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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Thursday
Aug. 28, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 103
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Shirley Fritz



EARLY VOTING – Shirley Gregory, left, Scurry County chief deputy clerk, and Magali Bernal, deputy clerk, prepare booths for early voting on 22 constitutional amendments, which began today and will continue through Sept. 9. Election day is Sept. 13. (SDN Staff Photo)

Confusion exists over pay cuts at Cogdell

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

It wasn't action items that highlighted this morning's Cogdell Memorial Hospital board meeting, but a closed-door session that immediately followed.

As the regular board meeting concluded, board chairman Carl Williams, board member Terry Williams, chief financial officer Jared Squires, CEO George Parsley, Covenant Health Services representative Jim Bullard, and County Judge Rod Waller immediately went into Parsley's office and closed the door.

The group apparently was talking about a three-percent pay cut for the remainder of the year discussed among hospital department heads that has not materialized. The board chairman had implied it had in his opening remarks.

Addressing the board and hospital department heads as this morning's meeting got underway, Williams expressed his appreciation to the department heads for their dedication and loyalty to the hospital, and he specifically wanted to address their voluntary three-percent salary cut for the remainder of the year.

Following Williams' comments, Parsley said he was not advocating the salary cuts.

And after the impromptu meeting, Parsley said he felt asking the department managers to take a cut was unfair to them.

"The department managers on the lower end would be really hurt," Parsley said.

"It's not fair, and its not fair play," the CEO emphasized.

Director of Nurses Cheryl Chance expressed her feelings about talked-about-pay cuts even stronger.

"The county is getting a pay raise of 3.5 percent, and we're being asked to take a three-percent cut...that hurts," Chance said.

Parsley flatly said the pay cut had not happened.

And he said if the pay cut had materialized, it would mean a savings of only $11,000.

"We're looking elsewhere to save that money," Parsley said. "We're doing a zillion things."

Parsley also said there was widespread opposition among the department managers about the suggested salary cuts.

The proposal for the cuts did not come from the hospital administration or the board, but from a meeting from a small number of department managers.

In an interview in July, Parsley stated that the hospital could not balance its budget on the backs of its employees.

The hospital is facing a cash-flow problem and it needed an influx of $300,000 from the county last week to help it meet is financial obligations.

In this morning's financial report, Squires said the hospital collected over $500,000 in outstanding debt last week.

"Our collection office is working overtime and has done a good job," Squires said.

Squires added that he felt the hospital would collect around $1.3 million this month — the second best month of the year.

Obviously, finances were a large part of this morning's meeting and budget watchdog Dink Foree continued to question Squires and Parsley on that aspect of hospital operations.

Foree said he had received a number of calls concerning people getting bills 8 to 12 months late.

"Evidently, we're not sending the bills out," Foree said.

Parsley said some billing waits until Medicare or Medicaid pays their amount, or the insurance payment comes in.

"If you will get me specific instances, we'll look into each individual case," said Parsley.

Foree also questioned if suppliers had been contacted to cut their costs while the hospital is in its budget crunch.

Parsley said he had talked to all suppliers about renegotiating contracts, even down to the copier's maintenance contract.

In action items, the board approved two policies related to medical care, and the monthly financial statements.

Carl Williams presided at the meeting and board members present were Foree, Terry Williams and Bo Robinson. Bill Voss and Charles Church were absent.

Museum fundraiser...

Taste of Scurry County tonight

The seventh annual Taste of Scurry County, the annual fundraiser to benefit the Scurry County Museum, begins at 6:30 this evening at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center.

Jerry Baird and Kerry Clay will cook the meat. Scurry County cooks will provide salads, desserts and breads.

Grady Morris will conduct a live auction beginning at 7:15 p.m. Some of the auction items include a Shane Christensen porcelain vase, a Paul Hudgins watercolor, a bed and breakfast retreat in Lubbock, as well as tickets to several productions, and two limited edition porcelain Barbie Collectibles created by Bob Mackie.

Sept. 10 on budget...

Appraisal district sets hearing

The Scurry County Appraisal District board of directors set Sept. 10 as the date for a public hearing on the proposed 2004 budget.

The proposed budget for next year is $625,433. That is a 3.35 percent increase over the current spending plan of $605,173.

Of that proposal, $17,636 is for expenses being transferred from the collections department. The appraisal office is also requesting a 2.5 percent across-the-board raise for employees.

Thomas Y. Pickett and Co. CEO J.E. Martin came before the board and discussed an increase in fees by $5,500 due to inflation, wind generator appraisals and overlapping property appraisals. Pickett is contracted to make mineral valuation for the county.

A collection report given by chief appraiser Larry Crooks showed that 96.9 percent of taxes owed in Hermleigh and 98.2 percent of taxes owed in Ira had been collected as of the end of July. As of Sept. 1, all tax collections will be consolidated to the Scurry County tax office. Crooks said he thinks it will be more effective and cost efficient.

Crooks gave an overview of new legislation that will affect appraisal operations. "Senate bill 340 puts more teeth into the rendition law," he said. The new law penalizes business owners who don't report inventory and property. Until now, there has not been a fine for failing to render. Other laws that affect overlapping districts and reforms in property value studies were also mentioned.

A 2002 audit of maintenance and operations expenses was reviewed as well as bills payable for February through July. Administrative secretary Lisa West pointed out $3,685 that was used to update 11 computers in the office. "That was a one time deal," she said.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved and there was no public comment on the activities of the appraisal district.

Chairman Harold Lacik presided over the meeting and all members were present to include Joe Flowers, David Beaver, Fred Cross and Donald Tate.

Labor Day will be holiday for many

The Labor Day holiday on Monday will prompt numerous closings in Snyder.

Financial institutions will be closed — including American State Bank, First American Bank, Snyder National Bank, West Texas State Bank, and Texas Savings Bank.

Area schools — including Snyder, Ira, Hermleigh and Western Texas College — will also observe the holiday.

The Scurry County Museum will be closed Saturday, Sunday and Monday.

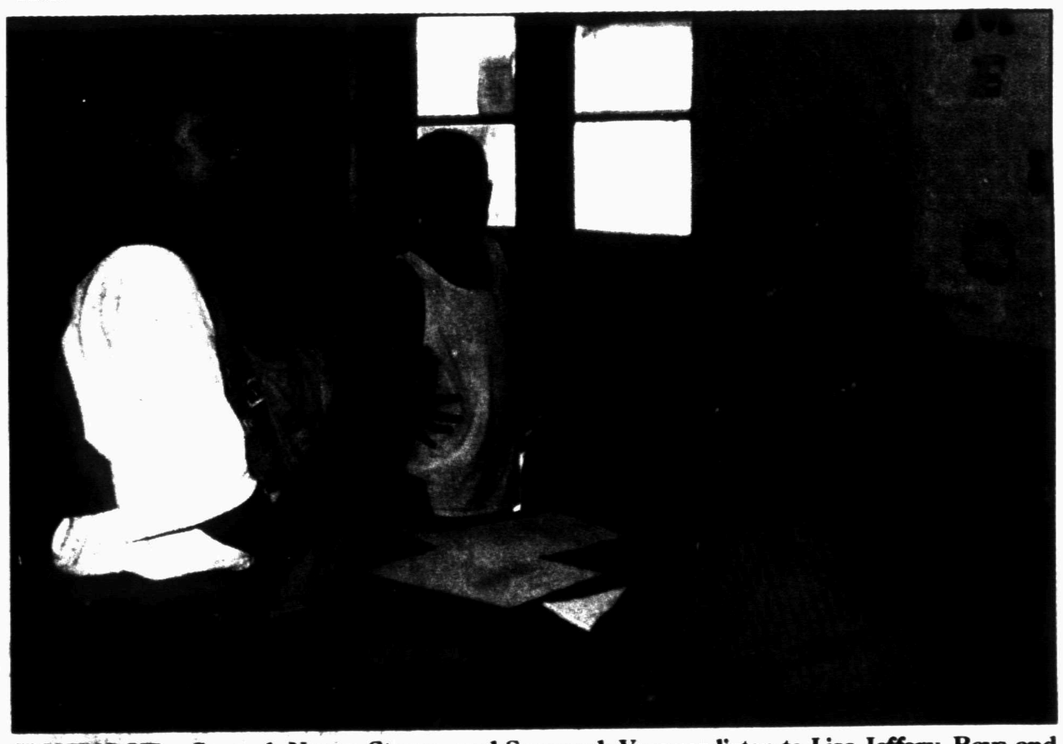
The Scurry County library will be closed Saturday and Monday.

City and county employees also will receive a day off Monday as city hall and the courthouse will close.

The city landfill will be closed Saturday, but will be open on Monday.

Both local golf courses will remain open for the holiday.

No mail will be delivered or put in post office boxes on Monday.



SIGNING UP – Samuel, Nancy, Steven, and Savannah Vasquez listen to Lisa Jeffery, Boys and Girls Club program director, as she explains how to enroll for flag football, volleyball and cheerleading programs. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Leslie Schmidt



In 1920, Grandpa moved from northeast Texas to West Texas. He farmed cotton for his granddad and in payment was given use of a five-acre plot of land for his own crop. He was also furnished a house and two mules.

Great granddad had 14 children, and they worked the 640 acres of land that he owned and it required about 25 mules to farm the land.

Grandpa and his uncles had to harness the mules every morning after they were fed, but the mules would be hard to catch since they knew they would be working in the field all day, sun up to sun down.

One particular mule named Buck was especially mean and would bite and kick.

Uncle Guy lost patience with the mule one morning when he couldn't catch him. The mule just kept running circles in the lot and Guy got madder and madder. Buck ran in the barn, and Guy picked up a two-by-four. "I want you to shut the door behind me and don't open it," Guy told Uncle Claude. "I'm going to kill that mule."

Guy lumbered off into the barn and Claude shut the door like he was told. There commenced to be so much racket and carrying on that everyone was sure Buck was going to mule heaven. After a few minutes, Guy began to yell, "Open the door! Open the door! Open the door!"

They opened it and Buck shot out, running full-tilt. He knocked down the corral fence and headed out for the next county.

Guy didn't follow the mule out. Everyone crowded around the barn door, but they still didn't see Guy. Finally, they looked up when they heard groaning and saw that he was up in the rafters of the barn. He was bruised and cut up from the fight Buck had given him.

Grandpa said everyone was laughing as they helped him back to the ground. For a long time after that, everyone would ask Guy, "Why didn't you kill Buck?" or "When are you going to kill Buck?"

Sometimes the mule is the best man.

Grandpa and Great Granddad eventually had a falling out and Grandpa went and rented his own farm down on Rough Creek. Even though the two men were supposed to be mad at each other, Grandpa would borrow money from Great Granddad when he would see him in town.

"I suppose you need some cash," Great Granddad would growl when he saw Grandpa walk up, and then hand over five dollars or so to him.

Family had to stay close back then, even if they were mad at each other. You never knew when you might need someone to help you out on the farm.

ASK US

Q—When does the city-county shared services agreement expire?
A—Sept. 14.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Abel DeLoera...

...has lived in Snyder since January. 2002. He and his wife, Sherry, moved here after he retired from the Army with 21 years of service. They own DeLoera Realty, where they also work as realtors. They have five children, Chancey, 25, Scott, 22, Megan, 14, Aaron, 12, and Angela, 9.

Hobbies include golfing and playing guitar.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Worry gives a small thing a big shadow.
— Swedish Proverb

AUG 28 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Mt. Olive revival

Mt. Olive Baptist Church, 3306 Ave. N, is holding a ~~revival at~~ 7:30 p.m. each day this week. Speaker is I.L. Patrick of Pampa.

Central K-3rd parent orientation

Central Elementary Parent Orientation Night for K-3rd grade parents will be from 7-8:30 p.m. tonight. Childcare will be provided for all students and smaller siblings.

Hermleigh FFA hamburger fry

Hermleigh FFA will have a meet and greet hamburger fry at 6 p.m. today in the ag shop.

SHS football program ads

The deadline for placing ads in the Tigers football program is Friday. For more information, or for an ad, call Christy Smith at 573-6301.

Girl Scout registration rally

Girl Scouts will have a registration rally from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday at the Girl Scout Hut, 2501 35th. It is for ages four through 12th grade. Cost is $20. Bring shot records. For more information call 573-7556.

Landfill to close

The Snyder landfill will close Saturday and reopen on Monday, Labor Day.

