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INSIDE

PDU Vocational Program 2
Sports 5
Midday Stocks 7
More $$ For Older Workers 8
What's Up 10

WT-Int. Crude - $30.38
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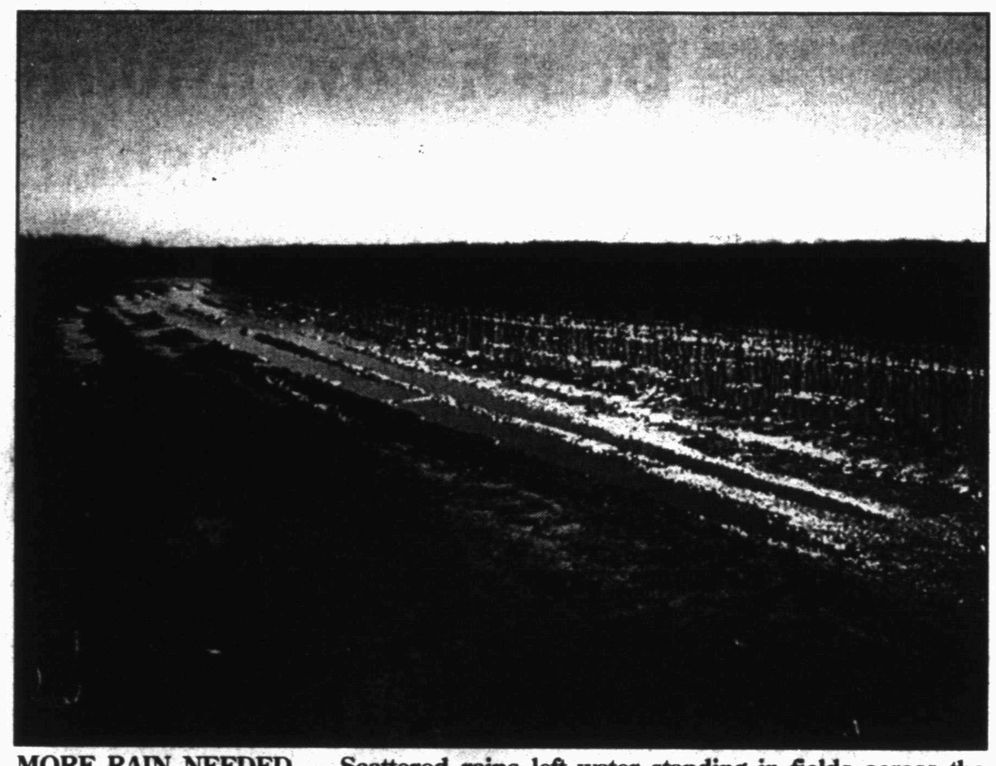
THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

March 2, 2000
Vol. 51 No. 261
10 Pages 50¢

Home Of Jan McClain

Wet...



MORE RAIN NEEDED — Scattered rains left water standing in fields across the county. The moisture was greatly needed, but more is necessary to get the ground prepared for spring planting. (SDN Staff Photo)

...but more needed

Rainfall early today ranged from .2 to one inch throughout the county, but more is needed to get Scurry County crop lands ready for spring planting.

Joe Hefner, county executive director with the Scurry County Farm Service Agency, said the rain is greatly appreciated, but the area is still a long way from where it needs to be for this time of the year.

"It may already be too late for a lot of the wheat, but time will tell on that crop," said Hefner.

"As far as cotton and other crops, we need a slow, soaking rain to rebuild our underground season," emphasized Hefner.

"Even though our rainfall last year was above normal, the way it fell did not allow the moisture to soak into the soil," he said. "We had three rains where there was not much water soaking in at all."

Hefner said it goes without saying that Lake Thomas needs to catch more water.

"And while we're wishing, we need the winds to lay low also," he said, adding that it doesn't take long to lose the benefits of a rain with winds like they have been.

Hefner said the normal planting period for cotton is most of the month of May.

"It really depends on the rainfall, however, if it falls early, some may plant early. If it falls late, then planting will be delayed."

Hefner said the final planting date for crop insurance purposes is June 20.

Rainfall totals across the area ranged from .35 at the Snyder Water Treatment Plant to an inch at Hermleigh.

Lake Thomas reported .2 and residents west of Snyder reported .26 of an inch.

East of Snyder, residents reported half an inch of rain while residents southeast of the city reported .7 of an inch.

Fluvanna and Camp Springs each received .25 and .15 of an inch was recorded at Dermott..

Loyd Mountain residents reported .07 of an inch while both Dunn and Ira residents reported .8 of an inch.

One-tenth of an inch was reported at Union, while Gail residents reported just a trace.

Farmer's Co-op Gin on East Hwy. 180, reported .6 while Scurry County Gin on West Hwy. 180 reported .2 of an inch.

Inadale Gin received a trace.

Ira school out Friday

Ira schools will be out Friday.

Students were to be released at 2:30 this afternoon and not return until Monday.

The day was originally slated as a staff in-service, but the workday was held in the summer.

HSU band to perform

The Hardin-Simmons University Concert Band and the Cowboy Band will perform at 2 p.m. Friday in the Snyder High School Worsham Auditorium.

The public is invited.

SHS band director Walter Reneau said one of his former students, Thomas Bishop, plays the baritone in the band.

Reneau said the college band will perform a variety of selections by many well-known composers.

Stone-throwing Serbs attack

KOSOVSKA MITROVICA, Yugoslavia (AP) — Stone-throwing Serbs drove back the first Kosovo Albanians who tried to cross a footbridge today and return to their homes on the Serb side of the ethnically divided mining and industrial city of Kosovska Mitrovica.

Forty-three families had been scheduled to return to their homes today after NATO peacekeepers opened the footbridge as a first step to reuniting Kosovska Mitrovica.

A new crossover attempt will be made Friday, said Bajram Rexhepi, the leader of the city's ethnic Albanian community.

Rexhepi spoke after meeting with the top U.N. official in Kosovo, Bernard Kouchner, who later went into talks with Serb community leader Oliver Ivanovic.

Angry Serbs surrounded a platoon of U.S. soldiers for six hours Wednesday in a small village in eastern Kosovo, angrily insisting they hand over a Serb suspect detained in a weapons search, U.S. officials said today.

A Russian peacekeeper shot Tuesday in an ethnic Albanian town south of here died today of his injuries, NATO said. The soldier, whose name was not released, was shot after attackers stole his gun Tuesday in the town of Srbica.

The latest confrontations underscore the rising ethnic tensions in this volatile southern Serbian province nearly nine months after NATO-led peacekeepers arrived under a peace agreement that ended an 18-month Serb crackdown and the 78-day NATO air campaign.

Gun safety locks to be subject of discussion

Clinton to meet with Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Clinton, lamenting that 13 children are killed by guns every day in America, said today he will seek a meeting with congressional leaders next week to "break the logjam" on legislation to require gun safety locks.

"We need the public aroused on this," Clinton said.

He said Congress has not passed the legislation because of "the heat the NRA (National Rifle Association) has put on them."

The president was interviewed on NBC's "Today" show in the wake of the fatal shooting Tuesday of a 6-year-old girl by a classmate in Michigan. A day later, a gunman killed two people and critically wounded three others in Wilkinsburg, Pa.

The president said America's gun death rate has dropped to its lowest level in 30 years but still is the highest of any major country. He said 13 children die from guns every day and that the United States has a higher child gun death rate than the next 24 biggest countries combined.

Clinton is seeking legislation that would require safety locks on guns, ban the import of large-capacity ammunition clips and require background checks before buying a weapon at gun shows. The House and Senate have passed separate versions of the bill but have not come together on a compromise.

The president also is proposing a system of photo IDs for gun owners and said he does not oppose the idea of licensing guns, although he said that poses logistical problems because there are upwards of 200 million guns in the United States.

"I'm not sure if practically we could get all the guns licensed," he said.

Complaining that Congress has not acted for eight months on stricter gun control, the president said, "I don't think most Americans have any idea what a stranglehold the NRA has had on this Congress. ... The reason they can't act is the heat the NRA has put on them."



Clinton

House Speaker Dennis Hastert said later that Democrats are in part responsible for that impasse and "he ought to bring those folks in and talk to them."

Wayne LaPierre, executive vice president of the NRA, said Clinton could have had an NRA-backed bill last year that would have required safety locks, instant gun-show checks and other provisions. But he said Clinton insisted on restrictions that even some key Democrats revolted against.

"It's being marketed as a safety-lock bill and gun-show-check bill when actually what it is is a phone-book volume of federal regulation that only hits the law abiding, not the criminal," LaPierre said. "That's our problem with it."

Furthermore, he said gun manufacturers already are providing safety locks. "All you're doing is codifying existing practices," LaPierre said. "Its all just politics. It has nothing, in my opinion, to do with making America safer and that's sad."

The president also is asking Congress for money for research on smart-gun technology that would allow guns to be fired only by their adult owners.

SJHS play to open

Seven Brides For Seven Brothers is a rollicking Western musical in which seven brothers set out to find brides for themselves.

The production, which features dance scenes and a musical score, is something the entire family can enjoy.

Snyder Junior High School will present it over four days, beginning this evening and continuing Friday, Saturday and Monday. Tickets are $4 each and must be purchased at the school to reserve seats.

The performances will begin at 7 p.m. each night and will be in the school auditorium. Thirty-three students make up the cast with 32 students as crew members.

The cast is lead by Adam, played by Justin Stoker, who goes to town and brings a bride home. His bride, Milly, played by Gerrico Greenlee, plans to civilize and marry off her six rowdy brothers-in-law.

The brothers include Benjamin, played by Brad English; Caleb, Sterling Millhollon; Daniel, Ty Collier; Ephraim, Josh Kemp; Hank, Blake Grimmett; and Gideo, played by Bradley Price.

The brothers enthusiastically kidnap six women from the neighboring town to be their brides. They are Alice, played by Ashlye Amox; Dorcas, Kim Rivera; Ruth, Molly Haire; Liza, Paige Smith; Martha, Sarah Crawford; and Sara, played by Beth Clements.

The suitors of these young women are Paul Haines, Rankin Hardin, Logan Martin, Jeffery Scott, Alex Neal and Jadon Guynes.

Others who play town people are the preacher, played by Casey Pierce; Mrs. Bixby, Erin Burleson; and Mr. And Mrs. Perkins, played by Josh Derington and Laura Calmes.

Town boys are Cole Robertson, Austin Hatfield, Leon Tippens, and Tanner Reed.

Town girls are Shana Blackard, Destiney Proctor, Sarah Carpenter, Stephanie Parmer, Erin Hackfeld, Jessica Davis, and Rebecca Pavlovsky.

The crew is led by Emily Long and Katie Haggard, who are stage managers, and Laura Arellano, assistant director.

The lighting crew consists of Corey Longorio, Kameron Harrison and Paul Jackson. Molly Mason is the sound technician.

Members of the prop crew are Megan Fletcher, Alexis Dupree, Jerry Ashley, Jerrod Fletcher, Adrienne Garcia, Janie Garcia, and Dominguez Braziel. The set crew is Erin Burleson, Laura Calmes, Brandi Russell, Blake Robertson, Nikki Timora, Desiree Braziel, Tucker Early.

Make up is headed by Haley Grant and Candice Gordon. Stephanie Williams is in charge of costumes.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The trouble with playing musical chairs is not everyone likes to rock."

Plainview editor Danny Andrews said it "wadn't no Yankee who came up with these observations."

You're a West Texan if...

—During a storm you check the cattle before you check the kids.

—You are related to more than half the town.

—Your car breaks down outside of town, and news of it gets back to town before you do.

—Without thinking, you wave at all oncoming traffic.

—You don't buy all your vegetables at the grocery story.

—You don't put too much effort into hairstyles because of wind and weather.

—When there's a tornado warning, the whole town is out watching for it.

—You go to the State Fair for a family vacation.

—You get up at 5:30 a.m. and go down to the coffee shop.

—You're on a first-name basis with the sheriff.

—When little smokies are something you serve on special occasions.

—You have the number of the co-op on your speed dial.

—All your radio preset buttons are on country stations.

—You look for the cheapest room rates when going out of town.

—Using the elevator involves a grain truck.

—You know you should listen to the weather forecast before deciding what to wear.

—You call the wrong number and still talk for an hour.

—Your excuse for getting out of school is that the cows got out.

—You wake up when it's dark and go to bed when it's still light.

—You listen to Paul Harvey every day at noon.

—You can tell it's a farmer working late in his field, and not a UFO.

—Your nearest neighbor is in the next area code.

—You know the difference between field corn and sweet corn, when they are still on the stalk.

—You can eat an ear of corn with no utensils in under 20 seconds.

—You wear your boots to church – and everywhere else.

—It takes only a minute to reach your destination – and it's clear across town.

—You know the difference between the smell of a skunk and a feedlot.

—The meaning of true love is that you'll ride the tractor with him.

—You never have to ask, "What's an Aggie?"

—You know four seasons – almost summer, summer, still summer and deer season.

ASK US

Q—Is it against the law to place campaign signs on the state highway right of way?

A—Yes. A person placing a sign on the right of way can be fined up to $500 per sign, and charged the cost of removing the sign.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High 71 degrees; low, 44; reading at 7 a.m. Thursday, 60; .35 inch of precipitation; total for 2000 to date, 1.83 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear, low near 40. W wind 5-15 mph. Friday, partly cloudy, high 65, N wind 10-20 mph.



Clay Hirt
Partly Cloudy

Sunset:
6:44 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:08 a.m.
Of 61 days in 2000, the sun has shone 60 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Nothing is more terrible than activity without insight.

—Thomas Carlyle

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CAREER AND TECHNOLOGY INSTRUCTORS —Windham School District, TDCJ's statewide school system, has designated this week as Career and Technology Education Week. Price Daniel Unit career and technology instructors include from left Doyle Rice, custodial technology; Don Compton, construction; and Mike Brooks, automotive. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

66 are enrolled in vocational programs at Price Daniel unit

"Build it and they will come" could be a familiar motto for vocational teachers in the Windham School District, the state's education program for offenders in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Windham instructors have restructured programs and updated teaching methods to better train TDCJ offenders in real world job skills.

Each work day, 275 Career and Technology Education (CTE) teachers arrive at prisons and state jails throughout the state to teach actual industry skills to eligible offenders.

There are three CTE teachers at the Price Daniel Unit.

Don Compton is the constructional/carpentry instructor, Mike Brooks is the automotives instructor and Doyle Rice is the custodial technician instructor.

Last year more than 16,000 students attended Windham vocational classes statewide, increasing opportunities for future employment.

At the Price Daniel Unit, approximately 66 students are enrolled in the vocational program with approximately 22 students enrolled in each class. Each course runs six months.

