracts awarded after only one bid, on credit card purchases that required no bids, or on multiple-award contracts that lawmakers and auditors contend are being used increasingly by federal agencies to avoid competition.

In multiple-award contracts, an agency qualifies a list of contractors for something the government wants to buy. Then, any agency that needs that product or service can purchase it from a contractor on the list. Agencies are supposed to shop the list for the best deal, but auditors say that rarely is done.

The Defense Department inspector general, for example, reviewed 423 orders placed under multiple award contacts and found 304 had been awarded without competition.

Harvard professor Steven Kelman, who spearheaded the 1990s acquisition reforms as head of the federal procurement office, said the changes for the most part have enhanced competition.

Still, he acknowledged, they have had the opposite effect on occasion, such as in the buying of information technology services through multiple-award contracts.

"Preserve the good and where changes you made lead to a problem, you fix that," he said. "The reform effort in part was to encourage people to try new things."

One change relaxed the rules governing "sole source" buying. In the past, companies that were the only source of a product or service for the government had to certify their costs and prices to ensure they were not overcharging. Now, they do not have to do that if the government initially offered the contract for competition.

Kelman said the goal was to make it easier for more companies to bid on government work because many are either unwilling or unable to provide required financial information.

Protesters renew call for cardinal to resign

BOSTON (AP) — Cardinal Bernard Law capped a tumultuous Lenten period by offering an Easter message of hope in the face of a sexual abuse scandal that has rattled the Roman Catholic church.

Protesters held signs that read "House of Rape" and "Cardinal Law Resign" during the Easter Sunday service at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

"Even though we carry in our hearts those who bear the wounds of betrayal through abuse inflicted by others, especially by clergy ... we fix our gaze with unshakable hope of the risen Lord. He is our light," Law said during his homily.

While Law prepared to celebrate the Eucharist, armed officers outside monitored about a dozen protesters and confiscated nails from a man with a cross taped to his back. He had a sign that read "Stop crucifying us."

Protester Rick Webb, 49, of Wellesley, shouted "Boycott! Boycott! Boycott!" while a choir sang the processional hymn.

"The whole city is really upturned," said Debbie Elovitz, of Boston, who attended the service. "But to have signs like that up today is very disrespectful."

Boston priest John Geoghan is accused of abusing more than 100 children while being shuffled from parish to parish. Geoghan, 66, was convicted of indecent assault and battery and sentenced to nine to 10 years for fondling a 10-year-old boy in 1991.

The archdiocese has settled lawsuits with 86 of Geoghan's alleged victims and provided prosecutors with the names of about 80 priests accused of sexually abusing children over the past 40 years.

The scandal has led to the suspension or forced resignation of dozens of priests nationwide.

"What's different this Easter is this awareness and the fact that we need to call people to justice," said The Rev. John Ardis, director of the Paulist Center in Boston. "We recognize that trying for many years to handle it internally didn't work."

A priest who resigned as pastor of a church near Flint, Mich., admitted in a letter read to parishioners on Good Friday that he had "inappropriate sexual contact" several years ago with a minor. The Rev. Vincent DeLorenzo, 63, resigned on Jan. 23.

In Chicago, Cardinal Francis George defended the tarnished image of priests. He asked parishioners Sunday to pray for priests who are good men.

"Priests are not a criminal class," the Chicago archbishop told hundreds of worshippers who spilled out of Holy Name Cathedral.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Small wedding causes big problem with bride's family

DEAR ABBY: I hope you can stand another wedding-related disaster. I was married last October. My husband and I both wanted a small wedding because we couldn't afford a large one. We planned to elope and be married with only our parents and siblings as guests. The idea was to spend a fun weekend at a local inn.

My mother-in-law suggested that we include a few of our closest friends. Therefore, my husband and I each invited six friends and their dates/spouses. A total of 33 people attended the wedding, and it was exactly what we wanted.

I plan to throw a party for other relatives later this year. However, none of mine are speaking to me! They say I wrote them off by excluding them from the wedding — that I chose friends over family, and some other hurtful comments.

When I explained that my husband's aunts, uncles and cousins weren't invited either and expressed their happiness for us, my relatives didn't care. My husband comes from a prominent family, and my side of the family is using that against me. They insist I am ashamed of them and think they're not good enough.

I thought throwing a party for everyone afterward would solve the problem. However, after what my relatives have said, I don't want to waste our money on them. I doubt they'd come anyway, since we're not speaking.

Abby, is one obligated to invite relatives to one's wedding? Is there an invitation protocol? Please advise. — **KELLY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.**

DEAR KELLY: Nothing is written in stone. However, in an ideal world, members of one's family are supposed to be closer than one's friends. Since it's too late to invite your family to your wedding, send them personal invitations to your party and see who shows up. (That way they won't think you have turned your back on them completely.)

**

DEAR ABBY: I have a hint for your readers who have a loved one in a nursing home: Carry a notebook. If there's a problem, note the day, time, the person you talked with and the condition of your loved one. Describe any problems and when they were solved.

If your loved one can make notes, give him or her a notebook, and have the person make notes of what is happening.

I shared this idea with a friend. She said it worked for her and her dad. He is getting much better care now. — **CAREGIVER IN OKLAHOMA**

DEAR CAREGIVER: Thanks for the suggestion. Jotting down the details of important conversations can be helpful for many reasons. Another good idea is to drop by unexpectedly and let the management know that you are paying attention to the care your loved one is receiving. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Our visits to friends in nursing homes and convalescent hospitals would be much more pleasant if the patient's family would pin up happy pictures or awards on the walls. Most rooms have a bulletin board.

We could talk about happy experiences and honors, rather than aches and pains. — **MARGARET MILLER, CINCINNATI**

DEAR MARGARET: I have a better idea. Why don't all visitors take along photos or other mementos of happy events to liven up the conversation? Funny cartoons can also lighten the atmosphere. Smiles and laughter are good medicine for all concerned.

**

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

**

Good advice for everyone — teens to seniors — is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-01-02
♠ 8
♥ A K 10 3
♦ A K Q 9 4
♣ 10 9 4

West
♠ 6 5 4 3 2
♥ J 4
♦ J 8 2
♣ 8 5 3

East
♠ Q J
♥ 8 7 6 2
♦ 7 6 5 3
♣ Q 6 2

South
♠ A K 10 9 7
♥ Q 9 5
♦ 10
♣ A K J 7

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Both;
North-South 30

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

Opening lead: ♣ 8

Monday, April 1, 2002

An unusual deal on No. 11

By Phillip Alder

Today marks the 11th anniversary of my name appearing on this column — no fool! To note this unremarkable fact, here is a remarkable deal. Can you see what is so unusual about it?

The auction is my concoction. North is minimum for a reverse, especially with a singleton spade, but the alternatives are worse. Now a tournament player would rebid two spades, showing at least five and forcing for one round. But, since a nervous partner might pass, South selects three clubs, which must be forcing. Then, when North rebids his diamond suit, South jumps to what he expects to make: six no-trump.

The deal was reported many years ago by B.J. Becker. It occurred during a high-stakes rubber-bridge game in which everyone except North was an expert. South kept cutting North, so was having a frustrating time. Suddenly, though, when North opened one diamond, South could finally see a winning rubber. He jumped to two spades. Now North made the insufficient bid of two hearts! And before he could have the law explained (he could correct to three hearts with no penalty, but any other call would bar his partner), North said, "No, it's all right. I bid three diamonds. We have game and 40." The only snag was that they had game and 30, not 40. So, three diamonds wasn't game. And an unhappy South was forced to pass.

As you can guess, East-West won the rubber on the next deal.

The deal is strange because North-South can make a grand slam in all five strains: no-trump, spades, hearts, diamonds and clubs — no fool!

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, April 2, 2002

One thing you do best is effect change, rather than be subjected to it. This talent will serve you well in the year ahead - it will bring benefits to yourself and your loved ones.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Remarkable results are possible by having faith in yourself and your abilities. Reject the thoughts of anyone who would put a damper on your ideas. Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — You have the ability to salvage something that others view as obsolete. Put your talents into reviving an old endeavor.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Because you like to gather the thoughts of others, you tend to encourage candid opinions. This could be one of those days, but prepare for both kind and hurtful comments.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If you still haven't achieved your objectives after intense effort, it may be time to call in the reserves. They could have a few weapons that'll accomplish your aims.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — There is no one in your group who can get the ball rolling like you. You have the ability to stir things up constructively.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — This is an important day to clean up all lingering details. You have no margin for error, but you should be able to get things done right the first time.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — You have the ability and innate diplomacy to deal with a sensitive associate to whom something needs to be told.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You are still in a good period for financial involvements, so continue to focus your efforts in this area. Don't take anything for granted, however.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — The people you deal with will recognize your authority, and show the respect it deserves. Your bearing will leave little doubt as to who is in charge.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — This is a good day to call a debtor's attention to his or her responsibility. This person isn't likely to square accounts otherwise.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Stand up for a friend's reputation if it is being unjustly besmirched in your presence. Keep in mind that the situation may be reversed some day.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — One thing you do best is play the role of a puppeteer, prompting the actors in the drama of life. Be that power behind the scenes.

