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WT-Int. Crude - $33.93
WTIC Posted - $30.75
Natural Gas - $6.270

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Feb. 6, 2003
Vol. 53 No. 241
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Billy Blythe

Royalty selected at Snyder High School

Colby Driggers was named Mr. SHS and Ira Gonzales crowned Miss SHS during ceremonies this morning at Snyder High School.

Both Driggers and Gonzales are seniors.

Driggers was a member of the football team and is currently playing basketball.

Gonzales is a cheerleader, and was also named homecoming queen.

Other nominees for the Mr. SHS crown were Tanner Beard, T. J. Jones, Josh Montoya and Clay Williams.

Other Miss SHS nominees were Hailey Putnam, Jackie Beccue, Amanda Hartzog and Cozy Jones.

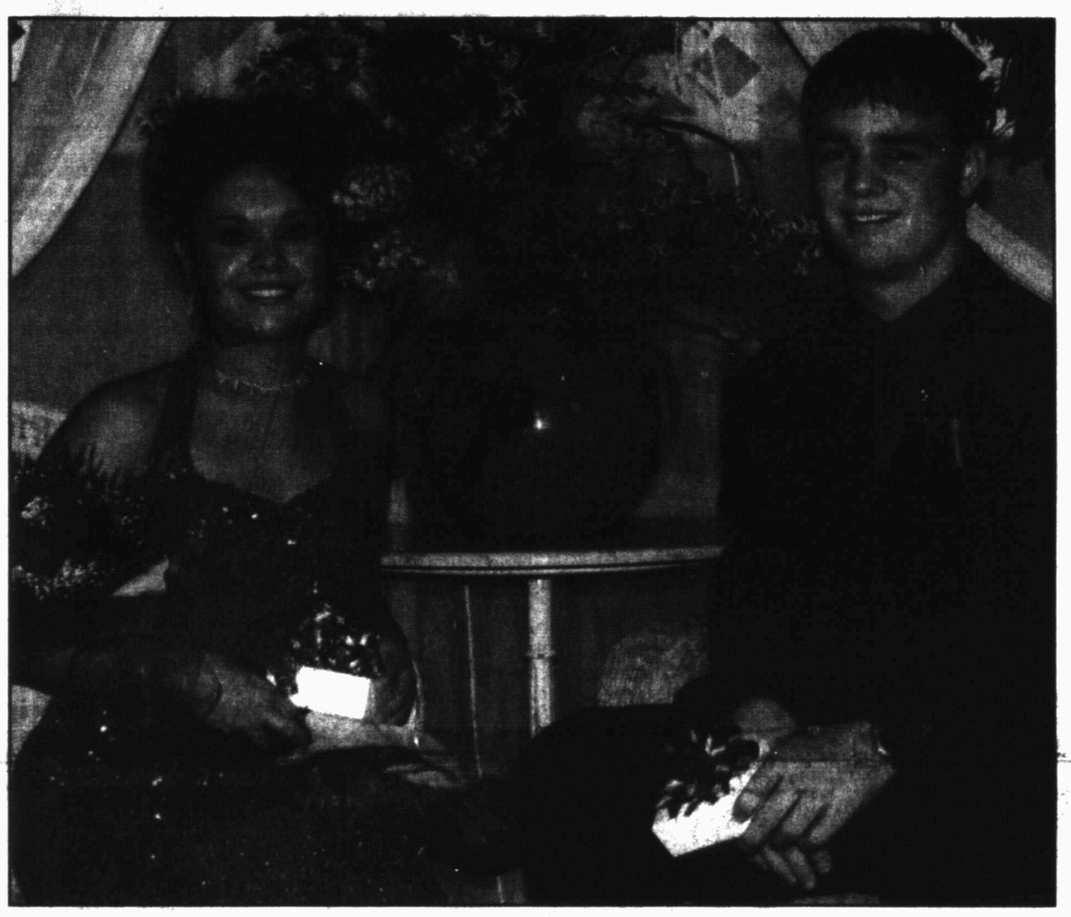
A number of school, club and athletic sweethearts also were recognized this morning.

These include Erin Cooley, band; Amanda Hartzog, baseball; Nickki McKinney, boys basketball; Tyler Kerr, girls basketball; Isaac Ramon, cheerleaders; Afton Schwertner, choir; Patrick Alderete, choir; Tamara Taylor, cross country; Arthur Hernandez, cross country; Kamie Drain, DECA; Trey Roland, DECA; Sara Cantu, drama; Caleb Durham, drama; and D'Angelo Davis, FCCLA.

Others are Kim Rivera, football; Beth Parsley, FFA; Julia Beck, Mathilde Frikke and Samvel Margaryan, foreign exchange student; Blake Robertson, forensics; Bobby Sands, forensics; Katie Kerley, boys golf; Vaughn Wiggins, girls golf; Bonnie Cleveland, KTXS; Jacinda Judah, National Honor Society; Zach Starnes, National Honor Society; Katherine Johnson, powerlifting; and Josh Knox, powerlifting.