Library to close

Scurry County Library will be closed Saturday and Monday and will reopen Tuesday.

Northside Baptist guest speaker

Brandon Davis, in celebration of Youth Sunday, will present a message, "Bad Boys of the Bible," at 7 p.m. Sunday at Northside Baptist Church. Davis is the Missionary Baptist Student Fellowship director of the Quaker Ave. Baptist Church in Lubbock.

VFW Auxiliary to meet

The VFW Auxiliary Post 8231 will meet at 7 p.m. Monday at the post home. Members are asked to attend.

Stanfield Parent Council

The Stanfield Parent Council will meet at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the teachers lounge.

Early childhood intervention screening

Free early childhood intervention screenings will be held Wednesday. To register or ask questions, call 573-7403. Call before 11 a.m. Tuesday. ECI provides services at no cost for children up to three years of age with delays or disabilities. All income levels are eligible.

Women's ministry

A Women's Ministry Class will begin at 6 p.m. Wednesday at Thee Place, 904 26th St. During the month of September, Kathy Troccoli's *Hope For A Woman's Heart*, will be presented. For more information, contact Melissa Petty at 573-0455.

Gifted, talented advisory committee

There will be a meeting of the gifted and talented parent-community advisory committee from 6-8 p.m. on next Thursday in the SJHS auditorium. Call 574-6078 for more information.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception in honor of Janie Sullenger will be held from 1 to 3 p.m. Friday, Sept. 5, at Snyder National Bank.

Women's ministry video class

The Women's Ministry of Colonial Hill Baptist Church will present Kathy Troccoli's four-week video series, "Hope for a Woman's Heart." Sunday and Monday session will be held beginning at 4:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 7, or 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 8, in the Adult 5 classroom at the church. Classes will be led by Trina Rodgers and Betty Thompson. For more information, call 573-8596.

Tiger Pride card

Snyder Junior High is selling Tiger Pride cards through Sept. 8. Cost is $10. Contact any student or call the office at 573-6356.

Drivers license office

Due to vacation, the drivers license office will close at noon on Tuesday, Sept. 9, and will reopen on Wednesday, Sept. 17.

Lord's Acre fish fry

First United Methodist Church's Lord's Acre fish fry is at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 9, in Wesley Hall. Tickets are $7 for adults and $3 for children under 10. Tickets are on sale now and take-outs will be available.

SCA demonstration

The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) will hold a demonstration in Snyder on Saturday, Sept. 13. SCA is a non-profit group striving to recreate the Middle Ages with historical accuracy. Call 574-8019 for more information.

1950s dance contest

A '50s dance contest will be held Saturday, Oct. 11, in conjunction with the White Buffalo Festival. Judging for the $100 prize will be 50% costume and 50% dance skills. The White Buffalo Committee also solicits 1950s'yearbooks for the display. For more information call Jackie at the coliseum at 573-9811.

SHS student council Tiger T-shirts

The SHS student council has Tiger T-shirts, youth and adult sizes, day planners, book socks and lanyards for sale. Contact Christy Smith at the high school at 573-6301.

Pick up Tiger's Lair

The Tiger's Lair yearbook can be picked up at Snyder High School, in Room 229, the journalism room, before and after school. Students or parents need to bring the receipts.

Bob Hope eulogized as legendary figure

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A memorial Mass celebrating the life of legendary entertainer Bob Hope drew some 900 guests, including politicians, generals and Hollywood stars who remembered the comedian for his humor and as "probably the greatest entertainer of our century."

Outside church Wednesday before the Mass, actress Barbara Eden said her memories of Hope were "happiness and laughter" along with the image of him hitting golf balls off decks of aircraft carriers on USO tours.

Hope entertained Americans through vaudeville, radio, movies and television, and boosted the morale of U.S. soldiers over 50 years of wars. He died July 27 at age 100 and was entombed at San Fernando Mission Cemetery on July 30.

From actress Loni Anderson's perspective, he was a giant.

"He was so special because he gave so much to everyone besides his humor," said Anderson. "We've lost a giant, probably the greatest entertainer of our century."

Roman Catholic Cardinal Roger M. Mahony presided over the Mass at St. Charles Borromeo Church in North Hollywood. Mourners included Hope's widow, Dolores, former President Gerald Ford and his wife, Betty, former first lady Nancy Reagan, U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein and Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

"He knew how to use laughter to bring us joy," Mahony told mourners.

Mahony said Hope was often at St. Charles to help raise money for a school and other facilities, and the cardinal said he urged the comedian, who was raised Episcopalian, to become a Catholic. He said Hope replied: "I don't need to be a Catholic — Dolores does enough praying for both of us."

The service began with an honor guard bearing the flags of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines and Coast Guard, representing the service men and women Hope entertained during his many USO tours.

A portrait of Hope in his later years stood near the altar.

"He was one of the truly legendary figures of the 20th century," Feinstein said in her eulogy.

She reminded the audience of a telegram from Hope which Harry Truman kept under the glass of his Oval Office desk after his surprise victory over Thomas Dewey in the 1948 presidential race. The telegram contained one word: "Unpack."

"Vietnam was not a popular war with a lot of people," Myers said in his eulogy, "but Bob always stood by the service men and women despite the vituperation he received from anti-war demonstrators."

Other guests included Mickey Rooney, Hal Holbrook, Raquel Welch, Marie Osmond, Phyllis Diller, Ed McMahon, Norm Crosby, retired Gen. William Westmoreland, former California Gov. Pete Wilson, and businessman Lee Iacocca.

The service ended with a Marine bugler playing "Taps" and a choir softly humming "Thanks for the Memory," Hope's theme song.

Report: More terrorism info should be shared

WASHINGTON (AP) — State and city government officials don't think the federal government tells them enough about terrorist threats, congressional investigators said in a report released Wednesday.

The General Accounting Office said that while steps have been taken to improve the way governments share information to prevent terrorism, many of the initiatives were put in place by states and cities and not necessarily coordinated with federal agencies.

None of the three levels of government surveyed thought the system was effective, the GAO found. Information on threats, methods and techniques of terrorists is not routinely offered, and the information that is given is often not timely, accurate or relevant, the report said.

GAO surveyed 16 federal intelligence and law enforcement agencies; 40 state homeland security offices; and 228 cities. The review was done between June 2002 and May of this year.

Federal officials said in their defense that they could not give away too much because state and city officials might disclose classified information and might not have security clearance.

They also said passing on information quickly is hampered by the lack of integrated databases with local governments.

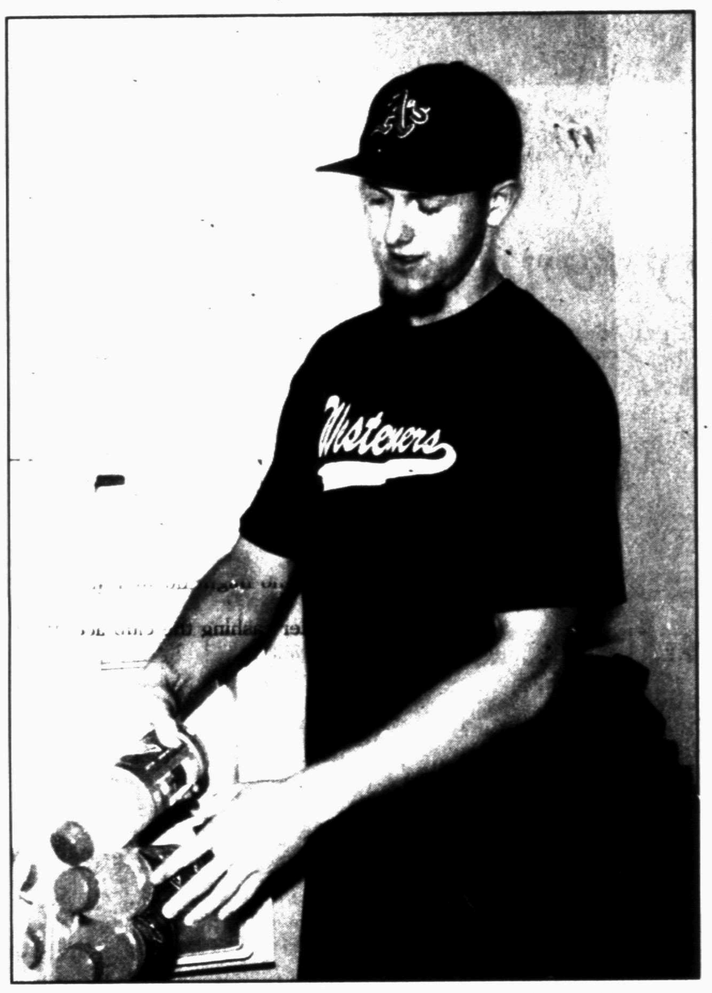
The Homeland Security Department says it is trying to do a better job of sharing information and is introducing a number of steps before the end of the year to coordinate communications among federal agencies and with local governments.

Only 13 percent of federal government respondents reported that sharing information with states and cities was effective or very effective.

And of the 40 states that responded, only 35 percent reported that sharing information with the federal government was effective or very effective.

The GAO found:

—Agencies at no level of government were satisfied that they receive enough information. Indeed, officials said they are hearing less than half of what they need to know. Only 15 percent of large cities said they were getting necessary information on the movement of known terrorists.



STOCKING UP — Chase Gilbert of Odessa stocks up his refrigerator in his dorm room at Western Texas College. Gilbert plays centerfield for the Westerners baseball team and is a business major. (SDN Staff Photo)

Date Book

Thursday, Aug. 28, 2003

Today is the 240th day of 2003 and the 69th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1938, the Northwestern University School of Speech awarded the first college degree to a ventriloquist's dummy, Charlie McCarthy.

On this day in 1957, Sen. Strom Thurmond began a 24-hour filibuster against the civil rights bill.

On this day in 1963, Martin Luther King, Jr. made his "I have a dream" speech from the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, D.C.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Johann Wolfgang von Goethe (1749-1832), author; Jack Kirby (1917-1994), artist; Shania Twain (1965-), singer, is 38; Billy Boyd (1968-), actor, is 35.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1983, Joseph Kreckman set the record for clay pigeons shot in an hour with 2,215.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "'Know thyself? If I knew myself, I'd run away." — Johann Wolfgang von Goethe

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Aug. 27) and first quarter (Sept. 3).

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The Following
Financial Institutions Will Be
Closed Monday, Sept. 1
In Observance Of
LABOR DAY



Please Transact Your Business Accordingly
Texas Savings Bank
West Texas State Bank
Snyder National Bank

events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Wednesday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 14-18-33-34-37. Bonus Ball: 4.

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

Number matching five of five: 4. Prize: $6,888.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 13. Prize: $1,923.

Number matching four of five: 438. Prize: $123.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 408. Prize: $117.

Number matching three of five: 17,890. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 5,220. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 24,424. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: $6 million.

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 2-13-22-31-36.

Number matching five of five: 0.

Prize per winner: $0.

Matching four of five: 129. Prize: $500.