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St. Elizabeth Sausage Festival
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Sausage Dinner Complete
With All The Trimmings
•Game Booths
•Raffles • Country Store
Sunday, April 7
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center
30th at Ave. A, Snyder, Texas
Meal Tickets Sold At Door
$6.50 Adults
$3.50 Children 12 & Under
$6.50 All Take Outs
Sausage Sold By The Pound
$3 Lb. (Uncooked)
$4 Lb. (Cooked)

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FEN-PHEN?
The diet drug Fen-Phen was marketed under several names including **Redux**, **Pondimin**, **Fenfluramine**, or **Dexfenfluramine**. If you took these diet drugs, you should know that it may not be too late to opt-out of the nationwide class action for the purpose of pursuing a lawsuit against the drug company individually
FOR MORE INFORMATION, AND TO FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR A FREE, NON-INVASIVE ECHOCARDIOGRAPHIC SCREENING, PLEASE CALL US
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APR 01 2002

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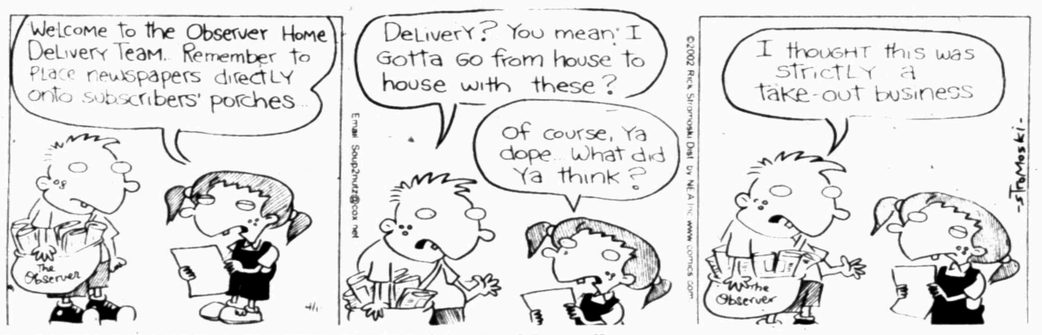
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



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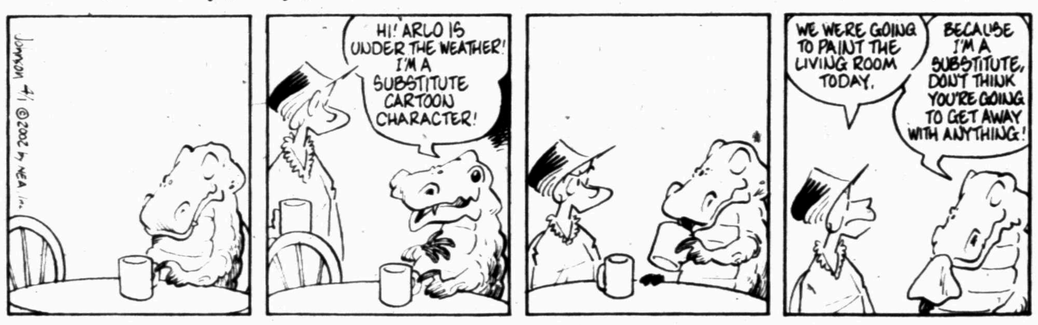

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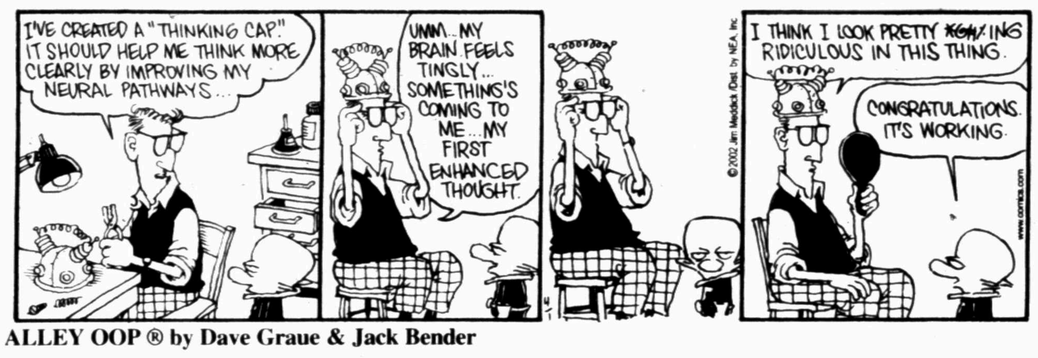
MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender

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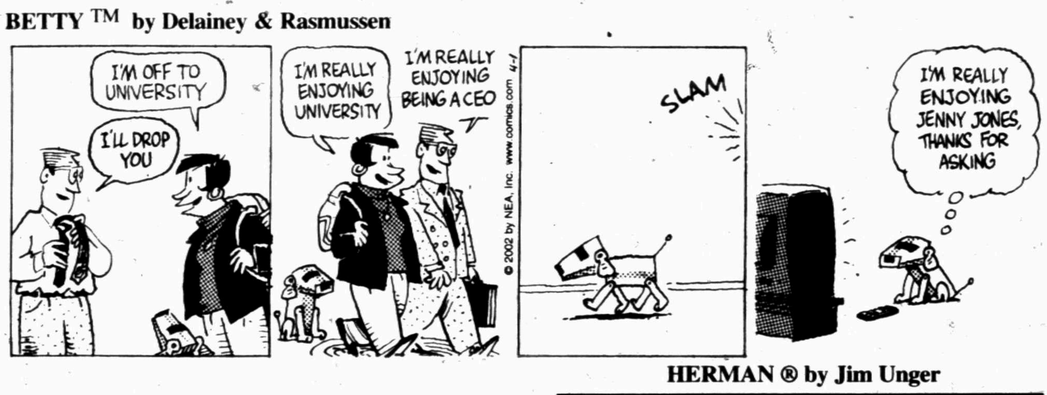

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"Since it was a false alarm, I'll just give you one quick squirt."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"BOY, GOD SURE HAD LOTS OF COMPANY TODAY!"

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 NYC landmark
4 Very, in Veracruz
7 ABA member
10 Flight board info.
11 Vocalist Vaughan
13 Aussie bird
14 Ignited
15 Pack animal
16 Funny Charlotte
17 Memory
19 Hired thugs
21 Stomach muscles
22 Mortarboard
23 Makes tea
26 Sock holders
30 Bunny features
31 Enter data
32 Long time
33 Tractor-trailer
34 Hirt and Gore
35 Mountain range near China
36 Scowls
39 Didn't yet
40 Actor Brynner
41 Not their
42 Reformer Riis
45 Frolicked
48 Sapporo sash
49 Boise locale
51 Tyke
53 Receive
54 Gung-ho
55 Compass pt.
56 Witness
57 Bunk
58 Tax-form ID

DOWN

1 Singer Torme
2 Fuss
3 Turnstile
4 Retail centers
5 Caspian Sea tributary
6 Root vegetable
7 Flying prefix
8 Fed. agent (hyph.)
9 Week da.
11 Thick slices
12 Snert's master
18 Raucous cries
20 Make a choice
22 Low islands
23 Golf great Patty
24 Stair-climbing aid
25 As a result
26 Hardens
27 Congers
28 Dappled horse
29 Tizzy
31 Philosopher Marx
35 Senior cit. group
37 Mont. neighbor
38 Jazzman Blake
39 Mood
41 — and aahed
42 Keeps fit
43 Busy as — —
44 Give as an example
45 Fury
46 — out a living
47 Uproars
50 Apply makeup
52 Bear's digs

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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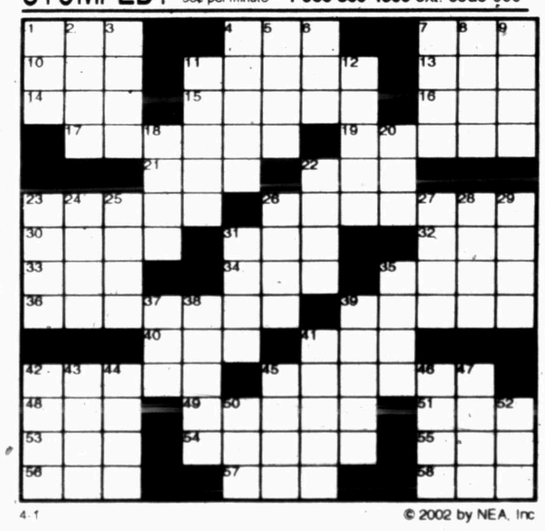

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SPORTS

Tigers and Matadors resume game today

After a two-day break, the Snyder Tigers pick up where they left off with the Estacado Matadors.

Snyder resumes its District 4-4A contest with Estacado at 6 tonight at Moffett Field. The game was suspended Friday due to lightning and heavy rain with the Tigers leading, 5-2, in the top of the third inning.

When play resumes today, Estacado's Michael Reyna will be at the plate with one out and a 1-1 count. The Matadors have two base runners with Keith Upshaw at third and Stephen Rodriguez at second.

If the Tigers hold off Estcadao, they will move into sole possession of the district lead.

Snyder is in action again Tuesday when it visits Andrews for a 4 p.m. match-up. The game was originally scheduled for 5 o'clock, but has been moved up to 4.

In other diamond action Tuesday, the Ira Bulldogs host Roby at 7 p.m., and the Snyder Lady Tigers softball team takes on Lake View at 7 o'clock at Cates Field.

Two local squads move on to national tourney

After three rounds of competition, two Snyder teams earned their way to the Little Dribblers National Tournament.

Snyder won the major division and grabbed the runner-up spot in the junior division Saturday at the Little Dribblers Regional Tournament.

The top two teams from each division advance to the national tourney scheduled to begin April 24 in Brownsboro.

Snyder I secured the major division title with a 43-35 victory over Levelland.

Brent Bollinger poured in 15 points, and Ryan Claxton added 10 to pace Snyder.

Lance Day tallied nine points. Brooks Gafford drained four. Rance Dunn and Travis Hatfield finished with two each, and Dustin Murdock chipped in one.

In the junior bracket, Snyder fell to Plainview, 49-39, in the championship game, but rebounded to topple Levelland, 44-31, to earn runner-up.

Jake Crenwelge and Rey Juarez poured in 13 points apiece to lead Snyder past Levelland.

T.J. Wright posted six points, and Shade Roemisch added four. Matthew Rios drained three points. Kenyon Gafford and Kylor Fine scored two points each, and Anthony Taylor chipped in one.

