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WT-Int. Crude - $36.24
WTIC Posted - $33.00
Natural Gas - $6.14

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY

June 29, 2004
Vol. 56 No. 51
10 Pages 50¢

Home of David Beard

Sixth grade is promoted to junior high

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

It's official, the sixth grade will be part of junior high beginning this coming school year.

Snyder ISD trustees unanimously, following the recommendation of the facilities steering committee, voted Monday night to move the sixth grade from West Elementary, and heard disturbing news concerning local school finances for the next school year.

Committee spokesman Mike Dennis said the committee feels strongly about moving the sixth grade.

And while the board did go along with the recommendations, it was not until all the members were assured that it was the proper thing to do by the school administration.

Board president Mark McCormick, before calling for a vote, said the board needed more assurance that the administration is comfortable with the move and it could be done prior to the start of school.

Junior high principal Kellye Starnes said she has mapped out the move and classroom configuration, and that with teamwork, it could be made in a timely and orderly manner.

"To ease the transition, we have three open house sessions planned," said Starnes. "I've done all I can at this point."

Starnes did say that there would not be separate wings at the junior high for each grade, and that the students would be intermingled.

She added that she did not feel that would be a problem, feelings echoed by assistant principal Ralph Ramon.

Starnes said the students walk into the school together and leave together – "I just don't feel like it is a problem," said Starnes.

The problem that the school district is facing, however, is financial.

Dr. Ronny Collins, superintendent, told the board that beginning with the 2005-2006 school year, state recapture, or "Robin Hood" will kick in and will have a huge financial impact on the district.

"We have about 12 months to figure out a way to handle this," said Dr. Collins.

And what *this* is, is a shortfall of an estimated $2.5 million that the district will have to give back to the state due to being designated a "rich" school district due to the most recent valuations and the current enrollment.

Dr. Collins said the current operating budget is around $17.5 million and he expects it to be close to the same in 2005-2006.

"What will happen due to recapture, we are estimating we will have to give back $2.5 million to the state."

"We're just the opposite of everyone else in town (referring to taxing entities), as their tax base goes up, they have more money. With us, recapture kicks in."

Dr. Collins explained that the state bases its recapture plan on Weighted Average Daily Attendance (WADA), and when it reaches $305,000 per student, the district is considered a rich district.

It is estimated the district's WADA in 2005-2006 will be around $315,000. Currently, it is $240,000.

"I never dreamed we could get hit so hard with one lick," said Dr. Collins. "It's now just not about elementary schools, we have to look at other programs.

"We have to ask what can a school our size afford?"

Dr. Collins said what should have been done four or five years ago when enrollment began to drop sharply, will have to be done in one year.

"The first thing we have to do is close an elementary school now and by doing this, we feel we can absorb nine positions that are now open," the superintendent said.

"That is worth about $350,000, and that amount means a lot," he said. "We'll be able to survive if we get down to three elementaries. We can't afford five or even four elementaries a year from now."

The facilities committee recommended that the district downsize to two elementaries, and keep Stanfield open to be used for Humble Smith programs.

The committee had four options in its report with the recommendation being the district build two new elementary schools on the campuses of the present East and West campuses at a total cost of $18.2 million.

The committee suggested savings realized by three less elementary schools could help fund capital improvements at the junior high and high school. Those costs are estimated to be $865,200 and $567,000 respectively.

No action was taken on the committee recommendations. The administration's recommendations are expected to be heard at the July 8 board session.

Resignations, contracts approved

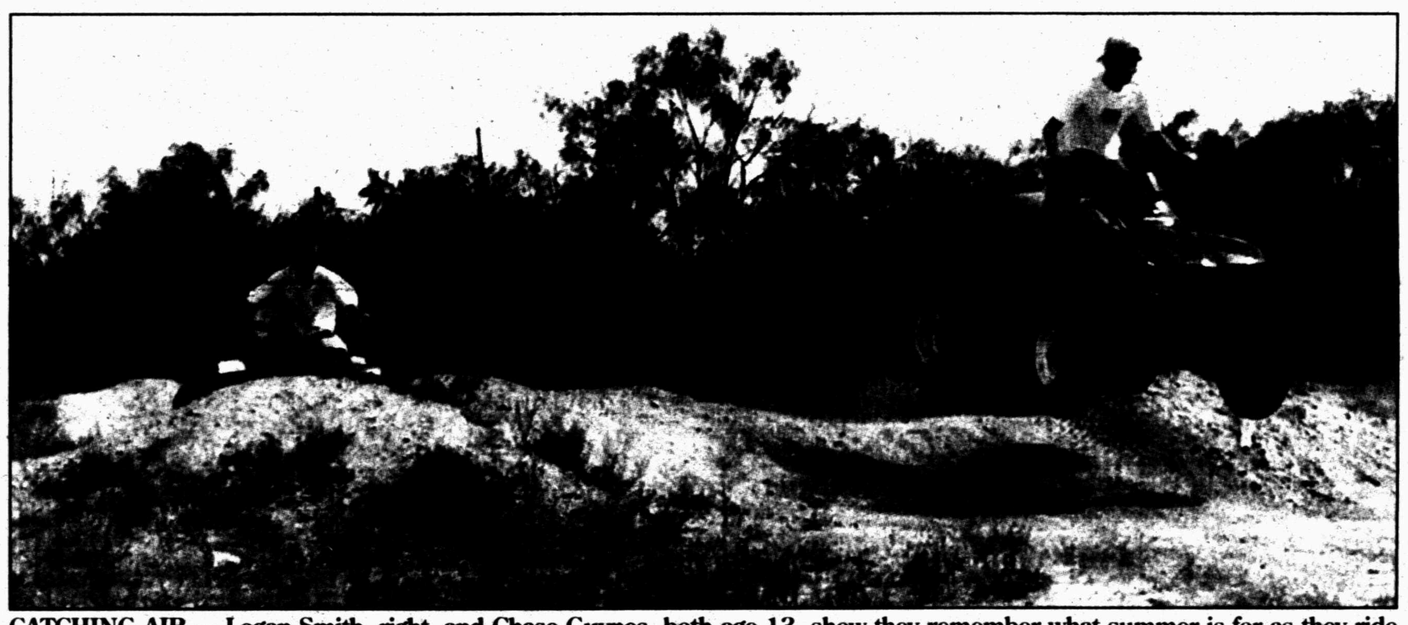
Five resignations were formally approved Monday night by the Snyder school board.

Resignations were accepted from Ronda Haire, SHS choir ; Lane Minze, SHS English; Yvette Perez, Stanfield first grade teacher; Lynn Price, SJHS resource teacher; and Brock Rumfield, special ed instructor and junior high coach.

Eight contracts for teachers were approved, with some approvals based on the individuals being certified.

These included Christopher Ward, junior high coach and special ed teacher; Catania McGuire, fourth grade teacher; Danella Villanueva, sixth grade teacher; Lesley Zorn, assistant band director; Beverly James, fourth grade teacher; Carol Landfried and Crystal McAllister, SHS home economics; and Sam Bedell, SJHS history teacher and coach.

Mark McCormick presided at the hour-plus meeting and all trustees were in attendance to include Luann Burleson, Cathy Peoples, Richard Chambers, Glenn Clarady, Mike Levens and Doug Neff.



CATCHING AIR — Logan Smith, right, and Chase Guynes, both age 13, show they remember what summer is for as they ride their four-wheelers just off 37th Street Monday. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)

Renovations to start on historic building

By Jeff West
SDN Staff Writer

A venerable part of Snyder's past is in the process of getting a makeover, and Snyder is gaining a new resident.

Roger Fraim III acquired the Brownfield Building, also known as the Wallace Building, about 18 months ago and has started to clean up the interior as part of the building's overhaul.

"I came to Snyder on business and saw the building. I saw the signs and called the realtor because I liked it a lot," he said.

But Fraim lived in Denton and it took him a year of visits and looking at the building before he committed to buying it.

Fraim has experience with historic buildings as he has worked to restore two buildings in Denton, including the city's original opera house.

Now he has left the company where he was a manufacturing consultant, which is what brought him to Snyder originally. Fraim also has finished work on the two Denton buildings, a project he completed for other owners, and is in the process of moving to Snyder.

"I decided I wanted to restore a building for myself, and since my kids are grown and moved away and I'm all alone, I thought I could move up here to work on this one," he said.

Fraim said the building was built as the original home of Snyder National Bank in 1916.

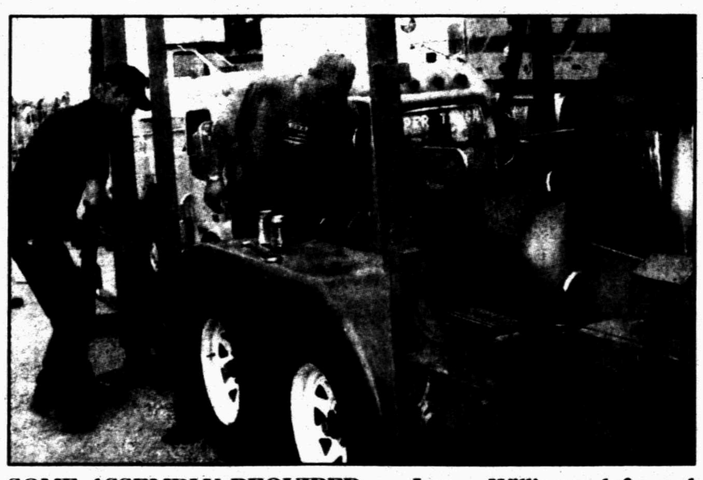
While most of the bank artifacts were moved with the bank, there are still two vaults in the building. Fraim intends to keep those as part of the building.

After starting the clean up, refurbishing may take more work than he originally thought, but is still glad he made the purchase

"At one time there were two apartments upstairs. I plan to restore those, but I haven't decided exactly what I want to do with the first floor," he said.

"I haven't talked to the school yet, but I thought I might get art students to paint the wood for the windows with some sort of theme. Perhaps the 100th anniversary of the bank next year might be a good idea," he said.

As far as buying any more buildings to renovate, Fraim just said, "Lets get this one done first."



SOME ASSEMBLY REQUIRED — James Williams, left, and James Deskins work on getting a truck ride ready for the carnival for the Fourth of July Festival this weekend at Towle Park. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)



PREPARATION - Doug Dretke, director for the TDCJ institutional division, addresses Warden Wilhelmenia Howard and other Price Daniel Unit staff members about an upcoming accreditation review in December. (SDN Staff Photo by Jeff West)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "One of life's great mysteries is why grass grows better in the cracks of the sidewalk instead of where you planted it."

The telephone equipment sales people have stopped dropping by.

The 19-year-old system at the Snyder Daily News office is slightly more modern than the old rotary models. We actually do have touch-tone dialing and a hold button.

But that's where progress stops. Our telephones are still answered by real and — most of the time — alive people.

And as long as we have anything to do with telephone equipment decisions, the SDN phones will be answered by a person — not a recording.

We have made it a personal vow not to talk to answering machines. When asked if we would like the person's voice mail, the answer is always "No thanks, but I would like for you to give them the message."

For years, folks have complained about the difficulty of getting to talk to somebody with the utility companies since they no longer have local offices.

Well, the trend has now come to Snyder. Cogdell Hospital was one of the first. The recording tells you to call 911 if it's an emergency. If not listen to the directory.

When the hospital first installed the system, there were so many complaints that the system was again answered by a real person. But now, the recorded system is back.

Western Texas College also has an automated answering system, but if you press 0, an operator will pick up.

Now city hall has one of those blasted systems. It may be progress in some eyes, but we're still blind enough to appreciate personal service.

According to the Texas Innovator, a publication from the state comptroller's office, the next big thing is a talking trash can that says "thank you" in up to three languages.

And the same publication tells about the virtual receptionist named "Valerie at Carnegie Mellon University.

In the school of computer science, Valerie is shown on a computer monitor bearing an animated image of a human face.

Called the first robot receptionist with a personality, a laser scanner allows Valerie to detect motion and offer them assistance.

What makes Valerie life-like is she gossips about office stuff, discusses her dream of an acting career and visits with her mother on the phone.

The idea of a heartless receptionist isn't anything new. We talked to her just this week.

Rainfall Reports

Snyder	.52
North of Snyder	1.60
East of Snyder	.40
West of city	1.2
Lake Thomas	.30
CRMWD pump station	.50
Hermleigh	.40
Ennis Creek	1.20
Fluvanna	.50
Polar	2.00
Loyd Mountain	.80
Camp Springs	.20
Dermott	1.27
Union	1.00
Gail	2+
Ira	1.00
Farmer's Coop Gin	.50
Scurry County Gin	1.50
Inadale Gin	Trace

Rainfall totals for Monday and Tuesday.

ASK US

Q—What is the fine for discharging fireworks within the city limits?

A—The fine for the Class C misdemeanor is up to $249.50.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Robert Adams...

...has lived in Snyder since 1967. He is married to Anne and they have two daughters, Allison Alexander, and her husband, Greg, who live in Breckenridge with granddaughter, Olivia; and Amber Crafton and husband, Perry, who live in Amarillo with grandson, Avery. Robert is a retired WTC professor and enjoys crafting walking staffs, reading, hunting, fishing and playing with his two grandkids.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

A human being's first responsibility is to shake hands with himself.
—Henry Winkler

JUN 29 2004

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Genealogical society meeting

Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 this evening at the Scurry County Library. Kathy Nelson will present a program on "Great Women."

SHS class of 2007

SHS class of 2007 will meet at 10 a.m. Wednesday in the fellowship hall of Colonial Hill Baptist Church to plan their booth for July 3-4. Parents are invited. Call 573-2159 or 573-0877 for more information.

Life after loss support group

Odyssey Hospice will offer a life after loss support group from 1-3 p.m. Wednesday in the library of Colonial Hill Baptist Church. The class will meet for six weeks.