This week is designated as WSD Career and Technology Education Week. Activities have been taking place throughout the month to increase awareness of the district's CTE programs in Texas prisons and state jails.

"Industry wants to hire skilled employees," Jerry Bernhardt, Windham CTE director, said. "Many employers have visited our programs to talk with students on career days and have ended up recruiting prospective employees trained to their industry's standards. These employers have repeatedly said that Windham is one of the state's best kept secrets. We are proud of our vocational programs and the teachers who facilitate the instruction."

With input from industry and business representatives, Windham has restructured the majority of its CTE programs to provide students with entry-level skills as defined by industry standards.

WSD vocational students earned 2,825 industry certificates during the 1998-99 school year.

"This number is up from just 50 certificates issued two years ago," Bernhardt said. "This is real proof that if you build a quality program, students will come to class and succeed in learning valuable skills."

As a result of Windham's new direction and the commitment of its teachers, the story of what is happening behind prison walls is making its way to employers.

"We frequently receive calls from free world employers asking how they can access and hire ex-offenders trained in our CTE programs," CTE Coordinator Darell Hortman said. "I received a call from a single employer needing as many as 100 welders; another employer said he could hire up to 20 electrical tradesmen. A power line company has also offered to share its equipment and is interested in hiring ex-offenders if Windham will provide the appropriate training."

Statewide, Windham offers training in 39 different skill areas. Approximately 74,000 offenders attend Windham classes during a school year. The school district was first created in 1969 and was the first education system of such scope to be established within a statewide system.

"The partnership of WSD and industry is a triple-win situation," Mike Morrow, superintendent of WSD said. "Industry has a source of trained workers, Windham aligns its programs with industry-endorsed standards and offenders receive quality vocational training which can lead to a new job and life free of crime."

—

The basic monetary unit of Cape Verde is the escudo, and is chief fractional unit is the ceentavo.

Hoax only delayed Huntsville execution

HUNTSVILLE (AP) — Condemned killer Odell Barnes went to his death continuing to profess his innocence.

Barnes, 31, whose record included nine felony convictions, was executed Wednesday night for the murder of a Wichita Falls woman more than 10 years ago, making him the 10th Texas death row inmate to receive lethal injection this year.

Barnes insisted he was not responsible for the rape, beating, stabbing and shooting of 42-year-old Helen Bass at her home.

The execution was delayed for about 10 minutes while authorities investigated reports that another man Wednesday had confessed to the Bass slaying Nov. 29, 1989.

But Barnes' attorney, Gary Taylor, moments before his client was strapped to the death chamber gurney, said the confession report was a hoax.

Gov. George W. Bush's office also considered the report, "determined it was not valid, then proceeded with the process," prison spokesman Larry Todd said.

In a brief final statement, Barnes, whose last meal request was for "Justice, equality and world peace," expressed love to his family, supporters and lawyers.

"I thank you for proving my innocence, although it has not been acknowledged in the courts," Barnes said. "May you continue in the struggle and may you change all that's being done here today and in the past."

As the lethal drugs began taking effect, he took three deep breaths, accompanied by gurgling sounds. Nine minutes later, he was pronounced dead.

Five members of the Bass family, including the victim's mother and son, watched through a window a feet away. They had no reaction and declined to speak with reporters afterward.

Barnes' three attorneys and a spiritual adviser, Robert Muhammed of the Nation of Islam, were among five witnesses selected by Barnes to watch him die.

Death row inmate plans to go fishing

HOUSTON (AP) — A Texas death row inmate who could be freed after 16 years says he'd likely settle in with a fishing pole on an Oklahoma lake — promising law officials to stay "out of sight and out of mind."

A federal judge on Wednesday ordered Calvin Jerold Burdine to be freed within five days because state lawyers missed a deadline in his case. Burdine, 46, has been behind bars since 1984.

The inmate told The Associated Press in an interview last month that, if released, he would make his home at a lake north of Houston — or keep driving.

"The state of Texas don't have to worry about Calvin Burdine," he said. "We've got 80 acres in Oklahoma and I can get out there and fish and relax — out of sight and out of mind."

In his 16-page ruling Wednesday, U.S. District Judge David Hittner wrote that Burdine is being held unconstitutionally.

The inmate was sent to death row for fatally stabbing his roommate. His conviction was thrown out last year by Hittner because his lawyer allegedly slept through long segments of his 1984 trial.

In a CBS television interview with Burdine Wednesday, the inmate called Hittner's ruling the greatest day of his life.

"I'm gonna get to hug my momma," he told the news crew.

The judge gave the state 120 days to give Burdine a new trial or set him free. That time ran out in late January.

Hittner did not grant Burdine's request to prohibit the state from retrying him.

"The retrial itself would not violate Burdine's constitutional rights," Hittner wrote. "The Court refuses to bar the State from retrying Burdine following his release."

In his ruling, Hittner pointed out the state must adhere to the same rules as defendants.

"A similar procedural error by defense counsel in a capital case could result in a defendant's execution," Hittner wrote.

The state will appeal to the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to keep Burdine in prison, spokeswoman Heather Browne said.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Warning opens woman's eyes to her own abusive behavior

DEAR ABBY: When I read your list of "15 Reasons to Leave Your Lover, Warning Signs of an Abusive Personality," my jaw dropped. My heart began to race and my stomach did flip-flops. My boyfriend isn't the one who fits so many of the characteristics on the list — I am!

My boyfriend and I have been dating for nine months. The first three or four months, I was an angel. Then slowly I began to change. It started with one incident every few weeks, then once a week, and now it happens almost every day.

I interrogate my man about where he has been, who was there, and how long the conversations went on. When things don't go the way I think they should, I blame him and call him mean and hateful names. I criticize him for things over which he has no control and curse at him. I have actually kicked him while he was asleep so he'd wake up and I could finish giving him a verbal bashing. I have threatened to kill him — and that's not right. One minute I'm sweet and loving, then he says something that sets me off and I'm on a tirade, cursing and yelling.

Sometimes, when we aren't fighting, I look into his eyes and see the pain I've caused over the last few months and I feel awful.

So, Abby, I want to thank you. I am going to get help immediately! The next time you print that list, remember that women aren't always on the receiving end. My boyfriend has been nothing but good to me, and no one deserves the treatment I have given him. That article opened my eyes. Thanks, Abby. — **A NEW LEAF IN GEORGIA**

DEAR NEW LEAF: I'm pleased that the "15 Reasons" provided a mirror in which you saw yourself. I'm even more pleased that the column gave you the push you needed to seek professional help.

With guidance and a sincere desire to deal with your anger, insecurity and need to control, you will conquer the problem and ensure a safer environment for the people you love and who love you.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have a sensitive problem I don't know how to handle. I have a sister-in-law I would do anything for. I love her as I would a sister. She is my best friend, but her husband is a total jerk. He has been making advances toward me and saying things like, "I wish you were mine," and, "A lot of women think I'm great and would be happy to have me."

My sister invites me to their house frequently, and I am constantly turning her down because of the jerk she's married to. Instead, I suggest that we meet somewhere and have dinner or coffee because I don't want to hurt her in any way.

I want to tell her what a cheat her husband is, but I'm afraid of hurting her and our relationship. There's no telling how many women he has made advances to, or how many may have taken him up on it.

What can I do? I love her and don't want to cause her pain, but she needs to know what her husband is up to. — **FRUSTRATED IN TEXAS**

DEAR FRUSTRATED: The next time your sister-in-law's husband makes advances, tell him in no uncertain terms that you are not interested in anything he has to offer, and if it happens again you will tell his wife. If that doesn't stop him, tell her everything and don't mince words.

**

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Date Book

Thursday, March 2, 2000

Today is the 62nd day of 2000 and the 72nd day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1836, Texas declared itself to be an independent republic.

On this day in 1964, the filming of "A Hard Day's Night," starring the Beatles, began.

On this day in 1983, Sony, Philips and Polygram introduced the compact disc.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Sam Houston (1793-1863), Texas statesman; Sholom Aleichem (1859-1916), writer; Kurt Weill (1900-1950), composer; Moe Berg (1902-1972), baseball player-intelligence operative; Theodore Geisel (Dr. Seuss, 1904-1991), author; Tom Wolfe (1931-), writer, is 69; Mikhail Gorbachev (1931-), Russian statesman, is 69; John Irving (1942-), novelist, is 58; Lou Reed (1943-), songwriter, is 57.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1927, Babe Ruth signed a $70,000 contract with the New York Yankees.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I'm not confused. I'm just well mixed." — Robert Frost

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Feb. 26) and new moon (March 6).

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Lifestyles

"East-

By The Associa

It's easy to see West" has been no an Oscar for Best guage film.

The movie has sweeping feel to it, emotional performa strong cast. And West" ("Est-Ouest") long toward the en



STUDENTS STUD ogist for the Texas ed a program to t student read a re Lionberger followe skins of the anima on the raccoon is ley)

After-s progra

CLEMSON, S.C. kids at Central School know that p doesn't miraculous jars at the supermar

Third- to fifth-gra Sprouting Wings afte dening program ha peanuts from the h etable garden at the na Botanical Garde the real thing from t

They've also rai plants and house Sprouting Wings which they've sold o "Secret Santa Fund children in the com they have harveste cotton crops, create crafts, and explored 270-acre state garde the Clemson Univer

The aim of Sprou according to Amy coordinator, is to b and adults together understanding of nature, and food youngsters also are crafts and the conce nity service.

"The mission of th olina Botanical Gar reaching out to th share the natural w wonders with adul dren," says Craddoc

The program, or developed by Clems ty in 1993 with a ser grant from the state

Carville too

ASHEVILLE, N.C. "ragin' Cajun" is too Asheville Chambe merce.

The chamber, wh ed Democratic Par James Carville to annual meeting this ed the offer Wedn some members Carville was too poli

"This guy is a firel Democratic Party," burne, a local Repu activist. "The annua



"East-West" is nominated for an Oscar

By The Associated Press

It's easy to see why "East-West" has been nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language film.

The movie has a grand, sweeping feel to it, and features emotional performances from a strong cast. And while "East-West" ("Est-Ouest") seems a tad long toward the end, it is never boring.

The latest creation from French director Regis Wargnier, who won the 1993 Oscar in the same category for "Indochine," is set against the vast political backdrop of the Soviet Union under Stalin in 1946.

World War II has ended, and Stalin has launched a propaganda campaign aimed at Russian emigrants living in the West. He offers them amnesty and Soviet passports if they will return to help rebuild their homeland.

Eager families who do return find a harsh welcome. Many are sent to labor camps. In one startling scene, a father and son step off a ship together at Odessa, only to be ripped away from each other. When the son scrambles to rejoin his father, an officer shoots him dead.

Alexei Golovine (Oleg Menshikov), a Russian doctor, has only slightly better luck. He has dragged his French wife, Marie (Sandrine Bonnaire), and their 7-year-old son, Serioja (Ruben Tapiero), from their friends and family in France to start a new life full of uncertainties.

Although the Russians suspect Marie is a spy, they allow the family to move to Kiev and make Alexei an example of a model Russian who has returned home. He gets a job in the infirmary of a textile factory and the family is forced to live in a single room in a run-down communal house.

Marie forgives him at first — "You couldn't have known," she says of their predicament. But she is miserable and wants to go back to France. "Every prison has a way out," she rationalizes, ominously.

Alexei promises they will return eventually, and urges her to make the best of her situation until then. But freedom becomes Marie's obsession, and her yearning to escape drives her and Alexei apart.

Marie finds help through a few avenues. A French actress with leftist leanings named Gabrielle Develay (the always radiant Catherine Deneuve), who's touring Kiev, tries to alert French officials to Marie's plight. A 17-year-old swimmer named Sacha (Sergei Bodrov Jr.), a neighbor in the house, shares Marie's dreams of freedom and hopes to help her by making it to the European championships in Vienna.

But Wargnier, who directed and co-wrote the film, provides no easy solutions. Every time Marie has a chance to leave, some obstacle appears — often because Alexei has placed it before her.

A sense of melancholy and longing lingers about the characters, which Wargnier heightens through a bleak, gray landscape. You can almost feel the freezing wind blowing across a frozen river.

Bonnaire is terrific and shows a wide range of emotions as Marie. Even under the most trying circumstances, she maintains a simple elegance.

In one scene, she sits in the audience of Gabrielle's play and watches Alexei give an opening speech in which he thanks the Soviet people for their hospitality. The look on Marie's face is subtle yet full of fear as she realizes she's trapped and her husband has betrayed her.

Bodrov exudes confidence behind his blue eyes, and as Sacha's friendship with Marie becomes something deeper, their scenes together have a warmth and tenderness.

Deneuve is beautiful and glamorous as ever, all red lipstick and fur-trimmed coats, but her time on screen is too short. The film marks a reunion for her and Wargnier — she starred in "Indochine," for which she was nominated for a Best Actress Oscar.

"East-West," a Sony Pictures Classics release, is rated PG-13 for violence and brief sensuality. Wargnier co-wrote the screenplay with Rustam Ibragimbek, Louis Gardel and Sergei Bodrov, father of the young man who plays Sacha. It is in French and Russian with English subtitles and runs 121 minutes.

Motion Picture Association of America rating definitions:

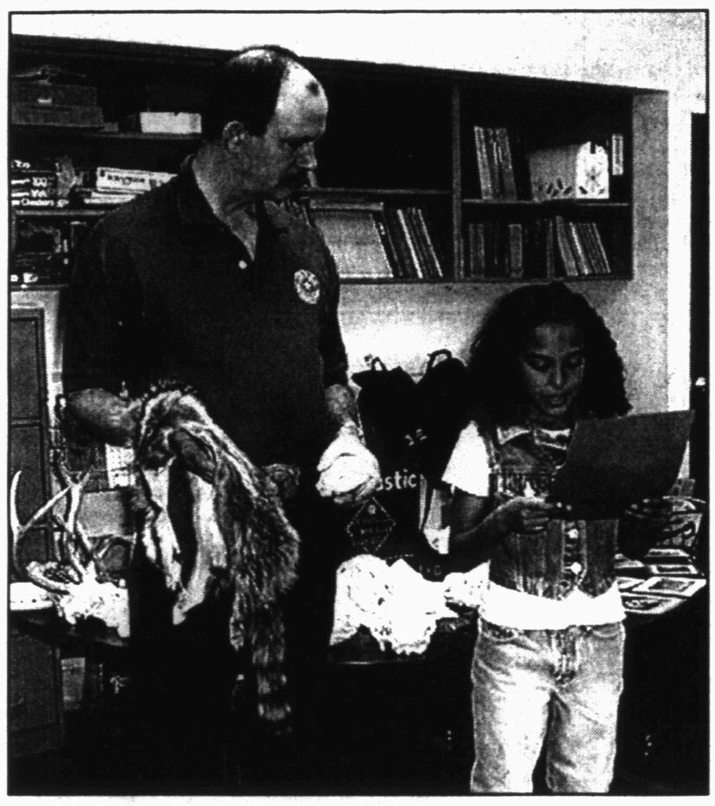
G — General audiences. All ages admitted.