MLB season gets underway

By BEN WALKER
AP Baseball Writer

After more than a month of spring training, Rafael Palmeiro is all set to play ball for keeps.

"Everybody's optimistic, but this year is extra special," the Texas first baseman said. "We really have some good players and we have a quality team."

Same goes for Luis Gonzalez.

"The last time we took the field for real, when we walked off we were world champions," the Arizona star said. "All the guys are anxious and eager."

And so, after an acrimonious winter filled with talk about contraction and more labor trouble, baseball can finally focus on what it does best — playing ball.

The season started Sunday night with an Easter special as Bartolo Colon pitched the Cleveland Indians past the Anaheim Angels 6-0.

On Monday, it revs up with opening day at 10 ballparks.

Randy Johnson and the Diamondbacks will raise the World Series banner before they play the San Diego Padres at Bank One Ballpark.

Pedro Martinez pitches at Fenway Park, Roger Clemens starts at Camden Yards in his drive toward 300 career victories.

Sammy Sosa and Ken Griffey Jr., both within range of 500 career home runs, face each other as the final year begins at Cinergy Field. The Minnesota Twins, after escaping offseason elimination, play at Kansas City.

Cal Ripken, Mark McGwire and Tony Gwynn, all gone. Yet new stars on the way — are Florida pitcher Josh Beckett and Texas third baseman Hank Blalock really as good as the scouts say?

Patriotic tributes and reminders about Sept. 11 will be present. American flags will appear on players' jackets, "God Bless America" will continue to be sung during the seventh-inning stretch and there will be a minute of silence at 9:11 p.m. during each team's first home night game.

That is, if the games last that long. Baseball has once again tried to institute speed-up rules — pitchers must throw the ball within 12 seconds of the batter stepping in the box if no one is on base.

Among those in charge of enforcing the regulations is Joe West, one of the five umpires rehired after 22 of them lost their jobs 21/2 years ago in a failed resignation plan.

At Arizona, fans are still celebrating after Gonzalez's bottom-of-the-ninth single beat the New York Yankees in Game 7 last November. But Johnson, the winning pitcher that night, already is looking ahead.

"I've put all that behind me," the Big Unit said. "How is that going to make me better out there against the San Diego Padres?"

The NL Cy Young Award winner will not have to face Padres slugger Ryan Klesko. He'll start serving a suspension for a pair of brawls with Anaheim in spring training.

The Yankees will unveil a juiced-up lineup that now includes Jason Giambi when they visit Baltimore. Clemens begins his bid for 300 career victories — he needs 20 — while Scott Erickson starts for the Orioles for the first time since elbow surgery in August 2000.

Clemens is coming off a 20-3 season and his record sixth Cy Young Award. He will start for a team that, for the first time in four years, is not the World Series champion.

There are other changes, too. While adding Giambi, Robin Ventura, Rondell White, David Wells and others, the Yankees lost Tino Martinez, Paul O'Neill, Scott Brosius and Chuck Knoblauch.

The Yankees will begin the year with the majors' highest payroll at about $125 million, dwarfing Tampa Bay's total of around $34 million.

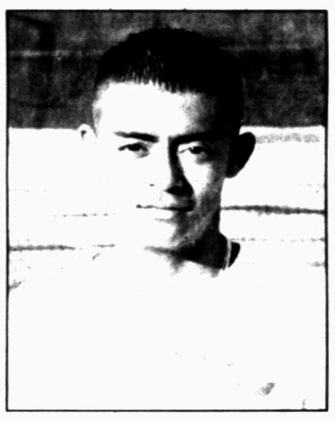
"It doesn't feel any different," Clemens said. "We came up short, but the goals are still the same."

Chances are, fans at Camden Yards might have more than baseball on their minds at opening day. At night, many of them will be watching their TV sets as Maryland plays Indiana for the NCAA men's basketball title.

The college hoops championship will be played at the Georgia Dome, a few miles from where newly acquired Gary Sheffield and the Atlanta Braves open against Philadelphia at Turner Field.

Pedro Martinez, hoping his shoulder is ready for the whole season, was new manager Grady Little's easy pick to pitch for the Boston Red Sox against Toronto. Blue Jays starter Chris Carpenter, who grew up in New Hampshire, was thrilled about opening at Fenway Park.

DePaz paces Snyder at Amarillo tourney



Horacio DePaz

AMARILLO — After cruising through the Cooper Tennis Classic a week ago, Snyder netters ran into some stiff competition at the Amarillo Relays Tennis Tournament.

Horacio DePaz earned sixth place in the boys singles bracket to give Snyder its highest finish of the tournament.

Pat Vargas and Andra Dunham were seventh in girls doubles, and Curt Phillips and Adam Rodgers were eighth in the boys competition.

In other doubles action, the tandem of Afton Sutter and Jackie Beccue, and the Alex Best-Tyson Kubena Duo were 10th.

Cozy Jones placed 10th and Kara Brumley was 12th in girls singles. Tanner Reed finished 14th in boys singles.

Mavs down Jordan, Wizards 110-103

WASHINGTON (AP) — Steve Nash had a better finish than Michael Jordan.

Neither shot well in the first half, but Nash was able to answer Jordan's charge late in the fourth quarter as the Dallas Mavericks beat the Washington Wizards 110-103 Sunday.

"Nash hit a couple of 3s," Jordan said. "And that kind of separated the men from the boys."

Jordan, who started 0-for-7, made three consecutive baskets to tie the game at 92, 94 and 96. Then Nash, who was 1-for-6 in the first half, made a 3-pointer with 2:19 to go put Dallas ahead for good at 99-96.

Nash followed with another long jumper — his foot was on the line, so it actually counted for two — then he had a three-point play and made two more free throws. He scored 10 of his 22 points in the final 21/2 minutes.

"That's when they count," Nash said, "especially after not shooting particularly well the rest of the game. I really knew my time was coming."

Jordan missed his last two shots and finished 4-for-14 with 10 points and five assists in 28 minutes. Jordan has been the backup point guard in recent games as he recovers from knee surgery, but he was used more at his old position of shooting guard by coach Doug Collins on Sunday.

"He may have used me up a little, and hopefully in the upcoming games I can play a little bit more point guard where I can control the tempo and not really use my minutes or my energy up trying to get shots," Jordan said.

Jordan, put on the spot by Collins last week over whether he plans to play next season, returned the favor by putting the onus on Collins for the upcoming rough schedule that starts with Tuesday's game against the Los Angeles Lakers. The Wizards trail Indiana by 21/2 games in the battle for the final playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

"It's going to be a tough stretch, four games in five nights," Jordan said. "He's going to have to earn his coaching ring to try to find my minutes and how to minimize my minutes and keep me in the focus of what's happening with this team."

Meanwhile, the Mavericks are also 21/2 games back, but their target is first-place Sacramento in the West.

Dirk Nowitzki led Dallas with 23 points and 12 rebounds. Nash also had 12 assists, and Nick Van Exel scored 16 points on 7-for-11 shooting. Adrian Griffin and Michael Finley each had 15 points.

Sports Briefs

Teenage baseball sign-ups

Players interested in registering for teenage league baseball can do so through Wednesday by calling 573-8048. Boys who will be 13 by July 31 and not 17 by Aug. 1 are eligible.

WGA play day begins

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club will hold its first play day at 9 a.m. Tuesday. A business meeting and luncheon is also scheduled. For more information, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Girls basketball camp scheduled

The Snyder Tiger girls basketball camp is set for May 28-31 at the SHS gym. The camp is for incoming third through ninth graders, and cost is $60, which includes a camp T-shirt.

Registration forms are available at the elementary and junior high schools, or can be picked up at the SHS girls basketball office. Players can pre-register through May 15.

Uconn tops OU for women's title

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Connecticut beat Oklahoma 82-70 to conclude its second unbeaten season with a third national championship — and prove that yes, it could win a close game, too.

All that's left now is deciding whether it's the best women's team ever.

Not even the Huskies themselves were ready to go that far, even though their average victory margin this season, 35.4 points, was an NCAA record.

Connecticut, at 39-0, became the fourth team to go undefeated since women's basketball came under the NCAA in 1981 and was the first school to do it twice. The Huskies went 35-0 in winning their first title in 1995.

Tennessee's 1998 national champions were 39-0. Texas finished 34-0 in 1986.

UConn won its other title in 2000, when the Huskies were 36-1. Only Tennessee, with six, has more national championships than Connecticut.

Singh wins Houston Open

THE WOODLANDS (AP) — Vijay Singh won his first PGA Tour title since the 2000 Masters, closing with a 4-under 68 for a six-stroke victory in the Shell Houston Open.

Singh, who had a tournament-record 22-under 266 total on the TPC at The Woodlands, earned $720,000 for his 10th PGA Tour title.

Northern Ireland's Darren Clarke shot a 71 to finish second at 272, and Spain's Jose Maria Olazabal was another stroke back after a 70.

Singh's 22-under total shattered the tournament record of 18 under set by Curtis Strange in 1980 at Woodlands Country Club. Singh's six-stroke margin of victory matched the tournament record set by Jackie Burke in 1952.

Men's Final Four

By The Associated Press
Time EST
THE FINAL FOUR
At The Georgia Dome
Atlanta
National Semifinals
Saturday, March 30
Indiana 73, Oklahoma 64
Maryland 97, Kansas 88
National Championship
Monday, April 1
Indiana (25-11) vs. Maryland (31-4), 9:18 p.m.