East Side VBS

East Side Church of Christ will have Vacation Bible School from 6-8:30 p.m. Wednesday nights through July 7. Call 573-3583 for more information.

Love and Logic classes

East Side Church of Christ will offer Love and Logic classes from 6-8 p.m. on Wednesdays through July 7. Pam Hart is the instructor. The classes are geared toward parents and grandparents. A meal will be served at 5:15 p.m. in the multi-purpose building Wednesday at the Family Life Building.

CRCG meetings

Scurry County Community Resource Coordination Groups will meet at 11 a.m. Thursday in the CADA office at 37th and College. For more information, contact Shari Jamison at Gateway Family Services, 573-1822.

What's up guidelines

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

GED, ESL classes

GED and ESL classes at Western Texas College are held from 8 a.m. until noon every Tuesday through Thursday and from 6 to 9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays through June 30. Classes will then resume in August. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

AA meeting

An AA meeting is held at noon every Tuesday and Friday at the Witherspoon house next door to the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting is non-smoking and closed. For more information, call 574-2656, or 207-1325.

United's unions fear more cutbacks

CHICAGO (AP) — Employees at United Airlines are bracing for the prospect of new concessions after the failure of the carrier's nearly two-year quest for federal assistance.

Further cuts in United's bankruptcy restructuring would be especially painful for a work force already hit by heavy wage and benefit reductions that have enabled the company to reduce annual labor costs by $2.5 billion annually.

Fair or not, experts say they may be inevitable as United scrambles to redo its finances after being rejected for a third and final time Monday in its attempt to secure a government loan guarantee.

Among the areas likeliest to be targeted by management to make the company more attractive to outside investors is employee pensions, particularly since United must make at least $4 billion in pension payments through 2008.

Speculation on cuts also extends to United's Asia routes and the size of its work force, which already is down to 62,500 from 100,000 before the 2001 terror attacks.

"They're going to have do some things that are very unpleasant, including getting rid of a few people," said industry consultant Darryl Jenkins, professor of airline management at Embry Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, Fla.

"This won't be a happy year for employees," he said. "Not so much pay (cuts), but additional work rules, pilots' stock that they were going to get in exchange for concessions, and pensions — they'll all be on the table now."

United isn't discussing specifics of its options publicly. But even before the Air Transportation Stabilization Board dismissed its loan-guarantee efforts for a final time Monday, CEO Glenn Tilton cautioned employees last week that more cuts would be needed to cope with increased competitive pressures and high fuel costs.

"In order to attract a new equity investor and providers of credit, the airline will very likely have to undertake further cost cuts and demand further reductions in its debt and lease obligations," Standard and Poor's analyst Philip Baggaley wrote in a research note Monday. United's ability to attract new investment, he said, will depend partly on its success in further restructuring.

United's solid progress in overhauling its costs and operations since 2002 has won plaudits from the ATSB and others, and there is thought to be an abundance of investment groups who would like to have a piece of the airline's unparalleled route structure under certain conditions.

Some of the names mentioned by industry experts as potential investors include Texas Pacific Group, a Fort Worth-based private equity firm which invested in Continental Airlines and America West Airlines during their bankruptcies; Cerberus Capital Management, which is sinking money into bankrupt Air Canada; and the so-called Chapman group of United bankruptcy creditors, which owns 175 of the carrier's aircraft.

Discussions have been underway in earnest since the ATSB rejected United's loan guarantee application on June 17 — a decision it affirmed unanimously on Monday — but it's not known how long a new financing package will take to put together.

"Somebody has to belly up to the bar and say they believe in United's business plan and come forward with the cash," said Douglas Baird, a bankruptcy professor at the University of Chicago Law School. "Talk is a lot easier than writing a check for $500 million or more."

Even if a new investor demands more cuts, uneasy unions signaled they won't accept them readily.

Randy Canale, a union district president representing United machinists, said the airline must refuse to use its workers as "human fertilizer" to satisfy lenders and politicians.

United pilots' union chief Mark Bathurst said pilots will work with management in searching for solutions, but he emphasized, "We fully expect that such solutions will be found without the company again turning to employees who already have provided significant financial relief for this airline."

Negotiations with unions over what cuts would be acceptable could take months.

Polls: Americans skeptical about turnover in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Americans are skeptical about the turnover of political control to Iraqis at a time the country has not been stabilized, according to polls released Monday.

By a 2-1 margin, Americans say the turnover of political control to Iraqis now is not a sign of success, but a sign of failure because the nation's stability remains in question, according to a CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll. Still, three-fourths in the poll approved of the U.S. handover of authority to Iraqis.

The U.S.-led coalition in Iraq transferred sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government Monday — two days early.

In the Gallup poll, six in 10 said the handover of authority at such an unstable point is a sign of failure, while about three in 10, 32 percent, said the handover of authority on schedule is a sign of success, according to the Gallup poll taken last week.

Six in 10 said they think it is unlikely internal security will be established in Iraq in the next five years and slightly more, 63 percent, said they think U.S. troops will be in Iraq for another three years or more.

Americans would prefer a shorter time that troops are deployed. Seven in 10 said the United States should have a significant number of troops in Iraq two years or less.

The Gallup poll found that despite their doubts, a majority, 54 percent, had hopes the transfer of authority to the Iraqis could improve the situation in that country.

The skepticism about the Iraq war may be linked to the belief by a majority, 55 percent, that the war in Iraq has created more terrorists who are planning to attack the United States, according to a CBS-New York Times poll.

More than four in 10, 44 percent in the CBS-Times poll, said they see no connection between the war in Iraq and the war on terror, up from 30 percent who felt that way in April.

The Gallup poll of 1,005 adults in the United States was taken June 21-23; the CBS-Times poll of 1,053 adults was taken June 23-27. Both had margins of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Zachry Starnes on ACU honor roll

ABILENE — Zachry Starnes of Snyder was named to the dean's honor roll at Abilene Christian University for the spring 2004 semester. Starnes is working toward a bachelor of business administration degree in accounting and is a member of the ACU Wildcat golf team.

He is the son of Rick and Kellye Starnes and the grandson of Howard and Bonnie Crenshaw and Charlene Starnes, all of Snyder.

To make the dean's honor roll, a student must complete at least 12 semester hours and earn a 3.45 or higher grade point average.

World Almanac

Tuesday, June 29, 2004

Today is the 181st day of 2004 and the 10th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1956, the Federal-Aid Highway Act, which created the interstate system, was signed.

In 1972, in Furman v. Georgia, the Supreme Court ruled that the death penalty, as currently applied, was unconstitutional "cruel and unusual punishment."

In 1995, the U.S. space shuttle Atlantis and the Russian Mir station docked, creating the largest artificial satellite to orbit the Earth.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Ruth Warrick (1915-), actress, is 89; Gary Busey (1944-), actor, is 60; Richard Lewis (1947-), actor, is 57; Ann Veneman (1949-), agriculture secretary, is 55.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1990, Dave Stewart of the Oakland A's and Fernando Valenzuela of the LA Dodgers threw no-hitters within a few hours of each other. It was the first time in major league history that two complete, no-hitter games had been pitched on the same day.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "The creative conquest of space will serve as a wonderful substitute for war." — James McDonnell, designer of the Mercury and Gemini space capsules

TODAY'S FACT: In Mississippi, aircraft piracy is a crime punishable by death.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 20 — number of states (plus the District of Columbia) requiring that helmets be worn by motorcycle riders.

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (June 25) and full moon (July 2)

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Monday's Lottery Numbers

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 8-14-21-30-37.

Number matching five of five: 3.

Prize per winner: $13,873.

Winning tickets sold in: HALTOM CITY, CORPUS CHRISTI, PROSPER.

Matching four of five: 97. Prize: $193.

Matching three of five: 3,876. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 41,312. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Tuesday night.

Pick 3

(Day) 5-2-6

(Night) 6-7-4

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Texas Two Step drawing Monday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 7-11-14-15. Bonus Ball: 31.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Number matching four of four: 2. Prize: $2,812.

Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 23. Prize: $30.

Number matching three of four: 584. Prize: $16.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 302. Prize: $22.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 1,858. Prize: $7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 3,163. Prize: $5.

Estimated jackpot for Thursday night drawing: $250,000.

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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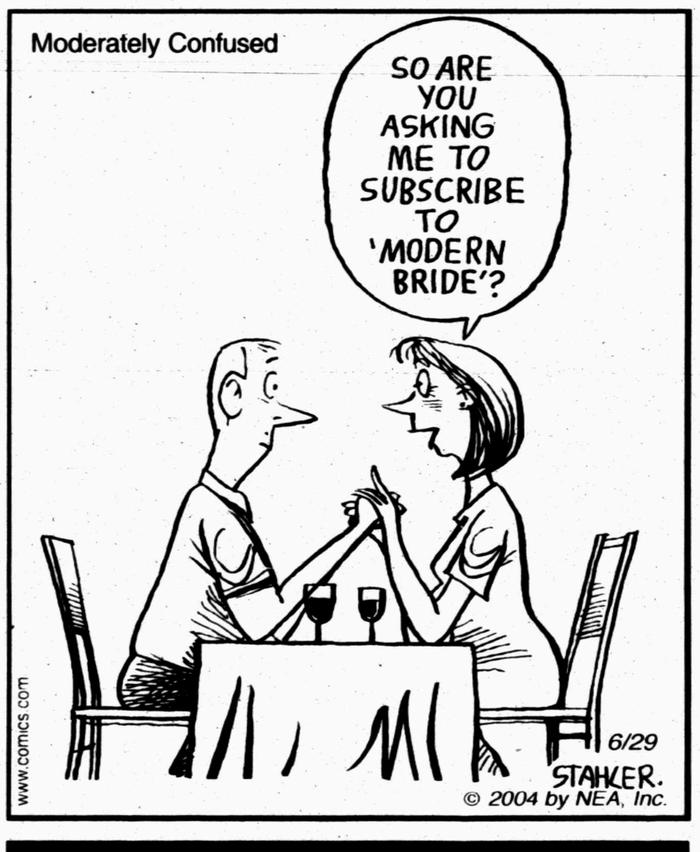
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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for republication all news dispatches in this newspaper and also local news published for republication of special dispatches.

Moderately Confused



STARTING from PYRON

By Jane Gilmore Rushing

Photos by Billie Roche Barnard

Introduction by A.C. Greene

Cost: $25.00



Snyder Daily News

3600 College Ave.

573-5486

ROCKIN' G GIFTS

Inside The W. R. Whistlestop

NORTH SIDE OF THE SQUARE

FEATURING

LASER Metal Arts - Color Fused:

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Book Marks
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Key Rings
Wall Art & Art Lites

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Over 600 Images on Soft-Print Tees

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4th of July Plates, Napkins, Candles and Yard Decor

Wedding Registry...

Susan Bigham & William Taylor
Tara Price & Cody Nowlain
Laura Hamby & Bobby Griffith
Stormy Clark & Paul Camp
Courtney Martin & Jeffrey Levens
Cassie Tollett & Jerrod Rinehart
Lisa & Clark Church
Kelly Kallemeyn & Robert Strickland
Ivy Galindo & Derek Hollingsworth
Amy Herrera & Chad Furr
Kristin Martinez & Marciano Madrid
Nikki Kenny & Landon Day

Infant Registry...

Amy & Jeff James
Jeffrey & Dana Stockton
Lance & Andrea Nelson
Brad & Lindsey Robinson
Casey & Laura Johnson
Chris & Brooke Mackey

Special Occasions

507 Coliseum Drive 574-2004 Monday-Friday 10-5



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SHOWER HELD FOR COUPLE — A wedding shower honoring Nikki and Landon Day was held on the evening of June 19 at the 37th Street Church of Christ family center. Pictured from left are Lance Day, groom's brother from Snyder; Dave and Vivian Kenny, bride's parents from Arlington; Nikki and Landon Day, honorees from Abilene; Bailey Rome, the groom's cousin from Early; Vanessa and Jody Day, the groom's parents from Snyder; Moe Bean, his grandmother from Early; Lauren Day, his sister from Snyder; and Kym Rome, his aunt from Early. (Contributed Photo)

Days honored with shower

A couple's wedding shower honoring Nikki and Landon Day was held June 19 at the 37th Street Church of Christ family center.

Homemade ice cream, cookies and punch were served to guests. An outdoor theme of birdhouses and sunflowers decorated the tables.

A gift of patio furniture was presented to the newlyweds by the hostesses — Barbara Gray, Tammy Wesson, Bobbie Combest, Sherry Kidd, Keitha Brown, Kellye Starnes, Irene Masters, Sue McGuire, Janna Davis, Donna Ramirez, Sherry Carrol, Michelle Hilliard, Valerie Hernandez, Nancy Peterson, Karen Westmoreland, Pat Floyd, Julienne Stewart and Laura Etheridge.

The couple married June 11 in the Church on Rush Creek in Arlington.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers meeting; Colonial Hill Baptist Church; for more information call Kathy at 573-1289 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

Beginners' AA open meeting; Snyder Park Club in Winston Park, 1212 37th Street; 573-8268 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Trinity United Methodist Church. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

NA Just For Today, open meeting; Park Club; for information; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Horseshoe Pitching For Fun; horseshoe courts located at the coliseum; everybody welcome, for further information call 573-9762.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; at the coliseum annex; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact number is 573-1141; 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

Cornelius-Dodson House; open by appointment, call 573-0538 or 573-0770.