PG — Parental guidance suggested. Some material may not be suitable for children.

PG-13 — Special parental guidance strongly suggested for children under 13. Some material may be inappropriate for young children.

R — Restricted. Under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian.

NC-17 — No one under 17 admitted.



STUDENTS STUDY WILDLIFE — Jim Lionberger, wildlife biologist for the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife, presented a program to the third grade students at Hermleigh. Each student read a report about an animal of this area and Mr. Lionberger followed up by showing him or her a skull, pelt or skins of the animal and told of its habitat. Reading her report on the raccoon is Hannah Brooks. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

After-school gardening program helps children

CLEMSON, S.C. (AP) — The kids at Central Elementary School know that peanut butter doesn't miraculously appear in jars at the supermarket.

Third- to fifth-graders in the Sprouting Wings after-school gardening program have harvested peanuts from the heirloom vegetable garden at the South Carolina Botanical Garden, then made the real thing from the real stuff.

They've also raised bedding plants and house plants in the Sprouting Wings greenhouse, which they've sold off to benefit a "Secret Santa Fund" for needy children in the community. And they have harvested potato and cotton crops, created dried herb crafts, and explored trails in the 270-acre state garden, located on the Clemson University campus.

The aim of Sprouting Wings, according to Amy Craddock, its coordinator, is to bring children and adults together for a better understanding of gardening, nature, and food origins. The youngsters also are introduced to crafts and the concept of community service.

"The mission of the South Carolina Botanical Garden includes reaching out to the public to share the natural world and its wonders with adults and children," says Craddock.

The program, originated and developed by Clemson University in 1993 with a service learning grant from the state's education department, has extended to elementary schools in other cities as well.

Sprouting Wings youngsters at York Place, a residential facility for children in York, S.C., recently won a "Schoolyard Habitat" designation from the National Wildlife Federation for their entire campus by creating a nature trail with bluebird houses, bird-feeding stations and a large natural sculpture. They also maintain cottage butterfly gardens, are learning about snakes and other wildlife, make nature crafts and take field trips. A summer "Camp Sprouting Wings" included day-long programs about dyeing and weaving wool, exploring pond life, and visiting a local waterfall.

Another program, at Cone Elementary School in Greenville, S.C., includes after-school tutoring by Clemson University students as well as gardening and nature exploration activities.

The Sprouting Wings programs also feature Family Science Saturdays, weekly activities for children and families to observe nature together; Harvesting Our Heritage, family workshops highlighting traditional crafts and the agricultural heritage of the region; and Garden Explorations, a summer science day camp for girls in grades four through six that combines science, art, writing and music activities.

Carville too political for Asheville C of C

ASHEVILLE, N.C. (AP) — The "ragin' Cajun" is too fiery for the Asheville Chamber of Commerce.

The chamber, which had invited Democratic Party strategist James Carville to speak at its annual meeting this year, rescinded the offer Wednesday after some members complained Carville was too political.

"This guy is a firebrand for the Democratic Party," said Bill Fishburne, a local Republican Party activist. "The annual meeting is not the place for partisan politics."

Chamber chairman Darryl Hart said the chamber also received calls from people eager to buy tickets to Carville's speech. At this point, he said, it may be difficult to find a replacement.

The chamber announced last week that Carville would headline its June gala at the Grove Park Inn. The event usually attracts about 1,000 local business and community leaders.

Arquett, Cage are ending 5-year marriage

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Academy Award-winning actor Nicolas Cage and actress Patricia Arquette are ending their five-year marriage.

The couple married in April 1995 and separated nine months later, according to a divorce petition Cage filed in Los Angeles Superior Court on Thursday.

Cage and Arquette cited "irreconcilable differences," said Cage's publicist, Annette Wolf, who declined to elaborate on the breakup.

Cage won a best actor Oscar in 1995 for his role as an alcoholic in "Leaving Las Vegas." In his upcoming film, "Gone in Sixty Seconds," he plays a car thief.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 03-02-00
♠ Q 7 6
♥ 9
♦ A 6 4 3
♣ K 8 7 5 2

West
♠ J 5
♥ K 8 7 4
♦ Q 10 8 5
♣ Q J 10

East
♠ 10 9 8 4 3
♥ J 2
♦ J 9
♣ A 6 4 3

South
♠ A K 2
♥ A Q 10 6 5 3
♦ K 7 2
♣ 9

Vulnerable: North-South
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	Pass	1 NT	Pass
3 ♥	Pass	4 ♥	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ Q

The poor instruction of the past

By Phillip Alder

Several of my students have come back to bridge after 20 or 30 years in the business world. They remember all the old rubrics, such as "cover an honor with an honor," not knowing that they were poorly taught back then. The right rule is "cover the last of touching honors, and only then if it might gain your side a trick."

To highlight this, imagine J-10-x in the dummy opposite A-x-x in hand, with East and West having honor-third and honor-fourth. If declarer calls for the jack and East covers with the queen or king, declarer will win with the ace, then lead back toward dummy's 10, collecting two tricks. But if East plays low under the jack, declarer will be restricted to one trick, unless he can later engineer an endplay.

What is the key to-cover-or-not-to-cover trick in this deal?

Many Norths would rebid three no-trump, worried about the singleton heart. However, that shortage makes it harder to establish partner's suit, which is a minus for no-trump. And three no-trump should fail.

Against four hearts, West led the club queen. As East was marked with the ace, declarer didn't cover with dummy's king. West switched to the spade jack. After winning with dummy's queen, declarer ran the heart nine to West's king. Back came the spade five, but South drew trumps and claimed, losing one heart, one diamond and one club.

East missed his chance. Although a nine isn't an honor, if East had covered this card with his heart jack, West would have won two trump tricks, and the contract would have failed.

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Hospital

ADMISSIONS: March 1-Betty Odorizzi, Mozell Hall and Tonya Salazar.

DISMISSALS: Thomas Arguello, Pauline Compton, Willie Ford, David Guzman, Sue Kelley, Lillian Sellers, Freddie Bedwell, Ruby Holt, Toni Jackson and Jennifer McVey.

CENSUS: 37 (Med./Surg.-10, Long-term Care-25, OB-1 and Nursery-1)

The state flower of Maryland is the black-eyed Susan.

Births

Benjamin Walker Dickson was born Feb. 29 in Little Rock, Ark., weighing seven pounds, seven ounces. Parents are Mark and Shanna Dickson of Hot Spring Village, Ark.

Grandparents are Ben and Carol Veazey of Snyder and Raymond and Dorothy Dickson of Jessieville, Ark.

Kelsey Nicole Digby announces the birth of her sister, Morgan Brooke, weighing seven pounds, eight ounces. Their parents are Billy Joe and Amber Digby of Hermleigh.

Maternal grandparents are Leon and Dianne Brady of Snyder. Paternal grandparents are Jimmy and Sherene Digby of Hermleigh.

NEW!
CRISPY CHICKEN SALAD

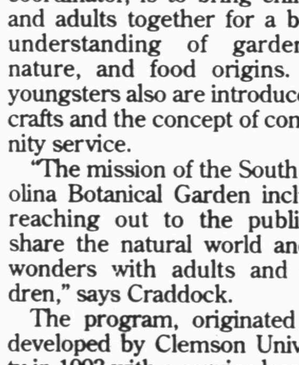


Introducing the new Crispy Chicken Salad! You'll get a generous portion of crisp lettuce, ripe tomatoes, bacon bits, and cheese with crispy fried chicken pieces everywhere and honey mustard dressing on the side. And for a treat, delight your senses with the Pecan Mudslide™ Treat for 99¢. So get on down to your local Dairy Queen® store and try a new Crispy Chicken Salad today!



PECAN MUDSLIDE™ Treat
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MAR 2000

Comic Page — THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



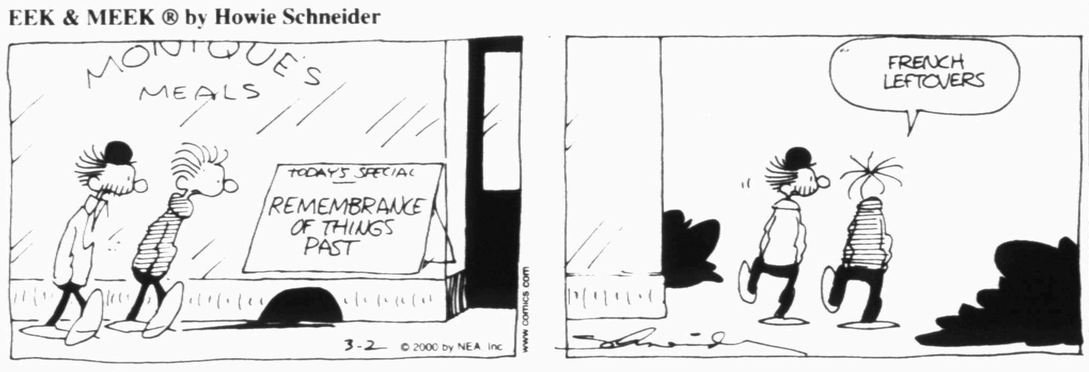
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



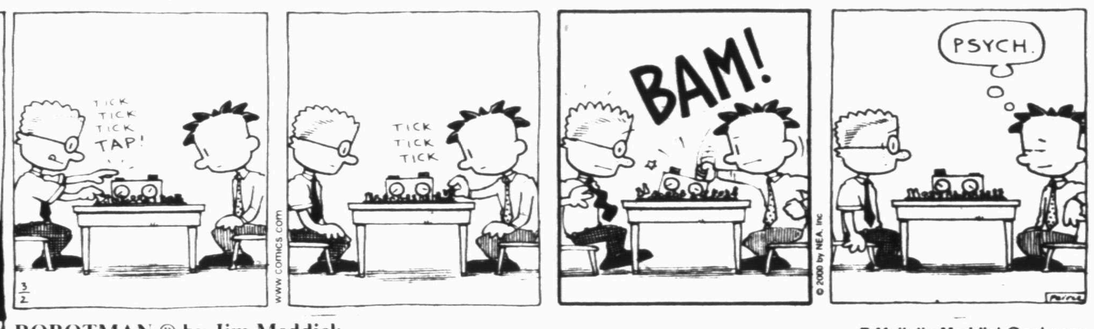
ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



EEK & MEEK ® by Howie Schneider



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © By Fred Laswell



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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



BETTY ™ by Delainey and Rasmussen



KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Crouches
7 Escort
13 Beginning
14 Illegal dispossession
15 Afternoon sleep
16 Charters
17 Photo- — (picture times)
18 Actress Ullmann
20 Fruit drink
21 Place for an art exhibit
25 Regret
28 Desert spots
32 Utopian
33 Anoint
34 Meteorological device
35 Yarn quantity
36 German port
37 Changed
39 Abhor
41 Baby goat
44 "90210" actor Ziering
45 Actress Novak
48 Wood sorrel
51 Light
54 Political-science class
55 Closer
56 Actress Mills
57 Kindly

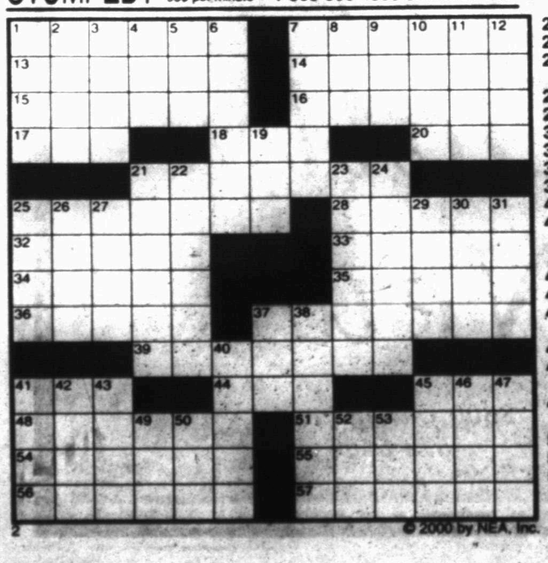
DOWN

1 Mediocre
2 Jest
3 Southwestern Indians
4 Ninny
5 Southeast Asian holiday
6 Bogs down
7 Do a puzzle
8 Can. prov.
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10 "— — Wonderful Life"
11 Type of pipe
12 Irish-Gaelic
19 — de France
21 Urged on
22 Actress Dahl
23 Uses the oven
24 — Doodle
25 Stand
26 Esau's country
27 Repair
29 Fortuneteller
30 Author Wiesel
31 Fax
37 Timber tree
38 Inner coating
40 Wimp
41 Former New York City mayor
42 Corn lily
43 — Crockett
45 Singer — Te Kanawa
46 Willow
47 European blackbird
49 Mae West role
50 — cream
52 "Golly!"
53 A Bobbsey twin

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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STUMPED? Call for Answers ● Touch-tone or Rotary Phones 95¢ per minute ● 1-900-860-4500 ext. code 000



HERMAN® by Jim Unger



"I was gonna give you fresh garden peas but I couldn't find the can opener."



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SPORTS

Red Raiders falter late against Iowa St.

LUBBOCK (AP) — Iowa State could win its first conference title in 55 years Saturday if the 10th-ranked team beats Baylor.

The Cyclones clinched at least a share of the Big 12 conference title Wednesday night with an 87-79 victory over Texas Tech.

Last season, Iowa State finished 15-15. This season, they can finish no worse than tied for first in the Big 12 and can win the title outright with a victory over Baylor.

"It's really one of the stories of the decade," Iowa State coach Larry Eustachy said. "I don't know that people understand all that this group has done.

"It's quite a feat for a team that was struggling all of last season."

The Cyclones hold a one-game lead over Texas and Oklahoma State.

"We don't want to share it," Cyclones guard Stevie Johnson said of the school's first title since winning the Big Six in 1945.

"It feels really good," said Marcus Fizer, who led Iowa with 35 points Wednesday night. "I haven't really sat down and thought about it and celebrated it too much because it's not over. It's not outright — not yet."

The Cyclones (25-4, 13-2) trailed 64-61 when it went on an 11-0 run.

Michael Nurse hit a 3-pointer with 6:35 to play to tie the game 64-64 and Iowa State took the lead for good on an inside basket by Steve Johnson with 6:06 left. Fizer's tip-in with 4:50 capped the run and gave the Cyclones their biggest lead, 72-64.