Women's Final Four

By The Associated Press
THE FINAL FOUR
At The Alamodome
San Antonio
National Semifinals
Friday, March 29
Oklahoma 86, Duke 71
Connecticut 79, Tennessee 56
National Championship
Sunday, March 31
Connecticut 82, Oklahoma 70

National Basketball Association

By The Associated Press
All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
x-New Jersey	47	27	.635	—
Boston	42	32	.568	5
Orlando	40	33	.548	6½
Philadelphia	38	35	.521	8½
Washington	34	39	.466	12½
Miami	32	40	.444	14
New York	27	45	.375	19
Central Division				
x-Detroit	44	29	.603	—
Charlotte	38	34	.528	5½
Milwaukee	38	34	.528	5½
Indiana	36	36	.500	7½
Toronto	35	38	.479	9
Atlanta	29	44	.397	15
Cleveland	25	48	.342	19
Chicago	17	56	.233	27

WESTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Midwest Division				
x-Dallas	51	22	.699	—
x-San Antonio	49	24	.671	2
Minnesota	45	28	.616	6
Utah	41	32	.562	10
Houston	26	46	.361	24½
Denver	22	50	.306	28½
Memphis	19	53	.264	31½
Pacific Division				
x-Sacramento	53	19	.736	—
x-L.A. Lakers	52	21	.712	1½
Portland	44	29	.603	9½
Seattle	43	31	.581	11
L.A. Clippers	37	37	.500	17
Phoenix	34	39	.466	19½
Golden State	18	55	.247	35½

x-clinched playoff spot

Saturday's Games
New Jersey 102, Philadelphia 92
Charlotte 93, Cleveland 85
Memphis 105, Golden State 99
Denver 100, Chicago 84
Phoenix 90, Houston 88
Seattle 92, Portland 87
Utah 105, L.A. Clippers 92

Sunday's Games
Boston 110, Milwaukee 80
Sacramento 92, Atlanta 91
Indiana 100, Miami 81
Dallas 110, Washington 103
Orlando 97, New York 90
Minnesota 86, New Jersey 85
Toronto 72, Philadelphia 70
L.A. Lakers 96, San Antonio 95
Detroit 86, Denver 82

Monday's Games
No games scheduled

Tuesday's Games
Phoenix at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Boston at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Detroit at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Memphis, 8 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Washington, 8 p.m.
Charlotte at New York, 8 p.m.
Seattle at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Utah at Denver, 9 p.m.
Portland at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.

Major League Baseball

American League
By The Associated Press
All Times EST

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Baltimore	0	0	.000	—
Boston	0	0	.000	—
New York	0	0	.000	—
Tampa Bay	0	0	.000	—
Toronto	0	0	.000	—
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	1	0	1.000	—
Chicago	0	0	.000	½
Detroit	0	0	.000	½
Kansas City	0	0	.000	½
Minnesota	0	0	.000	½
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	0	0	.000	—
Seattle	0	0	.000	—
Texas	0	0	.000	—
Anaheim	0	1	.000	½

Sunday's Game
Cleveland 6, Anaheim 0

Monday's Games
Toronto (Carpenter 11-11) at Boston (P.Martinez 7-3), 1:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Clemens 20-3) at Baltimore (Erickson 0-0), 3:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Radke 15-11) at Kansas City (Suppan 10-14), 4:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 16-8) at Seattle (Garcia 18-6), 5:05 p.m.
Texas (Park 15-11) at Oakland (Mulder 21-8), 10:05 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
Detroit (Weaver 13-16) at Tampa Bay (Sturtze 11-12), 7:15 p.m.
Texas (Rogers 5-7) at Oakland (Hudson 18-9), 10:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Sabathia 17-5) at Anaheim (Appier 11-10), 10:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Ritchie 11-15) at Seattle (Moyer 20-6), 10:05 p.m.

National League
By The Associated Press
All Times EST

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	0	0	.000	—
Florida	0	0	.000	—
Montreal	0	0	.000	—
New York	0	0	.000	—
Philadelphia	0	0	.000	—
Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	0	0	.000	—
Cincinnati	0	0	.000	—
Houston	0	0	.000	—
Milwaukee	0	0	.000	—
Pittsburgh	0	0	.000	—
St. Louis	0	0	.000	—
West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	0	0	.000	—
Colorado	0	0	.000	—
Los Angeles	0	0	.000	—
San Diego	0	0	.000	—
San Francisco	0	0	.000	—

Sunday's Games
No games scheduled

Monday's Games
Philadelphia (Person 15-7) at Atlanta (Maddux 17-11 or Glavine 16-7), 1:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Villone 6-10) at N.Y. Mets (Leiter 11-11), 1:10 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Lieber 20-6) at Cincinnati (Hamilton 1-2), 2:15 p.m.
San Diego (Jarvis 12-11) at Arizona (Johnson 21-6), 4:05 p.m.
Colorado (Hampton 14-13) at St. Louis (Morris 22-8), 4:10 p.m.

Tuesday's Games
San Francisco (L.Hernandez 13-15) at Los Angeles (Brown 10-4), 4:10 p.m.
Milwaukee (Sheets 11-10) at Houston (Miller 16-8), 5:05 p.m.
Florida (Dempster 15-12) at Montreal (Vazquez 16-11), 7:05 p.m.
San Diego (Tollberg 10-4) at Arizona (Schilling 22-6), 8:35 p.m.

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Supreme Court will review how far states can interpret '3 strikes' laws

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said Monday it will use the cases of two petty thieves sentenced to at least 25 years in prison for shoplifting videotapes and stealing golf clubs to decide how far states can go in applying tough three-strikes-and-you're-out sentencing laws.

The court's answer could settle whether states violate the Constitution's ban on cruel or unusual punishment when they use the laws to win long sentences for minor offenses that otherwise might result in just a few months behind bars.

The court agreed to hear two cases from California, which has the country's strictest three-strikes law.

Forty states lengthen sentences of repeat criminals; 26 of the 40 have a three-strikes provision.

Only in California, however, may a judge impose a sentence of 25 years to life for any felony conviction if the criminal was previously convicted of two serious or violent felonies.

Crimes that might otherwise be considered misdemeanors may also be considered felonies under California's law, meaning that shoplifting or other small-time crime can trigger the long sentence.

California voters and lawmakers approved the three-strikes law in 1994 amid public furor over the kidnapping and murder of 12-year-old Polly Klaas. Richard Allen Davis, a repeat offender on parole at the time of the kidnapping, was convicted of the murder and sentenced to death.

Three-strikes laws in other states and the federal government were also passed in the 1990s, when the spread of crack cocaine fed public fears about rising violent crime.

The federal law is not under review before the high court.

The better-known case the court will hear is an appeal from California's attorney general, who claims the state was justified in seeking a prison term of 50 years to life for a man convicted of stuffing videotapes down his pants at two southern California Kmart stores in 1995.

Leandro Andrade had previous burglary convictions, making him eligible for extra punishment under California's three-strikes law.

A state court upheld the sentence, but the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, in a widely noted decision last year, ruled that Andrade's sentence was unconstitutional. The ruling was limited to cases like his, and did not overturn the three-strikes law itself.

"I think it is outrageous that someone could be sentenced to 50 years in prison for shoplifting $150 worth of videotapes," said Erwin Chemerinsky, Andrade's lawyer.

A divided three-judge panel of the appeals court found Andrade's sentence "grossly disproportionate" to the theft, and said Supreme Court rulings require a trial judge to examine whether the punishment fits the crime.

The court also said it will hear a case that came out the other way. Courts upheld Gary Ewing's sentence of 25 years to life in prison for trying to walk out of a pro shop with three golf clubs shoved down his pants leg.

Ewing had four prior convictions for robbery and burglary. Although prosecutors could have charged him with a misdemeanor in the golf club case, they chose to charge him with a felony under the state's three-strikes law.

"Serving 25 years to life for stealing golf clubs is cruel and unusual punishment," Ewing's lawyer wrote in asking the Supreme Court to get involved.

The Supreme Court has turned down previous attempts to challenge three-strikes laws as cruel and unusual punishment, but in 1999, three justices made an unusual point of questioning the law's application in California.

The court's ruling could be limited to the California law, or it could make a more general statement about the reach of sentencing schemes for repeat criminals.

In Andrade's case, the prosecutor had a choice of charging Andrade with a misdemeanor or with a felony that would make him subject to the three-strikes law.

Andrade received 25 years to life for each count, with the sentences to run consecutively. He is not eligible for parole until 2046, when he will be 87.

"Nothing in the Constitution requires society to wait for another person to be victimized by another serious or violent crime before isolating (a repeat criminal) for a substantial period of time," California Attorney General Bill Lockyer wrote in asking the Supreme Court to get involved.

Rhode Island, West Virginia, Texas and Louisiana would also allow longer than usual sentences for Andrade's same crime.

The 9th Circuit concluded that only in Louisiana would Andrade have faced a potential sentence as long as the one he received in California.

The government does have the power to punish repeat criminals harshly, Andrade's lawyer argued in court papers, "but this court has never approved such harsh sentences for misdemeanor conduct, even when the offender is a recidivist," Chemerinsky wrote.

News Briefs

Teen-ager is charged in deputy's death

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — A teen-ager who kicked a deputy in the chest faces a second-degree murder charge because the officer died of a heart attack hours later.

William Robert Waters Jr., 17, is accused of resisting arrest with violence resulting in the deputy's death, said Palm Beach County Sheriff's Lt. Ed Serafin. He also was charged with disorderly conduct and assaulting a law enforcement officer.

He was being held at the county Juvenile Assessment Center.

Deputy Donald Lee Schavolt, 48, died Sunday from a massive heart attack hours after he was kicked, officials said.

"While it doesn't have all the fanfare of someone being shot and being lost, it's still a grievous loss," said Sheriff Ed Bieluch.

Deputies said they found Waters lying in a road and apparently drunk early Sunday.

Four deputies restrained Waters after he rushed at them when his father came to pick him up, authorities said. Handcuffed and in leg restraints, Waters then kicked Schavolt as the deputy put him in a patrol car, according to sheriff's reports. Soon after, the deputy collapsed.