NA-Just For Today; Park Club; 6-7 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

NA-Just For Today; Park Club; 6-7 p.m.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 06-29-04
♠ 4 3
♥ K 8 5
♦ K 9 8 7 6
♣ 7 6 2

West
♠ Q J 8
♥ Q J 10 9 3
♦ —
♣ A Q 9 8 5

East
♠ 10 9 7 6 5
♥ 7 2
♦ Q 5 4 3
♣ J 10

South
♠ A K 2
♥ A 6 4
♦ A J 10 2
♣ K 4 3

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: Both

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

Opening lead: ♥ Q

Tuesday, June 29, 2004

Handle key cards with care

By Phillip Alder

Jane Austen wrote, "An engaged woman is always more agreeable than a disengaged. She is satisfied with herself. Her cares are over, and she feels that she may exert all her powers of pleasing without suspicion."

Today's deal was declared by an engaged woman, but she requested anonymity. Her fiance admired the care with which she handled the cards. If he had had concerns about their bridge partnership, this deal helped to allay them.

If you had been South, how would you have planned the play in three no-trump? West leads the heart queen.

The auction is straightforward, South jumping to game when North shows some signs of life.

There are six top winners: two spades, two hearts and two diamonds. But if five diamond tricks can be brought in, the contract will be consummated. West's opening bid suggests that he has the diamond queen. But his bidding both hearts and clubs means that he must be short in the other two suits.

Just in case West was void in diamonds, declarer, after winning the first trick with her heart ace, carefully led the diamond jack. Her forethought was rewarded when West discarded a club. Now South could win with dummy's diamond king and run the diamond six, retaining the lead in the dummy so that a second diamond finesse could be taken. Then, after playing a diamond to her ace, declarer crossed to the heart king and cashed the diamond nine. Finally, South took her top spades for nine tricks: two spades, two hearts and five diamonds.

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Ground beef is versatile meat

Ground beef is one of the most versatile meats around. Combine your favorite ground beef recipe with your microwave and you have a tasty family meal in minutes.

Nationally syndicated TV chef and author Mr. Food, a.k.a. Art Ginsburg, has some new recipes using ground beef — all for cooking in the microwave. And, more importantly, he shares some of his favorite tips for safely and easily thawing and cooking ground beef using the microwave.

—Many dishes (like the All-in-One Goulash Bake, below) continue to cook even after they've finished cooking in the microwave. By covering a casserole dish and allowing it to stand for 5 to 10 minutes, it'll continue to cook the center without overcooking the edges! That's what we call "stand time."

— By using a browning dish, you can enjoy juicy hamburgers made in your microwave in less than the time it takes to heat up your grill. You can warm up the buns in the microwave, as well - just wrap them in paper towels and heat on high power for about 10 seconds individually, or 12 to 17 seconds for two at a time.

Want to give the gang something to cheer about? Try these microwave favorites using ground beef. They will have everybody asking for second helpings of all the..."Ooh it's so good."

ALL-IN-ONE GOULASH BAKE

4 to 6 servings

1 pound ground beef
1 jar (32 ounces) spaghetti sauce
½ cup water
1 green bell pepper, chopped
1 onion, chopped
2 garlic cloves, minced
1-½ cups cooked elbow macaroni
1-½ cups (6 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese, divided
½ teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon black pepper

1. Crumble the beef into a microwave-safe 3-quart casserole dish. Microwave at 80% power for 3 to 4 minutes, or until no pink remains.

2. Stir in the spaghetti sauce, water, bell pepper, onion, garlic, macaroni, 1 cup mozzarella cheese, the salt, and pepper. Microwave at 80% power for 15 to 16 minutes, stirring halfway through.

3. Sprinkle the remaining ½ cup mozzarella cheese over the top of the goulash. Microwave at 80% power for 1 to 2 minutes, or until the cheese melts. Let stand for 5 minutes before serving.

FIESTA TACOS

8 tacos

½ green bell pepper, chopped
1 pound ground beef
2 tablespoons taco seasoning
½ cup salsa
8 taco shells
1 cup (4 ounces) shredded Cheddar cheese
1 cup shredded lettuce
1 tomato, chopped

1. Place the green pepper in a 2-quart microwave-safe bowl and crumble the ground beef over the top. Microwave at 80% power for 4 minutes, or until no pink remains in the beef; drain.

2. Stir in the taco seasoning and salsa; mix well. Cover and microwave at 70% power for 3 minutes.

3. Equally divide the meat mixture into the taco shells and top with the cheese, lettuce, and tomato. Serve immediately.

FIRE STATION CHILI

4 servings

1 tablespoon vegetable oil
1 small onion, chopped
2 garlic cloves, minced
1 pound ground beef
1 can (16 ounces) red kidney beans, drained
1 can (14 ounces) crushed tomatoes
3 tablespoons chili powder
1 tablespoon ground cumin
1 teaspoon salt
½ teaspoon black pepper

1. In a 3-quart microwave-safe casserole dish, combine the oil, onion, and garlic. Microwave at 90% power for 1-½ to 2 minutes, or until the onion is tender.

2. Crumble the ground beef into the onion mixture. Microwave at 80% power for 4 minutes, or until no pink remains; drain.

3. Add the remaining ingredients; mix well. Microwave at 80% power for 8 minutes, stirring halfway through. Serve immediately.

ITALIAN MEATBALLS

15 meatballs

1 pound ground beef
3/4 cup plain bread crumbs
1/2 cup water
1/4 cup coarsely chopped fresh parsley
1 egg
1-1/2 teaspoons garlic powder
1 teaspoon salt
1 teaspoon black pepper
1 jar (28 ounces) spaghetti sauce
1/3 cup grated Parmesan cheese
1 cup (4 ounces) shredded mozzarella cheese

1. Coat a microwave-safe 9" x 13" baking dish with nonstick cooking spray.

2. In a large bowl, combine the ground beef, bread crumbs, water, parsley, egg, garlic powder, salt, and pepper; mix well. Form the mixture into 15 meatballs, and place in the baking dish.

3. In a medium bowl, combine the spaghetti sauce and Parmesan cheese; pour over the meatballs. Cover with plastic wrap and microwave at 70% power for 12 minutes, or until the meatballs are completely cooked through and the juices run clear.

4. Remove the plastic wrap and sprinkle the meatballs with the mozzarella cheese. Microwave at 70% power for 1 to 1-1/2 minutes, or until the cheese is melted.

The shepherd drives the wolf from the sheep's throat, for which the sheep thank the shepherd as his liberator, while the wolf denounces him for the same act as the destroyer of liberty.

—Abraham Lincoln

SACADA, Scurry County Boys and Girls Club are teaming up to 'Celebrate Kids'

Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse (CADA) and the Scurry County Boys and Girls Club are teaming up this year to "Celebrate Kids."

Aug. 1 is National Kids Day and is also the day CADA will have its 3rd annual Back to School Bash. Since both of these events celebrate the youth in our communities, Scurry County Judge Rod Waller will sign a proclamation declaring the week, Aug. 1-7, as "National Kids Day/Kidz R. People 2 Week."

During this time, family members are encouraged to spend time with each other and do things together.

"This is a celebration for the kids and we want to make it as wonderful for them as we possibly can," said Angela Steelman, CADA Prevention specialist and co-chairperson. A group of individuals, both from the business and private community, have been assembled to help these two organizations plan the event that will end with the Back to School Bash from 4 to 11 p.m. at Towle Park.

Plans for the Bash include a street fair, booths and prizes from 4 to 8 p.m., and then a street dance from 9-11. A volunteer group of local musicians will furnish the music.

Area youth and other groups are invited to have booths. "There will be no charge, all we ask is for each organization to provide their own set-up, take down and prizes. This is a good opportunity for some organizations to raise money, or get information about their organization out in the public," said co-chairperson Leslie Cooley. Cooley is also a board member of the boys and girls club.

Anyone wanting to participate should contact Cooley or Steelman at 573-1141. Interested persons may also contact the boys and girls club at 573-3344.

The next scheduled planning session is Friday, July 9, at noon at the CADA office, 1904 37th St.

The basic monetary unit of North Korea is the won.

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Snyder, Texas 79549
Dale Huff, Minister

For Freedom

Freedom burns in our hearts as Americans. We celebrate it on the 4th of July, but we think about it often. It is not just a political idea. It is a true spiritual concept for almost all of us. We live and die free and that freedom is precious to us. What does freedom mean to us? In many ways it depends on how we use it. Freedom can mean the opportunity to provide for our families in the best way possible. Freedom can mean the opportunity to worship God according to conscience. Freedom can mean the right to choose our leaders and participate in our government. But it is important to us and should be!

Freedom was important to Jesus Christ. He came to set men free by the truth, John 8: 31, 32. That truth was found in his teaching. It still is. The apostle Paul writes to the Galatians about freedom:

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not let yourselves be hardened by a yoke of slavery.
Galatians 5: 1

The slavery that Paul writes about is a slavery to the law. It is the slavery of trying to justify ourselves by keeping the law. Christ freed us from that slavery by purchasing our righteousness by his death. We can truly be righteous through Jesus and his death. But how do we use our freedom? That too is important.

You, my brothers were called to be free. But do not use your freedom to indulge the flesh; rather serve one another in love.
Galatians 5: 13

We are free as Americans. How we use that freedom is the most important issue of our life. Christ can also set us free in an even more profound way. How we use that freedom is really important.

Dale Huff

JUN 29 2004

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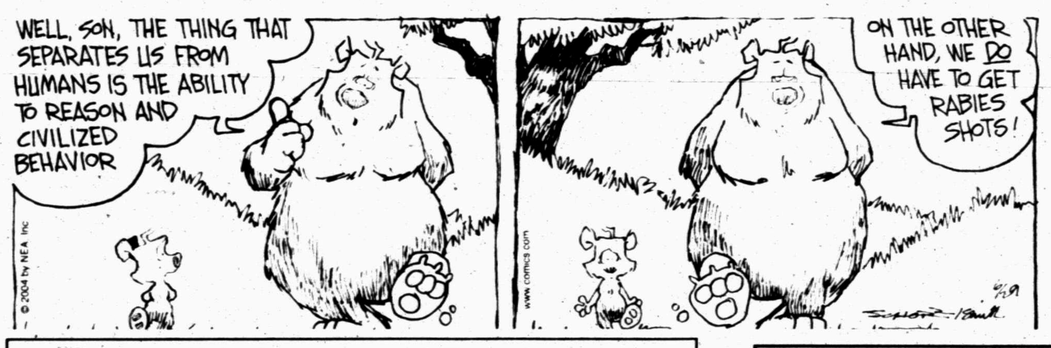
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 ABC rival
4 Jungle snake
7 Size
11 Flamenco shout
12 Jazz melody
14 PC screen image
15 Mauna —
16 Deep-voiced lady
17 Stick together
18 On fire
20 Turn
22 Help
23 Owl's query
24 Oyster product
27 Merriment
30 Speak hoarsely
31 Not any
32 — Wiedersehen
34 Before, to bards
35 Hawk
36 Carpet thickness
37 Weakest, as an excuse
39 Trojan War cause
40 Mr. Linkletter
41 Big tub
42 Miniature tree
45 Harvests
49 Applications
50 Sultan's cousin
52 Equator segment
53 Plum variety
54 Marmalade ingredient
55 Outback hopper
56 Heirs, often
57 Historian's word
58 Fitting

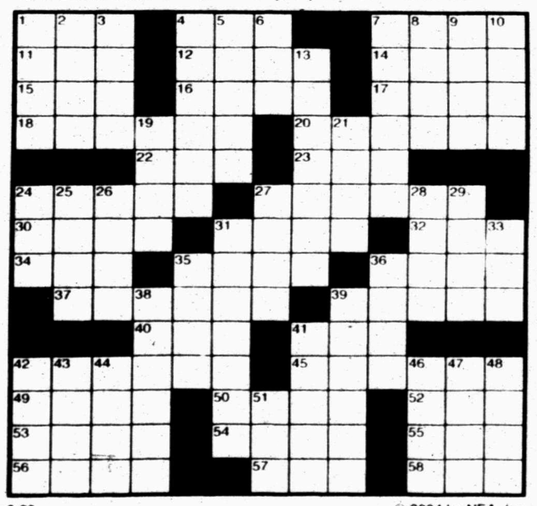
DOWN

1 Fizzy beverage
2 Splotch
3 Make airtight
4 Type of nut
5 Lubricated
6 Fore and —
7 Large digit (2 wds.)
8 NCAA Bruins
9 Oaf
10 Femur connector
13 Too bold
19 Senior cit. group
21 Taft's state
24 Game or season opener
25 Rank below marquis
26 Uncertain
27 Polite chap
28 Lobster order
29 Eggnog time
31 Livelier
33 Wet spongy area
35 Aloe —
36 Seeger of folk music
38 Lots and lots
39 Beehive, maybe
41 Striving
42 Greet with a kiss
43 Nobel Prize city
44 Inert gas
46 "Tomb Raider" heroine
47 Smidgen
48 Bagpipes player
51 Farrow of "Zelig"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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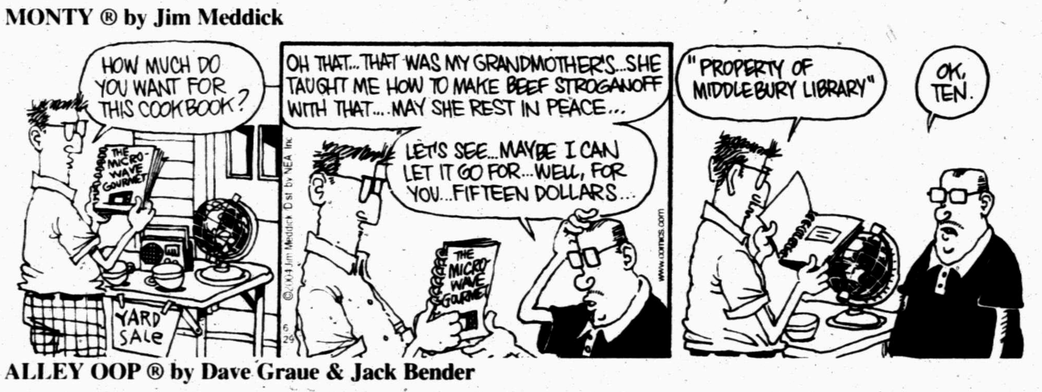
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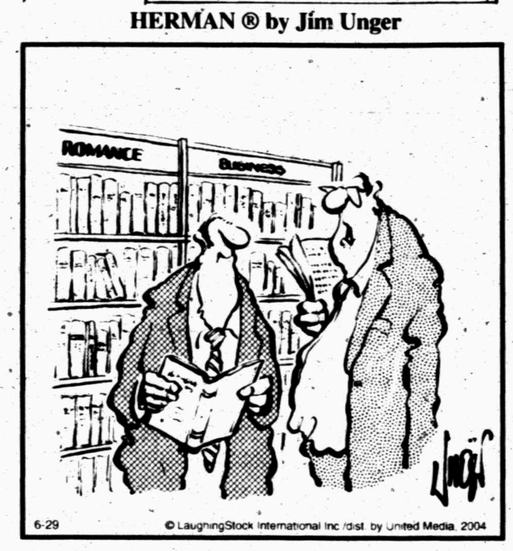
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"If you insist on laughing, sir, I must ask you to browse in the humor section."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