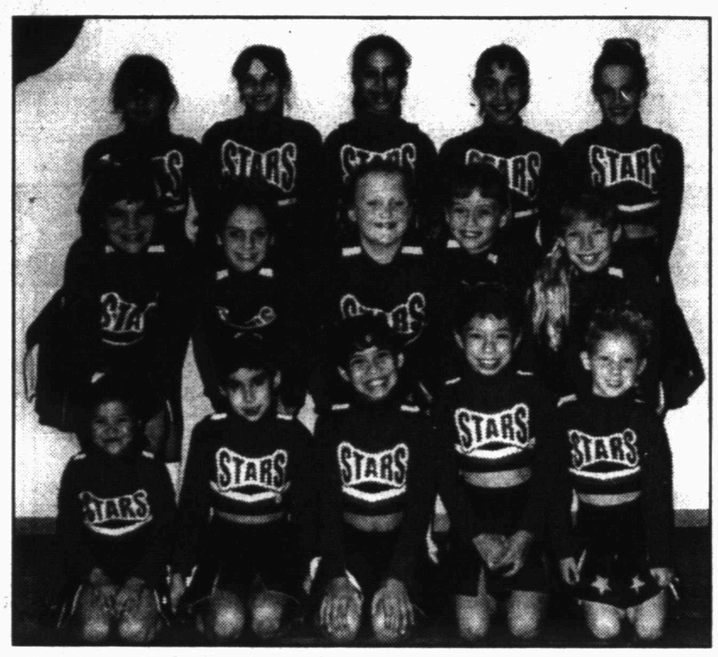
James Ware's 3-pointer with 2:16 left brought the Red Raiders (12-14, 3-12) within 76-73, but Fizer and Johnson both scored to make it 80-73.

Iowa State made seven free throws over the final 30 seconds to seal the victory.

Johnson finished with 19 points, while Nurse had 13 and Jamaal Tinsley 10 for the Cyclones.

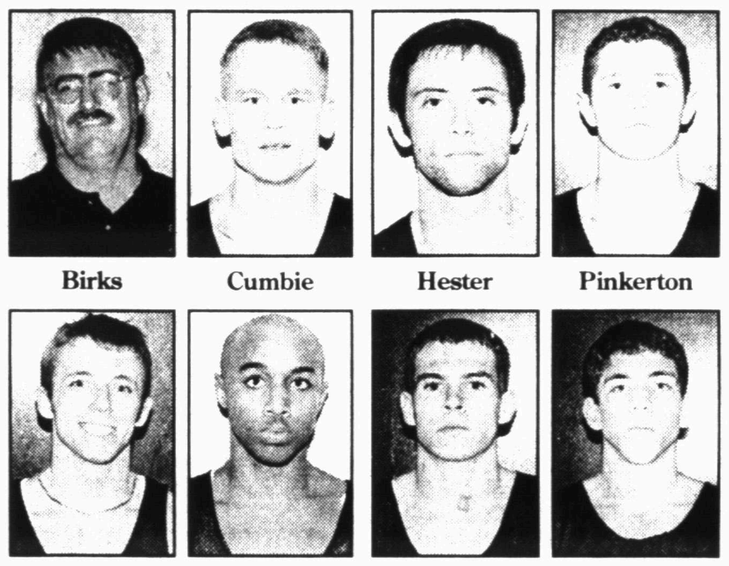
Rayford Young led Tech with 36 points on 13-for-21 shooting, including 3-for-6 from 3-point range, and had seven assists.

"I wanted to put the game on my shoulder like I did against Kansas," Young said. "But I went cold in the second half and Fizer put it to us."



YOUTH CHEERLEADERS — The Snyder Stars will compete Saturday and Sunday at the American Spirit Championship in San Antonio. Members of the Stars are, front row from left, Savannah Valdez, Jessica DeLeon, Shelby Talavera, Jackie DeLeon and Darian Clayton. On the middle row are Megan Kariainen, Kate Wall, Britney Webb, Tana Sullenger and Krista Dorsett. On the top row are Lindsey Morin, Whitney Ashford, Breanna Talavera, Erica Little and Aspen Mann. (Contributed Photo)

Tigers rake in 5-4A basketball honors



Birks — Cumbie — Hester — Pinkerton

McAnaw — Wofford — Scott — Thornhill

After posting 24 wins, a district championship and an area title, the Snyder Tigers were rewarded with eight selections on the 5-4A All-District Team.

Head Coach Bud Birks, all five starters, and seven Tigers in all garnered honors.

Birks was named Coach of the Year for the second year in a row, after guiding the Tigers to their second consecutive district championship, and a berth in the regional quarterfinals.

Sonny Cumbie, Jared Hester and Heath Pinkerton were named to the all-district team, with Greg McAnaw placed on the all-defensive squad and Jamaal Wofford named Newcomer of the Year. Layne Scott and Jared Thornhill received honorable mention.

Cumbie finished second in the MVP voting to Fort Stockton's Luke Groth. The Snyder senior led the team in rebounding, averaging eight boards and 12 points per game.

Hester, also a senior, directed the Tigers' effort on the floor. From his point guard position, Hester averaged five assists and only two turnovers per game.

As just a junior, Pinkerton was Snyder's high-point man. He dropped in 13 points per outing to go along with five rebounds.

McAnaw, the Tigers' long-range shooter, was a tireless defender, often times shutting down the opponent's best outside shooter. McAnaw averaged two steals per game and led the team with 67 three-point goals.

Wofford, a junior, was named Newcomer of the Year, after stepping up in district play. Wofford picked up his play in league action to average six points a game for the year.

Scott, a senior, and Thornhill, a junior, proved valuable off the bench during the Tigers' title run. Both players gave Snyder an added threat on the boards, with Thornhill also chipping in seven points per game.

5-4A ALL-DISTRICT TEAM

Coach of the Year: Bud Birks, Snyder
Most Valuable Player: Luke Groth, 6-6 sr., Fort Stockton
Newcomer of the Year: Jamaal Wofford, 5-10 jr., Snyder
All-district team: Sonny Cumbie, 6-4 sr., Snyder; Jared Hester, 5-11 sr., Snyder; Heath Pinkerton, 6-3 jr., Snyder; Will Moore, 6-3 sr., Lake View; Nathan Sawyer, 6-2 sr., Fort Stockton; Drew Fields, 6-0 sr., Andrews; Lance Brock, 6-4 sr., Big Spring; Chris McCain, 6-0 sr., Andrews; Derek Carr, 5-11 sr., Sweetwater; Lance Bishop, 5-11 sr., Sweetwater
All-defensive team: Greg McAnaw, 5-10 sr., Snyder; Matt Sears, 6-0 sr., Andrews; Joe Torres, 5-11 jr., Sweetwater; Tim Abbott, 6-2 jr., Lake View; Harold Russell, 5-10 sr., Fort Stockton

JV netters serve up victories

LUBBOCK — Snyder' junior varsity served up a strong performance, securing eight top-10 finishes at the Lubbock JV tennis tournament.

Justin Guy led Snyder's effort with a runner-up finish in boys' singles, while Tyson Kubena grabbed fourth place in the event.

Sara Cantu and Kara Brumley teamed up to notch third in girls' doubles, with Afton Sutter and Jackie Beccue taking fourth.

In boys' doubles, the Chris Lee-Trace Dennis duo tallied fifth place, with Jason Hall and Adam Rodgers garnering sixth.

Kristen Casas wrapped up the girls' singles event in fourth place, while Laura Hager took seventh.

Snyder's solid tourney effort came on the heels of a 24-3 rout of Colorado City in a dual meet.

Snyder 24, C-City 3

Boys' doubles: Best-Gorman def. Morales-Molina, 8-2; Lee-Dennis def. Taylor-Thompson, 8-1; Milhollen-Haire def. Crawford-Bullock, 8-1; Kubena-Gorman def. Morales-Molina, 8-2.
Boys' singles: Hall def. Morales, 8-3; DePaz def. Taylor, 8-2; Best def. Molina, 8-0; Gorman def. Thompson, 8-3; Lee def. Crawford, 8-0; Milhollen def. Bullock, 8-0; Kubena def. Thompson, 8-3; Haire def. Taylor, 8-3; Dennis def. Thompson, 8-2.
Girls' doubles: Cantu-Brumley def. Hoback-Tolle, 8-0; Sutter-Beccue def. Andrews-Guelker, 8-0; Ornelas-Krueger def. Crawford-Bullock; Hager-Hartzog def. Andrews-Guelker, 8-1; Casas-Eckert def. Hoback-Tolle, 8-1.
Girls' singles: Casas def. Hoback, 8-4; Eckert def. Tolle, 8-1; Hager def. Andrews, 8-3; Ornelas lost to Knaute, 4-8; Krueger lost to Knaute, 2-8; Beccue def. Hoback, 8-2; Cantu def. Guelker, 8-1; Sutter lost to Knaute, 6-8; Brumley def. Tolle, 8-0.

Lubbock tourney

Boys' doubles: Lee-Dennis lost to Key-Hopping, Coronado, 3-6, 0-6; Hall-Rodgers lost to Chungchansat-Batra, Lubbock, 6-7, 5-7; Lee-Dennis def. Palmer-Hooper, Monterey, 8-6; Hall-Rodgers def. Long-Park, 8-3; Lee-Dennis def. Hall-Rodgers, 8-4.
Boys' singles: Guy def. Speir, Monterey, 6-1, 6-1; Kubena def. Stark, Coronado, 6-2, 4-6, 7-3; Guy def. Hammock, Coronado, 6-0, 6-3; Kubena lost to Poffel, Monterey, 3-6, 0-6; Kubena lost to Hammock, Coronado, 6-7, 3-6; Guy lost to Poffel, Monterey, 2-6, 2-6.
Girls' doubles: Cantu-Brumley def. Lopez-Joroy, Monterey, 2-6, 6-2, 7-1; Sutter-Beccue def. Adams-Ward, Lubbock, 6-2, 6-3; Cantu-Brumley lost to Malouf-Craig, Coronado, 2-6, 2-6; Sutter-Beccue lost to Hatchens-Rowlett, Monterey, 4-6, 4-6; Cantu-Brumley def. Sutter-Beccue, 8-6.
Girls' singles: Casas def. Hertel, Coronado, 7-5, 6-2; Hager lost to Khandheria, Lubbock, 2-6, 3-6; Casas lost to Cocanhougher, Monterey, 1-6, 1-6; Hager lost to Westfall, 0-6, 0-6; Casas lost to Khandheria, Lubbock, 1-6.

Swiftettes open state tourney with 63-43 win

AUSTIN (AP) — Shawna Gerber scored 22 points and Nazareth hit eight 3-pointers in a 63-43 victory Thursday morning over Moulton in the girls Class 1A state semifinals.

Nazareth (32-5) advances to Saturday's final against the winner of today's other semifinal between Menard (31-4) and Valley View (36-1). The Swiftettes will be playing for their 14th state championship in 18 state tournament appearances.

Nikki Weeaks led Moulton (32-3) with 16 points. Moulton has made it to the state tournament 17 times without winning a championship.

With an 8:30 a.m. start, both teams struggled to find their shooting touch until Gerber struck for seven straight points, including two 3-pointers for a 9-6 lead late in the first quarter.

Nazareth led 16-12 in the second and closed the half with a 12-2 run. The Swiftettes hounded Moulton into 17 first-half turnovers and led 28-14 at halftime.

Nazareth opened the third quarter with an 8-0 run to push the lead to 36-14.

Girls' State Tournament

THURSDAY

Class 1A: Nazareth 63, Moulton 43
Valley View (36-1) vs. Menard (31-4), 10 a.m.
Class 3A: Smithville (33-4) vs. Wimberley (27-6), 2 p.m.
Winnsboro (39-1) vs. Perryton (28-7), 3:30 p.m.
Class 4A: Bay City (27-0) vs. Waxahachie (32-3), 7 p.m.
Canyon (33-2) vs. Boerne (31-4), 8:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

Class 2A: Farwell (28-6) vs. Goldthwaite (23-7) 9:30 a.m.
Hughes Springs (30-2) vs. Brock (27-8), 11 a.m.
Class 5A: Alief Hastings (37-1) vs. Mansfield (34-2), 3 p.m.
Corpus Christi Carroll (35-0) vs. Plano (33-3), 7 p.m.

SATURDAY:

Class 1A Final, 9 a.m.
Class 2A Final, 10:30 a.m.
Class 3A Final, 2:30 p.m.
Class 4A Final, 4 p.m.
Class 5A Final, 5 p.m.

Major College Basketball Scores

MEN
EAST
Georgetown 72, West Virginia 54
Ohio St. 79, Penn St. 73
St. Bonaventure 65, Xavier 64
Villanova 77, Providence 72
SOUTH
Duke 92, Clemson 78
Florida 87, South Carolina 67
LSU 55, Auburn 53
Maryland 85, Florida St. 70
Md.-Eastern Shore 69, Howard 64
Memphis 77, Tulane 49
Mississippi 63, Alabama 59
N. Carolina A&T 93, Morgan St. 84
North Carolina 74, Georgia Tech 72, OT
Tennessee 73, Arkansas 66
Vanderbilt 101, Georgia 89
Virginia Tech 96, La Salle 86, OT
MIDWEST
Marquette 68, UAB 58
Michigan 87, Iowa 78
Missouri 86, Nebraska 72
Saint Louis 72, N.C. Charlotte 63
Syracuse 73, Notre Dame 71
Wisconsin 62, Northwestern 46
SOUTHWEST
Baylor 67, Kansas St. 66
Iowa St. 87, Texas Tech 79
Oklahoma 77, Texas A&M 59
Oklahoma St. 96, Colorado 60
Southern Miss. 67, Houston 65
FAR WEST
CS Northridge 76, Weber St. 62
Fresno St. 77, San Jose St. 74
N. Arizona 88, Sacramento St. 65
New Mexico St. 97, North Texas 79
UC Irvine 88, Cal St.-Fullerton 71
TOURNAMENTS
Mid-American Conference
First Round
Cent. Michigan 75, Akron 73
Marshall 83, Buffalo 66
Miami, Ohio 64, E. Michigan 51
Ohio 77, W. Michigan 52
Toledo 68, N. Illinois 64, 2OT
Trans America Athletic Tournament
First Round
Florida Atlantic 66, Stetson 56
Mercer 55, Jacksonville 48

WOMEN
EAST
American U. 84, William & Mary 66
SOUTH
James Madison 71, George Mason 66
MVSU 69, Prairie View 64
N.C.-Wilmington 67, East Carolina 45
South Alabama 67, New Orleans 66
Va. Commonwealth 79, Richmond 72
MIDWEST
Evansville 68, Indiana St. 55
Kansas 71, Texas A&M 60
Kansas St. 64, Colorado 47
SOUTHWEST
Iowa St. 79, Texas 66
Oklahoma 77, Oklahoma St. 68
FAR WEST
No major team scores reported from the FAR WEST.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	36	21	.632	—
New York	34	21	.618	1
Philadelphia	31	25	.554	4½
Orlando	26	31	.456	10
Boston	23	34	.404	13
New Jersey	23	34	.404	13
Washington	17	40	.298	19
Central Division				
Indiana	39	17	.696	—
Charlotte	31	25	.554	8
Toronto	31	25	.554	8
Detroit	28	29	.491	11½
Milwaukee	28	29	.491	11½
Atlanta	22	33	.400	16½
Cleveland	22	34	.393	17
Chicago	12	43	.218	26½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	37	20	.649	—
Utah	36	20	.643	½
Minnesota	32	24	.571	4½
Denver	25	31	.446	11½
Dallas	24	32	.429	12½
Houston	22	35	.386	15
Vancouver	18	39	.316	19
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	47	11	.810	—
Portland	45	12	.789	1½
Phoenix	35	21	.625	11
Seattle	35	23	.603	12
Sacramento	32	24	.571	14
Golden State	16	40	.286	30
L.A. Clippers	12	46	.207	35

Wednesday's Games
Toronto 96, Boston 94
Utah 107, Detroit 94
Washington 102, Atlanta 83
New Jersey 94, Denver 81
L.A. Lakers 103, Vancouver 91
Thursday's Games
Philadelphia at Washington, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Miami, 7:30 p.m.
Charlotte at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Minnesota at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Cleveland at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.
Indiana at Phoenix, 9 p.m.
Friday's Games
Boston at Toronto, 7 p.m.
New York at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Utah at Charlotte, 8 p.m.
Golden State at Denver, 9 p.m.
Vancouver at Portland, 10 p.m.
Indiana at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Track volunteers needed

Snyder High School needs volunteers for the Canyon Reef Relays, to be held March 11.