Father of woman killed by mob is dead

RANCHO MIRAGE, Calif. (AP) — Peter Biehl, who won the world's respect when he forgave four men who killed his daughter in a racist attack in South Africa and made his daughter's work there his own, has died. He was 59.

Biehl died Sunday of complications from colon cancer. His wife, Linda, was at his side at Eisenhower Medical Center, the family said in a statement.

Their daughter, Fulbright scholar Amy Biehl, died in 1993 as she drove black friends home in Guguletu township. A mob stoned her car and she was stabbed to death.

Inspired by Amy's dedication to help disadvantaged South Africans, her parents supported amnesty for her killers. Their stance led to the release of the four men who had been serving 18 years for Amy's murder.

Born in Chicago, Biehl settled in Newport Beach with his wife and four children. He gave up his marketing career when Amy died to help her cause.

A year after Amy's death, her parents established the Amy Biehl Foundation in the United States to raise money for Guguletu. The Amy Biehl Foundation Trust was launched in South Africa in 1997 and employs two of the men convicted of Amy's murder.

"What was so remarkable was not only that they forgave the killers of their daughter, but that they went so far as to rehabilitate them," South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu said in the family's statement.

The couple traveled to South Africa eight to nine times a year. They also brought American interns to South Africa and built scholarships for South African students to study in the United States.

"Peter saw great hope in South Africa and also acquired strength from the South African people. He truly believed that it was a miraculous country," Linda Biehl said.

Besides his wife, Biehl is survived by two daughters, a son and three grandchildren.

Driver is accused of threatening Bush

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. (AP) — A man driving a truck loaded with propane threatened President Bush with a 3,000-pound bomb and led the Secret Service and five other law enforcement agencies on a 20-mile highway chase, authorities said.

Monty Branch, 29, of Frankfort, Ky., was arrested Sunday after police punctured the truck's tires with spike strips on Interstate 75 near suburban East Brainerd.

Investigators found no bombs on the truck but "we're inferring 'bomb' to mean the truck he had," said Beth Tucker Womack, spokeswoman for the state Department of Safety.

Branch was charged with felony evading arrest, reckless endangerment and possession of marijuana in a commercial vehicle, Womack said.

The supervisor of the Secret Service's Chattanooga office, Tim Gobble, wouldn't comment.

Branch made the threat Sunday in a call to a Bradley County dispatcher, Womack said.

"He said that he had a 3,000-pound bomb," said Womack. "He said that he had a problem, and the president had a problem."

Branch continued to threaten the president after his arrest, telling a police officer "he was going to blow the president up as part of expressing his freedom of religion, or statements to that effect," Chattanooga police spokesman Ed Buice said.

The truck belonged to Amerigas, where Branch worked as a delivery man.

Police described the truck as stolen and Amerigas, based in King of Prussia, Pa., planned to seek theft charges, Chattanooga police spokesman C.W. Joel told the Chattanooga Times Free Press. Company officials did not immediately return calls today.

Flag hoisted above the WTC rubble raised above city hall

NEW YORK (AP) — The American flag that was lifted above the wreckage of the World Trade Center and then flew aboard Navy ships deployed in the war against terror was raised above City Hall on today.

City officials and Navy officers stood at attention in a solemn, wordless ceremony as an honor guard of police officers and firefighters lifted the flag and bagpipers played "America the Beautiful."

On Sept. 11, firefighters Dan McWilliams, George Johnson and Billy Eisengrein were photographed as they raised the flag above the smoldering rubble.

"The flag has special meaning," Fire Commissioner Nicholas Scoppetta said before the ceremony. "It seemed to represent an indomitable spirit, a coming back from those attacks."

The flag was sent to the USS Theodore Roosevelt in October as it sailed toward Afghanistan. It has since flown on six other Navy ships.

It was returned to New York last week after a ceremony aboard the Roosevelt as it ended its six-month mission and returned to Norfolk, Va.

At today's ceremony, Mayor Michael Bloomberg and other city officials were joined by McWilliams, Johnson and Eisengrein.

Afterward, Eisengrein had little to say about his role.

"It was just three New York City firefighters who raised the flag," he said.

The flag will fly over City Hall for one week, and then will likely circulate among city police stations and firehouses in a case crafted by the Navy, said Michael Handy, director of the mayor's Office of Veterans Affairs.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	26.11	25.15	25.24	—1.17
AOL TimeWrn	23.39	22.94	23.20	—.45
AT&T Corp s	15.75	15.60	15.63	—.07
Albertsons	33.10	32.87	32.90	—.24
Alltel	55.15	54.78	54.84	—.71
AmEl Pw	46.09	45.54	45.80	—.29
AndarkPtr	57.60	57.11	57.19	+.75
ATMOS Egy	23.84	23.53	23.77	+.17
Avialll	9.00	8.85	8.85	—.18
BP PLC	53.65	53.13	53.26	+.16
BakerHughes	38.31	37.40	37.66	—.59
Bank of Amer	67.48	66.85	67.34	—.68
BellSouth	36.74	35.80	35.92	—.94
vjBeth Steel	.48	.46	.47	+.02
BurlNoSFe	29.91	29.48	29.50	—.68
Caterpillar	57.00	56.01	56.09	—.76
ChevronTex	90.69	89.80	89.84	—.43
Citigroup	49.52	48.82	49.22	—.30
CocaCola	52.10	51.56	51.61	—.65
ColgatePal	56.99	56.55	56.59	—.56
ComclMetals	42.36	42.00	42.10	+.10
CooperIn	41.95	41.04	41.05	—.90
DaimlrChry	45.03	44.20	44.63	—.40
DeltaAirl	32.66	31.72	31.82	—.90
Dillards Inc	23.00	22.05	22.79	—1.07
DowChem	32.60	31.76	31.81	—.91
DuPont	47.16	46.31	46.36	—.79
EastmanChem	47.90	47.10	47.42	—1.37
EstKodak	31.28	30.74	30.74	—.43
EDS Corp	57.96	56.75	56.80	—1.19
Entergy	43.90	43.11	43.64	+.23
ExxonMobil s	44.32	43.81	43.88	+.05
FstBksAm	40.98	40.80	40.80	—.18
FootLocker	16.04	15.63	15.94	—.24
GenDynam	95.40	94.00	94.60	+.65
GenElec	37.15	36.62	36.79	—.66
GenMills	48.85	48.25	48.25	—.60
GenMotors	60.04	59.08	59.12	—1.33
GaPacific	29.81	28.90	28.95	—1.00
Goodrich	31.36	31.10	31.23	—.41
Goodyear	23.96	23.40	23.77	—1.80
GtAtlPac	27.85	27.08	27.13	—.75
Halliburtn	17.20	17.02	17.06	—.01
Hanson ADS	38.60	38.58	38.58	+.23
HarteHanks	31.55	31.00	31.00	—.64
HomeDepot	48.80	48.06	48.48	—.13
HoneywellIntl	38.27	37.66	37.80	—.47
IBM	104.00	102.51	102.59	—1.41
IntlPaper	43.02	41.79	41.80	—1.21
JohnsonJn s	65.29	64.15	64.97	+.02
vjK mart	1.51	1.41	1.44	—.16
KinderMorg	48.95	48.15	48.73	+.30
Kroger Co	22.20	21.82	21.93	—.23
LockheedM	58.27	57.35	57.85	+.27
Lowes Cos s	43.11	42.68	42.95	—.54
Lubys	6.80	6.62	6.65	—.15
LucentTech	4.81	4.56	4.67	—.06
MarathonOil	29.08	28.80	28.82	+.02
MayDeptStr	34.31	33.70	34.13	—.72
Medtronic	45.00	44.41	44.42	—.79
Motorola	14.26	13.83	14.21	+.01
NCR Corp	44.30	43.80	43.95	—.80
Navistar	44.10	43.34	43.50	—.80
PNM Rescs	30.55	30.30	30.35	—.31
Penney JC	20.17	19.85	19.97	—.74
PepBoys	16.55	15.83	15.84	—.80
PepsiCo	51.70	50.90	51.06	—.44
Pharmacia	45.09	44.68	44.82	—.26
PhelpDodge	42.10	41.17	41.26	—.84
PhilipPet	63.25	62.71	62.78	—.02
PilgrmPrd B	14.07	13.60	13.60	—.42
Praxair	59.88	58.34	58.51	—1.29
ProctGamb	89.61	89.25	89.32	—.77
RadioShack	29.70	29.42	29.43	—.61
ReliantEngy	25.86	25.50	25.63	—.16
RoyalDut	55.00	54.50	54.58	+.26
SBC Comm	37.69	36.54	36.58	—.86
SaraLee	20.75	20.50	20.60	—.16
Scripps EW	82.30	81.49	81.49	—.63
SearsRoeb	50.60	49.91	50.00	—1.27
SherwinW	28.48	27.90	27.95	—.53
SouthernCo	26.47	26.25	26.38	—.11
SwstAirl	18.90	18.72	18.76	—.59
SprintFON	15.17	14.90	14.94	—.35
SprintPCS	10.31	10.15	10.21	—.08
Sunoco Inc	40.59	40.02	40.23	+.22
TXU Corp	54.35	53.89	54.01	—.50
TempleInland	56.52	55.31	55.33	—1.39
TexInd	41.00	40.50	40.51	—.69
TexasInst	33.35	32.57	33.06	—.04
Textron	51.10	50.00	50.05	—1.05
TriconGlbR	58.79	56.93	57.00	—1.78
TrinityInds	24.21	24.00	24.11	—.20
TylerTech	5.74	5.60	5.61	—.13
UnionPacif	61.28	60.40	60.41	—1.73
USSteel	18.10	17.85	17.88	—.27
UnitedTech	74.00	72.55	72.62	—1.58
Unocal	39.36	39.04	39.21	+.26
VerizonComm	45.60	45.31	45.46	—.64
WalMart	60.36	58.64	58.70	—2.60
WellsFargo	49.01	48.37	48.45	—.95
WstnGasRs	37.75	37.30	37.31	+.09
WinnDixie	16.04	15.75	15.76	—.28
Xerox Cp	10.75	10.51	10.69	—.06

APR 01 2002

Navy to resume Vieques bombing exercises

VIEQUES, Puerto Rico (AP) — Last year, U.S. Navy bombing exercises on this Puerto Rican island met vigorous protests that landed hundreds of opponents in jail, including well known activists such as the Rev. Al Sharpton and Robert F. Kennedy Jr.