Matching three of five: 3,935. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 41,584. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 5-9-0
(Night) 1-4-0

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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Lifestyles





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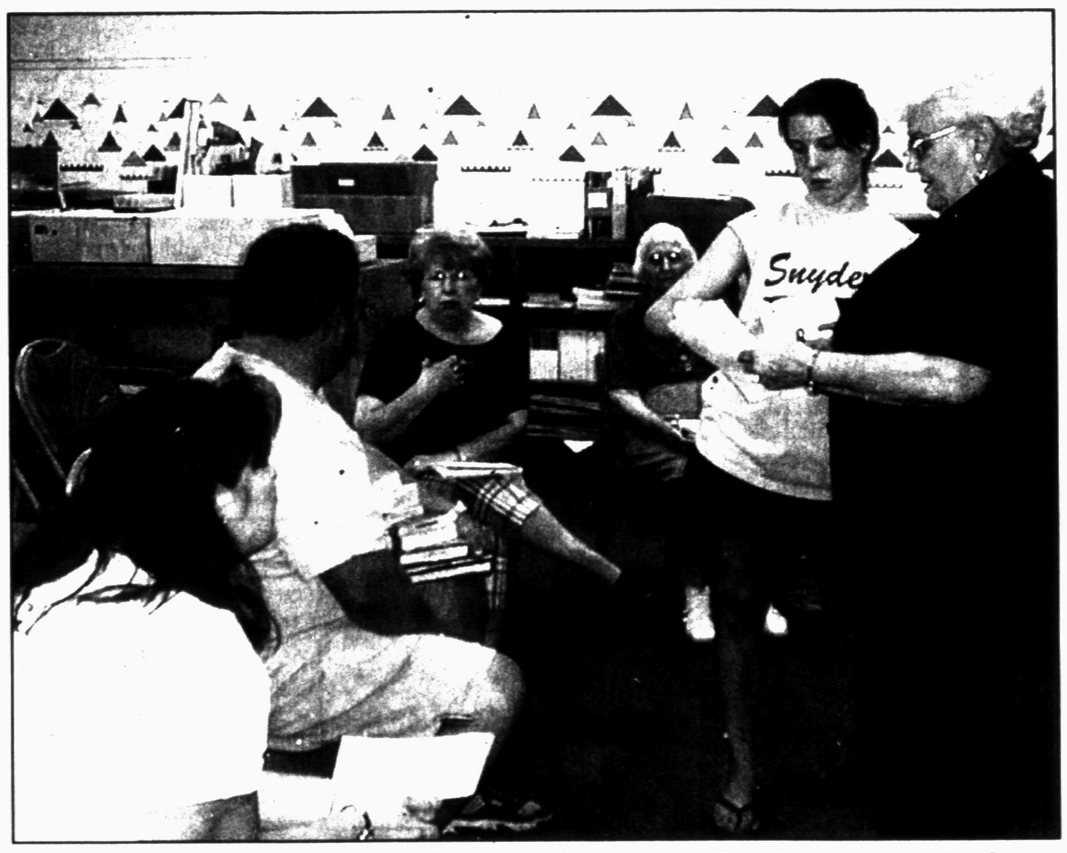
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GENEALOGICAL MEETING — The Genealogical Society met Tuesday evening at the Scurry County Library. Officers include (from left, top photo) Joanne Sterling, president; Dot Campbell, vice president; Doris Steadman, second vice president; Shirley Pate, recording secretary; Ruby Gregory, treasurer; and not pictured, Frances Gruben, corresponding secretary. During the meeting, members gave research tips to Ashley Pavlovsky who had gone to the library for help in finding her ancestors. From left are Lori and Donny Pavlovky, Jo Thrower, Dot Campbell, Ashley and Joanne Sterling. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Formed in 1988...

Genealogical society observed 15th anniversary

The Scurry County Genealogical Society observed its 15 anniversary in June. The purpose of the society formed in June of 1988 is to encourage and further education in family research.

Trustees of the organization are Doris Byars, Dot Campbell, Bessie Merritt, Frances Pitner, Joanne Sterling and Jo Thrower.

SCGS meets at 7 p.m. the last Tuesday of each month (with the exception of December) in the Scurry County Library or a designated place.

SCGS publishes W*hite Buffalo Tales*, about 50 pages per issue, in April and October. It consists primarily of the records of Scurry County and includes help for research. Editors are Joanne Sterling, Jo Flynn, Dot Campbell and Frances Pitner. One copy per family is sent to members and it is available to non-members for $6.

Queries concerning genealogical questions for research are published in the *White Buffalo Tales* and non-members are welcome to submit queries at no charge. Contact Bessie Merritt if you need to post a query.

The SCGS exchanges publications with other societies in the U.S. Then many people will see your question and may give help on information being sought. Also, books relating to genealogy are reviewed at meetings and in the *White Buffalo Tales.*

Guests and members give programs on a variety of topics in family research. Some SCGS members spend many hours recording information from the courthouse, cemeteries and various other places. These are printed in the publication that can also be purchased in pamphlet form.

Current officers are Joanne Sterling, president; Dot Campbell, vice president; Doris Steadman, second vice president; Ruby Gregory, treasurer; Shirley Pate, recording secretary; and Frances Gruben, corresponding secretary.

Visitors and prospective new members are always welcome to the programs.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 08-28-03
♠ Q 7 5 3
♥ Q 10 7
♦ K 7 3
♣ K 6 2

West
♠ K 10 6 2
♥ K
♦ J 5
♣ A Q J 10 8 7

East
♠ A J 8
♥ J 5 4 2
♦ 9 6 2
♣ 9 4 3

South
♠ 9 4
♥ A 9 8 6 3
♦ A Q 10 8 4
♣ 5

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
		Pass	Pass
1 ♥	2 ♣	2 ♥	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♣ A

Thursday, Aug. 28, 2003

Quick bidding makes defense harder

By Phillip Alder

As I mentioned yesterday, the Open Team Trial, held last June in Memphis, Tenn., was won by Doug Doub - Adam Wildavsky, Steve Landen - Pratap Rajadhyaksha and Dan Morse - Bobby Wolff, with Ralph Cohen as their nonplaying captain. They will play in the Bermuda Bowl world team championship in Monte Carlo next November. The United States will have two teams competing, the second being Nick Nickell - Dick Freeman, Jeff Meckstroth - Eric Rodwell and Bob Hamman - Paul Soloway, who won the first trial last year. If these two teams meet, there will probably be some tension because Hamman and Wolff won six world titles as partners.

Doub made life hard for his opponents on this deal from the trial final.

Often when you have a two-suiter and find a fit in one suit, it is a good idea to show the other suit so that partner can decide what to do if the opponents bid higher. Here, though, Doub (South) felt that if he jumped straight to game, he had a good chance to silence the opposition, who might do well in a black suit.

After cashing the club ace, West continued with the club queen. (Given the auction, it is hard to find the vital spade shift.) Declarer won with dummy's club king and discarded one of his spade losers. The heart queen was run to West's king. South ruffed the next club, played a diamond to dummy's king, finessed the heart 10, played a heart to his nine, cashed the heart ace, and ran the diamonds for his contract.

At the other table, South made three hearts exactly after West did switch to spades at trick two.

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Beware of the half-truth. You may have gotten hold of the wrong half.

—Seymour Essrog



PIANIST FOR LIONS — Glyn Wright, SHS sophomore, plays the piano during Snyder Lions Club meetings held at noon every Tuesday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Wright and an eight-year piano student of Lynn Baldwin. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club at Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 8 p.m.

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

SATURDAY

NA-Just For Today open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-1438; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

Scurry County AA open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 10 a.m.

Scooter climbs Mount Washington

MOUNT WASHINGTON, N.H. (AP) — It took six sets of batteries and three drivers, but a Segway scooter made it to the top of New England's tallest peak.

The scooter climbed Mount Washington's auto road in about two and a half hours Wednesday.

The standup scooter, invented by Manchester's Dean Kamen and manufactured in Bedford, was the first Seway to make it to the top of the 6,288-foot mountain in 7.6 miles.

The average grade is 12 percent, and as much as 18 percent in some places. About a third of the road is unpaved.

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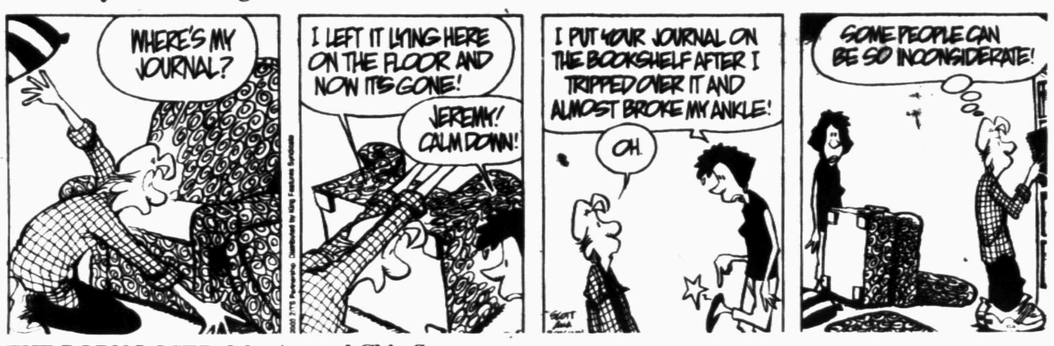
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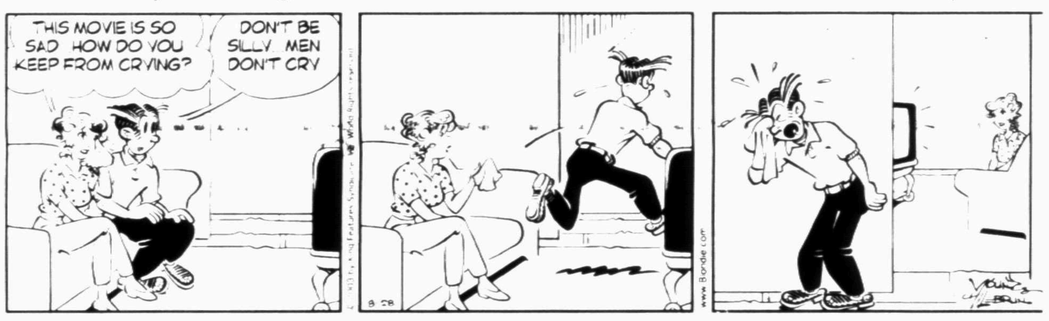
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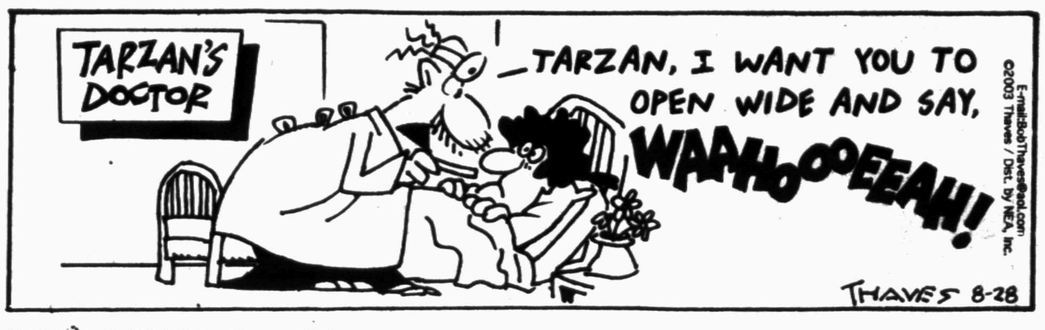
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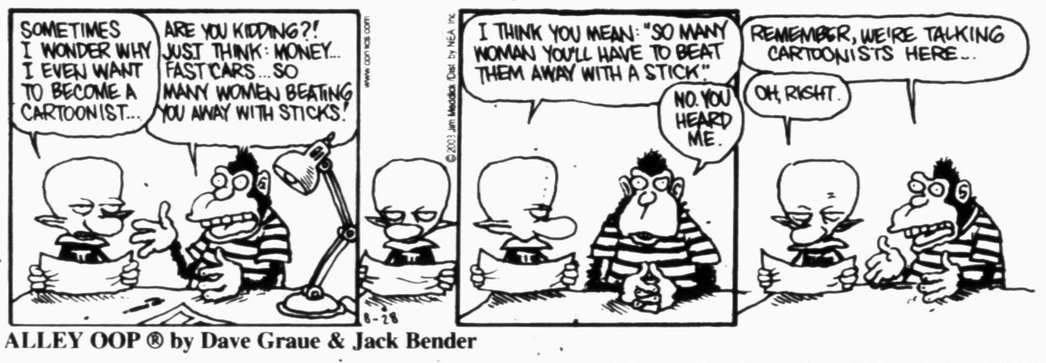
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Zodiac sign
6 Conceal
10 UFO crew
12 Team cheer
14 Stuffy scholar
15 Seinfeld pal
16 Lyrical
18 Upper atmosphere
19 Curious
21 Face-to-face exam
23 Dye container
24 Isaac Newton's title
26 Verne captain
29 — out (withdraw)
30 Mine yield
32 Klutz's cry
34 Not e'en once
36 Hockey goal
37 Part of UK
38 Tijuana Ms.
40 Old horse
42 Understood
43 Rewrite
45 Promise
47 1040 org.
50 Kidded around
52 Lebanese port
54 Nuclear
58 Perseus foe
59 Once and twice
60 Red ink
61 Uncanny

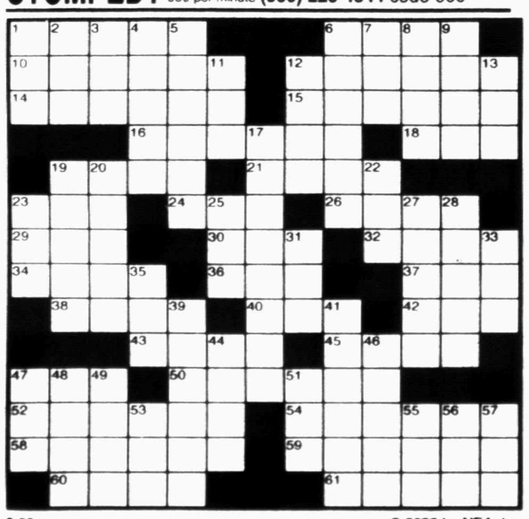
DOWN

1 Drink like Rover
2 Seine sight
3 Proposal
4 Harvests
5 Ticks off
6 Mr. Spock
7 Former NOW cause
8 Garden bloom
9 Thin
11 Fr. holy woman
12 Beneficiary
13 "Yo!"
17 Heavy rains
19 Collar sites
20 River mammal
22 Baseball's — Durocher
23 From, to Fritz
25 Charged particle
27 Clammy
28 Winfrey of talk shows
31 KLM datum
33 Fix a seam
35 Hwy.
39 Regulate
41 "Faust" creator
44 Whit
46 Delight in
47 "Big Blue"
48 Tall grass
49 Faction
51 Straw item
53 Cause a blister
55 Cosmonaut space lab
56 Here, in Cannes
57 Decent grade

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham





"I'll take another bottle of this aftershave."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



SPORTS

Snyder ready for clash with Frenship

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

So it begins.