Anyone interested should contact Tommy Doyle at 574-6039.

Softball umps needed

Snyder Girls' Softball Association needs umpires for the upcoming fast-pitch softball season. No previous experience is necessary. Training and certification will be provided by the league.

For more information, call Dave or LaDonna Hanes at 573-3127.

Rocker's punishment slashed

NEW YORK (AP) — John Rocker's suspension was cut in half to the first 14 days of the regular season, and he can report to the Atlanta Braves' spring training camp today.

Shyam Das, making his first decision as baseball's independent arbitrator, also cut Rocker's $20,000 fine to $500.

The reliever, punished for disparaging remarks in a magazine interview, is expected to address teammates in Kissimmee, Fla., then hold a news conference.

Rocker originally was suspended all 45 days of spring training and first 28 days of the regular season by commissioner Bud Selig.

Arena League reinstates season

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — The Arena Football League reinstated its 2000 season, saying most players agreed to form a labor union.

However, a lawyer for players opposed to forming a union claims a majority of players are in his camp, and vowed to pursue an antitrust lawsuit filed three weeks ago that led owners to cancel the season last week.

League commissioner David Baker said training camps for about 18 teams will open March 19, as originally scheduled, and league owners will immediately begin contract negotiations with the Arena Football League Players' Organizing Committee.

Snyder Bowling Leagues

Men's Commercial League

Team	W	L
Headquarters	61	37
The Shack	60.5	37.5
State Farm	59.5	38.5
Daylight Donuts	55.5	42.5
Rose Barber Shop	52.5	45.5
McLeod Jewelers	45.5	52.5
C&M Roofing	43.5	54.5
Stephens' Office	42.5	55.5
Wal-Mart	37.5	60.5
G&W Trucking	32	66

High series: Rick Mammolite, scratch, 653; Roger Pavlik, handicap, 682.
High game: Mark Glasscock, scratch, 213; Butch Evans, handicap, 254.
Splits and special mentions: Jessie Salas, 4-5; Danny Lunsford, 6-7; Darrell Grant, 3-10.

Jack N Jill League

Team	W	L
Renegades	66.5	17.5
Countryplace	45.5	38.5
Clayton & Mills	41	43
BCEC	40.5	43.5
Alley Kats	30.5	53.5
Ratliff Insurance	28	56

High series: Scratch: Jeff Smith, 560; Daphene Thompson, 551. Handicap: Stacey Browning, 666; Daphene Thompson, 644.
High game: Scratch: Stacey Browning, 234; Donna Jackson, 192. Handicap: Stacey Browning, 271; Donna Jackson, 239.

Roll N Hope League

Team	W	L
Martin Herefords	63	29
KSNY	61.5	30.5
Baze Gun Repair	61	31
Lawrence IGA	58.5	33.5
Spirit Energy	52	40
Snyder Lanes	34.5	57.5
Gutter Dusters	24.5	67.5

High series: Daphene Thompson, scratch, 535; Cindy Aikin, handicap, 637.
High game: Daphene Thompson, scratch, 211; Tracy Smith, handicap, 235.
Splits and special mentions: Rosemary Hernandez, 3-10; Norma Seabourn, 5-10; Wanda Johnson, 3-10, 2-10; Dorris Martin, 6-7; Daphene Thompson, 5-7, 211, 535; Tracy Smith, 2-7, 5-6, 200, 509; Cindy Aikin, 511.

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Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF SCURRY §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of KATHLEEN HUDDLESTON, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,567:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the Estate of Kathleen Huddleston, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by RICKY FRITZ, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 29th day of February, 2000, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to Ellis Wright Huddleston, P.O. Box 6910, Las Cruces, N.M 88006, within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 29th day of February, 2000.

(s) Ellis Wright Huddleston
Independent Executor
of the Estate of
Kathleen Huddleston, deceased

Vehicle

1991 Eclipse, power locks & windows, automatic, runs good. Call Michael or Shara **574-1253**, leave message.

1992 Ford Bronco 351, 133K, auto, A/C, new tires/brakes. $8,900 OBO. 915-235-9770/days, 915-235-9587/evenings.

1996 Aurora 4-dr, loaded, all the extras, leather seats, sun roof, excellent condition. 915-338-4881.

1996 Ford 4-wheel drive ½ ton P/U, $7,500. Call Robbie, (D)915-573-0495, (N)915-573-4028.

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2413 College Ave. 573-8647

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$15.90 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Employment

EVENING CAREGIVER POSITION
Previous applicants please re-apply. No phone calls please. Kid's Kampus, 111 37th.

Housekeeper Wanted
Non-smoker, top wages for hard worker. Uniforms provided, benefits available. Some week-end work expected. References required. Apply in person @ **Purple Sage Motel.**

Immediate Opening: PT/FT
Secretary w/working knowledge of Word, Excel & Lotus Notes. Must be a self-starter, punctual & possess superb communication skills. Send resume to P.O. Box 949 J, Snyder, TX 79550. Deadline is March 15th.

LVN
Our agency is looking for a caring, compassionate LVN and certified aide to provide quality care to our patients. **Apply** at Covenant Home Health Care, 309 S. Broadway in Post, TX **(806)495-3533.**

Number one home base business. I need help! $500–$3000 P/T, $5000–$10,000 F/T.
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Employment

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PATROL OFFICER – Must have Basic Certification. Have knowledge of Police Methods, practices and procedures. Must be able to cope with situations firmly, courteously and tactfully. React calmly and quickly under emergency conditions. Be able to obtain information through interview, interrogation and observation. Must be able to perform all duties related to police work. Clothing allowance, paid medical and life insurance, TMRS, 12 paid holidays, 10 vacation days and 12 sick days per year. Contact TWC, Career Stop, C/O WTC, 6200 S. College Ave., Snyder, EOE, ad paid for by employer.

SUBWAY
We have an opening for the **11a.m.–2p.m. shift.** Perfect for moms w/children in school!! Apply in person to: Sandra Patrick, Mgr.

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The link between buyer and seller
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Employment

Rip Griffins: Now accepting applications for full-time cashier position. Benefits plus vacation plan.
Minimum Qualifications: High School diploma, positive attitude, friendly, cheerful, well groomed & must work well with public.
Apply in person by Saturday March 4th, East Hwy. 180.

Taking Applications For weekend R.N. Longterm care experience helpful. Exceptional working conditions. Valley Fair Lodge, Colorado City. Contact: Marsha Rickard, 915-728-2634.

Wanted: Laborer Water/Sewer Crew. Must be able to perform manual labor in all types of weather, in all types of conditions. Maintenance of water and sewer lines and plumbing knowledge helpful but not required. Must have valid Texas driver license. Must be available for 24 hour call. Apply in person TWC, Career Stop, C/O WTC, 6200 S. College Ave, Snyder, EOE. Employer Paid Ad.

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads in The Snyder Daily News. Call 573-5486 now!

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1000 New Customers needed No Credit! No Problems! Loans $100 to $446. Apply by phone @ 573-1761 or come by Security Finance, 511 Coliseum Drive, Snyder, TX.

Farmers Column

Horse Quality Alfalfa Hay. $6 a bale. 728-3939.

Recreational Vehicles

1998 Coleman "Westlake" foldout camper. Sleeps 8, toilet, shower, stove, refrigerator, 2 butane tanks w/auto switching, heat & AC. Seldom used, extra Clean. See at Jack's Used Cars, 1212 25th, 573-9001.

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Merchandise

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

Firewood!! Oak & Mesquite! Local cutter. Part seasoned. 24"-22"-20"-18". Some split. Delivered. 573-1216

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*Jenn Air electric set-in stove top $300
*"Bicycle-built-for-2" Red! New! $250
*Girl's Mongoose mountain bike $100.
★1998 Coleman "Westlake" foldout camper, seldom used, sleeps 8, extra clean. $7,500.
See at: **Jack's Used Cars**
1212 25th
573-9001

Paper end rolls for sale at Snyder Daily News. Prices vary by size. Great to cover tables, pack items when moving etc.

Garage Sales

Noah's Attic
Open Friday Only 10–5:30
$$ DOLLAR SALE $$
All proceeds Benefit Noah Project West a Shelter for victims of Family violence.
1503 26th St. Snyder, TX 573-8870

BACK YARD SALE
2902 Ave. F
Friday 8 – ??
Jr. size clothes, Shoes & misc.

"BIG" GARAGE SALE
2207 College Ave. (in back)
Friday & Saturday 8 – ??
Little Bit of Everything

Church Bldg. Fund Sale
1900 Trinity Blvd.
Friday 8 – 5 Saturday 8 – ?
Furniture, Clothes, Lots of everything.

GARAGE SALE
1206 19th St.
Friday 8 – ??
3 pc. end tables, Home interior & little bit of everything else.

GARAGE SALE
1507 Ave. E
Friday & Saturday 8 – ??
Clothes, Kitchen items & lots more.

HUGE GARAGE SALE
4101 Midland Ave.
Friday 5 – ? Saturday 8 – 12
Day Bed, Dresser, Formal dresses, lots of ladies clothes, bedding, & lots more.

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1 bedroom apartment , new carpet & paint, stove, refrigerator. Bills/cable paid.
Also 2-1-1 house, new carpet, paint. HUD approved. 573-7081.

1 Bedroom Furnished apartment. All bills paid. Rent by 2 weeks or month. 573-5879, 573-3279, 728-8482.

2 bedroom apartment for rent. Good location, reasonable. Call 573-0996.

Furnished 1 bedroom apartment in Hermleigh. Nice and clean. 863-2700.

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Houses For Rent

112 Ash St., 2-1-1 carport, CH/A, washer/dryer/stove included. $200/mo., $200/dep. 573-0993.

2 bedroom, fenced backyard, unfurnished. 3120 Ave. T, no deposit, $200/mo. **573-7337** after 5p.m.

3-1½, fenced backyard. 2803 Ave. X. Need references. **Call 573-8739.**

3702 Beaumont, 2 bedroom, CH/A, $100 deposit, $275 month. 573-0900.

For Rent: 2–2 home, fenced yard, $480/month + deposit. 3608 Ave. U. **573-9497.**

HICKS RENTALS
3766 Avondale 2–1–1
2805 23rd – Apt. – water/gas paid 1–1
2210 Gilmore, Mobile Home 3–1½
No pets. **573-7150**

HOUSES FOR RENT
2306 41st.....3 bedroom $400
Sarah Jamison..... 573-4028
Elizabeth Potts Realtors 573-8505

Rent or Sale: 4103 Denison. Excellent condition, 2-1-1, new roof, new CH/A, great location. $275/deposit, $400/month. 573-9502.

Mobile Homes For Rent

3 Bedroom Mobile Homes for rent. $250/month. 573-1711.

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Mobile Homes

Doublewide set-up on land in nice community. **A–1 Homes** 653-1152 or 800-626-9978

Handy Man Special
3bdr/$1,500 A–1 Homes.
653-1152 or 800-626-9978

Have horse? We have land, Indian Creek Subdivision. **653-1152.**

Mobile Home + lot for sale. Brandon 2–2, 14x80, remodeled inside, $3,500. 915-677-8488

MOBILE HOME FOR SALE: 54x14 2-1-1cp, (2) fenced lots. 2102 Peyton. $5,000 Cash. 806-828-4299.

Only $239.00. 2000 model doublewide, vinyl siding, storm windows, glamour bath. **A–1 Homes** 653-1152 or 800-626-9978. 8.75% fixed, 360 mon., $1500 dwn.

Repo Doublewide, bank desperate. 653-1152 or 800-626-9978.

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For Sale By Owner: 3-2-2 car garage, CH/A, fireplace. 3404 Kerrville. Call 573-5363.

For Sale by Owner: Owner Financing provided. Low down payment. 3 or 4 bedroom home. 3301 Ave. A. Call Kelly 915-425-9994.

For Sale: 3-1-2 separate carports, large storage building, 6ft. privacy fence in rear. Covered picnic area w/bar-b-que , table, covered patio. Large pecan tree in backyard. Price reduced, $27,000. 573-9559 or 338-0617.

For Sale: Hermleigh 16x80, 3–2 mobile home on approx. 2/3 acre. New paint, fireplace, large pantry, large covered porch, fenced backyard, 12x24 storage building. 573-7756.

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LOTS FOR SALE
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Rent to Own
3–1 brick house, 113 Browning. $500/down, $232.28/month–10 years. 573-5300.

Rent to Own! $200 a month. Call Kelly (915)425-9994.