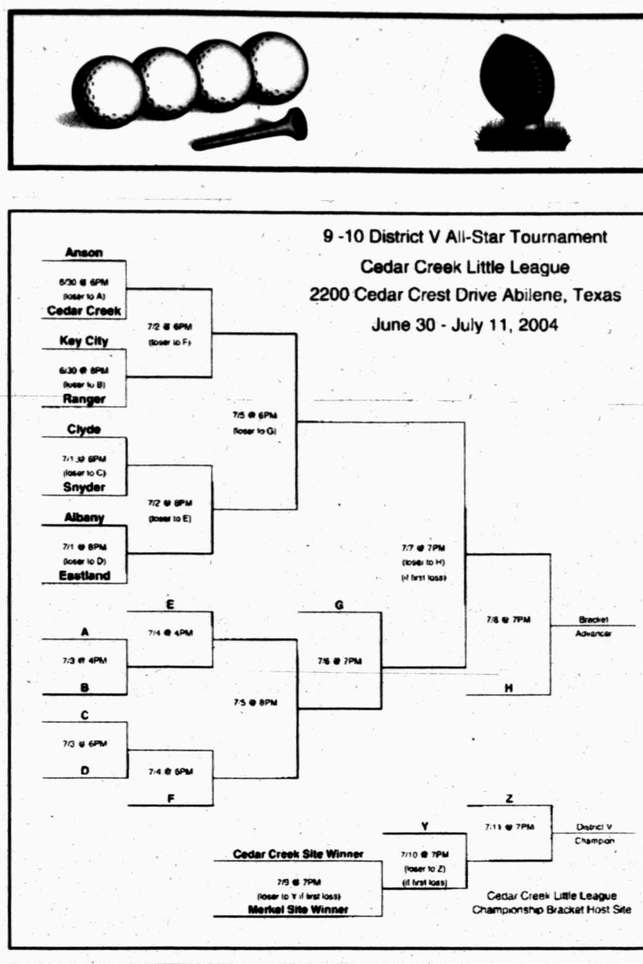


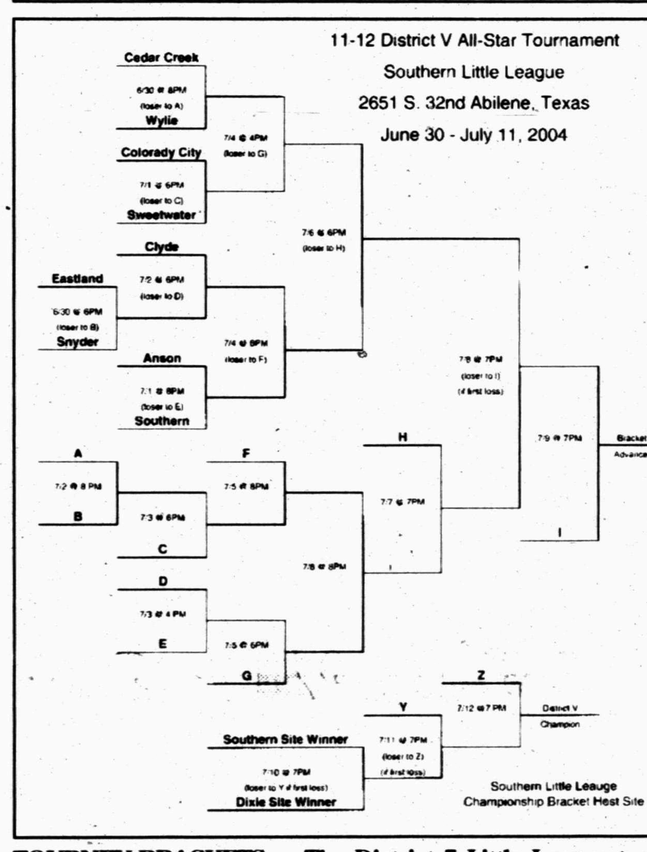
Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



SPORTS





TOURNEY BRACKETS — The District 5 Little League tournament begins at 6:30 tonight, with the 11 and 12-year-olds taking on Eastland at Abilene. The nine and 10-year-old squad begins at 6 p.m. Thursday.

Roddick, Schalken will meet in Wimbledon quarterfinals

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — It had to happen sometime, at some tournament. Their lives intersected under dire circumstances off the court, and Andy Roddick and Sjeng Schalken were bound to face each other on one, sooner or later.

Roddick helped about a dozen people, including fellow tennis players, escape a fatal hotel fire in May before the Italian Open. One, Schalken, will be his quarterfinal opponent at Wimbledon.

The second-seeded Roddick reached the final eight at the All England Club by beating Alexander Popp 7-5, 6-4, 6-4 Monday. No. 12 Schalken made it that far for the third straight year, ending No. 30 Vince Spadea's surprising run 6-2, 7-5, 3-6, 6-2.

"Any time you share a very traumatic situation, and kind of share that fear with someone, and get out of it — there's always something there," Roddick said. "I don't know what that is, but there is kind of something between us now. By the same token, we're both going to try to win a Wimbledon quarterfinal."

Major League Baseball

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	39	35	.527	—
Florida	40	36	.526	—
New York	36	38	.486	3
Atlanta	36	39	.480	3½
Montreal	25	49	.338	14

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
St. Louis	46	30	.605	—
Chicago	41	34	.547	4½
Cincinnati	41	34	.547	4½
Milwaukee	38	34	.528	6
Houston	39	36	.520	6½
Pittsburgh	30	43	.411	14½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	43	33	.566	—
San Diego	40	35	.533	2½
Los Angeles	38	35	.521	3½
Colorado	28	46	.378	14
Arizona	27	49	.355	16

Monday's Games

Pittsburgh 2, St. Louis 1
Philadelphia 14, Montreal 6
Atlanta 6, Florida 1
San Diego 10, Arizona 5

Today's Games

Montreal (Armas Jr. 1-2) at Philadelphia (Milton 9-2), 6:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Carpenter 8-2) at Pittsburgh (S.Burnett 0-2), 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Seo 3-5) at Cincinnati (Van Poppel 3-2), 6:10 p.m.
Florida (Willis 6-5) at Atlanta (Hampton 2-7), 6:35 p.m.
Houston (Pettitte 4-1) at Chicago Cubs (Rusch 4-1), 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Capuano 2-3) at Colorado (Estes 8-3), 8:05 p.m.
San Diego (Sweeney 0-0) at Arizona (Johnson 9-5), 8:35 p.m.
San Francisco (J.Williams 7-5) at Los Angeles (Weaver 5-8), 9:10 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	47	26	.644	—
Boston	42	32	.568	5½
Tampa Bay	37	36	.507	10
Toronto	33	43	.434	15½
Baltimore	31	41	.431	15½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	41	33	.554	—
Chicago	39	33	.542	1
Cleveland	37	37	.500	4
Detroit	35	39	.473	6
Kansas City	28	45	.384	12½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Texas	43	30	.589	—
Oakland	41	33	.554	2½
Anaheim	41	34	.547	3
Seattle	30	44	.405	13½

Monday's Games

Tampa Bay 10, Toronto 2
Baltimore 10, Kansas City 1
Texas 8, Seattle 5

Today's Games

Boston (Lowe 6-6) at N.Y. Yankees (Vazquez 8-5), 6:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Westbrook 6-4) at Detroit (Knotts 4-2), 6:05 p.m.
Toronto (Lilly 6-4) at Tampa Bay (Halama 4-1), 6:15 p.m.
Baltimore (Ponson 3-10) at Kansas City (Wood 0-0), 7:10 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Buehrle 7-2) at Minnesota (Silva 8-4), 7:10 p.m.
Texas (Benoit 2-2) at Seattle (Pineiro 3-8), 9:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Escobar 4-4) at Oakland (Mulder 9-2), 9:05 p.m.

Rangers rip five homers, extend lead in AL West

SEATTLE (AP) — Alfonso Soriano is having the time of his baseball life and so are the astounding Texas Rangers.

They hit five home runs Monday night in an 8-5 victory over the Seattle Mariners, grabbed a 2½-game lead over Oakland, and moved three ahead of Anaheim in the AL West.

"Nobody (thought) this team would be in first place right now," said Soriano, who contributed his 12th homer to the team that finished last in the division for four straight seasons. "I'm having so much fun right now with this team."

Hank Blalock led the Texas power barrage with a pair of homers, and Kevin Mench and Mark Teixeira also homered against the last-place Mariners.

In other AL games, Tampa Bay routed Toronto 10-2, and Baltimore beat Kansas City 10-1.

Soriano came to the Rangers on Feb. 16 in the trade that sent Alex Rodriguez to the Yankees. In the spring, everybody picked Texas to finish last again.

"We have a lot of young players," Soriano said. "But they're good players and we play hard every night."

The Rangers might be young, but they knew they were going to have a lot of power. So their homer surge at pitcher-friendly Safeco Field didn't surprise them.

"When you have guys like Hank who have great power, they can hit balls out of any ballpark," Texas shortstop Michael Young said.

When the Rangers finished last in 2003, they were 28-53 on the road. They're 18-18 away from home this season and gaining more confidence.

"Before, we used to feel very comfortable at home and we'd just try to go out and battle on the road," Young said. "Now, we're starting to feel like we can make adjustments and have good at-bats regardless of where we're playing."

The Rangers beat the Mariners for the seventh straight time this season and eighth of 10 overall.

Young is hitting .327 after going 2-for-6, while Blalock is hitting .315. They're beginning to get noticed.

"Young and Blalock might be as good a two players as there are in the American League. And they're getting better," Mariners manager Bob Melvin said.

Texas won a day after its season-high eight-game winning streak was stopped by Houston. The Mariners have lost six of seven.

The Rangers are 13 games over .500 for the second time this season. After 73 games last season, Texas trailed first-place Seattle by 21½ games and were 19 under .500.

Blalock had his 19th and 20th home runs to tie Boston's Manny Ramirez for the AL lead. It was his third career two-homer game and second of the season.

"He's having an incredible year," Young said of Blalock. "Hank's a great hitter. He's a smart hitter. He's got a good plan every time he comes to the plate. When you combine that with his great natural talent, you're going to have a dominant hitter."

The Mariners got a three-run homer from Bret Boone in the first inning, his 10th and first in 59 at-bats since June 5.

Seattle's Ryan Franklin (3-6) gave up four homers and five runs in five innings. In all, he allowed eight hits and three walks, while striking out four. Franklin is 0-3 with a 12.46 against Texas this season.

"Every pitch they hit out, they should have hit out," he said.

The Rangers' Ricardo Rodriguez (1-0), in his first major league relief appearance and his first outing since July 1, 2003, pitched 3 2-3 innings to get the win. He gave up a run on five hits and a walk, with one strikeout.

Francisco Cordero pitched the ninth for his 23rd save.

Armstrong shoots for sixth straight Tour de France win

PARIS (AP) — Lance Armstrong hopes to do what no other cyclist has done, a test so demanding it has blocked the four great champions before him.

He wants to become the first six-time winner of the Tour de France, a punishing ride of 2,126 miles over countryside and mountains, three weeks of pain and sweat that burn the lungs and torment the legs.

Armstrong has won cycling's premier event the last five years, the first of his titles coming when he roared back from cancer. Now, at 32, he gets to see if the competitive fire still burns.

The race begins its great loop Saturday in Liege, Belgium, the latest chapter in what has become one of the biggest rivalries in international sports: Armstrong vs. Jan Ullrich, the German who risks forever carrying the label as perpetual runner-up to the Texan.

Armstrong is trying to overtake the five-time Tour de France winners: Jacques Anquetil, Eddy Merckx, Bernard Hinault and Miguel Indurain.

Ullrich has a different agenda. He has yet to fulfill the promise he showed in 1997 when at 23 he won the Tour on his second attempt. He has been a Tour de France runner-up five times. One more such finish and he joins Joop Zoetemelk, a Dutchman who raced in the 1970s and '80s, as the only riders to place second six times.

Ullrich was second to Armstrong in 2000, 2001 and 2003 and to Bjarne Riis in 1996 and Marco Pantani in 1998. Last year marked the closest duel between Armstrong and Ullrich. Armstrong was not assured victory until Ullrich skidded and crashed in the next-to-last stage, a rain-soaked time trial.

Texans nab three off waivers

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Texans claimed three players off waivers Monday, including two undrafted rookies.

Houston claimed linebacker fourth-year defensive back Eric Kelly, previously of the Minnesota Vikings, linebacker D.D. Acholonu from Washington State and running back Derrick Knight from Kentucky.