With one successful campaign in Class 3A already in the books and amid community excitement and lofty expectations from the coaches and players, the Snyder Tigers prepare to commence the defense of their district trophy and look to take one more step towards playing in December.

After months of sweat and preparation, the Tigers will take the field at 7:30 Friday night in Wolfforth against a familiar opening round opponent, as they kick things off with the Frenship Tigers for the second year running.

"It's an exciting time," Snyder Tigers third-year head coach Chad Rogers said. "The unique thing about coaching is that each year you have a new beginning."

Rogers said the first game generally sets the tone for the season.

"The first game is always important," he said. "You lose it, and you have to fight to get to .500 and it takes at least three games to get over .500."

The Snyder squad features a few new faces at key positions this season, including senior Boicy Martinez as the caretaker of the wishbone and junior fullback Chad Brown, charged with making the bruising mid-line runs that make the wishbone effective.

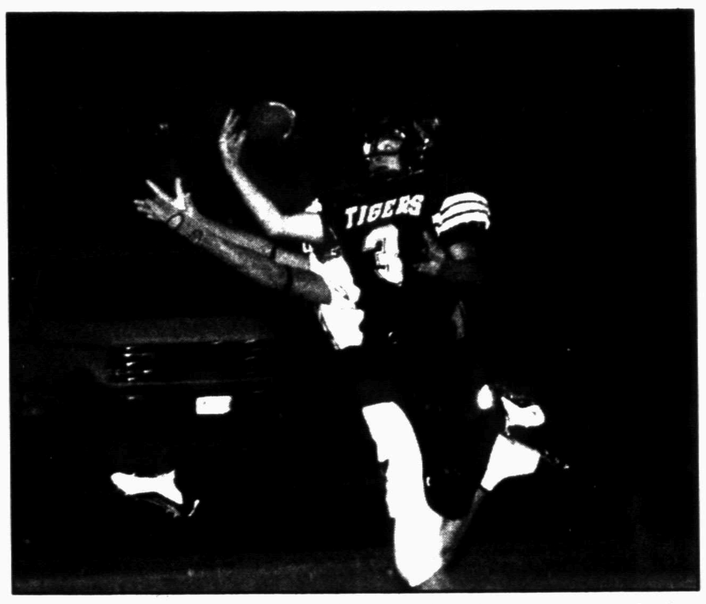
However, the Tigers return four of the five starters from last year's offensive line, and maintain a mix of upperclassmen and younger players on defense.

"This team wants to have its own identity," Rogers said. "They want to build off the foundation, but they do different things well."

Frenship, on the other hand, lost nine starters on offense — although lineman Chris Peeples is out for the opener — and nine on defense.

Gone are linebackers Josh Britton and Brody Wright, as well as quarterback Kris Kelley and running back Eric Robbins, who pounded the Tigers for 98 of Frenship's 275 rushing yards in last year's 42-7 season-opening blowout.

And while they may be younger than last season in certain areas, Frenship does have experience and depth from those who are returning.



OPEN SEASON — Marcus Villarreal breaks up a pass during the 2002 opener against Fresnhip. Villarreal returns to an experienced Snyder team that gets the 2003 campaign underway at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Wolfforth. (SDN Staff Photo)

Rogers said the 4A Tigers, who went 12-1 and made it to the Division I quarterfinals, remain a dangerous foe.

"They may be a bit down this year by their standards, but they are still a great program and a well-coached team," he said. "That's the beauty of programs that go deep in the playoffs is that they continue to have strong teams year after year." Rogers said.

He said the experience from the returning players comes from extended playing time — and an extended season for the team.

"When you beat teams as bad as they did, your seconds get a lot of work," Rogers said. "Plus, they have been to the third round of the playoffs three years in a row, which is an extra nine weeks of playing. That's almost like having another season."

The Tigers will be aggressive on defense, attacking from the outset, and defensive coordinator Armando Martinez said his unit must do that to control the pace of the game.

"We can't afford to let them dictate to us," he said.

Snyder brings in some fresh faces to join senior linebacker Isaac Ramon and senior cornerback Marcus Villarreal.

The defense will feature a front four of Jon Thomas, Ricky McNatt, Hunter Shipp, Cody Wall and versatile Eric Gonzales spelling Shipp and back-up quarterback Cade Owen also in the rotation.

Joining Ramon is senior linebacker Clayton Floyd, and senior Brad English, who will man the "Tiger" (right outside linebacker) position. Recent move-in Nathan Clarady from Monterey has been cleared by the UIL to play for the Tigers, and he provides more depth to the tested unit.

Senior strong safety Andrew Bane will be counted on to help stop the run and the pass, and sophomore Garrett Pinson will have a challenge Friday at free safety in replacing injured starter Isreal Sosa.

Sosa will be out Friday with a knee injury, and is listed as game-to-game.

Boicy Martinez and Justin Boyd may also see time in the secondary.

The Tigers' defense will face off against the multiple-I sets from Frenship. Tailback Raul Covarrubio takes over as the workhorse in the backfield. He rushed for 52 yards on six carries against Snyder last season.

When on offense, the Tigers will face Frenship's "50" defense, and boast an experienced offensive line that includes returning starters Brock Tyrrell, Josh Kemp, Zach Garcia and Sid Gutierrez. Matthew Vasquez takes over for Josh Knox at center.

First-year starter Martinez has shown a deft touch and good decision-making in replacing all-district QB T.J. Jones.

Behind him in the wishbone set are Brown at fullback and Jacob Rodriguez and English at tailback.

Much like last season, Rogers will rotate backs to keep everyone fresh for the fourth quarter, and the position is the deepest on the team.

Urbano Hernandez, Malcolm Wells, Ramon and Bane will all get carries as the season moves along.

Last season the Tigers were out-manned against Frenship, but that did not contribute to the loss nearly as much as the five turnovers.

This year, Rogers is enthused about the athletes he has gathered on the gridiron.

"We can mix it up on defense, and we can put points on the board. Last year, we had good athletes, but we didn't match up well in places. This year, we match up better," he said.

The head coach hopes that enthusiasm and the buzz in the community translates into highly-visibile support for his squad.

"It would be nice to see a lot of gold shirts in the stands," he said.

Kick-off to the 2003 season is at 7:30 p.m.

Dotson indicted for murder

WACO (AP) — Melissa Kethley says she last saw estranged husband Carlton Dotson the night of June 12, driving a car that belonged to his former teammate, Baylor University basketball player Patrick Dennehy.

Kethley said she remembers Dotson becoming angry and paranoid after the two ate dinner and she couldn't figure out why.

"Something was just so wrong about him showing up that day," Kethley said.

Dotson, 21, was indicted on a charge of murdering Dennehy on Wednesday. The indictment alleges that Dennehy was shot on or about June 12.

Dennehy's body was found in a field near a rock quarry southeast of town July 25, four days after Dotson's arrest. An autopsy report said that Dennehy died of two gunshot wounds to the head.

Dotson, jailed in his home state of Maryland, faces a maximum penalty of life in prison if convicted. District Attorney John Segrest and other law enforcement officials have refused to discuss motive, which isn't mentioned in the one-page indictment.

Segrest's office Wednesday began the paperwork to formalize a request to Gov. Rick Perry's office to seek Dotson's extradition, but it isn't known how long that will take. If Dotson continues to contest extradition, a judge in Maryland will schedule a hearing.

"How long it will take to secure his presence here is anybody's guess," Segrest said.

Attempts Wednesday to reach Dotson's attorneys for comment were unsuccessful.

Kethley said she planned to attend a memorial service for Dennehy scheduled for today at Baylor.

The case has rocked the Baptist school in Waco and prompted intense scrutiny of the school's basketball program.

Newcomers help KC blank Texas

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — If you're a pitcher looking to throw a great game, don a Kansas City uniform and hurry to the mound.

A hitter in need of padding his stats? Just get traded to Kansas City and grab a bat. What happens after that first game is anybody's guess. But time after time while fighting through a cavalcade of injuries, an unmistakable pattern has emerged in Kansas City.

In their first game, new Royals thrive. Pitcher Brian Anderson shut down Texas on Tuesday night in his first start since being traded from Cleveland.

Wednesday night was Rondell White's turn. The outfielder drove in four runs in a 9-0 victory over Texas in his first game for the Royals since being acquired from San Diego.

At the same time, left-hander Darrell May shut down the Rangers with a career-low 5-hitter in Kansas City's first complete-game shutout in more than a year.

"It's been the key for us," said May (8-6). "Whoever comes in and fills in a spot has been contributing."

White, who was leading the Padres in RBIs, got a two-run single in the four-run first inning.

"It's exciting," said May. "You get somebody who's leading their team in RBIs and comes over here and the first thing he does is get a couple of RBIs."

White also had a sacrifice fly and an RBI triple that was almost a home run.

Only a great relay throw by Texas second baseman Michael Young cut down the sliding White at the plate.

"I was coming around third base with a piano on my back," said White.

Dallas starters will go longer as Parcells finishes evaluation

IRVING (AP) — Bill Parcells put the Dallas Cowboys through some of their toughest practices this week. The coach knows time is running short before the games start to count in the standings.

"I'm torn between doing work you know needs to be done, preparing a little bit for Oakland, trying to get in better condition now and resting them enough to be fresh for when the season starts," Parcells said.

Dallas plays its preseason finale tonight against the Oakland Raiders. The season opener, and Parcells' official debut as the Cowboys' coach, comes 10 days later.

The Cowboys and Oakland are both 1-2 this preseason. But the Raiders were AFC champions last season after a winless preseason; Dallas is coming off three straight 5-11 seasons.

While most teams usually scale back and limit their starters in the final preseason game, the Cowboys are going all-out. They're trying to alter their new offense to fit Quincy Carter, finally chosen as the starter by Parcells last weekend.

Carter and the rest of the first team are expected to play deep into the second half against the Raiders.

"This guy just needs to know what his responsibility is now, and recognize it," Parcells said. "He realizes it's a good opportunity for him. That doesn't mean he'll succeed just because he knows."

Bird fires Thomas

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Larry Bird insisted he took his new job with an open mind about the future of coach Isiah Thomas.

The Indiana Pacers' president of basketball operations needed only seven weeks to come to a decision.

Bird wasted little time in making his first major move, firing Thomas on Wednesday and immediately targeting former assistant Rick Carlisle as his successor.

"I just had a gut feeling this wasn't going to work," Bird said of a surprise move that came only two months before the start of the season.

Bird said he didn't feel comfortable with the Pacers' direction after a second-half swoon that knocked them out of first place in the Eastern Conference and into third.

Bird also said there were other problems with Thomas, who was with the U.S. men's basketball team at the Olympic qualifying tournament in Puerto Rico earlier this week. Thomas returned to Indianapolis on Wednesday.

"I spoke to him one day in a meeting, and I talked to him one day on the phone. The communication wasn't really there," Bird said.

Carlisle and Bird's relationship dates to the 1980s when the two were teammates with the Boston.