The movement against the war games has lost momentum since the Sept. 11 attacks, and a meager turnout at a demonstration Sunday suggested protests against a new round of exercises that begins this week may be as muted as the thump of the inert bombs the Navy uses in the drills.

The Puerto Rican Independence Party said five of its members entered Navy land on the eastern tip of Vieques hours before three weeks of exercises were expected to start. The Navy, which has used the island for target practice for decades, denied the claim.

Independence Party leader Fernando Martin called The Associated Press before dawn to say five female party members led by its vice president, Maria de Lourdes Santiago, broke into Camp Garcia around 5 a.m. Navy spokesman Lt. Corey Barker said there had been no incursions.

The Navy posted an order Friday saying the bombing range would become "hot" on Sunday, a warning that waters around the eastern half of the island are restricted. Barker said no exercises were planned today morning.

In the past, the Navy and protesters have made counterclaims about incursions into Camp Garcia and the seaside bombing range itself.

On Sunday, fewer than 100 activists and two dozen cars turned out for a cavalcade through civilian areas of Vieques. Car horns blared, Vieques flags flapped from windows and loudspeakers blasted salsa songs urging the Navy to get off the island.

Even the protest leaders sounded deflated as they shouted slogans through a bullhorn in Spanish: "Vieques, yes. Navy, no. Navy get out!"

Absent were U.S. activists who had become a fixture — people like Sharpton and Kennedy, who were jailed along with hundreds of Puerto Ricans for trespassing on the bombing range last year.

Protest organizers blamed the small turnout on the Easter holiday and said their staunchest activists were ready as ever to charge into the 900-acre firing range in a bid to halt the bombing — though some are previous offenders who court up to six months in prison if they do.

"There are several groups that are waiting to receive the call. And when they receive the call, then they are going to be all over the camp," said protester Jose Maria, who said he spent 20 days in jail last year for breaking into the range.

Much of the spark seems to have gone out of the movement, which has existed for years but attracted little attention until two 500-pound bombs, fired off-target from a Marine jet, killed a Puerto Rican civilian guard on the range in April 1999.

Activists broke onto the range and occupied it for a year, preventing exercises until they were forcibly removed by U.S. Marshals.

The guard's death turned years of simmering resentment into outrage that touched Puerto Ricans of all political persuasions. Even Puerto Rico's pro-statehood governor at the time, Pedro Rossello, rallied behind the slogan "Not one more bomb."

In a sign of the waning opposition, current Gov. Sila Calderon now shies away from outright criticism. She says she backs a deal, endorsed by President Bush, for the Navy to leave by May 2003.

Even that may be jeopardized by a post-Sept. 11 law allowing the Navy to use Vieques until it finds an alternative.

Data from 1930 census being released

WASHINGTON (AP) — Ken Macomber wants to learn more about what life was like for his father at the dawn of the Great Depression. Curt Witcher is looking for clues about his grandfather's younger days in Indiana.

They hope the National Archives' release today of personal records from the 1930 census helps fill in the pages of their respective family histories.

Federal regulations requiring census records be kept confidential for 72 years expired today for the 1930 count. Historians say it is the largest release of genealogical data by the U.S. government.

"This is huge," said Macomber, a genealogist from Burke, Va. Besides his father, he is looking for details about other relatives who were living in Pennsylvania and West Virginia at the time.

"The axiom for family history is to start with the known and look for the unknown," Macomber said.

The release goes beyond the dry statistics typically released a year after the once-a-decade count. Americans can view the answers their parents and grandparents gave.

Some questions will look familiar: What is your name? What is your sex? Are you single or married? Others are a sign of the times, such as the question that asked, "Does this household have a radio set?"

"It is probably the single most important record release at the federal level in the first decade of the 21st century," said Witcher, of Fort Wayne, Ind., president of the National Genealogical Society.

The count was taken April 1, 1930, just over five months after the October 1929 stock market crash that plunged the country into depression. One question asked whether someone had worked the previous day; another asks to give what "class of worker" you are.

"It is at this pivotal point of history, poised between two tumultuous but very different decades, that enumerators of the 1930 census captured a statistical snapshot of our nation," said John Carlin, archivist of the United States.

No forms were mailed. All homes were visited by a census taker, who read off a series of 32 questions and recorded responses by hand.

Original 1930 forms were destroyed in the 1940s, but not before copies were saved on microfilm.

That microfilm is being made available to the public for research at the National Archives' headquarters in Washington, as well as 13 other archives offices around the country.

Historians recommend that novice researchers gather as much background as possible on their relatives before visiting the archives. Name indices are incomplete for many states, so family members may have to be researched through addresses.

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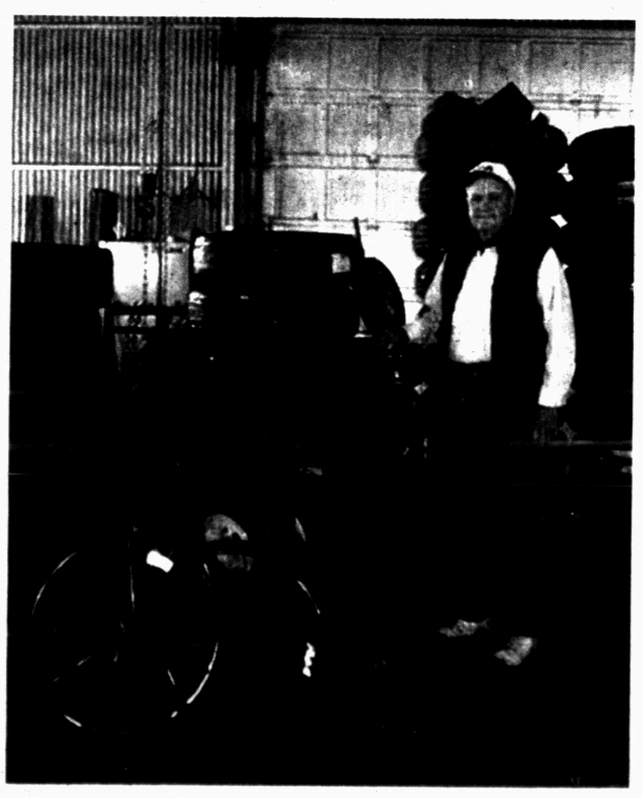

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Buildings named for former President Reagan

WASHINGTON (AP) — The naming of Washington landmarks has been a lively capital diversion ever since the city was given the last name of the first president more than two centuries ago.

But in the current round of naming the capital's most prominent sites, the name of the 40th president, Ronald Reagan, is clearly the name of the moment.

A major airport, a mammoth federal building and even the emergency room where Reagan was treated for gunshot wounds in 1981, have been named for the 91-year-old former president.

Other presidents have not been neglected. Recent namings honor former presidents: Truman, Eisenhower, Carter and George H.W. Bush.

But Reagan is clearly in a class by himself.

In March, after a year of political wrangling, the Metro subway system reluctantly added Reagan's name to station signs on the platform at the capital's bustling airport in suburban Virginia. That reflects the earlier name choice Congress dictated. Now there's no doubt that the aviation artery is the "Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport."

Reagan, who was once happily bemused to learn that a pub in Ireland had been named for him, is seen by some as an ironic choice. As president he fired thousands of striking air traffic controllers, many of them working at National Airport.

Irony is also detected by some in the 1995 decision to place Reagan's name on the 3.1 million-square-foot government office building that completes the Depression-era Federal Triangle complex in downtown Washington.

Second in size only to the Pentagon, its cost inflated by overruns to more than $800 million, the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center houses more than 5,000 federal employees. Critics carp that the name is an odd tribute to a president who advocated smaller government.

For all the local tribute, Reagan doesn't stand alone.

President Clinton presided two years ago as the State Department's block-square headquarters building was named for Democratic President Truman, who governed as the Cold War began.

"That's one for us," then-White House spokesman Joe Lockhart quipped after the Truman dedication ceremony ended a run of naming buildings after prominent Republicans.

The Executive Office Building next to the White House had recently been named for Truman's successor, Republican Dwight D. Eisenhower.

And the Virginia headquarters of the Central Intelligence Agency had been named for still another Republican former president. George H.W. Bush was honored as a president who was also a former CIA director.

The spy agency's headquarters is now the George Bush Center for Intelligence, a change that was not made without a cautionary note from former first lady Barbara Bush.

"Remember, they only name things after you when you're dead or really old," she told her 77-year-old husband.

Former President Carter said he got what he wanted when the Navy named a new nuclear-powered submarine the USS Jimmy Carter.

"If I had a choice between a submarine and an airport, I would choose a submarine," the former submarine officer said with his trademark toothy grin.

The modern trend of naming Washington institutions and landmarks for presidents and other statesmen began with the opening of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in September 1971. One of its theaters was named for Eisenhower, making it a bipartisan cultural venture.

Reagan's admirers are not content with attaching the former president's name to an airport and an office building. Some want his face to replace that of Alexander Hamilton on the $10 bill.

But the Bush administration ruled last year that proposals to erect a Reagan memorial on the National Mall are premature. Reagan himself signed legislation in 1986 barring any memorials on the Mall until 25 years after a person's death.