Kelly was a third-round pick for Minnesota in 2001 and was released earlier this month. Acholonu signed with the Buffalo Bills and Knight signed with the Carolina Panthers after the April draft before each was subsequently released.

Sports Briefs

Volleyball camp

Snyder head coach Laura Moses will host a volleyball camp July 12-14 at the high school gym for incoming fourth through ninth graders. All participants should bring knee pads and a water bottle.

Deadline to register is Friday. Contact coach Moses at 573-8531 or 436-9067 for more information.

Snyder doubles tournament

The Snyder tennis booster club will host a doubles tournament July 3. Events include open men's, women's and mixed doubles. Entry fee is $5 per person per event, and players may enter two events. To enter contact SHS tennis coach Ted Phillips at 573-2525.

July 4th volleyball tourney

A coed volleyball tournament will be held Saturday, July 3. For more information call 573-7321.

Athletic physicals

Physical exams, paid for by Snyder ISD, for high school and junior high athletes should be taken by July 28. Those requiring a physical will be incoming 7th and 9th graders and all third year SHS students.

Others are all new to Snyder ISD, any student who has never participated in athletics or who may have answered yes to questions on the medical history form.

To arrange for a physical, call the Covenant clinic at 573-1300 or the rural health clinic at 574-2488.

Coach says no-show a 'misunderstanding'

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas baseball coach Augie Garrido on Monday called the Longhorns' decision not to attend the post-game trophy ceremony at the College World Series a misunderstanding and said it was not done out of poor sportsmanship.

"You think I'm going to be disrespectful to people I love?" said Garrido, who coached champion Cal State Fullerton to its first three national titles. "No way."

Cal State Fullerton beat the top-ranked Longhorns 3-2 Sunday to complete a two-game sweep for the CWS title.

Garrido, who won a championship with Texas in 2002 and has now finished runner-up twice, said he didn't even know there was a trophy for second place.

"It was not about being a poor sport," Garrido said after greeting about 100 fans who met the team on its return from Omaha, Neb. "It had nothing to do with me being angry ... It was about confusion and misunderstanding."

Garrido is friends with Fullerton coach George Horton and said he wanted the Titans to enjoy their championship.

"In my mind, I didn't want to take away the joy that was going on the field. It's their moment," Garrido said.

Reports of Texas' failure to show up to accept their trophy caused a furor among Longhorns fans over what many perceived to be poor sportsmanship.

It was a surprising breach of tradition at a school where after most athletic contests Longhorns teams sing "The Eyes of Texas" with fans, win or lose.

But Garrido said the Longhorns were devastated by the loss.

The Longhorns watched from the dugout as the Titans celebrated for about 10 minutes, said junior pitcher Huston Street.

Once in their locker room, "most of us were crying and spending that time with each other," Street said. "Their was no disrespect on our part. We think they're a deserving champion."

Garrido said he came out of the locker room after talking to his team and was waiting to attend the post game news conference when an NCAA official mentioned the trophy ceremony on the field.

An NCAA official at the tournament said it was the first time in at least 17 years that the losing team did not pick up its trophy.

Phillies' Bell hits for cycle

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — The art of hitting for the cycle skipped a generation in the Bell family.

David Bell hit for the cycle and drove in a career-high six runs, powering the Philadelphia Phillies to a 14-6 victory Monday night over the Montreal Expos.

Bell doubled in the second inning, homered in the fourth, singled in the sixth and hit a disputed triple in the seventh to complete the feat also accomplished by his grandfather, Gus, who did it for Pittsburgh on June 4, 1951.

But the cycle eluded David's father, Buddy, the Cleveland Indians' bench coach who played 18 seasons in the majors.

When asked if he planned to call his father to playfully mock him, David said: "Yeah. Yeah, I will." Then he added, "It's special because it just doesn't happen."

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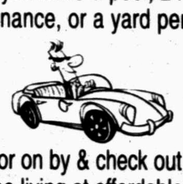
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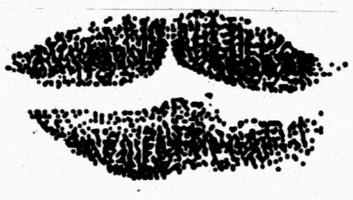
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Families: Not enough done to prevent porch collapses

CHICAGO (AP) — It was just past midnight and the sounds of laughter and carousing drifted from the packed third-floor porch.

Then — without warning — the planks gave way in a deluge of wood that smashed through the porches below, leaving a mangle of debris and young bodies on the ground. Thirteen people died, and at least 57 were injured.

Jeremy Farmer learned what happened to his 21-year-old son when he called the young man's cell phone. An unfamiliar voice answered: Sam was at the morgue.

"We had to go down to that place where nobody wants to go to pick up their child," Farmer recalled.

In the year since the June 29 tragedy in Chicago's upscale Lincoln Park neighborhood, city inspectors have cracked down on porch code violations and building ordinances have been tightened.

But relatives of the victims say the city's inspectors haven't gone far enough to prevent another deadly collapse.

In the weeks that followed the collapse, inspectors swept through the city checking for building code violations. Of the 4,000 porches inspected, about 1,200 had violations, buildings department spokesman Jack Beary said.

New city regulations also were approved, including requiring all apartment leases to include a notice of a porch's weight limit.

All general contractors working on repairs or renovations must now be licensed, where previously only subcontractors had to be. Also, building owners are required to use one of three approved porch designs or hire a licensed architect.

Fines for building violations can reach $500 per day.

But the inspection sweeps lasted only about two months after the collapse. Today, the city conducts inspections when requested or if inspectors happen to notice violations, but no more sweeps are planned, Beary said.

"There are lots of porches in Chicago that are uninspected and we just think that the city needs to do far, far more to prevent this from happening," Farmer said.

Thousands of Chicago apartment buildings have wooden back porches that were first built in the early 1900s. The third-floor porch that collapsed was built without construction permits and not according to code, according to the city.

Dozens of friends, many of them college students and young professionals who had been friends since high school, were standing on it when it fell.

Building owner Philip Pappas' attorney, Bill Johnson, contended the porch was built to code but that it was overloaded.

Still, Pappas and two of his companies agreed to pay $108,500 to settle claims, and $4,200 to resolve code violations at nearly two dozen other properties. Contractor George Koutroumbis agreed to pay $25,000.

A dozen wrongful death lawsuits have been filed against Pappas. The city also is listed in most of the lawsuits; its lawyers declined to comment.

In the last year, the families who lost children, brothers and sisters in the collapse have drawn together for support.

Last week, hundreds gathered at St. Clement Catholic Church in Chicago for a standing-room only service to pay tribute to the victims. The service gave families further encouragement to push for changes in the city's policing of porches.

Farmer smiles as he remembers his son, a University of Arizona sophomore who had "an impish sort of humor." Sam was looking forward to reconnecting with old friends at the party that night, he said.

"We can't prevent what has already happened and we will have the most painful loss of our loved ones for the rest of our lives," Farmer said. "Creating a safer Chicago so that this does not happen again would be some good that has come out of this tragedy."



On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Hormone supplement can be risky

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I read in a popular magazine about a new pill called DHEA. Can you tell me anything about it? Are there side effects? Does it work to burn fat, help with symptoms of menopause, etc? I would like to know all about this. — **A.S., no city or state given**

DEAR A.S.: Dehydroepiandrosterone, or DHEA, is a hormone produced by the adrenal glands — two small, triangular glands that sit atop the kidneys. Once released, DHEA circulates in the bloodstream where it can be picked up and converted into other hormones, most notably male and female sex hormones (androgens and estrogens). Our natural level of DHEA tends to decrease as we pass through midlife, as does our level of androgens and estrogens. There are also certain health conditions associated with lower DHEA levels.

In recent years, scientific studies have reported how pharmaceutical preparations of DHEA given as replacement therapy can relieve certain symptoms associated with a deficiency. One key study published in 1999 in The New England Journal of Medicine reported how women diagnosed with adrenal insufficiency experienced overall benefits in well-being and sexuality using DHEA replacement therapy under controlled conditions. Next, DHEA-like compounds found in certain plants such as the wild yam (dioscorea) were explored. A number of products based on these compounds were developed, some marketed as creams to assist with certain symptoms associated with menopause and aging. DHEA products then appeared for a wide assortment of applications and in various compound formulations, all with the allure of a return to youthful vitality and better health.

The results can be best classified as mixed, and it is difficult to make any general recommendations. Unless there is a known deficiency, use of DHEA is a questionable proposition, and without medical tests you won't even know if your natural level is low. This is a substance that the body turns into hormones — either male or female hormones. Both sexes have both types of hormones, and there is no assurance that taking DHEA will have the intended result.

Similar to a complicated recipe in which flavors need to be used in the proper proportion, balance is the name of the game where hormones are concerned. Manufacture and release within the body is coupled with complimentary reactions, releases and feedback control mechanisms. Certain hormones play a role in the stimulation of tissue definition and development, and this can be dangerous when you toss in substances at unusual levels. For example, a low level of DHEA in the body might be the primary cause of a problem, or it could be an effect of some other factor, and taking extra DHEA might very well aggravate rather than help an existing situation. There are definite risks in taking DHEA during pregnancy and lactation, or using it during growth phases. Consider also that we have little information on its long-term effects. My advice is to steer clear of self administration of these types of substances, and to seek out competent medical guidance if you do decide to start.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I have pernicious anemia, for which I receive B-12 injections. Why is it that this vitamin's intrinsic factor cannot be synthesized and introduced into the body (by injection or pills or whatever)? It seems as though that would be better. — **B.M.M., no city or state given**

DEAR B.M.M.: Two separate components are needed for vitamin B-12 to be absorbed. The first is the vitamin itself, and the second is a protein manufactured by the body that is referred to as the "intrinsic factor." This factor combines with the vitamin and escorts it through the absorptive surface of the intestines. Without its intrinsic factor, little if any vitamin B-12 ever gets into your system.

Pernicious anemia is when there is not enough vitamin B-12 in the body due to a lack of its intrinsic factor. The reason the intrinsic factor cannot be provided as a supplement is that it gets digested along with other dietary proteins, and thus isn't available to assist the vitamin. To date, the only workable treatment for pernicious anemia is the injection of vitamin B-12.

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

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

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NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	12.08	11.88	11.99	+ .01
AT&T Corp	14.44	14.25	14.42	
Albertsons	26.40	26.22	26.29	—.02
Alltel	50.82	50.57	50.75	+ .11
AmEl Pw	32.45	32.10	32.12	—.14
AndarkPtr	57.54	56.99	57.43	+ .43
ATMOS Egy	25.46	25.12	25.21	+ .10
Aviall	19.12	18.95	19.05	+ .08
BP PLC	53.84	53.59	53.60	—.10
BakerHughes	36.99	36.28	36.85	+ .18
Bank of Amer	84.84	84.35	84.44	—.28
BellSouth	25.75	25.41	25.73	+ .33
BurlNoSFe	34.80	34.50	34.53	—.29
Caterpillar	78.00	77.05	77.78	+ .30
CenterPoint	11.58	11.42	11.48	+ .06
ChevronTex	93.65	92.61	93.18	+ .36
Citigroup	46.33	46.15	46.32	—.20
CocaCola	50.85	50.40	50.81	+ .42
ColgatePal	58.34	57.70	58.13	+ .37
CmclMetals	31.87	31.00	31.82	—.67
ConocoPhill	76.27	75.58	75.95	—.11
Cooper Inds	58.73	58.09	58.70	+ .30
DaimlrChry	47.14	46.76	46.90	+ .19
DeltaAirLines	7.03	6.80	6.94	—.09
Dillards Inc	22.93	21.81	21.89	—1.05
DowChem	40.50	40.02	40.44	+ .30
DuPont	44.04	43.67	43.93	+ .20
EastmanChem	45.92	45.43	45.88	+ .34
EstKodak	27.12	26.76	26.90	—.04
EDS Corp	19.30	19.00	19.04	—.22
Entergy	56.60	56.10	56.14	—.45
ExxonMobil	44.66	44.23	44.45	+ .07
FootLocker	24.90	24.38	24.45	—.54
GenDynam	99.99	98.90	99.23	—.30
GenlElec	32.47	32.33	32.38	+ .07
GenMills	46.20	45.81	46.09	+ .19
GenMotors	46.83	46.40	46.59	+ .08
GaPacific	36.08	35.57	35.93	+ .24
Goodrich	32.00	31.70	31.87	—.13
Goodyear	9.36	9.20	9.31	+ .05
GtAtlPac	7.40	7.24	7.40	+ .17
Halliburtn	30.49	29.75	30.12	—.37
Hanson PLC	34.87	34.51	34.51	—.70
HarteHanks	24.10	23.35	24.02	+ .54
HomeDepot	35.34	35.10	35.16	—.30
Honeywellntl	36.60	36.16	36.58	+ .24
IBM	88.45	88.00	88.25	—.46
IntlPaper	43.86	43.37	43.76	+ .27
JohnsonJn	55.61	54.96	55.56	+ .59
KinderMorg	59.79	59.46	59.50	—.19
Kroger Co	18.10	17.92	18.04	+ .02
LockheedM	50.95	50.55	50.89	+ .10
Lowes Cos	53.80	53.40	53.50	—.48
Lubys	6.97	6.85	6.94	—.01
LucentTech	3.82	3.75	3.77	+ .02
MarathonOil	37.15	36.67	36.99	
MayDeptStr	28.43	27.44	27.56	—.86
Medtronic	48.75	48.26	48.65	+ .31
Motorola	18.04	17.82	17.97	
NCR Corp	48.78	48.17	48.43	—.01
Navistar	38.50	38.26	38.44	—.02
PNM Rescs s	20.52	20.36	20.39	—.02
Penney JC	38.50	37.40	37.40	—1.52
PepBoys	26.06	25.75	25.89	+ .14
PepsiCo	54.20	53.74	53.86	—.31
PhelpDodge	76.89	75.10	76.06	+ .71
PilgrimsPride	29.55	29.04	29.43	—.17
Praxair s	39.46	38.71	39.38	+ .61
ProctGamb s	54.89	54.43	54.80	+ .20
RadioShack	29.15	28.63	28.65	—.30
RoyalDut	51.96	51.66	51.85	—.41
SBC Comm	24.42	24.12	24.36	+ .21
SaraLee	22.90	22.76	22.85	+ .08
Scripps EW	105.39	104.94	105.30	+ .10
SearsRoeb	38.43	37.43	37.55	—1.08
SherwinW	41.08	40.82	41.01	—.15
SouthernCo	29.16	28.96	28.99	—.19
SwstAirl	16.92	16.57	16.79	+ .15
SprintFON	17.52	17.32	17.52	+ .07
Sunoco Inc	62.35	61.64	62.10	+ .59
TXU Corp	39.71	39.35	39.67	—.09
TempleInland	68.01	67.40	67.99	+ .32
TexInd	40.25	40.05	40.23	—.02
TexasInst	24.15	23.70	24.06	+ .28
Textron	58.32	57.74	58.17	+ .19
TimeWarner	17.35	17.13	17.28	+ .05
TrinityInds	31.67	31.41	31.49	
TylerTech	10.05	9.62	9.92	+ .10
UnionPacif	58.83	58.50	58.77	+ .01
USSteel	34.40	33.03	34.38	+ .93
UnitedTech	90.60	89.00	89.95	+ .81
Unocal	37.84	37.45	37.59	+ .11
VerizonComm	36.17	35.97	36.13	+ .17
WalMart	52.51	51.94	51.98	—.48
WellsFargo	57.46	56.81	57.22	—.53
WstnGasRs s	31.80	31.29	31.50	+ .21
WinnDixie	7.05	6.88	7.03	+ .34
Xerox Cp	14.45	14.20	14.36	+ .06
YumBrands	37.32	37.10	37.23	+ .04