Major League Baseball

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	80	51	.611	—
Boston	77	56	.579	4
Toronto	65	68	.489	16
Baltimore	61	71	.462	19½
Tampa Bay	52	79	.397	28

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	71	62	.534	—
Kansas City	69	62	.527	1
Minnesota	68	64	.515	2½
Cleveland	59	74	.444	12
Detroit	33	98	.252	37

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	78	55	.586	—
Seattle	77	56	.579	1
Anaheim	64	69	.481	14
Texas	61	72	.459	17

Wednesday's Games

Boston 6, Toronto 3
Cleveland 9, Detroit 7
Chicago White Sox 11, N.Y. Yankees 2
Kansas City 9, Texas 0
Anaheim 5, Minnesota 4
Tampa Bay 8, Seattle 4
Oakland 6, Baltimore 2

Today's Games

Chicago White Sox (Cotts 1-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Mussina 14-7), 12:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Lopez 6-8) at Oakland (Halama 2-4), 2:35 p.m.
Minnesota (Lohse 10-10) at Anaheim (Ra.Ortiz 15-10), 3:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Sosa 4-9) at Seattle (Garcia 11-12), 3:35 p.m.
Detroit (Bonderman 6-17) at Cleveland (Lee 2-1), 6:05 p.m.
Texas (Valdes 7-8) at Kansas City (Abbott 0-0), 7:05 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	85	47	.644	—
Florida	70	62	.530	15
Philadelphia	70	62	.530	15
Montreal	70	64	.522	16
New York	58	73	.443	26½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	70	62	.530	—
St. Louis	69	63	.523	1
Chicago	68	63	.519	1½
Pittsburgh	60	70	.462	9
Cincinnati	58	74	.439	12
Milwaukee	57	75	.432	13

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	80	51	.611	—
Arizona	69	64	.519	12
Los Angeles	67	64	.511	13
Colorado	64	71	.474	18
San Diego	53	81	.396	28½

Wednesday's Games

Atlanta 4, N.Y. Mets 1
Pittsburgh 4, Florida 0
Montreal 9, Philadelphia 6
St. Louis 4, Chicago Cubs 2
Milwaukee 6, Cincinnati 2
Houston 6, Los Angeles 1
San Francisco 6, Colorado 4
San Diego 10, Arizona 2

Today's Games

Milwaukee (Obermueller 0-4) at Cincinnati (P.Wilson 8-10), 11:35 a.m.
Philadelphia (Telemaco 1-1) at Montreal (Vazquez 11-8), 12:05 p.m.
San Francisco (Hermanson 2-3) at Colorado (Jennings 10-12), 2:05 p.m.
Florida (Willis 11-4) at Pittsburgh (Fogg 7-7), 6:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Leiter 12-7) at Atlanta (Hampton 12-5), 6:35 p.m.
Los Angeles (W.Alvarez 2-1) at Houston (Redding 8-12), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 12-9) at St. Louis (Morris 8-6), 7:10 p.m.

NFL

Preseason Glance

Wednesday's Game

New England 38, Chicago 23

Today's Games

Detroit at Buffalo, 6 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Philadelphia, 6 p.m.
Oakland at Dallas, 7 p.m.
Tennessee at Green Bay, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Giants at Baltimore, 7 p.m.
Miami at New Orleans, 7 p.m.
Kansas City at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Houston at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Washington at Jacksonville, 7 p.m.
Arizona at Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Friday's Games

Cincinnati at Indianapolis, 7 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Carolina, 7 p.m.
Seattle at Denver, 9 p.m.
San Francisco at San Diego, 9 p.m.

Sports Briefs

Bowling league meeting

A meeting of the Men's Commercial Bowling League will be held at 7 p.m. today at Snyder Lanes. The league will start bowling Sept. 4, and all those interested should attend the meeting.

Flag football, volleyball sign-ups

The Scurry County Boys and Girls Club will hold sign-ups for flag football and volleyball from 4-7 p.m. today and Friday.

Flag football is open to first and second-graders and the fee is $25. Volleyball is open to grades three through six, and cost is $40. Call the Boys and Girls Club at 573-3344.

Baseball booster club

The baseball booster club will meet at 7 p.m. Monday in the film room.

Labor Day scramble

The Scurry County Golf Course will host a Labor Day scramble at 10 a.m. Monday. Cost is $20. Contact Rick at 573-7101 at the pro shop for more information.

Dallas re-signs Modano to one-year extension

DALLAS (AP) — Dallas Stars center Mike Modano signed a one-year contract extension that prevents him from becoming a free agent until the summer of 2005.

Modano, the team's career leader in nearly every significant category, will earn $9 million this season.

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Growing Business
is currently looking for a few strong team players to join our local team. Interested parties need to attend the free informational meeting at 7:00 pm Thursday, Aug. 28th at Texas Savings Bank (formally Snyder Saving and Loan). If you are interested and unable to attend please call 325-436-1063 or 325-207-2776 so that we can make an appointment to get you the information.

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2+ years experience required.
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Ludlum Measurements, Inc.
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THIS IS WHERE ALL THE ACTION IS! The Snyder Daily News 573-5486

Schwarzenegger visits California farmers

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — As former baseball commissioner Peter Ueberroth prepared to make his first pitch to voters, fellow Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger made his clearest statements to date on abortion and other social issues.

Ueberroth, who has stayed out of the recall election spotlight and traveled the state to meet with newspaper editorial boards, was to hold the first of his town hall style meetings, letting San Diego voters ask him questions about issues in the unique campaign.

The forum follows the clearest statements to date on abortion and other social issues by Schwarzenegger, the leading Republican on the ballot to replace Gov. Gray Davis in the Oct. 7 recall election.

The former bodybuilder, who had been criticized for failing to stake out his positions, said Wednesday that he favors legalizing marijuana for medical purposes, some gun control and protecting a woman's right to abortion, but is against gay marriage and granting drivers licenses to undocumented immigrants.

The latter issue is a volatile one in the Central Valley, the nation's most productive farmland and home to many ethnic groups and migrants who struggle to get to work in the fields.

Schwarzenegger, who supported Proposition 187 in 1994 which sought to deny many services to illegal immigrants, said undocumented immigrants already in the country should stay here, but he said it was a federal issue. A spokesman said he wasn't proposing an amnesty program.

"Should we have them to stay here, which I think is the right way to do," he said. "But how do you then include them in our society, how do you make it official, how do you make it legal, all of those kinds of things?"

Like Schwarzenegger, Ueberroth is a moderate Republican and a millionaire and both have given heavily to their own campaigns and are raising similar sums of money from wealthy friends. Fund-raising and campaign expenditure reports, due today at the secretary of state's office, were expected to offer a better glimpse of the financial health of the campaigns of the 135 candidates on the ballot to replace Davis.

The governor continued to do the business of the state Wednesday, signing a financial privacy bill that gives California consumers the right to block banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions from sharing much of their personal information.

Asked whether he thought Schwarzenegger would make a good governor, Davis said he met the minimal age and state resident qualifications.

"Sometimes people want a little more," Davis said. "Like a little experience."

Ueberroth, a businessman and political newcomer, is relying on his reputation as the man who made the 1984 Olympics a success, earning Time magazine's Man of the Year title. Playing off the success of the 19-year-old Olympic games, he's calling his forum, "Carry the torch for Peter."

While he has laid out an economic plan to help patch the state's projected $8 billion deficit next year, he has yet to connect with voters.

A recent Los Angeles Times poll showed Ueberroth trailing fellow Republicans Schwarzenegger and state Sen. Tom McClintock. The poll showed Ueberroth was viewed mostly in a positive light, though he wasn't well known. Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, a Democrat, led the poll.

Schwarzenegger's foray today into Fresno, Bustamante's former home, follows three days on the talk radio circuit and a continued assault on the lieutenant governor. The conservative-leaning Central Valley is also the only place targeted for TV commercials by McClintock, a conservative Republican.

Responding to Schwarzenegger's remarks, McClintock said he opposes abortion and supports the rights of gun owners. He also said he got the impression Schwarzenegger was becoming more conservative as the campaign moved along.

"I've been in the public arena for 20 years. Positions I've taken have not changed in 20 years," McClintock said. "I am pro-life; I believe in the right of people to self-defense. It's enshrined in the Second Amendment. And again, these are positions that people can count on."

During his third radio appearance of the day, Schwarzenegger was asked about a racy 1977 magazine interview in which he discussed life in the gym and his sexual exploits. Schwarzenegger responded that it was not the type of interview he would give today.

"I never lived my life to be a politician. I never lived my life to be the governor of California," he told Sacramento station KFBK Wednesday night. "Obviously, I've made statements that were ludicrous and crazy and outrageous and all those things, because that's the way I always was. I was always that way, because otherwise I wouldn't have done the things that I did in my career, including the body building and the show business and all those things."

FBI investigating lab specialist's conduct in Oklahoma bomb case

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI internal affairs office is investigating the crime lab's chief of scientific analysis about his conduct in the Oklahoma City bombing case, according to people familiar with the investigation.

The Associated Press reported last spring that a transcript of a Justice Department interview showed that FBI scientific analysis unit chief Steven Burmeister initially had alleged in 1995 that his lab colleagues performed shoddy work in Timothy McVeigh's case, but then retracted several statements before appearing as a prosecution witness at the trial.

AP also reported that lawyers for some FBI lab employees sent a letter to Attorney General John Ashcroft in 2001, just days before McVeigh was executed for the April 1995 bombing, alleging Burmeister may have been pressured to give false testimony in the case. No action was taken and the allegation was never divulged to McVeigh's lawyers.

The revelation about Burmeister, however, became an issue in the Oklahoma state murder trial of McVeigh conspirator Terry Nichols this spring. Burmeister had given key testimony against McVeigh and was originally slated to be a prosecution witness in the new trial for Nichols, whom Oklahoma prosecutors want to put to death.

Burmeister has been withdrawn as a state witness by the prosecutors.

The FBI's Office of Professional Responsibility, which investigates allegations against agents, recently opened an internal investigation into Burmeister's conduct in the McVeigh case, including his recantation, according to persons familiar with the investigation.

One of Burmeister's former colleagues said the FBI internal affairs office had contacted him in the past month.

"I was contacted by my attorney and told that the FBI OPR was looking to talk to me about an OPR investigation on Burmeister," said Frederic Whitehurst, the former FBI scientist whose whistleblowing allegations in the mid-1990s divulged shoddy work inside the FBI lab and led to widespread changes.

FBI officials refused to discuss the investigation but when AP first reported the existence of the transcripts of Burmeister's interview by the Justice Department inspector general, FBI lab director Dwight Adams said he considered Burmeister to be one of the bureau's top lab experts.

Adams said Burmeister was not pressured to change his testimony about problems at the FBI lab in the McVeigh case and rather did so because he learned some of his earlier allegations to the inspector general were inaccurate or imprecise.

"He made the effort because he is such a meticulous, honest person that he wanted the IG report to be correct," Adams said. "He truly is one of our best."

A letter obtained by AP shows that lawyers for FBI lab employees, including Whitehurst, wrote Ashcroft 10 days before McVeigh was executed in 2001, claiming Burmeister may have given false testimony about key forensic evidence in the case. The FBI denies the allegations.

The Justice Department never divulged the letter to McVeigh's lawyers.

The transcripts show Burmeister originally told the Justice Department in 1995 that one of his lab colleagues, unit chief Roger Martz, "erred in some examinations" he performed in the bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building.

Burmeister reversed course in late 1996, just before testifying at McVeigh's trial. "I don't think he erred in any of these exams. ... I think he did an acceptable job there," Burmeister said.

In his 1995 interview, Burmeister criticized Martz's decision to vacuum clothing suspected of having explosives evidence, calling it an "unqualified technique." But in his 1996 interview, he gave a different assessment.

"I'm incorrect in saying that because I do believe the vacuuming technique, overall, is a qualified technique," Burmeister said.

On the lab's handling of a knife, Burmeister said in 1995 that his colleagues should have rinsed it, rather than using a moistened swab to loosen possible explosive evidence. But in 1996, Burmeister said that both swabbing and rinsing were "viable sample-removing techniques."