Real Estate

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Realtor
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Temi Matthies, Owner/Broker



Dee Kemp
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New Listings: 4103 Kerrville 3-2-2 $65T
3303 Irving 4-2-2 Red. 112T
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Annette Waller - 573-9467
3007 39th 4-13/4-1cp Nice! Call!!
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Stevenson Real Estate
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Wenona Evans

3604 Ave. V: Charming, older home on 2 Lots. 3 bedroom, 2 bath, Living-Dining, Den, Water Well, 2 car detached garage.
Sales Price - $69.500
snydertex.com/stevensonrealestate/index.htm

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573-8571 573-3452

Executive Home 2408 Towle Park Rd	4-3½-3
2711 Ave. U Remodeled !	Older 3-2-+Office
2210 32nd 3-2-2cp + Utility	$39.5T
Red. to Sell 3-1-1 4004 Eastridge	$28.5T
3-2-2cp Hermleigh Nice, Large...	$52.5T
A Frame 3-2-1 Shop 11 Acres	$65T
Cedar Creek 3-2-2 + Den, Lovely	$86T
PRETTY! Close In 4-2 5 A's or 36 A's	Opt
Co. Dream Home 4-1¾-2, Lots of storage, 20 Acres, Pool ,Several Out Bldgs	$185T
14.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub, Spk. Syst.	$106T
Unique 4-1¾-&½-2cp 223 25th	$25T
RED. 4-1¾ Great Storage 3733 Dalton	$45T
3774 Dalton Dr. Lrg.Home 3-1¾-1cp	$37.5T

Doris S. Spikes: 573-6602
Shirley Drum: 573-1550

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

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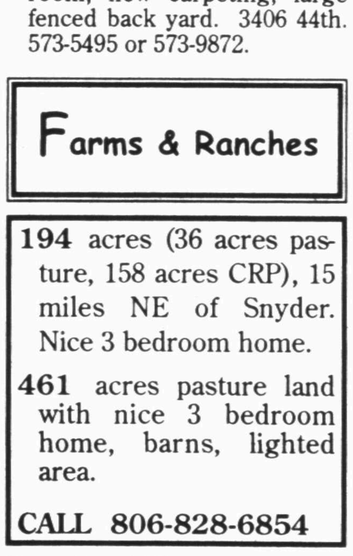
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Convicted hacker's help sought by feds

WASHINGTON (AP) — The government is seeking advice from the world's most infamous computer hacker, just weeks after his release from federal prison, about keeping its own electronic networks safe from intruders.

In a bizarre twist to the federal prosecution of Kevin Mitnick, a Senate panel today asked him to explain ways hackers infiltrate sensitive computer systems, and to suggest solutions to lawmakers.

"I have gained unauthorized access to computer systems at some of the largest corporations on the planet and have successfully penetrated some of the most resilient computer systems ever developed," Mitnick said in prepared remarks.

Mitnick, 36, also boasted that over 20 years, he broke into all but one computer system he targeted — including a California college he victimized that eventually paid him as its consultant in an unusual arrangement he called "hire the hacker."

Mitnick, who is prohibited from using any computer or even a cellular telephone for the next three years, was released from prison Jan. 21 after almost five years. He became an underground cause celebre after leading the FBI on a three-year manhunt that ended when investigators traced his electronic signals to an apartment in 1995.

The Senate Governmental Affairs Committee is considering a wide-ranging bill to require agencies to create anti-hacker programs and seek approval from the Office of Management and Budget that such plans are adequate.

Mitnick called the legislation "a good first step" and offered a half-dozen suggestions such as requiring agencies to assess what data is most valuable and training employees to recognize attacks under way.

Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., the bill's co-sponsor, said previously "it's only a matter of time" before an intruder into government computers commits serious damage.

Another expert, Jack L. Brock Jr. of the General Accounting Office, said nearly all government agencies "are plagued by poor computer security," and cited recent audits that 22 of the largest ones were "not adequately protecting critical federal operations and assets from computer-based attacks." The Environmental Protection Agency temporarily closed its Internet connection weeks ago after GAO found serious risks.

The interest from the Senate comes on the heels of sensational electronic attacks against some of the Internet's flagship Web sites. Those attacks didn't compromise the security of the companies, just overwhelmed their services for hours. James Adams, head of Infrastructure Defense Inc., called them "mere pinpricks on the body of e-commerce" and warned that worse was possible. He urged Congress to create a new "Office of Business Assurance."

The hearing also comes amid a fledgling effort by the government to encourage private companies to collectively share information about computer attacks. Mitnick recently acknowledged that, "I would have never been found or arrested unless several — not only the federal government but several Internet service providers and telephone companies cooperated together to track my location."

Mitnick also suggested that computer security must include more than updated software or firewalls to keep hackers out. He described in detail his successful efforts to break into AT&T Corp.'s worldwide network:

Oil ministers agree to hike production

LONDON (AP) — Oil ministers from Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Mexico agreed today that oil exporting countries should boost production in an effort to ease global oil prices from their highest levels in nine years.

In trading in London after the announcement, Brent crude oil edged up six cents to $29.12 a barrel.

The ministers agreed in principle to an unspecified increase in production and said that further details would come at the March 27 meeting of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

"Uppermost in our minds is to maintain stability in the markets," said Saudi Oil Minister Ali Naimi. "There is need for additional production. The issue is when and how much."

Oil exporters have come under intense pressure in recent weeks from the United States and other major oil consuming nations to pump more crude and bring prices down.

The ministers refused to confirm the size of the expected increase.

"I think the number will be put forward when we finish our consultation with all other members," Naimi said.

The ministers also refused to say what price they hoped to see for crude oil, and gave no idea of when they might increase output.

Mexican Oil Minister Luis Tellez said demand has increased dramatically.

"An increase in production is warranted and needed during the year," he said.

Mexico is not an OPEC member, but agreed to cooperate with the group in whatever decision it may reach at the OPEC ministers' meeting in Vienna, Austria.

The world consumes about 77 million barrels of oil a day, but production has fallen to 75 million barrels. The tight supply has forced oil companies to draw on inventories that have fallen to dangerously low levels, leading to the sharp price increases in heating oil, diesel fuel and, more recently, gasoline.

Oil prices have soared from $10.72 a barrel on Dec. 10, 1998, to a nine-year high of $31.77 on Wednesday in trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, largely because of a shortage of supply and increasing demand.

Prices are at their highest since the outbreak of the Persian Gulf War in January 1991.

OPEC produces about 30 percent of total worldwide oil output.

Prices surged after OPEC made deep cuts in production last March. OPEC has slashed output by 4.3 million barrels per day since the first round of cuts in 1998.

Average cost at UT jumps

AUSTIN (AP) — The average University of Texas student will pay $420 more a year in tuition and fees next year in a plan to hire more faculty, raise salaries and help needy students.

The $14 per credit hour increase will include regular tuition increases totaling $4, plus a new $10 fee to help finance 30 new faculty positions, $3 million in grants to needy students and raises for university employees, including teaching assistants, said Steve Monti, the school's vice provost.

UT President Larry Faulkner had lobbied student groups during the past several weeks to promote the $10 fee, and he approved it this week.

The $10 charge is being billed as a library and information-technology fee and will be used to support those services while freeing up money elsewhere in the budget to support the new initiatives, officials said.

Undergraduates from Texas who take 15 hours of classes a semester currently pay $3,167 for in-state tuition and mandatory fees for a full school year.

They would pay $3,587 next year under the new plan.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -Morning stocks:

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	55 3-16	53 3-16	53 15-16	—13-16
AT&T Corp s	52	48	52	+ 4 3-16
Albertsons	24 7-16	24¼	24¼	— 5-16
Alltel	62⅛	60	60½	+ 11-16
AmerOnline s	57	56	56 3-16	—13-16
AndarkPtr	31⅞	30¼	31½	+ 13-16
AtlRichfld	73	71 9-16	73	— 3-16
ATMOS Egy	16¾	16½	16⅝	+ ⅛
Aviall	8 11-16	8 7-16	8½	— 3-16
BP Amoco s	48 11-16	46⅞	48 7-16	+ 13-16
BakerHughes	28½	27 1-16	27⅝	+ 5-16
Bank of Amer	45 9-16	45 1-16	45⅛	— 7-16
BellAtl	55⅜	54 1-16	54 11-16	— ¼
BellSouth	45⅛	44½	45 1-16	+ 2 1-16
Beth Steel	5 13-16	5¾	5¾	
BurlNoSFe	20¾	20 7-16	20½	— ¼
CBS Corp	60½	59⅛	59⅜	— ⅜
Caterpillar	35	34 3-16	34¼	— ⅝
CenSoWst	16½	16¼	16 7-16	+ ⅛
Chevron	77 7-16	74 15-16	76¾	+ 1½
Citigroup s	52	50 15-16	51⅛	— ½
Coastal	42 15-16	42 3-16	42 13-16	+ ⅛
CocaCola	51 13-16	50 1-16	50 3-16	—13-16
ColgatePal s	53⅜	52¾	52¾	— ¼
ComclMetals	27½	27 3-16	27 3-16	— 3-16
Cooperin	30⅞	30 5-16	30½	+ 5-16
DaimlrChry	64 11-16	63⅝	64 11-16	—1 1-16
DallSemicn s	40 9-16	38	39⅛	— 1⅜
DeltaAirl	45	44 1-16	44 5-16	— 1⅛
Dillards Inc	17 7-16	17⅛	17 5-16	— 1-16
DowChem	102½	100¼	100½	— 2⅞
DuPont	49	47 15-16	48½	+ ⅝
EastmanChem	34¾	33 11-16	34⅛	— 9-16
EstKodak	61⅞	59 5-16	61 5-16	+ 1 7-16
EDS Corp	69 5-16	67 7-16	67½	— 1-16
Entergy	20 7-16	20 5-16	20⅜	
ExxonMobil	77⅜	75 9-16	77 1-16	+ 2 5-16
Flowers	13¼	13	13	— ⅛
FordMotor	41 13-16	41 7-16	41¾	— ¼
GTE Cp	65 15-16	64 11-16	64⅞	
GenDynam	42 5-16	41⅝	41⅝	— ¾
GenElec	133	130⅞	132 7-16	+ 1 1-16
GenMills s	32⅞	32⅜	32 7-16	— ¾
GenMotors	75 3-16	74	74¼	
GaPacGP s	34 3-16	33 3-16	33 7-16	— 5-16
GlobalMar	24 13-16	23 1-16	24¾	+ 1⅜
Goodrich	23⅞	23	23 3-16	+ ¼
Goodyear s	22⅝	21¾	22⅛	+ ½
GtAtlPac	23⅝	22 13-16	22 13-16	—13-16
Halliburtn	42 11-16	40 7-16	42¼	+ 1 5-16
Hanson ADS	31⅞	31⅛	31 13-16	— ⅛
HarteHanks	22	21 15-16	21 15-16	
HomeDepot s	56¼	55¼	55 9-16	— 7-16
HoneywellIntl	48⅛	45 7-16	45¾	— 2⅜
IBM s	101 15-16	99½	101 5-16	+ 15-16
IntlPaper	36 3-16	34 13-16	35 3-16	— ½
JohnsonJn	74 9-16	72⅛	74½	+ 1⅛
K mart	8¾	8½	8½	— 3-16
Kroger Co s	14 15-16	14½	14⅝	— 3-16
Litton	30⅝	29¼	29 9-16	— 3-16
LockheedM	17 9-16	17 1-16	17⅛	— 7-16
Lowes Cos	47 3-16	46 7-16	46 15-16	— ⅜
Lubys	10⅜	10¼	10⅜	+ 1-16
LucentTech	69½	66¾	69½	+ 1⅜
MayDeptStr	26 9-16	26⅛	26 3-16	— ¼
MediaOne	79⅛	76⅜	79	+ 2 11-16
Medtronic s	50½	48 11-16	50 7-16	+ 1 5-16
Monsanto	37 15-16	36 15-16	37⅝	+ 1-16
MorganJP	109½	108 1-16	108¼	— 1¾
Motorola	171⅛	168⅛	170	— ⅛
NCR Corp	36⅝	34⅛	34 13-16	—2 1-16
Navistar	35 15-16	35⅛	35⅜	+ 1 3-16
Penney JC	15⅝	15 3-16	15¼	— ¼
PepBoys	6⅛	5 15-16	6	
PepsiCo	32⅞	32 3-16	32 3-16	— ⅜
PhelpDodge	46¼	45 11-16	45 13-16	
PhilipPet	38 15-16	37¾	38¾	+ 1-16
PilgrmPrd B	7⅞	7 3-16	7⅞	— 1-16
Polaroid	25 3-16	24 11-16	24¾	— ⅛
Praxair	33⅞	32⅝	32 11-16	— ⅝
ProctGamb	88 7-16	87¼	87¼	— 1
PubS NwMx	15¾	15⅜	15¾	+ ¼
ReliantEngy	20 11-16	20⅛	20½	+ 1-16
RoyalDut	53⅜	52 9-16	53 3-16	+ 3-16
SBC Comm	43 9-16	42 13-16	43½	+ 1½
SaraLee	14 11-16	14¼	14⅜	— ¼
Scripps EW	44½	43¾	44¼	+ 5-16
SearsRoeb	28⅛	27 11-16	27 13-16	+ 3-16
SherwinW	19 11-16	19¼	19 5-16	— 1-16
SmithkldBchm	56 15-16	55¾	56¾	—1 3-16
SouthernCo	22 1-16	21¾	22	+ 1-16
SwstAirl s	18	17 7-16	17½	— ¾
SprintFON s	63½	62 13-16	63 3-16	+ 9-16
SprintPCS s	54¾	53⅝	53¾	— 9-16
Sunoco Inc	26¼	24 15-16	26 3-16	+ 1¼
TNP Ent	43 3-16	43 3-16	43 3-16	
Tandy s	41⅛	39¾	40 1-16	— 5-16
TempleInland	50 3-16	48⅞	48⅞	—1 7-16
Texaco	49 5-16	47¾	48⅜	+ ¾
TexInd	30½	29¾	29¾	—11-16
TexasInst s	165 15-16	160	164 13-16	+ 7-16
Tex Util	31 5-16	30	31	— 1
Textron	59⅝	58 1-16	58½	— ⅝
TriconGlbR	28⅛	27 11-16	27¾	— 7-16
TrinityInds	22	21 11-16	21 15-16	+ ⅛
TritonEngy	29	27⅜	29	+ 1¼
TylerTech	4 15-16	4 13-16	4⅞	— ⅛
US West Inc	77	74	76¼	— 3⅝
USX-Marathn	23¼	21 15-16	23 3-16	+ ⅞
USX-USS	21 13-16	21½	21⅝	+ 3-16
UnCarbde	50½	49⅜	49 7-16	—1 5-16
UnionPacif	38 3-16	37½	37⅝	— ⅝
UnitedTech s	51⅜	50 1-16	50⅜	— 7-16
Unocal	28 11-16	27¾	28 7-16	+ 7-16
Venator Grp	6⅝	6¼	6 9-16	+ ½
WalMart s	52⅞	51	51 3-16	+ 2
WellsFargo	35 11-16	34⅜	34 13-16	+ ⅛
WstnGasRs	14⅜	14	14⅜	+ ½
WinnDixie	16 7-16	15⅞	16	— 1-16
Xerox Cp	21⅝	20¾	21¼	— 5-16

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Dell	42 13/64	-13/16
Wal Mart	49	0
Compac	25 11/16	-5/16
Dol. Gen.	20 7/16	+3/16
GTE	64 3/4	-1/8
SBC Comm.	43	+1
BJ Services	62	0
LU	67 9/16	-1 1/16
Cisco Sys.	130 1/2	-1 3/16

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Classroom teachers lack training in violence

By The Associated Press

They are trained to deal with teasing and tantrums, ABCs and addition. This week, America's elementary school teachers had to contemplate deadly violence in the classroom.