JUN 29 2004

Computers drive out need for handwriting

By The Associated Press

At Greenwich Country Day, a prestigious Connecticut private school, computers have all but replaced pencil and paper. Typing instruction starts in second grade, and laptops are mandatory by seventh. Essays are typed, and often class notes are, too.

"As an adult in today's work world, you don't write anything," said Carol Maoz, head of the upper school (grades 7-9), adding she couldn't think of an occasion students would write out a longhand essay. "You type everything. There really is no need for proper handwriting."

Maybe not.

But next spring, many of Country Day's alumni, along with millions of other high school juniors, will have to write a very important, 25-minute longhand essay.

The new tests are causing general anxiety for the high school class of 2006, guidance counselors report. And some students who think they'll write a good essay are worried scorers won't be able to decipher it, raising the question of whether penmanship should be getting more attention in the classroom.

"People like myself, who don't have good handwriting, are wondering if some anonymous person is going to think I spelled stuff wrong and not understand what I'm trying to say," said Lucas Rohm, a 16-year-old Country Day alum who is now a rising junior at Greenwich High School. "I definitely feel handwriting is something I need. Country Day just kind of brushed that out."

The school says it still emphasizes handwriting in the early grades; this year, younger students were assigned to write longhand notes to classmates over the summer. Nationally, with a renewed emphasis on basic skills, handwriting is probably getting more attention than a decade ago, said University of Maryland education expert Steve Graham.

That's still far less than it did during the pre-computer era. Teachers may view penmanship as less important, or simply have more material to cover.

"When there really were only three 'Rs,' they could spend more time on it," said Richard Northup, a vice president at Zaner-Bloser, an educational publisher that revised its handwriting teaching products several years ago. Teachers told the company they needed to get through the topic more quickly.

Many educators aren't ready to declare penmanship and the longhand essays lost arts. The National Handwriting Contest, sponsored by Zaner-Bloser, saw entries jump 30 percent to 130,000 last year.

Northup insists that, while educators may be spending less time on handwriting, they are teaching it more efficiently, and have come to appreciate the important role of letter formation in helping students read. He also welcomes the new SAT essay.

Graham said he's found 90 percent of elementary teachers he surveyed were teaching handwriting, though about three-quarters didn't think they were adequately prepared and very little is taught after third grade.

"Handwriting's not going to disappear for a good while, unless something radical changes in schools," he said.

One factor suggesting that's true is a developing appreciation of the limits of classroom computers. Indeed, many colleges, law and business schools that wired their lecture halls for students discovered the technology was more likely to be used for surfing the Web and e-mailing.

That's also what happened at Country Day, said Rohm, the student with sloppy handwriting.

"Half the kids are looking at Web sites, playing games in class," he said. "Computers are great, but there are so many hours spent working on computers that haven't helped me."

Administrators of the SAT and ACT insist students won't be penalized for poor penmanship, and say their readers have lots of practice deciphering the most "chickenesque" scratches.

Students with poor penmanship also are unlikely to pay too heavy a price for bad scrawl in college. While some professors maintain the written in-class essay exam, students do most of their formal work on computers. Professors are generally more interested in evaluating a revised, polished product than in how well a student composes on the fly.

"As far as we can tell, our kids have not been hurt in any way," Maoz said of Country Day's technology emphasis. "We talk a lot about technology and some of the downsides, but honestly, (penmanship) just is not one of them."

Today's chuckle

Yellow ribbon thief turns out to be squirrel

BETTENDORF, Iowa (AP) — When yellow ribbons in Bob Saskowski's yard started disappearing, he suspected evil intentions.

"Every time it disappeared, I would hang a new one," said Bob Saskowski, who tied the ribbons with his wife, Alexis, in support of their son and other troops in Iraq.



The disappearances went on for eight months. The last straw was when three ribbons disappeared in three days.

So Bob Saskowski appealed to his neighbors, asking them to talk to their teenagers about respect and patriotism and asked for their help.

"It indicated I needed their eyes to help them watch the trees," he said.

Neighbors responded by adding yellow ribbons to the trees in their yards.

"We all decided if this person was going to pick on Bob, they can pick on all of us. And we literally put ribbons up and down the street," said neighbor Patty Kenyon.

The ribbons kept disappearing, but only from the Saskowski yard.

Finally, the couple set up a video camera, focused on the yard. Six weeks later, they caught the culprit on tape.

The ribbons were being shimmied slowly down the trunk by a squirrel.

"We can laugh now," Saskowski said. "Before, it was not funny."

Defense in Scott Peterson trial is offering alternative suspects

REDWOOD CITY, Calif. (AP) — In a blistering cross-examination of the lead detective assigned to Laci Peterson's murder, the defense tried to show the case was shoddily executed and designed from the start to implicate her husband.

Near the end of his fourth day on the witness stand Monday, Detective Allen Brocchini watched the clock hanging on a wall above the jury as he faced a barrage of pointed questions from defense lawyer Mark Geragos.

Geragos asked Brocchini about several tips police received that seemed to point away from Laci's husband, Scott Peterson. Geragos also probed a previous burglary of the Peterson home and mysterious men spotted in the neighborhood.

Brocchini was due back on the stand today for another round of questions from Geragos, who has used several prosecution witnesses to attempt to explain how Laci Peterson's disappearance and murder could have come at the hands of someone other than her husband.

Geragos asked Brocchini about several tips police received early in the investigation, including one on Dec. 26, 2002 — two days after Laci was reported missing — that she was being held in a storage bin about 30 miles from her hometown of Modesto.

Brocchini said he knew of it, but did not have much information.

Geragos said police flew over the area with a helicopter equipped with a heat-seeking device and discovered what could have been a sign of life, but officers never searched the area.

Peterson, 31, is accused of murdering his pregnant wife on or around Dec. 24, 2002, then sinking her body in San Francisco Bay. Defense lawyers say he was fishing on the bay when Laci Peterson disappeared, and that someone else abducted her near their Modesto home as she walked the dog, and held her captive before killing her and dumping her body in the bay to frame Peterson.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



College-bound girl unfazed by family's lack of support

DEAR ABBY: Please urge "Depressed About the Future" to complete her education. I, too, was a younger child (fourth out of five) and only the second of 27 grandchildren to go to college.

My mother ordered me not to talk about college around my siblings, and my brother said I was a snob for wanting a better education. I am so glad I didn't listen to them.

Both of my parents told me how proud they were of me when I received my first degree. And as adults, one sister has earned two B.A.s, and another sister and brother have taken many college classes. The brother who called me a snob is now in college at age 54. He still teases me about being "Susie Co-ed," but he loves college and regrets not having gone sooner. — **B.S., M.S., FROM OHIO**

DEAR M.S.: I applaud your determination and perseverance — and that's no B.S. Readers all over the country have written to offer advice and emotional support: **Read on for some samples:**

DEAR ABBY: When I was 15 I announced at the dinner table that I was going to college. My parents said I should forget it because they didn't have the money. I said, "If I want to go to college, I'll find a way." And I did! It was the most empowering thing I have ever done.

Please tell "Depressed" that no dream is too big. I am now a trained professional with a graduate degree. — **DID IT IN MARIETTA, GA.**

DEAR DID IT: Bravo!

DEAR ABBY: My husband, Phil, and I were the first in our families to receive university degrees. We did it together, living in a one-room apartment near campus living on $90 a month from Phil's G.I. Bill. We ate lots of macaroni and cheese, attended a church within walking distance (we had no car), and graduated in three years with bachelor of science degrees. Later, we earned M.A.E. degrees by going to the university on Friday and Saturday nights. (I graduated with honors.) There is nothing as costly as NOT getting an education.

The best advice I can offer from the perspective of my own education, and that of the hundreds of college students I have taught, is this:

(1) Believe in yourself and do your best.

(2) Be enthusiastic and make friends.

(3) Wring from your college experience every opportunity to learn the basics in your chosen field, and attend the elective seminars — the all-campus lectures — to broaden your horizons.

(4) Learn to disagree without being disagreeable.

(5) Recognize learning as an introduction to learning more on your own.

(6) You owe it to yourself, your children, your employer and your community to GO FOR IT! — **M. BALLOU, Ph.D., Ed.D., PAST PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN**

DEAR DR. BALLOU: You have my respect and admiration. Wouldn't it be wonderful to know how many thousands of young people your letter has inspired today?

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

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Documentary boosts public interest in war in Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — Michael Moore's record-breaking documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11" is a pop culture phenomenon that is raising public interest in the Iraq war just as the United States is attempting a crucial handoff of power to Iraqis.

The movie, an indictment of President Bush's leadership and his decision to go to war in Iraq after the 2001 terrorist attacks, took in $23.9 million to become the first documentary to debut as Hollywood's top weekend film. Theater owners in cities large and small reported sellout crowds.

The heightened public interest generated by the film and the controversy surrounding it is likely to increase the reaction to what happens in Iraq — good and bad, analysts say.

"We haven't seen anything like this before," said political scientist Thad Beyle of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. "I can't recall anything this large" coming out during an election year.

Political analysts are watching to see whether the movie attracts undecided or politically inattentive voters, but say it's too soon to say how it will influence the presidential campaign.

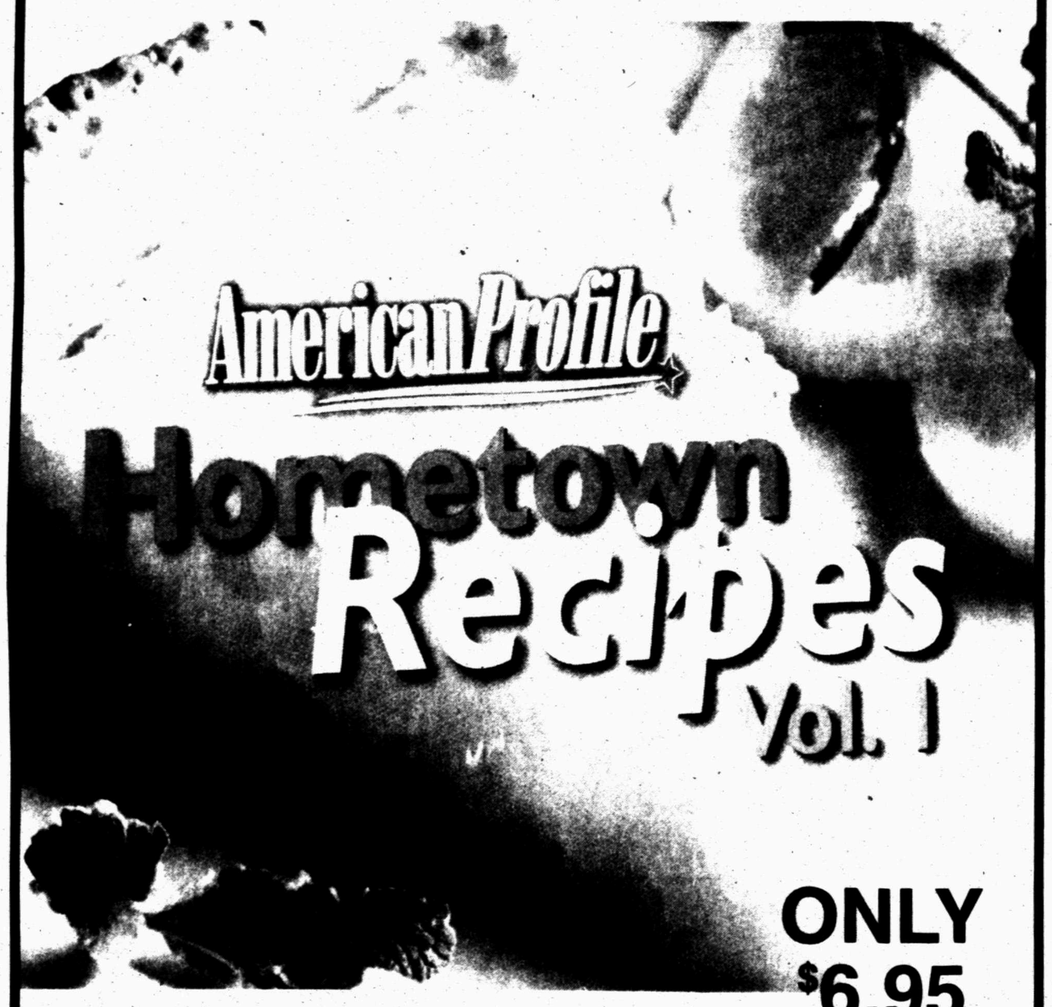
"What will matter most is what's happening on the ground in Iraq," said Robert Shapiro, a Columbia University political science professor who specializes in public opinion.