And Burmeister retracted his 1995 comment that Martz had not been qualified to perform one of the explosives tests he performed on McVeigh evidence. "I'm incorrect in saying that he is not qualified. ... I would consider him fully qualified," he said in 1996.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Reflux may not be visible on X-rays

DEAR DR. GOTT: My mother, 77, has bouts of severe abdominal burning, followed by vomiting several times a year. These attacks usually occur during the night or following a heavy meal. Based on X-rays, her doctor has eliminated an ulcer or hiatal hernia, yet is at a loss to explain what happens.

DEAR READER: Nighttime vomiting and heartburn is a common symptom of peptic disease or hiatal hernia, both of which have apparently been ruled out by your mother's physician. Yet her continuing attacks suggest either an intestinal cause (which is my hunch) - or angina (heart muscle cramping).

In the first instance, your mother may be suffering from gastroesophageal reflux disease (GERD), a common condition associated with backwash of stomach acid into the esophagus. Although commonly seen in conjunction with hiatal hernia, GERD can exist by itself and may not be apparent on standard stomach X-rays. Symptoms include periodic indigestion, excess gas and nausea — usually at night or after eating.

I believe that your mother would be best served by visiting a gastroenterologist. She may need endoscopy (examination of the upper intestine with a fiberoptic tube) or special tests that measure respective pressures in the esophagus and stomach.

In my practice, I try as best as I can to reduce the cost of medical care to my patients. Therefore, I'd like to suggest yet another option. Ask your mother's physician to consider a "therapeutic challenge." I recommend that he prescribe a month's supply of Nexium, Protonix or Prevacid. If the medication solves your mother's problem, it should be used off and on indefinitely. If, on the other hand, your mother's symptoms continue despite medication, a GI consultation would be in order — and perhaps even a second opinion from a cardiologist.

Granted, I am taking some risk in this recommendation, because your mother could have a really serious cardiac condition. But this approach is what I would use for my own patients, most of whom are grateful that the first step in diagnosis is not risky, expensive or painful testing.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm diabetic and recently had carpal tunnel repair. Is there any connection between the diabetes and carpal tunnel syndrome?

DEAR READER: Carpal tunnel syndrome is compression of a nerve at the heel of the hand, leading to pain, tingling and numbness. It is often associated with repetitive hand and arm motions. I developed mine by extensively riding a 10-speed racing bicycle. (Now, since I use a hybrid with higher handlebars, I have had no problems.)

In my experience, the most successful therapy is surgical repair to release the compression.

To my knowledge, carpal tunnel syndrome is not associated with diabetes.

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	10.33	10.17	10.27	+ .02
AOL TimeWrn	16.00	15.85	15.90	+ .05
AT&T Corp rs	21.70	21.35	21.36	— .20
Albertsons	20.99	20.70	20.96	+ .26
Alltel	45.33	44.89	45.07	— .18
AmEl Pw	28.50	28.04	28.10	— .21
AndarkPtr	43.29	42.55	42.90	+ .20
ATMOS Egy	24.67	24.30	24.41	— .15
Avaall	12.70	12.60	12.70	+ .26
BP PLC	41.99	41.68	41.70	— .14
BakerHughes	33.49	32.56	33.28	+ .60
Bank of Amer	77.95	77.45	77.57	— .06
BellSouth	25.45	24.86	24.92	— .47
BurlNoSFe	28.01	27.65	27.66	+ .01
Caterpillar	70.67	69.28	69.50	— .66
CenterPoint	8.46	8.37	8.42	
ChevronTex	72.49	71.88	72.25	— .04
Citigroup	43.24	42.55	42.66	— .30
CocaCola	43.93	43.58	43.62	— .34
ColgatePal	55.55	55.00	55.24	— .11
CmclMetals	19.20	19.09	19.10	— .17
ConocoPhill	54.99	54.56	54.88	+ .07
Cooper Inds	50.99	50.30	50.48	— .14
DaimlrChry	38.30	37.76	38.04	+ .19
DeltaAirl	12.16	11.98	11.98	— .14
Dillards Inc	15.35	15.19	15.24	
DowChem	34.30	33.80	33.94	— .24
DuPont	44.44	43.60	43.83	— .40
EastmanChem	35.23	34.90	35.16	+ .27
EstKodak	28.03	27.35	27.38	— .59
EDS Corp	21.85	21.68	21.73	— .05
Entergy	52.40	52.27	52.29	+ .04
ExxonMobil	37.46	36.99	37.24	— .01
FootLocker	16.40	16.18	16.34	+ .26
GenDynam	85.40	84.21	84.51	— .74
GenElec	29.90	29.41	29.48	— .27
GenMills	46.43	46.00	46.03	— .24
GenMotors	40.30	39.51	39.66	+ .26
GaPacific	22.80	22.26	22.48	— .14
Goodrich	25.56	25.21	25.42	
Goodyear	6.68	6.54	6.62	+ .08
GtAtlPac	9.77	9.42	9.50	— .08
Halliburtn	24.30	23.20	23.49	+ .35
Hanson ADS	32.20	31.97	32.20	— .02
HarteHanks	19.35	19.05	19.09	— .17
HomeDepot	32.95	32.06	32.13	— .33
HoneywellIntl	28.80	28.31	28.47	— .14
IBM	82.34	81.28	81.33	— .67
IntlPaper	40.74	40.02	40.12	— .29
JohnsonJn	49.35	49.01	49.05	— .21
KinderMorg	53.37	53.11	53.29	+ .13
Kroger Co	19.10	18.86	18.95	— .05
LockheedM	51.25	50.50	50.67	— .66
Lowes Cos	53.70	53.30	53.54	+ .34
Lubys	2.37	2.36	2.37	
LucentTech	1.92	1.89	1.90	+ .01
MarathonOil	27.50	27.10	27.32	— .11
MayDeptStr	27.22	26.91	27.18	+ .35
Medtronic	50.15	49.55	49.60	— .40
Motorola	10.80	10.43	10.46	— .27
NCR Corp	28.80	28.10	28.27	— .33
Navistar	43.75	42.55	43.03	— .73
PNM Rescs	27.33	27.02	27.08	— .12
Penney JC	20.35	20.12	20.33	+ .18
PepBoys	17.30	16.95	17.13	— .12
PepsiCo	44.35	43.70	43.84	— .19
PhelpDodge	47.13	46.20	46.49	— .21
PilgrmPrd B	12.10	11.89	12.02	+ .03
Praxair	63.15	62.64	62.98	— .02
ProctGamb	87.28	86.59	87.00	— .25
RadioShack	29.23	28.77	28.93	— .16
RoyalDut	44.89	44.55	44.73	+ .08
SBC Comm	22.76	22.48	22.48	— .22
SaraLee	18.50	18.22	18.50	+ .24
Scripps EW	85.68	85.14	85.26	— .10
SearsRoeb	44.01	43.45	43.56	— .09
SherwinW	30.11	29.79	29.81	— .21
SouthernCo	28.70	28.45	28.48	— .02
SwstAirl	17.09	16.76	16.77	— .22
SprintFON	14.78	14.40	14.51	— .15
SprintPCS	5.28	5.15	5.20	
Sunoco Inc	39.81	39.32	39.56	— .09
TXU Corp	21.76	21.47	21.47	— .30
TempleInland	49.33	48.87	48.90	— .43
TexInd	25.47	25.23	25.25	— .10
TexasInst	23.73	23.08	23.31	— .18
Textron	44.10	43.85	43.98	+ .04
TrinityInds	26.05	25.68	25.70	— .30
TylerTech	6.50	6.29	6.37	— .13
UnionPacif	60.47	59.65	59.97	+ .29
USSteel	17.99	17.76	17.86	+ .03
UnitedTech	78.91	77.93	78.73	— .02
Unocal	30.32	30.06	30.20	
VerizonComm	35.21	34.92	35.01	— .06
WalMart	59.40	58.88	58.95	— .16
WellsFargo	49.82	49.31	49.40	— .10
WstnGasRs	38.75	38.30	38.65	+ .14
WinnDixie	10.05	9.98	9.99	— .02
Xerox Cp	10.45	10.20	10.45	+ .02
YumBrands	29.32	28.97	29.19	— .19

AUG 28 2003

Today's chuckle

One cop canine not suspect's best friend

LONGVIEW, Wash. (AP) — Don't try telling William Allan Repp Jr. that a dog is man's best friend. He's been sniffed out four times by the same cop canine.

In the latest incident, Repp was arrested Tuesday, accused of leading police on a high-speed chase in a 1980 Corvette, crashing into a tree and fleeing on foot until he was stopped by Reno, a Longview police dog.



The chase started when Officer Jason Ferriss spotted the car on Pacific Way traveling at 78 mph, according to his radar gun. The posted speed limit is 35 mph.

In his report, Ferriss said he turned on his lights, saw the car speed up, then turned on his siren and began pursuit. He said his speedometer reached 120 mph but the Corvette was pulling away at an estimated 140 mph when it missed a corner, slammed into a tree branch and ripped out some shrubbery before coming to rest.

The driver fled on foot as Officer Steve Dennis and Reno responded to assist. Reno tracked Repp approximately 40 yards to a slough and found him hiding under some bushes, police said.

Repp was taken to St. John Medical Center for treatment of dog bite wounds and injuries sustained in the accident. Officers then took him to the Cowlitz County Jail, where he was booked for investigation of felony eluding, taking a motor vehicle without permission, reckless driving, obstructing an officer, resisting arrest and third-degree driving with a suspended license. Bail was set at $35,000.

Dennis said this is the fourth time Reno has captured Repp after he ran from police. After the last incident, in October 2001, Repp received a five-day jail sentence and a $400 fine for reckless driving and resisting arrest.

King sentenced to jail, DUI treatment

FONTANA, Calif. (AP) — Rodney King, whose videotaped beating by police officers sparked the Los Angeles riots of 1992, has been sentenced to drug treatment and jail for driving under the influence and reckless driving.

King pleaded guilty Wednesday and was sentenced to a three-month alcohol awareness program and six months of drug treatment, followed by four months in jail. He must also pay a $1,454 fine and will be on probation for three years.

Police said King raced through an intersection in Rialto at more than 100 mph on April 13 before losing control of his new SUV, striking a utility pole, crashing into a fence and hitting a house. King, 38, of Rialto, suffered a fractured pelvis and cracked ribs.

Columbia investigator says...

Accident report did not go far enough

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Columbia investigation board did not go far enough in its recommended safety changes, one of the investigators says in a supplemental report that urges NASA to strengthen shuttle inspections and correct mechanical problems that were unrelated to the disaster but could cause another.

Air Force Brig. Gen. Duane Deal said Wednesday he felt compelled to highlight these issues after they ended up being buried, downplayed or dropped from the final report of the Columbia Accident Investigation Board.

"I feel an obligation that if I know of something that could cause the next accident that's waiting to happen and I didn't bring it forward, that's when I wouldn't be able to look myself in the mirror," Deal said in an interview with The Associated Press.

Deal stressed that his 10-page supplement, which will appear in an upcoming volume of appendices, is not a dissenting opinion. It started out as a minority opinion a week ago, he acknowledged, but many of the 12 other board members jumped on board.

"We are all very proud of this report," he said of the recommendations made public Tuesday. "We think it does, in fact, what we wanted it to do.

"Some people think it ought to do more, some think we're too blunt. But I think there's almost universal agreement that our 207 days of work were good."

But given NASA's reputation for ignoring reports, Deal said he was skeptical the space agency would fulfill all 29 recommendations in the full report, let alone the ones referred to as observations.

Deal, for example, worries that NASA will give short shrift to the report's 10th chapter, titled "Other Significant Observations." The observations include corroding shuttle parts, brittle bolts that support wing panels, failures in the system that releases the shuttle from the pad at liftoff and weakened rings attaching the fuel tank to the booster rockets.

None of these problems, but rather a piece of flyaway fuel-tank insulating foam, caused the Columbia accident, which killed all seven astronauts aboard.

The chapter also touches on crew escape and survival but makes no recommendations. Instead, Deal urges NASA to come up with ways to better protect the crew cabin in an emergency.

A small amount of additional insulation between the inner walls of the cabin and its outer shell might provide the heat protection needed for it to retain its structural integrity, Deal wrote.

"I believe in this one set of circumstances, more insulation may have helped" the Columbia astronauts survive the Feb. 1 breakup of their ship over Texas, he said.

Instead of observations, some of the items should have been recommendations, he wrote, and one — the need for an independent bottoms-up review of Kennedy Space Center's shuttle safety inspection protocol — should be a recommendation carried out before the next shuttle flight. As it is now, inspectors must justify to managers why certain critical parts should have mandatory checks rather than justify why they should not, he said.