Former first lady Nancy Reagan, speaking at the dedication of the Reagan building, said her husband "would never think about whether a monument would be dedicated to him."

"It just never entered his mind," she said.

But he was "sincerely flattered," she said, when a pub in Ballyporeen, Ireland, was given his name.

"Afterward he said to me, 'I know that presidents get things named after them, but I'll bet you I'm the first president who ever had a pub named after him.'"

Pakistani crewman arrested in Texas

WASHINGTON (AP) — One of four Pakistani crewmen who jumped ship in a Virginia port was arrested Saturday in Texas, immigration officials said Saturday.

Ahmad Salman's arrest was based on leads developed by Immigration and Naturalization Service investigators at a bus station in Norfolk, Va., agency spokesman Bill Strassberger said. Those leads took INS special agents to Philadelphia and eventually to San Antonio.

After being put under brief surveillance, Salman was arrested at midday without incident at a San Antonio apartment building where he was staying with an acquaintance, Strassberger said.

Salman was being held without bond pending further proceedings.

The case prompted demands for stricter security because of reports that an immigration official improperly allowed the men to come ashore. An INS inspector failed to get authorization before granting a special waiver allowing them off the ship, according to a Justice Department official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Waivers given to foreign crewmen lacking visas must be approved by senior INS district officials.

The men disappeared, though none were thought to be dangerous, INS officials said. The three others were identified as Mohammad Nazir, Adnan Ahmad and Ghulam Qadar.

The disappearance was the latest embarrassment for the INS, which has been under intense scrutiny since the Sept. 11 attacks exposed problems with its methods for tracking foreigners.

The Pakistanis were crewmen aboard the "Progreso," a Russian cargo ship sailing under Maltese flag that docked in Norfolk on March 15.

FIDDLER — Fiddler Robbie Nolan recently visited Lisa Hartzog's kindergarten students at Stanfield. He is multi-talented and can play almost any instrument. Nolan now plays in a band in Colorado City. (Contributed Photo)

Invasive turnip weed now threatens Texas state flower

WACO (AP) — The unsightly turnip weed is encroaching on the state flower of Texas.

The bluebonnet find itself up against a weed that grows to about 3 feet tall and sprouts tiny yellow flowers. It takes space, ground nutrients and sunlight away from the native wildflowers, said Mark Simmons, a restoration ecologist at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center in Austin.

Simmons said the turnip weed, from Europe, first arrived in Texas about 10 years ago.

"It's particularly prominent in Central Texas," Simmons said. "Large amounts of the plant have been recorded on the I-35 corridor down as far as San Antonio."

Jim Shepperd of the Texas Department of Transportation said the department sprays a herbicide to cut back on sudden outbreaks of the turnip weed.

"The weed will take over the non-concrete parts of our highways if we don't control it," Shepperd said. "If roads have enough of the weed growing on them that they begin to cause a sight hazard or begin to seriously threaten the native plants, we will then treat it."

Simmons said while the turnip weed makes life tough for bluebonnets and other wildflowers, many of them still will survive. "The bluebonnet has large, hard seeds," he said. "They can sit in the ground for years to germinate. It is safe to say that a few bad years won't endanger the bluebonnet."

Turnip weed has been found in 16 other states, including California and New Mexico, said Simmons.

"We will never totally eradicate it," Shepperd said. "It gets into nooks and crannies and it will always be here. We just have to keep it under control."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Gouty arthritis is treatable and preventable

DEAR DR. GOTT: Please discuss gouty arthritis.

DEAR READER: Uric acid is a normal by-product of the body's metabolism. However, in certain people (with a genetic predisposition to gout), the level of uric acid in the blood is abnormally high, and the acid spills into the body fluids, especially urine and the fluid that lubricates joints. When aggravated by trauma — such as injury, overuse or exposure to cold — the uric acid may crystallize into tiny, sharp needles, leading to acute arthritis and/or kidney stones.

Gouty arthritis is extremely painful and may affect any joint, although the big toe is particularly susceptible. Treatment of this acute arthritis involves the use of anti-inflammatory drugs or colchicine, a specific anti-gout remedy. Once the arthritis has been brought under control, doctors usually recommend continuous preventive therapy — such as allopurinol or probenecid — to lower the uric acid level.

This therapy is necessary to prevent the progressive joint and renal damage that can follow untreated gout. Therefore, the approach to this disorder is two-pronged: treatment for the acute attack, followed by long-term therapy to block recurrence.

A NOTE TO READERS: For an updated and revised Health Report on "Losing Weight" (formerly "Winning the Battle of the Bulge") that includes my No Flour, No Sugar diet send $2 to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title. Also, be on the lookout for more updated Health Reports.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I discovered recently that I have cirrhosis of the liver. Should I avoid certain foods? What can I expect down the line? I've never abused alcohol, and suspect that my liver problem may stem from the many prescription drugs I've used for a nerve problem.

DEAR READER: Cirrhosis means that your liver has become scarred as a result of an illness or injury that occurred in the past. (The scar tissue gradually replaces liver cells, leading to a shrunken organ that malfunctions.) Common causes of cirrhosis include hepatitis (from viral infection or inflammation from drug allergies), toxic chemicals (including alcohol, hydrocarbons and methotrexate), metabolic diseases (such as primary biliary cirrhosis and Wilson's disease — an abnormality of copper metabolism) and circulatory disturbances (notably cardiac valvular disease and sluggish liver circulation).

In most of the developed countries, alcohol abuse is the most common cause of cirrhosis.

I cannot advise you without first knowing the nature of your liver disease. There is no standard treatment for cirrhosis, except liver transplantation. As a general rule, cirrhosis is not affected by food, providing you maintain a well-balanced diet. Many medicines, including tranquilizers and similar products, can affect the liver, but I am sure your doctor has already discontinued any drugs that might aggravate your problem.

I believe that you would be best served by obtaining a second opinion from a gastroenterologist. Such a specialist will review your medical tests and, possibly, perform a liver biopsy, if you haven't already had one. Then the doctor can discuss what can be done to help you and what to expect in the future.

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Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Anadarko Petroleum will drill the No. 2 W.R. Sterling in the Sharon Ridge field, three miles northwest of Ira. The re-completion project is planned for 2,450 feet, and location is in Section 130, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 2177 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, five miles northwest of Snyder. Planned depth is 7,200 feet, and drill site is in Section 249, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 2256 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, six miles northwest of Snyder. The project is planned for a depth of 7,200 feet, and location is in Section 248, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 2257 SACROC unit in the Kelly Snyder field, six miles northwest of Snyder. Contracted for 7,200 feet, drill site s in Section 248, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Borden County

Western Reserves Oil Co. will drill the No. 1-24 Eicke in the Hood field, 14 miles north of Gail. Planned for a depth of 8,500 feet, drill site is in Section 24, Block 30, T6N, T&P survey.

Texaco will drill the No. 4338 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Planned for a depth of 7,610 feet, location is in Section 2, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Garza County

Cholla Petroleum Inc. will drill the No. 1 Tasajillo in the Arlene field, eight miles east of Post. Planned depth is 3,600 feet, and location is in Section 57, Block 5, GH&H survey.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Bush urges Arafat to order halt to the suicide bombings

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House appealed today for Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat to order a halt to suicide bomb attacks in Israel and the West Bank.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer spoke as members of the Senate turned up pressure on President Bush to get more directly involved in the Middle East peace process. Fleischer coupled his appeal with a message for Arafat and Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to consider "the plight of the people" as the Israeli military hunts down militants.

"There remain innocents whose lives remain at risk on all sides in the region," Fleischer said. "Even as difficult as things are now, the president remains deeply committed to finding a path toward peace."

Fleischer denied that Bush gave tacit approval for Israel's fierce crackdown, saying "the Israelis did not seek a green light" from the United States. When asked specifically what is expected of Arafat, now under siege in his West Bank compound, Fleischer said a ban on suicide bombings would be helpful.

"It would be constructive if Chairman Arafat ... would take that step and say suicide bombings are not the way to achieve peace in the region," Fleischer said.

Fleischer also said the Middle East is an exception to Bush's oft-repeated statement that those who harbor terrorists are also considered terrorists. He based the distinction on the fact that security talks have continued despite the latest outbreak of violence.

"When you talk about the Palestinian Authority and you talk about Israel, you have parties that are committed to a peace process. They have been in the past, the president believes they still can be," Fleischer said.

U.S. may have a senior terrorist in custody

WASHINGTON (AP) — Pakistani authorities have handed over to the United States a man thought to be the biggest catch yet in the war on terrorism: Abu Zubaydah, a senior al-Qaida leader believed to be leading an attempt to reconstitute the group in Afghanistan.

U.S. and Pakistani authorities think the man is Zubaydah after several of his former associates identified him from photographs, a U.S. official said Sunday. He would be the highest-ranking leader in the terrorist organization to fall into American hands since the Sept. 11 attacks.

"All signs point to the fact" that one of the men captured by Pakistani authorities in raids last week is the terrorist leader, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The man was shot several times by Pakistanis as he tried to escape one of the raids, the official said. He has been receiving medical treatment, but his current condition is unclear, the official said. He was transferred to U.S. custody over the weekend.

Zubaydah, as a senior al-Qaida operational planner, would plot attacks based on guidance from Osama bin Laden and his inner circle. Zubaydah would contact the cells in the field to conduct them, authorities have said.

If Zubaydah talks, he could be a tremendous resource to U.S. investigators. As the link between bin Laden's inner circle and foreign terrorist cells, Zubaydah is believed to know names, faces and locations.

Stereo taken from residents of mobile home

• ***Burglaries***

Officers investigated a report at 11:27 a.m. Saturday that juveniles were going into a mobile home in the 1300 block of 17th and possibly taking items from it. Residents reported a stereo missing.