Most people who don't already oppose the Iraq war as Moore does are unlikely to see the movie, said Kathleen Jamieson, a specialist in political communication and director of the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg Public Policy Center. "But if they are undecided, this type of extended communication is the form most likely to persuade."

Other analysts said they'll be interested to see whether the huge crowds continue beyond opening weekend.

Karlyn Bowman, a public opinion specialist at the American Enterprise Institute, said she doubted the film's "extraordinarily impressive" weekend box office numbers will influence the campaign between Bush and John Kerry.

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Administration must regroup after court ruling

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration must regroup legally and politically after the Supreme Court dealt a major setback to the government's anti-terrorism tactics since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks.

The high court refused to endorse the White House claim of authority to seize and detain terrorism suspects and indefinitely deny access to courts or lawyers while interrogating them.

Monday's rulings in a trio of cases dealing with the rights of prisoners mean that detainees, whether potential terrorist threats or victims of circumstance, have greater rights to challenge their captivity in U.S. courts and force the government to explain itself.

"We are reviewing the court's decision to determine how to modify existing processes to satisfy the court's rulings," Justice Department spokesman Mark Corallo said.

A State Department spokesman said only that the rulings were under review.

In the short term, administration lawyers must prepare to fight scores of new court challenges filed on behalf of hundreds of detainees held more than two years at the Navy's prison camp at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The administration lost its high court argument that those detainees could not take their complaints to U.S. courts, because they are foreigners held on foreign soil. A 6-3 majority said the men may sue.

"The lesson of the decision is that there is no prison beyond the reach of domestic law," said Joe Margulies, a Minneapolis lawyer who was lead counsel in the Supreme Court case on behalf of two Australian detainees and the Center for Constitutional Rights.

A number of questions remain about how cases will proceed and how the military will respond to lawyers' requests to meet with detainees. So far only four have been allowed to meet attorneys, and only three prisoners have been charged.

"Whatever we're told to do we'll do," said Army Lt. Col. Leon Sumpter, a spokesman at Guantanamo. "We'll definitely get guidance on how to implement that."

Soon, the administration will also return to federal courtrooms for new arguments in the cases of two American-born terror suspects whose cases challenged the premise that the war on terrorism required a new view of civil liberties.

The high court ruled 6-3 that Louisiana-born detainee Yaser Esam Hamdi can continue to argue for his freedom in court, repudiating administration arguments that presidential say-so was enough to keep Hamdi locked up without charges or trial.

"A state of war is not a blank check for the president when it comes to the rights of the nation's citizens," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor wrote.

The court declined to rule on the merits of a third case arising from the hunt for terrorists. The court sent back to a lower court the case of Jose Padilla, a former Chicago gang member and convert to Islam being held as an enemy combatant amid allegations he sought to detonate a radiological "dirty bomb" and blow up apartment buildings in the United States.

The Bush administration contends that all the men at issue in Monday's cases are enemy combatants, an indistinct legal term. The administration claimed enemy combatants are neither prisoners of war protected by the Geneva Conventions nor ordinary criminal suspects with automatic rights to see a lawyer and know the charges against them.

Eight justices rejected the Bush administration's treatment of Hamdi on some grounds. Only Justice Clarence Thomas, by many measures the court's staunchest conservative, found no fault with the government.

In one bright spot for the government, a majority of five justices held that the president had authority to hold Hamdi as an enemy combatant.

Hamdi was born in Louisiana in 1980, while his Saudi father worked in the oil industry there. He grew up in Saudi Arabia. Hamdi's family says he is innocent — a 20-year-old relief worker swept up in the chaos of Afghanistan in the weeks following the terrorist attack.

The Bush administration says he was fighting with a Taliban unit and carrying a gun.

Hamdi was initially shipped to Guantanamo with other so-called battlefield detainees but transferred to a Navy brig in South Carolina after authorities verified his citizenship.

Padilla, also being held at the brig, was arrested at Chicago's O'Hare International Airport as he got off a flight from Pakistan in 2002, allegedly with plans to carry out terror attacks in America.

Both men have been held more than two years and interrogated repeatedly. Until recently they were not allowed to meet with their lawyers.

The Padilla case ended Monday with what is at best an incremental victory for the government. Led by Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist, the court voted 5-4 to throw out the lower court ruling on a technicality. The court's more liberal wing dissented.

Padilla may now refile his case and challenge the government on stronger legal footing, although several lawyers said the government may choose to file criminal charges instead.

On the Net:

Links to Monday's rulings:
Hamdi v. Rumsfeld:
http://wid.ap.org/documents/scotus/040628hamdi.pdf
Rasul v. Bush:
http://wid.ap.org/documents/scotus/040628rasul.pdf
Padilla v. Rumsfeld:
http://wid.ap.org/documents/scotus/040628padilla.pdf

One million more college students would graduate, Kerry says of his plan

CHICAGO (AP) — Democrat John Kerry, pledging to help low-income and minority students, says if he's elected president 1 million more college students would graduate under his plan than is now forecast.

Kerry's campaign says the goal could be fulfilled within five years of his taking office by reducing the cost of education, but population increases also would help.

"We can't rest until all Americans, black and white, rich and poor, people of all colors and all backgrounds, truly have the opportunity they need to make the American dream real," Kerry said in a statement.

About 2 million students will earn bachelor's and associate's degrees this year, according to Education Department statistics, and the number of students attaining those degrees each year is forecast to increase by almost 100,000 by 2010.

Kerry's pledge would increase those gains tenfold.

Kerry has already promised to increase college enrollment by 1.5 million students within five years of taking office. The department projected that enrollments in all degree-granting institutions already will rise from 15.9 million this year to nearly 17.2 million in 2010.

Bush campaign spokesman Steve Schmidt said Kerry's pledges to increase enrollment and graduation are "empty promises." Schmidt noted that Kerry already has said he'll have to scale back some of his earlier education funding proposals because of the growing deficit.

Schmidt also pointed to a USA Today article published Monday that showed that the share of what students pay in tuition and fees has fallen in recent years, because of federal tax breaks and increases in state and federal grants. Kerry often tells voters that tuition rates have gone up during Bush's presidency, making it harder for average American families to get by.

Kerry was announcing his goal at two civil rights gatherings today — first in the morning at the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition in Chicago and later in the afternoon at the National Council of La Raza in Phoenix.

Kerry has been seeking minority support for his campaign, but some black and Hispanic leaders have expressed disappointment with aspects of his campaign, including a shortage of minorities in key campaign leadership roles.

Arturo Vargas, executive director of National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials said when it comes to Hispanics in decision-making positions in the presidential race, "I don't think either campaign has done well enough to date, frankly." Vargas was speaking after Kerry addressed NALEO on Saturday.

Kerry's education plan emphasizes support for minority enrollments in college. He would require colleges to report to parents and students annual data on the number of minority, low-income and middle-income students enrolling and graduating.

Kerry says he'll make a special push to encourage students to study math, science and technology by spending $100 million more annually on scholarships for those fields and $20 million more than Bush requested to spend this year on programs in those areas at colleges with large minority enrollment.

Money for those programs would come from Kerry's plan to raise $30 billion, which he announced last week, by speeding the transition to digital television and auctioning off the space created on broadcast airwaves, his campaign said.

Kerry says he will divide a $100 million incentive fund among colleges that increase graduation rates of low-income students receiving Pell Grants.

Poll shows Bush running even with Kerry, boosted by economic optimism

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush has pulled back into a tie with Democrat John Kerry in a CBS News-New York Times poll released Monday, apparently boosted by increasing optimism about the economy.

The race remains very close even though Bush's job approval rating was at 42 percent — the lowest level in this poll amid rising concerns about Iraq and terrorism.

Almost six in 10 said they disapproved of Bush's handling of Iraq, and more than half disapproved of his handling of foreign policy.

Despite these vulnerabilities, Bush is still running even with Kerry. More view the Democrat unfavorably than favorably in this poll.

Kerry had 45 percent support and Bush by 44 percent in the poll. In a three-way matchup, Kerry and Bush were still running even while independent Ralph Nader was at 5 percent.

In May, Kerry led Bush by 8 percentage points in a two-way matchup, and by 6 points in a three-way matchup.

The poll found a slight increase in the number of people who said the economy is getting better — from 25 percent to 30 percent — and a significant decline in the number who said it's getting worse — from 21 percent to 30 percent.

Three-fourths of those who say the economy is improving support Bush, and three-fourths of those who say it's getting worse support Kerry.

While Bush's support on Iraq has been dropping in several polls, the public's view of the economy has been gradually improving — reflecting several months of indications that the economy is bouncing back.

The poll of 1,053 adults, including 875 registered voters, was taken June 23-27 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Wednesday, June 30, 2004

Substantial strides can be made toward furthering your ambitions in your chosen endeavor in the year ahead by committing yourself to quality. However, being everybody's friend will frost the cake.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If you find yourself not able to accomplish something on your own today, don't fret. You should be able to find willing helpers to finish the task. It'll be a welcome relief to get it done.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Even though you may be in a sociable mood today, you'll appreciate the fact that not everyone is and take no offense at someone who doesn't join in. You'll make fun where you find it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — You'll function best today when you're able to operate in your own backyard, completing personal projects or endeavors, yet you will still find time to assist those who need you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Keep everything in proper perspective today. If you choose to relax today, forget about your work and enjoy yourself. If you intend to work, don't daydream about doing something else.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — So long as you don't lose your optimism, a situation that has been going downhill can be rectified today. It looks like you'll be enjoying gains where once you only saw losses.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Your judgment in important personal matters may be better than what is offered you today. Listen to what others say and use the parts you can, but make the final decision yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — The best way to handle someone who has disappointed you today is to keep on smiling and go off on your own. With the right attitude, you'll attract those who will make you happy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — An organization or a group you belong to may ask you to make yourself available to contribute further to their cause. You'll enjoy rendering your services, but don't render your purse.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Although intimidating or challenging situations may overwhelm you somewhat today, you'll rise to the occasion and conquer them with more ease than you ever thought possible.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Should a friend come to you for advice today, find a kind way to tell your pal the truth if you think it might be hurtful, but don't taint the truth with unproductive gibberish to lessen the blow.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Industriousness, not any kind of lucky break, will enable you to accomplish what you must do today to get ahead. Stand on your own two feet, not on any rabbit's foot.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Today your presence will have a soothing and harmonious effect on companions who find themselves riding a storm. You'll know exactly what to say and do to calm troubled waters.

Cancer, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph year ahead predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



PSA can monitor the staging of prostate cancer

DEAR DR. GOTT: My husband had prostate cancer, forcing him to have his prostate gland (and nearby lymph nodes) removed. Now his urologist wants to have a PSA test done periodically.

Although I understand that the PSA is a valuable tool in discovering prostate cancer, I question whether this test is appropriate for a man whose prostate gland has been removed. Is this test appropriate for my husband, and if so, why?

DEAR READER: You are correct that the Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) is a valuable method of detecting the presence of hidden prostate cancer. It is also an appropriate technique to follow patients who have required prostate excision. Here's why.

The normal PSA should not exceed 4 nanograms per milliliter. However, in men following prostate removal, it should be too low to measure (less than 1) — unless the cancer has spread and is undetected. Therefore, your husband's urologist is correct. If your husband's PSA rises from an extremely low value — even if the rise is way below the limit of 4 — this could indicate the presence of prostate cancer elsewhere in the body because, as you concluded, his prostate gland has been removed and will not grow back. In this situation, a rising PSA must reflect prostatic tissue in sites other than the gland itself; in short, metastatic prostate cancer.

I encourage your husband to follow his doctor's advice about further, periodic testing. And, by all means, ask the urologist to clarify any issues or concerns that you may have.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 71 and had a colonoscopy last year. Is it necessary to have this exam annually?

DEAR READER: No it isn't. Ordinarily, colonoscopic exams should be started in both men and women at about 50 years of age. If nothing abnormal is discovered, the exam need not be repeated for 10 years.

If the specialist discovers benign polyps, the patient should have a repeat exam in about five years.

Should a colonoscopic exam reveal pre-malignant polyps (or if there is a family history of colon cancer), the patient should have a repeat study at the discretion of the physician — usually in two or three years.

You do not require annual colonoscopies, but follow the instructions of the specialist.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I have had osteoarthritis for the past 20 years. I have learned to live with the pain, for which I take occasional ibuprofen with good results. Recently, I heard that eating tomatoes will worsen arthritis. Is this true?

DEAR READER: Not to my knowledge. Tomatoes are associated with many proven health benefits. Their relation to arthritis has been anecdotal at best. I advise you to stick with your ibuprofen and eat tomatoes as you please.

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

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JUN 29 2004

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

From online pornography...

High court blocks law shielding kids

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court ruled today that a law meant to punish pornographers who peddle dirty pictures to Web-surfing kids is probably an unconstitutional muzzle on free speech.

The high court divided 5-to-4 over a law passed in 1998, signed by then-President Clinton and now backed by the Bush administration. The majority said a lower court was correct to block the law from taking effect because it likely violates the First Amendment.