The killing of a Michigan first-grader by a classmate shocked teachers nationwide and prompted principals to reassess security procedures for their youngest pupils.

"All the schools in the country are in mourning for that school," said Karen Lachman of Sunnyside Elementary School in Clackamas, Ore. "It hits home to me as a principal, because I feel so much responsibility for the kids in my care."

In Amherst, Mass., children at Fort River Elementary School asked teachers about the shooting.

"Some teachers felt the question — whether expressed or not — was 'Could it happen here?' And the answer was: 'Extremely unlikely, and you can count on your teachers to keep you safe,'" principal Russ Vernon-Jones said.

Joanne Welihan, executive director of the Michigan Elementary and Middle School Principals Association, said first- and second-grade teachers should broach the incident gently with their students.

"It's the same sort of approach they would take if there'd been a death in their school," she said. "Children under 7 really don't have a concept of the finality of death. Trying to teach them without scaring them is a tough task."

Some administrators decided to avoid classroom discussions of Tuesday's killing.

"To bring it up at school, that's making it sensational," said Sue Bergstrom, principal of Children's Academy North in Minneapolis, which has kindergarten and first grade. "We have to be careful not to be stressing ideas that they're too young to really comprehend."

In Springfield, Ore., the school system experienced violence firsthand in 1998 when Kip Kinkel killed two students and wounded 25 at Thurston High School. Teachers now have guidelines on how to respond.

"We let the teachers know it is OK to encourage kids to talk about it, to let the kids know it is OK to be scared," said school district spokeswoman Cherie Kistner.

Gerry Clancy, the elementary school principal in Lyme, N.H., said he preferred one-on-one talks between staff and students, rather than assemblies or classroom discussions about violence.

Shooting spree was preceded by verbal abuse at apartment

WILKINSBURG, Pa. (AP) — Maintenance worker John DeWitt was so worried about the verbal abuse coming from Ronald Taylor that he picked up a hammer for self-defense. He was at Taylor's apartment to fix a door.

When DeWitt left, called away to another job, Taylor was still angry.

Moments later, Taylor shot one of DeWitt's coworkers, set his apartment on fire and went on a shooting spree at two fast-food restaurants in suburban Pittsburgh, police said.

Two men died in Wednesday's rampage and three others were critically wounded. Police said one victim was brain-dead.

Taylor, 39, was arrested in an office building after he kept police at bay for two hours, holding four or five people in wheelchairs hostage at a senior hospice center. Also inside was a day-care center with more than three-dozen children.

Other than the broken door, authorities offered no other reason for the attacks. Wilkinsburg police Chief Gerald Brewer said Taylor had no criminal record.

"We don't have a history with this individual," he said. "There were no signs, no clues that would lead us to believe this individual was someone who had to be watched."

Taylor is charged with two counts of criminal homicide, an umbrella charge that includes various degrees of murder and manslaughter. The specific charges Taylor may face will be set at a subsequent hearing.

He was not required to enter a plea at the arraignment.

Sgt. John Fisher, a negotiator for the Pittsburgh SWAT team who talked to Taylor, said the suspect was upset about the door. He said Taylor's mood "went from anger to confusion — distraught, fear and remorse."

DeWitt said the suspected gunman, who is black, was angry that workers had not repaired the door fast enough. All the shooting victims were white, authorities said.

"He said, 'You're all white trash, racist pigs,'" DeWitt said. "He looked at me and said, 'You're dead.'"

Brewer said he had "nothing factual" to back up reports that Taylor selected his alleged victims by race.

It was the nation's second incident of high-profile gun violence in as many days. On Tuesday, a 6-year-old boy fatally shot a first-grade classmate in Michigan.

The shooting spree began about 11:15 a.m. in this working-class suburb of 21,000 about nine miles east of downtown Pittsburgh. Police called to Taylor's apartment followed him to the restaurants and chased him into the office building.

One person was shot at a Burger King and three more at a McDonald's.

The Allegheny County coroner's office identified the dead as John Kroll, 55, DeWitt's coworker; and Joseph Healy, 71, a former priest from Wilkinsburg. The other victims were identified as Richard Clinger, Emil Sanielevici and Steven Bostard.

Clinger was shot sitting in his van in the McDonald's parking lot.

"Me and my stepfather were sitting in the truck, and this guy just walked up and started shooting," said Candy Zambo, who was unhurt. "I thought maybe he was going to ask for directions or something. He just turned and walked into McDonald's."

Police said Taylor walked inside the Burger King with a .22-caliber revolver and shot one person — reportedly Healy — before crossing the street to the McDonald's. He shot one man in the parking lot, shot another behind the counter, then went back outside and shot a third man waiting in the drive-through, Brewer said.

Once inside the office building, Taylor apparently waved his gun at four women and told them he had one bullet left, the chief said. Officers distracted Taylor and helped the women out of the building.

Older employees could earn more

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) — It was welcome news to 68-year-old Harold Henderson — the thought of being able to work longer hours, earn more money and — best of all — keep it.

"I might go get me a real job now," said Henderson, who works as a janitor and bagger at a Winn-Dixie grocery store.

Henderson is among 800,000 Americans between the ages of 65 and 69 who are expected to benefit from the repeal of the Social Security earnings limit. Under the cap, a senior citizen is penalized $1 in benefits for every $3 earned over $17,000.

The House voted 422-0 Wednesday to send the Senate a bill doing away with the Depression-era law originally passed to make more jobs available for younger workers. Senate supporters promised prompt action.

President Clinton said he would sign the bill into law as long as it remains unencumbered by tax cuts or other changes he could not accept and that have doomed several past repeal efforts.

"We should reward every American who wants to and can stay active and productive," he said.

Henderson and his wife have seven children, two of them still at home. He's been working up to 20 hours a week, limiting the number of hours so his pay doesn't go over the $17,000 limit.

Henderson retired from long-haul trucking six years ago. He said the difference in his paycheck between then and now is about $500 per week.

"I might go back to driving a truck," he said. "I would pay off my house."

At a Winn-Dixie across the state in West Palm Beach, store co-owner David Deems said several of his employees over 65 also must limit their work hours to stay below the earnings limit.

Jack Bassett, 82, bags groceries and has no earnings cap because he is over age 70. But he remembers the earnings limit.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, March 3, 2000

Seeking new experiences or acquiring knowledge from unusual sources will serve you well in the year ahead. It'll be extremely likely you'll find new avenues for these expressive urges.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) The judgments you make will be dependent on your deductive reasoning powers and your intuitive perceptions, allowing you to evaluate situations quite accurately today. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) This is an excellent day for meeting new people or contacts who could end up being very important to you, so it behooves you to go to places other than familiar haunts.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Chances are you're going to be glad you didn't give up on your objectives too hastily yesterday, because events could take a surprising turn in your favor today.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Some constructive information may cross your path today that could fit in neatly with plans you've already formulated. It'll make the going far easier for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Something advantageous may develop for you today that will be worthy of further investigation on your part. It may come about though a person with whom you're rather friendly.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) An individual who has been rather resistant in endorsing a cause you've been espousing might be swayed into your corner today. This change of heart will help you immensely.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Any ingenious ideas you can develop today will help you chalk up points with authority figures at work. Put on your thinking cap and allow an impressive concept to emerge.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Unstructured social happenings that aren't prearranged may turn out to be the most fun today. Keep your options flexible.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) This is an excellent day for planning something enjoyable or different for your family or friends to do at your house today. Cook up a great new recipe and invite in a few pals.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) As a Sagittarius, you're a rather fast thinker, but try to put your thoughts to more productive uses. Something quite good will come of them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) What you might gain today through a profitable endeavor could be brought about by a strange chain of events. Keep your options open and let come what may.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Your peers will sense that you belong at the head of the pack today and could encourage you to take the initiative. Don't be timid about accepting the post.

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Houses sold for mere $1

WASHINGTON (AP) — The federal government is holding a clearance sale, but this is not the assortment of barrettes, plastic figurines and other items one might find in a discount store that sells everything for $1. These are houses for a buck.

The government on Wednesday began selling vacant and foreclosed homes for $1 to local communities that can put the properties to use.

Under a new "Good Neighbor Policy," foreclosed single-family homes will go up for sale to local governments if the Federal Housing Administration is unable to sell them after six months. About 3,000 homes will initially be for sale.

"The Good Neighbor Policy will build better futures for hundreds of communities and thousands of families across our nation," said Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary Andrew Cuomo. "It will help reverse decades of decline in our cities by revitalizing neighborhoods, attracting new residents, and promoting homeownership."

Communities that buy the vacant homes for $1 could sell or rent them to low- and moderate-income families, to first-time home buyers, or to groups that use the homes to provide services like child care or job training.

Berry's World



www.comics.com Jim Berry © 2000 by NEA, Inc.

"I'll look at pictures of your grandchildren, if you let me tell you about my operation."

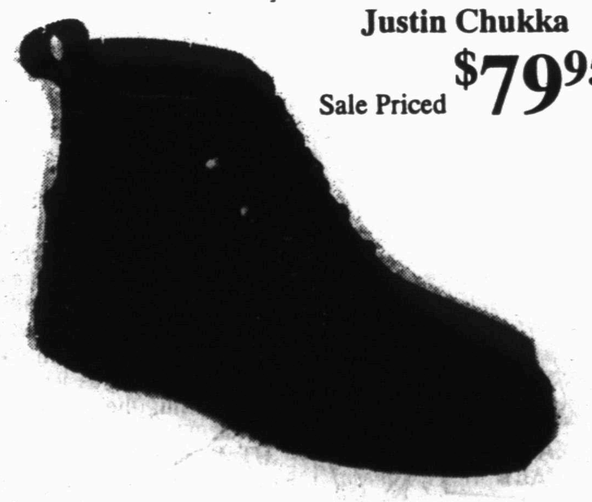
Chain Reaction

When someone starts advertising,
Someone starts buying;
When someone starts buying,
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GOP debate tonight last before Super Tuesday

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Warming up for tonight's debate, John McCain vowed to get past discord over religion and turn to issues. Picking one such issue, George W. Bush needled him for not having much of an education plan.

McCain faced criticism Wednesday from social conservative Gary Bauer, who had endorsed him shortly after ending his own Republican presidential candidacy.

Bauer said McCain should apologize for an "ill-advised and divisive" speech that compared religious right leaders Pat Robertson and Jerry Falwell to activists Louis Farakhan and Al Sharpton, divisive figures on the left.

But Falwell weighed in with charitable words on McCain's behalf.

"I personally think that the senator in a moment of frustration said things that he normally would not say," Falwell told Roanoke, Va., TV station WSLS. "And it's out of character for him to be that way."

Falwell said McCain got bad campaign advice. "I don't believe John McCain is a bigot or hates Christians or hates anybody," Falwell said.

An increasingly confident Bush predicted yet another round of victories and worked to create a sense of inevitability.

"When I'm the nominee, I'm going to set the tone for the party," said Bush. "That's what a leader does."

McCain dismissed predictions of almost any sort in this wild and woolly primary campaign — including his own.

"Every prediction so far has been wrong, including mine," he said. "My predictions are not totally worthless, but next to it."

But he conceded his campaign got sidetracked in recent days and said it's time to get back to issues.

"I'm going to focus on that rather than respond to continued assaults on my character," he said. "The people of this country deserve a campaign that's based on the issues."

Bush previewed a new line, attacking McCain for being vague on education.

"It's not going to take you long to hear his (plan)," Bush said at a Missouri rally. "There's not much to my opponent's — with all due respect."

Bush has a detailed plan to use federal education aid to reward and penalize states according to how students perform on standardized tests, including a national sampling exam.

He hasn't been too keen lately to emphasize the strong federal role his plan provides for, insisting he's for local control of schools. McCain's education platform is not so involved — it stresses "no strings" money to schools.

The candidates were preparing for their final debate before Super Tuesday, when voters in 13 states choose Republican delegates.

NY senate candidates trade gun control 'hypocrisy' jabs

VALLEY COTTAGE, N.Y. (AP) — She accepted a contribution from a rap artist charged with gun possession. He accepted a contribution from the president of the National Rifle Association.

On Wednesday — as shootings in Pennsylvania and Michigan captured headlines — the rival Senate campaigns of Hillary Rodham Clinton and Rudolph Giuliani accused each other of hypocrisy on gun violence. Both candidates support gun control.

The charge from Giuliani's side against Clinton was made after the first lady led 200 schoolchildren in an antigun pledge.

"If you know of any guns in your house or in the houses of your uncles, cousins, friends or neighbors, I want you to promise you will never, ever go near them," she told the fifth-graders at Valley Cottage Elementary School.

"I want you to promise you will never, ever play with anybody who goes near them, and I want you to promise you will never, ever pick up a gun with any idea of using it against another person," she said.

Clinton told the students to tell parents who own guns to lock the weapons away or remove them from the house for the sake of young children.

Bruce Teitelbaum, a Giuliani spokesman, said the first lady was "sending a confusing and hypocritical message" since her campaign accepted a $1,000 contribution from rapper Sean "Puffy" Combs in October. Combs has since been indicted on gun possession charges following a shooting at a nightclub in December.

In response, Clinton spokesman Howard Wolfson pointed to a $1,000 contribution the Giuliani campaign took from actor Charlton Heston, president of the National Rifle Association.

"We won't be lectured to by a campaign that's taken money from the head of the NRA," said Wolfson.

Back at the Valley Cottage school, Clinton did not directly mention the shooting Tuesday in Flint, Mich., in which a 6-year-old shot and killed another.

Some of the children, however, already knew about it.

"They need to stop guns because of what happened yesterday," 10-year-old Kevin O'Donohue said. "For a little kid to shoot another was wrong."

Lawmakers remain divided over return of boy to Cuba

WASHINGTON (AP) — Lawmakers remain as divided as ever on whether Elian Gonzalez should stay in Florida or be returned to his father in Cuba — and whether Congress has a role in deciding the fate of the 6-year-old refugee.

"This problem needs to be resolved," said Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, after his panel took testimony from those on both sides of the issue Wednesday.

But Sen. Patrick Leahy of Vermont, senior Democrat on the panel, suggests Congress should stand clear. The boy has already been "converted into a political symbol," Leahy said.