Out of more than 230 interviews with space shuttle employees conducted by the board, Deal said he conducted a third of them and was disheartened to learn NASA's shuttle inspectors were forced to buy their own tools and prevented from making spot checks. The inspectors also were not inspecting some critical shuttle parts, using hopelessly outdated equipment, and being trained by the contractors they were supposed to monitor.

"I heard this first hand from all these different levels, from the technician up through management and we cannot ignore that," he said. "When they say this could be the next accident waiting to happen, I just have the conviction that this has to be a recommendation and brought a little bit more out in the light instead of buried somewhere else" in the formal report.

Deal said in the push to release the report by the end of August after nearly seven months of investigation, "maybe someone made a mistake or maybe someone made a conscious decision they didn't tell me about. Some things were deleted or diluted or recharacterized."

Retired Navy Adm. Harold Gehman Jr., the board's chairman, said Deal is the only member to present a supplemental report. The Air Force brigadier general has taken part in about a dozen investigations into military aircraft and rocket accidents.

"He did the industrial safety part and he has more to report on than we put in the report," Gehman said. He noted that the final report started off with 1,000 pages, was edited down to 400 pages and ended up being 248 pages, and so many things had to be deleted.

Also on Wednesday, NASA's boss promised to change the tainted space agency culture that led to the destruction of Columbia and the deaths of seven astronauts, assuring accident investigators and the rest of the world: "We get it."

Administrator Sean O'Keefe also accepted responsibility for the flight schedule pressure that the investigation board said may well have prompted space shuttle managers to bypass safety before — and especially during — Columbia's doomed flight.

O'Keefe said that "without reservation," NASA will comply with all 29 of the investigation board's recommendations. Fifteen, all technical in nature, must be implemented before space shuttles fly again. O'Keefe declined to say when that might happen, but did not rule out the space agency's launch target of next spring.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Aug. 29, 2003

You might feel a great deal of need for newness in your life in the year ahead. As a consequence, you could go off in different directions — from changing jobs to developing new friends, or changing your residence.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Should you find yourself in the middle of two close friends, refuse to be their arbitrator. The only ones who will walk away undamaged will be those who mind their own business.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — It just could be one of those days when nothing you do will be right, so don't get down on yourself. When the currents are running against you, avoid getting in the swim.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Striking out with your quick scorpion reaction to an infraction will win you no prizes today. In fact, because of the intensity of your attack you're the one who could be blamed. Be careful.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — You have a tendency to put your foot in your mouth at times and today could produce one of those moments. There will be no way to extricate yourself if you do, so stay in control.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Let others have a right to their opinions today or else you will be accused of being overbearing and bossy. If you want to get along with others, live and let live.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — There will be no justification to your extravagant inclinations today, so stop kidding yourself and get a hold on your spending habits. No excuses you make will refill your bank account.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — You might have an overwhelming desire today to release yourself from some kind of promise you made. If you do, you'll have a price to pay and that price could be the loss of a friend.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — If you have too much on your plate today, whatever you do you won't have time to do properly and what you don't do will give you fits.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — It won't be worth challenging anyone else's views today that conflict with yours. All you'll accomplish is looking like a fool for blowing up. Be smart and stay cool.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Don't react erratically if you're pushed into something more than you believe you can tolerate. Everyone's nerves are likely to be on fire today, and that includes your boss.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Just because you can't think of a solution now to something that needs handling, don't blindly try to solve the issue. Wait until another day to work on it again.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Financial arrangements aren't likely to work out to your satisfaction today, so avoid getting involved in any negotiations or entanglements at this time. Keep your wallet securely shut.

Get a jump on life by understanding the influences which are governing you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph year ahead predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Visit www.bernice4u.com for more advice.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Rude cell phone users are shamed into hanging up

DEAR ABBY: The recent letter from the woman who was seated next to a man who talked on his cell phone all during her daughter's graduation ceremony leads me to relate my experience.

Recently, my college-aged daughter and I were in a grocery store. A woman was walking down the aisle with her cell phone stuck to her ear. She was gossiping in a loud voice and using first and last names.

After two aisles of this, my daughter said to the woman, "Excuse me. I KNOW so-and-so. Shall I tell her how you feel about what happened?" The woman was visibly flustered. She ended the call, telling her "cell mate" she'd call her when she got home.

After we left the store, I asked my daughter how she knew the person. My daughter said she didn't. But she wanted the woman to realize that she was being overheard saying hurtful things in a crowded place. My daughter's rule of thumb is to never use names in public because you never know who's listening. End of lesson from a 21-year-old. — **PROUD MOM IN WALLINGFORD, CONN.**

DEAR MOM: Your daughter is on the right track, but here's my rule of thumb: Gossip is usually hurtful and always cowardly. Before saying anything in public or in private, people should ask themselves, "Is it true? Is it kind? Is it helpful?" If the answer is no — don't say it. Period. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: The letter from the woman whose graduation ceremony was ruined by a cosmically inconsiderate cell phone user reminded me of how I once dealt with someone of that ilk.

I used to commute by bus to work in Manhattan every day, and every morning a woman passenger behind me would crank up her phone and use it for intensely personal conversations.

One day, I turned around in my seat, faced her with my chin in my hands and listened raptly. She noticed immediately and said, rather tartly, "Excuse me. This is a private conversation!"

I replied, "No, it isn't, lady. They can hear you in Brooklyn." She signed off immediately. The phone went into her purse, where it remained until she got off at her stop.

Of course, some etiquette experts might not approve of my tactics, but sometimes when dealing with that degree of inconsideration, the only solution is to raise the bar. — **KEN IN LIVINGSTON, TEXAS**

DEAR KEN: Funny — but if I were you, I'd reserve that tactic only for extreme circumstances. People who fight fire with fire may end with more of a confrontation than they bargained for.

DEAR ABBY: A good friend of mine recently visited a friend of hers in Palm Springs and attended church services with him.

During the service, a member of the congregation stood up, took a cell phone call at the back of the church and continued to converse during the sermon.

After the service, the pastor did a "meet and greet" at the front door. When the offender went to shake her hand, she said, "The Lord sent me a special message just for you. He says that you are to refrain from taking calls during the service. He recommends that you keep your cell phone in your car, and says he'll be happy to take any messages and save them on voicemail for you."

My friend said the person turned beet red — and more than one person "got the message" that day because there have been no more cell phone calls in church. — **ALSO ANNOYED IN SALINAS, CALIF.**

DEAR ALSO: Which proves that not all important messages have to be delivered from the pulpit — or even from the great beyond — in order to be universally heard.

**

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

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

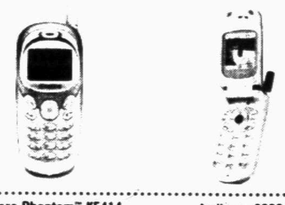
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ROOMMATES — Western Texas College students Ashley Sirman of Sugar Land and Stephanie Adams of Midland unpack and set up housekeeping in their dorm room. Both girls play for the Lady Dusters softball team. (SDN Staff Photo)

Four-day event set in Milwaukee to celebrate Harley's 100th year

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Harley-Davidson enthusiasts from around the nation and the world were roaring into town as the legendary motorcycle maker geared up for its centennial celebration.

Harley's four-day event starts today and was expected to draw 200,000 to 300,000 people. The festivities center on Milwaukee's lakefront and include a parade of 10,000 Harleys through the city.

People waved from freeway bridges Wednesday to welcome riders streaming in from across the nation. Several accidents involving motorcycles snarled freeway traffic at times.

"I'm loving it. I'm here. I made it through Chicago," said Rhonda Racklisse, who rode some 1,800 miles from Minot, Maine.

She said she started riding her own Harley a year ago after spending years on the back of her husband's bike.

"I was bored riding in the back," she said.

This time, Rhonda and Randy Racklisse rode separate bikes, making the trip with their 20-year-old son, Josh, "to visit the best family in the world."

"We're all brothers and sisters," she said.

Dave and Rita Chester from Philadelphia stopped at a truck stop on their way and encountered 11 people from England, also riding Harleys to the celebration.

"It's just like a fraternity, a massive club, where everyone has one commonality, a Harley-Davidson motorcycle," he said.

The grand finale Sunday will be a 100th birthday party with music and fireworks at the Lake Michigan shore.

Classic rock acts such as Kansas, Peter Frampton and REO Speedwagon will perform, and 80,000 square feet of exhibits will showcase antique motorcycles, clothing, film clips and bikes owned by Elvis Presley and Jon Bon Jovi.

On Wednesday, Harley provided an early start for many riders by marking the first 20 years of HOG, or Harley Owners Group.

Up to 100,000 motorcyclists were expected to cruise through the annual HOG rally at the Washington County Fair Park at West Bend, 30 miles north of Milwaukee, by the time it ends Saturday night.

The company started the club in 1983 as a way to allow people to share the Harley experience.

About 30,000 riders joined in its first year, and the group now numbers about 750,000 in more than 1,300 chapters worldwide. Members meet regularly for rides, parties, fund-raisers, motorcycle seminars and other events.

Frank Lamantia of New York City said he rode a motorcycle as a young man but gave up his bike in 1988 when he had a son. He got another motorcycle in 2001, and hooked up with HOG to find people to ride with.

"Now it's a form of recreation for me," he said. "You can ride around or you can ride with a group, but you're also an individual so you make your bike individual" through the selection of accessories.

Industry shares some methods it uses to track downloaders

WASHINGTON (AP) — The recording industry is providing its most detailed glimpse into some of the detective-style techniques it has employed as part of its secretive campaign against online music swappers.

The disclosures were included in court papers filed against a Brooklyn woman fighting efforts to identify her for allegedly sharing nearly 1,000 songs over the Internet. The recording industry disputed her defense that songs on her family's computer were from compact discs she had legally purchased.

According to the documents, the Recording Industry Association of America examined song files on the woman's computer and traced their digital fingerprints back to the former Napster file-sharing service, which shut down in 2001 after a court ruled it violated copyright laws.

The RIAA, the trade group for the largest record labels, said it also found other evidence inside the woman's music files suggesting the songs were recorded by other people and distributed across the Internet.

Comparing the Brooklyn woman to a shoplifter, the RIAA told U.S. Magistrate John M. Facciola that she was "not an innocent or accidental infringer" and described her lawyer's claims otherwise as "shockingly misleading."

The RIAA papers were filed Tuesday night in Washington and made available by the court Wednesday.

The woman's lawyer, Daniel N. Ballard, of Sacramento, Calif., said the music industry's latest argument was "merely a smokescreen to divert attention" from the related issue of whether her Internet provider, Verizon Internet Services Inc., must turn over her identity under a copyright subpoena.

"You cannot bypass people's constitutional rights to privacy, due process and anonymous association to identify an alleged infringer," Ballard said.

Ballard has asked the court to delay any ruling for two weeks while he prepares his arguments, and he noted that his client — identified only as "nycfashiongirl" — has already removed the file-sharing software from her family's computer.

The RIAA accused "nycfashiongirl" of offering more than 900 songs by the Rolling Stones, U2, Michael Jackson and others for illegal download, along with 200 other computer files that included at least one full-length movie, "Pretty Woman."

The RIAA's latest court papers describe in unprecedented detail some sophisticated forensic techniques used by its investigators.

For example, the industry disclosed its use of a library of digital fingerprints, called "hashes," that it said can uniquely identify MP3 music files that had been traded on the Napster service as far back as May 2000. Examining hashes is commonly used by the FBI and other computer investigators in hacker cases.

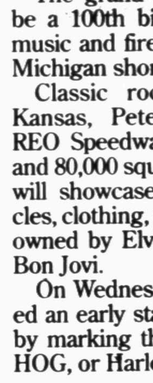
By comparing the fingerprints of music files on a person's computer against its library, the RIAA believes it can determine in some cases whether someone recorded a song from a legally purchased CD or downloaded it from someone else over the Internet.

Copyright lawyers said it remains unresolved whether consumers can legally download copies of songs on a CD they purchased rather than making digital copies themselves. But finding MP3 music files that precisely match copies that have been traded online could be evidence a person participated in file-sharing services.



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

More six-nation nuclear talks likely

BEIJING (AP) — Diplomats from six countries meeting to defuse months of tension over North Korea's nuclear program have reached "a consensus" to hold more such talks, a South Korean official said today.