Officers were called to 2704 Ave. W at 2:28 a.m. Sunday as Ninfa Martinez reported her home had been broken into. Officers filed a report for burglary of a habitation.

Elena Gonzalez reported at 10:28 Sunday that she had items stolen from her vehicle while it was parked at 1413 22nd St.

Willie Thompson told officers at 12:14 a.m. today that someone had broken into his home. Officers filed a report for burglary.

All the cases remain under investigation.

• ***Threats***

A woman spoke to an officer at the Law Enforcement Center Saturday afternoon and reported her husband had been threatening her. The officer filed a supplemental report to an earlier offense.

• ***Obscene telephone calls***

At 9 p.m. Saturday, a woman reported she had been receiving obscene telephone calls from a subject at a local business.

• ***Gas drive offs***

On Sunday, gas drive offs were reported from Town & Country on North College Ave., and from Rip Griffin's.

• ***Family violence***

Officers filed a report for family violence around 11 p.m. Sunday.

• ***Dog problems***

James Smith requested an officer at 1308 23rd St. Saturday morning as two stray dogs were on his porch and he suspected them of killing some of his chickens.

Christi Pittman told officers at 4 p.m. Saturday that someone had stolen her rat terrier dog from her front porch.

Officers were called to the 500 block of 31st Street at 10:30 Saturday morning and assisted in getting a dog from under the house. The dog was returned to a house in the neighborhood.

• ***Scattering trash***

Officers were called to the dumpsters around Wal-Mart around 2 p.m. Sunday as juveniles were throwing trash out of the dumpsters. The father was notified and the juveniles picked up the trash.

• ***Arrests***

City officers arrested Adam Sosa Jr. of 10226 White Oak Trail in Houston at 2:34 a.m. Sunday in the 2200 block of 26th Street for felony driving while intoxicated.

At 2:36 this morning, officers were called to the 2400 block of 40th Street in reference to a vehicle being driven through a fence. Officers filed a one-vehicle, fixed object accident report. Priscilla Ann Gonzales, 17, of 901 29th St. was driving a 1993 Ford Explorer that struck a fence owned by Bobby Franks.

The driver of the vehicle was arrested and charged with misdemeanor driving while intoxicated, and an 18-year-old passenger was charged with consumption of alcohol by a minor.

Obituaries

Loyd O. Webb

1912-2002

Funeral service for Loyd Ottis Webb, 89, was set for 10 a.m. today in the Ira Baptist Church. Kevin Huddleston, a minister with the Johnson Street Church of Christ in San Angelo, was to officiate. Burial was to follow in the Ira Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mr. Webb, a lifelong resident of Scurry County, died Friday, March 29, in Marcy House Retirement Center in Big Spring after a lengthy illness.

Born April 9, 1912 in the China Grove community, he married Ida Mae Lloyd on Sept. 22, 1934 in Snyder.

Mr. Webb worked for Amerada Hess Oil Co. for 14 years and then worked in the maintenance department for the Ira and Snyder schools for a number of years.

An avid sports booster, Mr. Webb was a member of the Ira Baptist Church.

Survivors include his wife, Ida Mae Webb of Snyder; a son and daughter-in-law, Jerry and Terry Webb of Snyder; and two granddaughters, Whitney Webb of Midland and Britney Webb of Snyder.

A son and a brother preceded him in death.

Personal, Professional Services

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Elizabeth Duncan

1925-2002

Funeral service for Emma Elizabeth Duncan is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday in the East Side Church of Christ. Tom Holcomb, minister, will officiate. Interment will be in the Fort Sam Houston Cemetery in San Antonio and arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Duncan

Mrs. Duncan, 76, died Saturday, March 30, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Born Sept. 19, 1925 in Denton County, she was reared in Wink and married William Floyd Duncan on Oct. 12, 1942 in Carlsbad, N.M.

Mrs. Duncan had lived in Post from 1955 to 1979 and was chief deputy in the Garza County district and county clerk's office for 19 years. She moved to Snyder in 1979 and was a member of the East Side Church of Christ.

Survivors include her husband, William Floyd Duncan of Snyder; a daughter and son-in-law, Beverly and Ronald Simpson of Abilene; a son and daughter-in-law, Wendell and Lin Duncan of Live Oak, Tex.; five grandchildren; and two great grandchildren.

Friends are contributing to the Bear Valley Bible Institute, 2707 South Lamar in Denver, Colo., 80277.

Levi Greer

1918-2002

HASKELL – Levi Queston Greer, a former resident of Snyder, died Friday, March 29, in a Haskell nursing home.

A funeral service for Mr. Greer, 83, was set for 3 p.m. today in the First Baptist Church with Dr. Troy Culpepper officiating. Masonic graveside rites were to follow in the Willow Cemetery under the direction of Holden-McCauley Funeral Directors.

Born Sept. 11, 1918 in Limestone County, he was a U.S. Army veteran of World War II. Mr. Greer was retired from Amoco Pipeline Co. and was a member of the American Legion, Masonic Lodge and the First Baptist Church.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Tinka and D.W. Nelson of Coleman; a son, Joel Greer of Lubbock; five grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

The family suggests memorials to the Hospice of the Big Country or to a favorite charity.

Eileen West

1925-2002

Emily Eileen West, a longtime resident of Scurry County, died Saturday, March 30, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. West, 76, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Roy Rosson, minister of the Dunn Church of Christ, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Dunn Cemetery.

Born Dec. 9, 1925 in Fisher County, she married Charlie West on Dec. 15, 1951 in Sweetwater. A resident of Scurry County for the past 48 years, she was a homemaker and a member of the Dunn Church of Christ.

Survivors include her husband, Charlie West of Dunn; a daughter, Janet Botts of Hermleigh; two sons and daughters-in-law, David and Sophie West of Lubbock and Larry and Lori West of Hermleigh; two granddaughters, Amy Botts and Valerie West, both of Hermleigh.

Friends are contributing to the Dunn Cemetery Association in Dunn, 79516.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Ira homecoming

There will be an organizational meeting at 7 tonight at the Ira Church of God annex for the three-year Ira homecoming set for Oct. 12.

VFW meeting

The VFW Post 8231 will meet at 7 tonight at the post home. Nominations for election of officers is planned and all members are urged to attend.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Stop the Miracles," followed by "Bible Inspiration and Authority."

Scurry Masonic Lodge 706

Scurry Masonic Lodge will have its stated meeting at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday. All Master Masons are invited.

Snyder FFA Booster Club

Snyder FFA's Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the SHS ag building. All officers are to meet at 6:30 p.m.

Hermleigh Cemetery

The Hermleigh Cemetery Association will meet at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Hermleigh Community Center. Anyone interested is welcome.

Gateway Family Services

Gateway Family Services has a parenting discussion group from 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday, focusing on parenting issues and special challenges. The family violence support group also meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

Relay for Life lunch

The Scurry County Courthouse team that is entered in the Relay for Life to raise funds for the American Cancer Society will have lunch available for the public at 11:30 every Wednesday on the first floor of the courthouse.

Ira booster club

The Ira booster club will meet at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday in the school cafeteria.

Free income tax help

Free income tax aid for low to middle income citizens of any age is available each Wednesday from 9 a.m. to noon, and 1-3 p.m. at the senior center located at 2603 Ave. M.

Joy School pre-registration

Pre-registration for the fall semester will be from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Thursday at 201 31st St. Registration fee is $40. For more information, call 573-3554.

Senior picture video

Pictures for the senior video must be turned in by Friday at the Snyder High School office.

Relay for Life fundraisers

There will be a fundraiser Saturday beginning at 9 a.m. in the Texas Savings Bank back parking lot. Also, Relay for Life team members will be selling kettle popcorn at Wal-Mart beginning at 9 a.m. For advance orders, call Zelph Franklin, 573-2789 or Ann Everett, 573-3270 and leave a message.

Spaghetti supper

A spaghetti supper will be from 6-7:30 p.m. Saturday at First Baptist Church in Ira. Cost is $6 for adults, $3 for children under 12, under 5 is free. The money will go to help pay for summer camps for kids in the church.

Sausage festival

St. Elizabeth's annual all-you-can-eat sausage festival will be from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets will be sold at the door and adult tickets are $6.50, children 12 and under are $3.50, and all take-outs are $6.50. Sausage by the pound is $4 cooked and $3 uncooked.

Baptist Association Mission Fair

The Baptist Association Mission Fair will be from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, April 9, at the First Baptist Church in Ira. Hot dogs, balloons and many activities will be a part of the fair, as well as meeting missionaries from different parts of the world.

Alzheimer's meeting

A representative from the Alzheimer's Association of Midland will speak at a 6 p.m. meeting Tuesday, April 9, at Colonial Hill Baptist Church. Please use the northeast entrance.

Avenue D Baptist Church revival

The Avenue D Baptist Church, 324 30th St., will hold a revival April 14-17. Bro. Jim Mackey is the evangelist and Bro. John Bullock will lead the music. Sunday services are at 9:45 a.m., Sunday School at 10:45 a.m. and evening worship is at 6. Weekday services are at 7 p.m.

SHS class of 1992 reunion

The 1992 class of Snyder High School needs addresses for classmates. Call Melanie at 573-4022, Julie at 573-1634 or Amy at 573-4793. The reunion will be held at the end of July.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District has windbreak trees available for sale. Extra hardwood trees are $1 each. Call 573-6317 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

American Legion membership drive

The American Legion is holding its membership drive and if you or a family member served in the military, you could be eligible for membership in the American Legion, Ladies Auxiliary or Sons of American Legion. Call 573-4082, 573-6542 or 574-6805 for more information.

Adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes taught by certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides are held at WTC from 8 a.m. until noon Tuesday through Thursday, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include G.E.D., E.S.L., and refresher courses. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.