Sen. Connie Mack, R-Fla., principal author of a bill to grant Elian U.S. citizenship — and thus block an Immigration and Naturalization Service effort to return him to Cuba — said he still hopes Elian can win a full custody hearing in family court in Florida, either with or without passage of his legislation.

While support for Mack's citizenship bill seems to have dwindled, many of those who first wanted the youth returned to Cuba "no longer believe this is a simple story with a clear-cut ending," Mack said.

Elian became the center of an international storm after being plucked from the Atlantic in November clinging to an inner tube. His mother and others died when the small boat in which they were fleeing Cuba capsized.

A federal judge in Miami will decide later this month whether to intervene in the INS decision. Congressional leaders have informally agreed not to attempt to bring up the Mack bill before the court has ruled.

The tug of war played out in front of the Senate panel on Wednesday as Florida relatives made competing appeals to the committee.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Meds may cause bruising

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've been on cortisone and Imuran for five years because of chronic hepatitis. I've noticed black and blue marks all over my arms. Is the medicine to blame?

DEAR READER: Probably.

Chronic hepatitis is defined as liver inflammation that lasts more than six months. It is further subdivided into two classes:

Chronic persistent hepatitis is benign, ordinarily follows acute hepatitis, rarely causes symptoms and needs no treatment.

Chronic active hepatitis, on the other hand, is serious. It is thought to be due to an inefficient immune response to the hepatitis B or hepatitis C viruses. In addition, some medications — including methyldopa (for hypertension), isoniazid (for tuberculosis) and "statin" drugs (for high cholesterol levels) — are associated with chronic hepatitis.

This ailment can progress to cirrhosis (liver scarring) or hepatic failure. Diagnosis is made by liver biopsy. Treatment includes cortisone and immune-suppressing medicine, such as Imuran, to reduce liver inflammation and retard hepatic damage.

Unfortunately, these medications also affect tissues other than the liver. In particular, blood clotting may be impeded. Therefore, patients taking cortisone and/or Imuran tend to bleed readily and bruise easily.

I suspect that your black-and-blue marks are drug-related. However, the liver, too, plays a role in blood coagulation, so if your liver is malfunctioning, your clotting may be compromised by liver disease, irrespective of the therapy.

You seem to be under the care of a physician well-versed in the treatment of chronic hepatitis. I suggest that you ask him or her about your bruising. Clearly, this issue should be addressed before you develop a serious clotting deficiency, regardless of cause. To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report, "Blood — Donations and Disorders." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Although my husband is easily aroused, he grabs his abdomen and complains of severe pain when he ejaculates. He has had tests but nothing shows up.

DEAR READER: Indeed, your husband's pain is unusual and I am unable to give you a logical explanation for it. Clearly, the problem involves his reproductive tract. Therefore, he should see a urologist. If such a specialist is at a loss, I suggest that your husband request a consultation in a urology clinic at a teaching hospital. Surely, every resource should be examined to help him find relief.

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Snyder Daily News

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Interest hikes slow home sales

WASHINGTON (AP) — New-home sales plunged by 4.2 percent in January as higher mortgage rates cut into demand. Electronic retail sales of goods exceeded $5 billion at the end of 1999.

Americans purchased new single-family homes at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 882,000, the lowest level since March 1999, the Commerce Department said today. The drop was bigger than the 1.1 percent decline many analysts were forecasting. In December, new-home sales rose 4 percent.

Commerce said online retail sales totaled an unadjusted $5.3 billion in the fourth quarter but still accounted for only 0.6 percent of the $821.2 billion in total retail sales during that period.

In a bow to the growing importance of this segment of the economy, the government today made its first formal stand-alone estimate of quarterly sales of goods and services over the Internet and other online systems. The government's monthly reports on retail sales nationwide include online sales but they aren't listed separately.

First-quarter electronic commerce sales will be released in May.

Stock prices were higher today in the first hour of trading. The Dow Jones blue-chip average was up 60 points and Nasdaq added 20. Yields on 30-year Treasury bonds rose to 6.17 percent from 6.15 percent late Wednesday.

Like the monthly retail sales report, the online sales statistic is based on a wide range of businesses selling everything from clothing and books to cars and furniture. But the statistic does not include sales from online travel services, financial services and ticket sales for things like music concerts. Neither does the monthly retail report include these services.

Private analysts say that online sales remain a small portion of total retail sales. In 1998, online retail sales accounted for 0.5 percent of all sales and were projected to account for 1.2 percent for all of 1999.

This past holiday season was a huge success for Internet retailers, which enticed new shoppers with aggressive advertising, private analysts have noted.

With plentiful jobs, rising incomes and stock market gains, Americans have been in the mood to spend.

The Federal Reserve boosted interest rates four times since June by a full percentage point, making borrowing more expensive for consumers and businesses. The central bank bumped up rates in an effort to slow the red-hot economy and keep inflation from escalating.

Despite higher rates, the economy continues to roar ahead. Given that, most economists believe the Fed will raise rates again on March 21.

The Conference Board said its Index of Leading Economic Indicators rose a solid 0.3 percent in January to yet another record high, signaling that the nation's record economic expansion will continue well into the year.

And, the Labor Department said the number of Americans filing new claims for unemployment benefits rose by 6,000 to 275,000 last week. That still left claims in a range suggesting that employers are having trouble finding qualified workers.

The upswing in mortgage rates took their toll on new-home sales in January. The average rate on a 30-year fixed-rate mortgage was 8.21 percent in January, compared with 7.91 percent in December.

New-home sales were down in all parts of the country except for the Northeast, where they rose.

Sales in the Midwest took the biggest plunge, falling 8.7 percent.

State department called 'top heavy'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the Senate Appropriations Committee complained today that the State Department is top-heavy with senior policymakers far in excess of normal needs.

The Justice Department, which is larger, operates with fewer senior officials, Sen. Ted Stevens, R-Alaska, told Secretary of State Madeleine Albright at a subcommittee hearing on the Clinton administration's request for $23.7 billion for foreign policy operations in 2001.

"That has a lot to do with the funding problems of your department," Stevens said.

While Albright and other administration officials say the money spent on foreign operations is only a tiny fraction of overall spending, various parts of the budget have come under attack on Capitol Hill.

On Wednesday, for instance, Rep. Harold Rogers, R-Ky., chairman of the House Appropriations subcommittee that oversees the State Department budget, said the $739 million requested for peacekeeping operations would fund missions "which seem to offer little hope for success."

The administration is seeking a 220 percent increase, he said. Rogers told Albright "You all seem to have Mae West's view of things: 'Too much of a good thing is simply wonderful,'" he said.

Stevens lodged his complaint softly. He said the proliferation of assistant secretaries of state and other senior posts "is something we should look at and not get into a political wrangle about."

Albright assured him there was an ongoing review at the department. She also defended the bureaucracy, noting there are 187 countries in the United Nations. "This is a large world and we need officers capable of dealing with these countries," she said.

Albright said, "We often don't have enough foreign service officers to do the job."

Money laundering target of request by White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Clinton administration will ask Congress for new powers to combat money laundering, including the authority to ban financial transactions between U.S. banks and brokerage firms and offshore financial havens, a Treasury Department official said today.

The administration is seeking to tighten anti-money-laundering laws in an effort to stanch the flow of billions of dollars from drug-trafficking and other criminal activities through the U.S. financial system. Money laundering came under the public spotlight last summer, when federal authorities said the Bank of New York, one of the country's largest banks, had served as a conduit for about $7 billion in Russian money, some of it believed to be from criminal activities.

Treasury Secretary Lawrence Summers was outlining the proposed legislation in a speech to bankers today, the Treasury official said, confirming a report in today's New York Times. The official spoke on condition of anonymity.

Russia, Colombia and Nigeria are among the biggest sources of illicit money, according to the speech Summers was expected to deliver. The Caribbean islands of Dominica and Antigua, and Nauru in the South Pacific are named as among the leading destinations for such funds.

Some industry experts said it was highly unusual for a Treasury secretary to publicly name specific countries as sources of illicit money and money-laundering centers.

Russia, Colombia, Antigua and Nauru are working with the United States to tighten their financial laws, Summers was expected to say.

Among other things, Treasury wants the power to ask American companies to collect data on all kinds of transactions with an offshore bank or financial company.

In cases where foreign governments shield banks from investigation, the department wants the authority to cut them off from the U.S. financial system without seeking congressional approval.

Treasury officials have already begun informing U.S. banks of foreign banks or nations that repeatedly refuse to abide by generally accepted standards to protect against money laundering.

In September, Treasury unveiled its first national money-laundering strategy, a package of proposed new laws and rules that include requirements that storefront check cashers, brokerage firms and casinos notify authorities of suspicious activities the way banks are required to do.

That package and the proposals outlined by Summers today will be submitted to Congress in the coming weeks.

Despite its many variations, experts say money laundering always basically works in a three-step cycle: moving illicit money, such as drug- trafficking profits, away from direct association with crimes; disguising the money trail; and making the money available to the criminals again with its illegal origins hidden.

Obituraries

Annita Murry

1934-2000

NATCHITOCHES, La.- Annita Frances Head Murry, a native of Snyder, died Feb. 23 in Natchitoches at the age of 65.



Annita Murry

A memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. Saturday in the Grand Ecore Road Church of Christ in Natchitoches.

Born April 29, 1934 in Snyder to Vernie Melvin Head and Emilie Lopour Head, Mrs. Murry was the last living member of this family.

She was preceded in death by her father in 1986; her mother in 1981; a sister, Emma Vernell Bullard, in 1960; and a brother, Melvin Darrell Head, in 1981.

She married Ernest E. Murry of Colfax, La., on Dec. 22, 1950. While living in Gillette, Wyo., she and her husband in 1975 established Home Appliance and operated it until 1990 when they moved to Louisiana.

At age 57, she returned to school, earned her GED and then qualified for a real estate sales license, a broker's license and then an appraiser's license. In 1996, she opened Murry's Realty.

A member of the Church of Christ, she was active in the distribution of Bibles to Russia, to hospitals and nursing homes.

Survivors include her husband, Ernest Murry of Natchitoches; a daughter, Susan Dianne Just of Greeley, Colo.; two sons, Gary Brandon Murry of Greeley and Ernest E. Murry Jr. of San Marcos; and six grandchildren.

Mr. Rodriquez

1979-2000

Cornelius Rodriquez, a former Snyder resident, died Tuesday, Feb. 22, in University Medical Center in Loma Linda, Calif., from injuries sustained in a snow boarding accident.

Funeral service for Mr. Ridriquez, 20, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Lionzo Soria, Church of Christ minister from Phoenix, Ariz., will officiate. Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery.

Born Dec. 7, 1979 in Snyder, Mr. Rodriquez had been a resident of Twentynine Palms, Calif. for the past 15 years.

Survivors include his mother, Amanda Hernandez of Snyder; his father, Frank Rodriquez of Twentynine Palms; six sisters, Crystal Rodriquez and Laurie Ann White, both of Snyder, Isabel Rodriquez, Raquel Rodriquez, Rosa Linda Rodriquez and Amelinda Rodriquez, all of Twentynine Palms; three brothers, Frank Rodriquez Jr., Fernando Rodriquez and Mauricio Rodriquez, all of Twentynine Palms; and a step brother, Michael Hernandez of Snyder.

Warrants land three into custody

Outstanding warrants sent three people to jail Wednesday while a fourth was jailed for driving with a suspended license.

Deputies arrested a 49-year-old male at 6:42 p.m. at the California Apartments on a misdemeanor warrant for motion to revoke probation.

At 7:27 p.m., deputies booked a 47-year-old female into jail on a misdemeanor warrant for motion to revoke probation.

Department of Public Safety troopers arrested a 42-year-old female at 9:52 p.m. on U.S. Hwy. 84 for driving while license suspended.

Warrants for no liability insurance and failure to appear landed a 36-year-old woman in jail. Officers arrested her at 10:37 p.m. in the 100 block of Avenue R.

No offense reports were filed Wednesday.

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Snyder Junior High musical

"Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" will be presented at 7 p.m. today, Friday, Saturday and Monday. Tickets are on sale now at the school.

WTC to present 'Odd Couple'

Western Texas College's Drama Department will present "The Odd Couple" (Unabridged) by Neil Simon as a dinner theatre at 6 p.m. Friday, Saturday and Sunday in the college cafeteria. Tickets are $15 for adults; students and senior citizens 62 and older are $13. A $2 discount for prepaid tickets is also available.

Ira holiday Friday

Friday is a student holiday for Ira students. Classes will release early, at 2:30 p.m. Thursday, and classes will resume on Monday.

Talent show

The Boys and Girls Club will present Star Search 2000, a talent show for ages 8-12 Friday.

Kiwanis pancake feast

Then annual Kiwanis Club pancake feast will be held from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at West Elementary cafeteria. Tickets are $4 each and children under six may eat free.

New Hope fish fry

New Hope Baptist Church, 3305 Ave. L, will host a fish fry starting at 11 a.m. Saturday. Cost for the complete meal is $6 for adults and $3.50 for age 11 and under.

Girl Scout cookie sale

Brownie Troop 150 will have a cookie booth at United on Saturday from 10 a.m. until 3 p.m.

Fluvanna homecoming committee

The Fluvanna homecoming planning committee will meet at 6:30 p.m. Monday in the Fluvanna Community Center.

Hermleigh pancake supper

The Hermleigh Masonic Lodge will host the annual pancake supper from 6-8 p.m. Monday in the Hermleigh school cafeteria in conjunction with Public School Week.

Central 50th anniversary

Central Elementary will host a 50-year celebration program at 9 a.m. Tuesday in the school auditorium. All former central employees are invited.

Parent education class

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

Northeast parent council

The Northeast Elementary parent council will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the school auditorium.

Golden Apple banquet

The Snyder ISD Golden Apple awards banquet will be held at 7 p.m. next Thursday at Snyder Country Club. School volunteers will be recognized, and featured speaker will be Riney Jordan of Hamilton.

Snyder Wheels car show

The Snyder Wheels annual car show and swap meet will be held March 10-11 at the Scurry County Coliseum. The swap meet will be held both days, while the car show is March 11 from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. For more information call 573-2171 or 573-3188.

Fish fry

St. Elizabeth Catholic Church will sponsor a fish fry from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Friday, March 10, in the parish center at 30th and Ave. A. Tickets are $6 per person and $4 for children 6-12. Tickets are available at the door and proceeds will benefit the Men's and Women's Association scholarship fund.

WTC basic education classes

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

Windbreak trees

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

WTC planetarium shows

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

Snyder Neighbors Sharing

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

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Pick 3

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

6-8-4

Lotto Texas

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

The numbers drawn Wednesday from a field of 50 were:

29-37-41-42-45-50.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $7 million.

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