The current round of talks are scheduled to end Friday after three days. The United States, North and South Korea, Russia, Japan and China are trying to balance U.S. demands for an end to North Korea's nuclear program and the communist nation's insistence on a nonaggression treaty with Washington and humanitarian aid.

"There is a consensus that the process of six-party talks should continue and is useful," said Wie Sung-rak, director-general of the South Korean Foreign Ministry's North American Affairs Bureau.

Asked to verify a Russian media report that all six would meet again within two months, he said: "It's possible, but you have to wait until tomorrow morning."

Russian Alexander Losyukov, the deputy foreign minister and the head of Russia's delegation, earlier had said the six reached a "common understanding" to meet again within the next two months, probably in Beijing, the ITAR-Tass news agency reported.

The United States said it would hold no formal one-on-one talks with North Korea at the three-day summit and the Americans played down the importance of an informal meeting Wednesday between the top U.S. and North Korean envoys on the sidelines of the talks.

That half-hour meeting between Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly and North Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Yong Il ended four months of official silence between the two nations.

Palestinian officials freeze funds of Islamic charities

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip (AP) — The Palestinian Authority has frozen 39 bank accounts of nine Islamic charities in what appeared to be part of a U.S.-sought crackdown on Palestinian militants, according to an official document obtained today by The Associated Press.

Israel welcomed the freezing of the funds, which came as the Palestinian Authority has been under growing U.S. pressure to take action against militants, including Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Those groups formally abandoned a unilateral truce last week after Israel killed a Hamas leader in response to a deadly Hamas bus bombing.

Today, Palestinian police said they traded fire with militants who launched homemade Qassam rockets at Israel — a sort of attack that has prompted Israeli threats of strong relatiation. The militants escaped, police said.

Four rockets landed in Israel, including one that struck near a brewery in the industrial zone of the coastal city of Ashkelon, the Israeli army said. The rockets, like most such attacks in the past, caused no damage or injuries.

Israel considers the rockets a strategic threat. Tanks were sent to the border with Gaza several days ago, poised for the possible retaking of Palestinian-controlled areas of Gaza if shelling continues. "We will have to act with all means at our disposal to prevent these acts in the future," said Zalman Shoval, an Israeli government spokesman.

Despite U.S. prodding, the Palestinian government has been reluctant to arrest militants and seize their weapons because of concern about triggering unrest and because of wrangling between Yasser Arafat and his prime minister, Mahmoud Abbas, over control of the security forces. Palestinian police have sealed several tunnels used for smuggling weapons and drugs from Egypt into Gaza.

Israel has said it will keep hunting militants until the Palestinian Authority begins dismantling the armed groups, as required by the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, nine Palestinians were wounded, including three seriously, when Israeli soldiers fired live rounds and rubber-coated steel pellets to disperse stone-throwers.

The order to shut down the bank accounts was issued by the Palestinian Monetary Authority on Sunday, and came to light today, when hundreds of Palestinians relying on welfare payments from charities tried to pick up monthly support checks at banks in Gaza City.

Dismissal of Dallas police chief angers black leaders

DALLAS (AP) — Black leaders, including four City Council members, voiced outrage Wednesday over the firing of Police Chief Terrell Bolton, saying the handling of his dismissal showed disrespect for blacks.

"This is a slap in the face like it's never been slapped before," Councilman James Fantroy said. "We will not sit by and allow this. This is not the '50s."

City Manager Ted Benavides fired Bolton on Tuesday, the day after his 23rd anniversary with the Dallas police force. A fake drug scandal, lawsuits by demoted commanders and controversy over hiring practices marked the four-year tenure of the city's first black chief.

At a council meeting Wednesday, angry black residents and council members warned that Terrell's firing will bring repercussions.

"There's lots of angriness in our community and it's going to blow up if we don't do something," said Fantroy, who plans a strategy meeting Saturday with black ministers and civic leaders.

Councilman Leo Chaney described Bolton as a role model for black young people and complained about the terse, two-sentence termination letter Bolton received. "For him to give 23 years of service to this city without him having the opportunity or ability to at least resign ... this is not going to go away," Chaney said.

Councilwoman Maxine Thornton-Reese said the issue was "fairness and respect, not only for Chief Bolton but for the African-Americans in the city."

Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Don W. Hill promised he would "get down to the truth."

Benavides, a Hispanic, has said no single reason but "an accumulation of issues" prompted him to let Bolton go Tuesday.

11 Texas runaway Dems are on vacation through Tuesday

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — They've asked Republicans for a cooling-off period in the standoff over congressional redistricting. But for the next several days, 11 Democrats hiding out in New Mexico have granted themselves a cooling-off period.

The group of senators — who broke quorum and fled the state more than a month ago to avoid a vote on a GOP-backed redistricting plan — are on vacation until Tuesday for Labor Day weekend. Some senators planned on attending out-of-state fund-raisers while others planned to see family.

"I haven't asked the senators where they're going to be," said Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, chairwoman of the Senate Democratic Caucus. "All I know is that nobody's going to be in Texas."

The break comes just in time.

The Senate's longest serving member, John Whitmire of Houston, said Wednesday he was growing increasingly anxious to get home and frustrated that there appears to be no end in sight in the standoff with Republicans.

"I want an end game," said Whitmire, who has had a bag packed for several days, ready to return to Houston. "I wanted an end game when we left ... If you stayed another 30 days, what would you do then?"

At news conferences, leaders of the Democratic pack who left Austin to block congressional redistricting insist the whole group is committed to staying another month.

Bush considers U.N.-sanctioned force if led by U.S. commander

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration is now open to the possibility of establishing a U.N.-endorsed multinational force in Iraq if it is headed by an American commander, a top State Department official says.

Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage acknowledged that the idea is one of many being weighed by the administration as it attempts to deal with continuing violence in that country almost four months after President Bush declared an end to major combat operations.

Armitage outlined his thoughts in an interview with regional U.S. newspapers on Tuesday. A text was made available by the State Department.

Secretary of State Colin Powell traveled to New York City last week to issue an appeal for a new U.N. Security Council resolution that would reinforce U.N. support for the deployment of additional foreign forces in Iraq.

Initial soundings by administration officials suggested minimal support for that approach, taking into account continuing resentment among many Security Council members about the U.S. decision in March to go to war in Iraq without U.N. endorsement.

Since then, the administration has been trying out other ideas that would address U.S. concerns about continuing instability in Iraq without yielding to American insistence on retaining command over international forces in Iraq.

Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del., who has been pressing the administration about the war's cost and calling for more troops, welcomed the idea of a U.N.-endorsed multinational force.

"Otherwise, the American taxpayers carry the whole load," Biden told ABC's "Good Morning America" on today. "We're 95 percent of the deaths, 95 percent of the troops and 95 percent of the costs. And the costs are staggering, the number of troops are staggering, and the time is going to be significant."

Four arrested in Snyder

•Arrests

Wednesday at 5:31 p.m., a 21-year-old woman was arrested in the 1300 block of 26th Street for city warrants.

At 6:03 p.m. Wednesday, a 31-year-old woman was transferred from Tarrant County jail to Scurry County jail after being arrested on a warrant for motion to revoke probation.

Wednesday at 9:20 p.m. a 20-year-old man was arrested in the 1300 block of 26th Street on a warrant for motion to revoke probation.

At 10:16 p.m. Wednesday, a 19-year-old man was arrested in the 1300 block of 26th on warrants for motion to revoke probation.

•Burglary

At 7:02 a.m. Wednesday, Don Chandler reported a break-in at 84 Truck and Trailer. A report for burglary of a business was filed.

Wednesday at 9 a.m., Stanley Clark reported that some coin operated machines at Oasis Car Wash had been tampered with. A report for burglary of a business was submitted.

•Gas drive off

At 9:41 p.m. Wednesday, a Town and Country east employee reported a gas drive off worth $30.50.

•Loud music

Wednesday at 10:42 a.m., loud music was reported at Western Texas College. Officers advised subjects of the complaint.

At 12:36 a.m. today, loud music was reported at the north end of Trailertopia. The subject was contacted and the music was turned down.

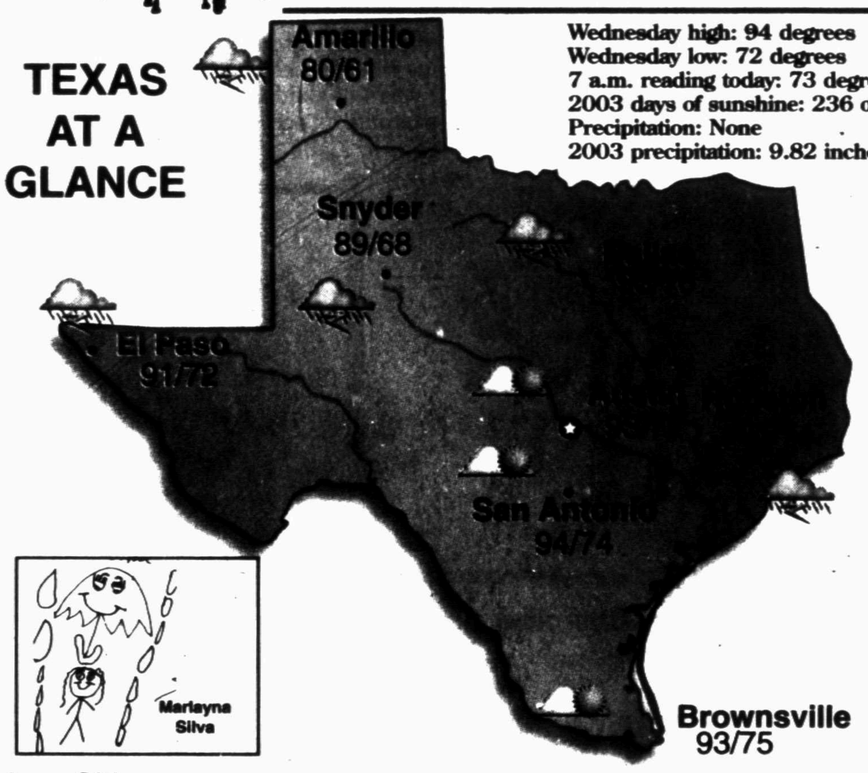
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 8/29	Sat 8/30	Sun 8/31
89/68	82/60	77/58
Some clouds and possibly an isolated thunderstorm in the afternoon.	A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the low 60s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the upper 50s.
Sunrise 7:16 AM, Sunset 8:12 PM	Sunrise 7:17 AM, Sunset 8:11 PM	Sunrise 7:17 AM, Sunset 8:10 PM

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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Wednesday high: 94 degrees
Wednesday low: 72 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 73 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 236 of 239
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 9.82 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	89	71	t-storm	El Paso	91	72	t-storm	Midland	92	70	pt sunny
Amarillo	80	61	t-storm	Fort Stockton	92	70	pt sunny	Raymondville	96	74	pt sunny
Austin	93	72	pt sunny	Gainesville	91	72	t-storm	Rosenberg	91	73	t-storm
Beaumont	89	73	t-storm	Greenville	92	71	t-storm	San Antonio	94	74	pt sunny
Brownsville	93	75	pt sunny	Houston	91	74	t-storm	San Marcos	96	73	pt sunny
Brownwood	94	71	pt sunny	Kingsville	95	73	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	93	70	t-storm
Corpus Christi	93	76	pt sunny	Livingston	91	70	t-storm	Sweetwater	89	69	t-storm
Corsicana	93	72	t-storm	Longview	91	70	t-storm	Tyler	93	73	t-storm
Dallas	93	76	t-storm	Lubbock	87	65	t-storm	Weatherford	92	71	pt sunny
Del Rio	97	77	pt sunny	Lufkin	92	72	t-storm	Wichita Falls	95	71	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	86	69	t-storm	Houston	91	74	t-storm	Phoenix	102	80	sunny
Boston	80	71	pt sunny	Los Angeles	81	63	sunny	San Francisco	78	58	mst sunny
Chicago	78	61	cloudy	Miami	85	78	t-storm	Seattle	83	57	sunny
Dallas	93	76	t-storm	Minneapolis	73	53	pt sunny	St. Louis	82	68	t-storm
Denver	75	53	t-storm	New York	83	72	pt sunny	Washington, DC	89	75	t-storm

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Aug 27	Sep 3	Sep 10	Sep 18

UV Index

Fri 8/29	Sat 8/30	Sun 8/31
Very High	High	High

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

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