In considering the issue a third time, the court did not end a long fight, however. The majority voted to send the case back to a lower court for a trial that could give the government a chance to prove the law does not go too far.

The ruling in Ashcroft v. American Civil Liberties Union was the last of nearly 80 cases decided in a busy court term that ended today with no announcements that any of the nine justices would retire. The year's marquee cases involving presidential power to deal with suspected terrorists were announced Monday, and for the most part represented a loss for the Bush administration.

The majority, led by Justice Anthony M. Kennedy, said there may have been important technological advances in the five years since a federal judge blocked the law.

Holding a new trial will allow discussion of what technology, if any, might allow adults to see and buy material that is legal for them while keeping that material out of the hands of children.

Justices John Paul Stevens, David H. Souter, Clarence Thomas and Ruth Bader Ginsburg agreed with Kennedy.

Today's pornography ruling is more nuanced, but still a blow to the government. It marks the third time the high court has considered the case, and it may not be the last.

The ACLU and other critics of the antipornography law said that it would restrict far too much material that adults may legally see and buy.

"We're very pleased with the decision," ACLU lawyer Ann Beeson said. "The status quo is still with us and the court made it safe for artists, sex educators and Web publishers to communicate with adults without risking jail time."

Beeson said that after repeated losses in court, the government may choose to drop any further defense of the law. There was no immediate word from the Bush administration.

The law, which never took effect, would have authorized fines up to $50,000 for the crime of placing material that is "harmful to minors" within the easy reach of children on the Internet.

The law also would have required adults to use access codes and or other ways of registering before they could see objectionable material online.

Bush pushes for democratic reform in the Middle East

ISTANBUL, Turkey (AP) — A day after Iraq's new interim government claimed power, President Bush said today that "freedom is the future of the Middle East," but made clear that what he means by democracy is not wholesale acceptance of Western pop culture.

"When I speak about the blessings of liberty, coarse videos and crass commercialism are not what I have in mind," Bush said in remarks here before ending a five-day trip to Ireland and Turkey. "There is nothing incompatible between democratic values and high standards of decency."

In another self-criticism after acknowledging widespread suspicion of U.S. motives, Bush said: "When some in my country speak in an ill-informed and insulting manner about the Muslim faith, their words are heard abroad, and do great harm to our cause in the Middle East."

He said Muslims also bear some responsibility for tensions between the two cultures. "When some in the Muslim world incite hatred and murder with conspiracy theories and propaganda, their words are also heard by a generation of young Muslims who need truth and hope, not lies and anger."

At the speech on the grounds of Galatasaray University, next to the Bosporus Strait that has long been a symbolic link between Europe and Asia, Bush cited Turkey as an example of how democracy can flourish in the Muslim world. And he heralded the transfer of sovereignty to Iraqis, a step he said was giving rise to "the world's newest democracy."

Bush raised no objection to new interim Iraqi Prime Minister Iyad Allawi taking hard-line measures to deal with militants such as Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the most wanted man in the country. Allawi said today he will announce emergency measures — steps likely to temporarily curb the kinds of freedoms Bush was advocating for the Middle East.

His audience sat silently throughout his remarks, giving brief applause when he finished. Just behind Bush as he spoke was a bridge spanning the Bosporus, and a 17th century mosque, its two slender minarets pointed skyward.

Gun-toting security officers floated by in a black rubber raft, along with gunboats, and a low-flying black surveillance helicopter cruised over the speech site twice, forcing Bush to raise his voice.

Bush said nations attending the NATO summit, which closes here today, have agreed to work together with nations of the broader Middle East to fight terrorism, control their borders and aid victims of disaster.

Senior Center Menu

Wednesday: Liver and onions, mashed potatoes, cream style corn, cucumber/onion salad, Jell-O cake.

Thursday: Sliced ham, scalloped potatoes, steamed broccoli, carrot/raisin salad, peach cobbler.

Friday: Fried fish, hominy, crinkle cut fries, coleslaw, brownies.

Car fire reported as arson

• ***Arson***

Firefighters responded to the 1700 block of Ave. R at 11:32 p.m. Monday as a caller said he saw someone running from a car that was on fire. The vehicle was a former police unit owned by an individual and damage was minimal. A report for arson was filed.

• ***Juvenile scam***

Deputies responded to the 2300 block of Smith Ave. in Hermleigh Monday morning on a report of several juveniles asking for donations for the First Baptist Church. When confronted, the juveniles said they were really trying to raise money to buy fireworks.

• ***Criminal mischief***

A report of traffic signs being knocked over on the service road next to the 200 block of Ave. R was received at 6:16 a.m. today.

• ***Obscene language***

A citation for obscene language was issued at 5:50 p.m. Monday to a female in the 2600 block of Ave. W.

• ***Harassment***

A report of harassment was called in at 7:46 p.m. Monday at Snyder One Stop.

• ***Aggressive dog***

At 8:56 p.m. Monday in the 3500 block of 44th Street, a pit bull was returned to its owner after reportedly killing a cat and not leaving a neighbor's yard.

Obituaries

Freddie Everton

1934-2004

Freddie Everton, longtime Snyder resident, died Monday, June 28, just west of Snyder.



Mr. Everton

Graveside service for Mr. Everton, 69, is set for 2 p.m. Wednesday in the Colorado City Cemetery. The Rev. Miller Robinson, retired minister, will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 8, 1934 in Eastland, he married Betty Hataway on Aug. 31, 1999 in Las Vegas.

Mr. Everton was owner of Xpert Oil Tool Co. in Snyder.

He was preceded in death by a son, Freddie Joe Everton, on Oct. 19, 2002; a grandson, Chad Everton, on April 29, 2003; a sister, Doris Davis; two brothers, Henry and Carrol Everton; and his parents, David and Myrtle Woodall Everton.

Survivors include his wife, Betty Everton of Snyder; a daughter and son-in-law, Delinda and Donnie Trant of La Porte; a son, Sid Everton of Snyder; a stepdaughter, Trudy Hataway of Fort Worth; a stepson, Sonny Joe Hataway of Fort Worth; three sisters, Wanda Neal, Lottie Williams and Bobbye Nell Spalding, all of Hamlin; two brothers, Johnny Everton of East Wareham, Mass., and Homer Everton of Haskell; five grandchildren; two step grandchildren; two great-grandchildren.

Visitation is set from 6 to 7 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Howard Dorman

1927-2004

Howard Frank Dorman, longtime Snyder resident, died Monday, June 28, at his home in Snyder.

Graveside service for Mr. Dorman, 76, is set for 11 a.m. Thursday in Hillside Memorial Gardens. The Rev. Glenn Border will officiate.



Mr. Dorman

Family visitation will be held from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 17, 1927 in Yale, Okla., he married Orpha McGowan on July 6, 1948 in Caldwell, Idaho.

Mr. Dorman retired in November, 1990 as a heavy equipment operator for Holder Construction.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a daughter; Nina Marie Johnson; three brothers; five sisters; and one great-granddaughter, Chloe Strange.

Survivors include his wife, Orpha Dorman of Snyder; three daughters and two sons-in-law, Cynthia and Don Davis of Snyder, Vinita and Scott Beights of Talpa and Diana Dorman of Phoenix; two sons and daughters-in-law, Michael and Diane Dorman of Veribest and James and Judy Dorman of Snyder; three granddaughters and two grandsons-in-law, Jennifer Beights of Abilene, Amanda and Cory Beltz of Moore, Okla., and Stephanie and Cameron Strange of San Angelo; six grandsons and five granddaughters-in-law, Jeff and Summer Beights of Abilene, Joshua Beights of Talpa, Adam and Jennifer Davis of Arkadelphia, Ark., Bryan and Shanna Dorman of San Angelo, Billy and Shannon Johnson of Snyder and Bradley and Cheryl Johnson of Holt, Mich.; a step granddaugher and her husband, Candace and Dave Mullens of Gautier, Miss; three step grandsons, Matt Edwards of Gautier, Henry and Rebeccca Edwards of Big Spring and Jason and Virginia Edwards of St. Marys, Ga.; two brothers, Herman Dorman of Huachuca City, Ariz., and Walter Dorman of Farmington, N.M.; a sister, Audrey Rothmeyer of Hugo, Okla.; and six great-grandchildren.

Lynda Lawrence

1948-2004

SAN ANGELO — Lynda D. Lawrence, sister of Jan Scott of Snyder, died Wednesday, June 16, in McKinney.

Mrs. Lawrence, 56, was cremated and a private memorial service is planned.

Born May 27, 1948 in San Antonio, she graduated from San Angelo Central High School in 1966 and attended San Angelo College.

She was preceded in death by her father, Dean Yancey.

Survivors include a daughter and son-in-law, Adrienne and Buddy Cates of McKinney; her mother and stepfather, Dottie and Dick Dickerson of San Angelo; another sister and her husband, Deanna and Randy Morrell of San Angelo; a brother-in-law, Ken Scott of Snyder; two brothers and sisters-in-law, Guy and Diane Yancey and Scott and Christi Yancey, all of San Angelo; two grandsons, Ford and Brady Cates of McKinney; and a friend, Gail Holt.

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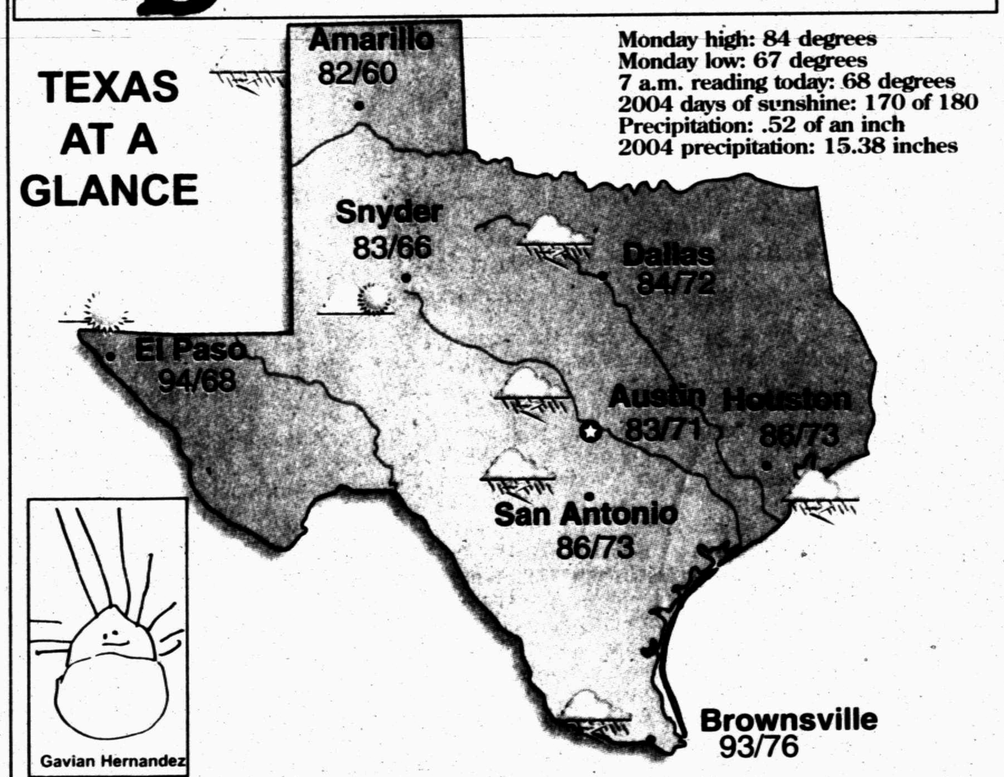
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 6/30	Thu 7/1	Fri 7/2
83/66	90/65	92/66
Mostly cloudy skies early will become partly cloudy later in the day.	A few clouds. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the mid 60s.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the low 90s and lows in the mid 60s.
Sunrise 6:39 AM, Sunset 8:56 PM	Sunrise 6:40 AM, Sunset 8:56 PM	Sunrise 6:40 AM, Sunset 8:55 PM

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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Monday high: 84 degrees
Monday low: 67 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 68 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 170 of 180
Precipitation: .52 of an inch
2004 precipitation: 15.38 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	82	68	t-storm	El Paso	94	68	mst sunny	Midland	88	66	pt sunny
Amarillo	82	60	t-storm	Fort Stockton	88	66	pt sunny	Raymondville	95	74	t-storm
Austin	83	71	t-storm	Gainesville	80	68	t-storm	Rosenberg	87	73	t-storm
Beaumont	86	73	t-storm	Greenville	80	69	t-storm	San Antonio	86	73	t-storm
Brownsville	93	76	t-storm	Houston	86	73	t-storm	San Marcos	84	72	t-storm
Brownwood	84	68	t-storm	Kingsville	91	74	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	80	69	t-storm
Corpus Christi	89	76	t-storm	Livingston	84	70	t-storm	Sweetwater	83	67	pt sunny
Corsicana	83	70	t-storm	Longview	82	70	t-storm	Tyler	83	70	t-storm
Dallas	84	72	t-storm	Lubbock	84	63	pt sunny	Weatherford	81	68	t-storm
Del Rio	88	72	t-storm	Lufkin	82	71	t-storm	Wichita Falls	81	67	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	82	69	t-storm	Houston	86	73	t-storm	Phoenix	104	77	mst sunny
Boston	83	63	mst sunny	Los Angeles	72	60	pt sunny	San Francisco	68	55	pt sunny
Chicago	84	65	mst sunny	Miami	87	80	t-storm	Seattle	77	58	pt sunny
Dallas	84	72	t-storm	Minneapolis	85	66	mst sunny	St. Louis	86	69	mst sunny
Denver	74	56	t-storm	New York	84	68	mst sunny	Washington, DC	85	68	pt sunny

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Jun 25	Jul 2	Jul 9	Jul 17

UV Index

Wed 6/30	Thu 7/1	Fri 7/2
Very High	Extreme	Extreme

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

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