Others are Logan Hill, softball; Malorye Miller, SHS Today; Bret McClendon, SHS Today; Sarah Crawford, student council; Will Davis, student council; Jessica Ryland, TSA; Cory Cochran, TSA; Pat Vargas, tennis; Horacio DePaz, tennis; Kasey Wemken, Tiger's Lair; Ashley Edwards, Tiger's Tale; Starla Bruton, boys track; Jason Guynes, girls track; Janie Garcia, Visual Art Club; and Tucker Early, volleyball.

Musical entertainment was provided by Jacinda Judah and Patrick Alderete, Afton Schwertner and Stephanie Crisp.



SHS ROYALTY —Snyder High School seniors Colby Driggers and Ira Gonzales were named Mr. and Miss SHS during the annual coronation this morning in Worsham Auditorium. A number of other students were recognized as "Sweethearts" of various orgnizations. (SDN Staff Photo)

Ragland named president of ASB

Snyder native Shawn Ragland was named president of American State Bank in Snyder.

The announcement was made by W. R. Collier, president and chairman of the board of American State Bank, headquartered in Lubbock.

Ragland, a Snyder High School graduate, has more than 22 years of banking experience in Scurry County.

"With 15 years of that time in lending, Shawn brings an important depth of consumer, commercial and agricultural understanding to this job," said Collier.

Presently, Ragland is vice president and loan officer of West Texas State Bank.

"My time at West Texas State Bank has been memorable," said Ragland. "I'm excited about this new chapter in my life and I look forward to serving the customers of American State Bank."

Ragland is expected to be in his new position within two weeks.

Ragland has served a number of community positions in Snyder, including the Kiwanis Club, Scurry County Coliseum board and Mesquite Country Emmaus.

Shawn Ragland

He also serves as a college and career Bible study leader, and has assisted with Scurry County Girls Little Dribblers and the Snyder Girls Softball Association.

He and his wife, Teresa, have two children – Annie and Terann.

Annie is married to Brandon Martin and they have one son, Tyler.

Terann is an eighth grader at Snyder Junior High School.

The Raglands are active members of First Baptist Church.

American State Bank has 28 banking offices in 16 cities in West Texas and has been in Snyder since 1984.

WTC 'preparing for the worst' for budget cuts

Today is the deadline for responses to the governor's office concerning budget plans for state agencies and how each intend to cut seven percent in an effort to curb a multi-billion dollar fiscal shortfall.

Western Texas College falls under the proposed cost cutting, but Dr. Greg Williams, president, said the college has not prepared a response.

"We are working collectively with the Texas Association of Community Colleges in a response to the governor," he said. "A letter was sent on Jan. 29 by the organization that explains our situation."

Dr. Williams said the hope among TACC members is that the governor's office might rescind the order for community colleges

But WTC is "preparing for the worst" and taking measures to comply with the budget orders.

"We want to make sure we're ready for whatever they throw at us," he said. "We've looked at some areas where we might be able to make cuts, but it won't be easy and we hope we won't have to make them."

The president said it is unclear exactly what cuts would be made at WTC.

"We have to work through an extensive process to make these kinds of decisions," he said. "They can't expect us to know exactly what we're going to do in two weeks."

Dr. Williams said he has been in close contact with District 72 State Rep. Scott Campbell and feels strongly that the freshman legislator will work for WTC.

"Mr. Campbell does not feel that these budget cuts would lead to a good situation for community colleges," Dr. Williams said. "He is on our side."

The letter sent by TACC to the governor's office has garnered no response, Dr. Williams said.

Wesson tops spelling contest

With eight students competing this morning, it didn't take long to determine who will represent Snyder in the regional spelling bee in Lubbock.

That honor goes to J.W. Wesson, seventh grader and son of Jay and Tammy Wesson.

The runner-up is Shawn Burns, East fourth grader, and son of Belinda Toland. Should Wesson not be able to compete at regional, Burns would take his place.

The champion was named after seven rounds of spelling. In the seventh round, Burns missed "identify" and Wesson correctly spelled "affection" and then "expensive" to be declared the winner.

The words "noble" and "fixation" eliminated two spellers in the first round. In round two, the word "aromatic" tripped another speller. Three more spellers were eliminated in round three by "corrode," "reactant," and "trans."

Wesson and Burns vied for top speller honors in rounds four through seven.

Besides Wesson, Josi Presley, seventh grade daughter of Ricky and Teri Presley, also represented the junior high.

In addition to Burns, Ana Cabrera represented East Elementary. She is the daughter of Steven and Martha Cabrera.

Brance Scott and Sami Dee Barrera spelled for Northeast Elementary. Scott is the son of Darby and Susie Scott. Barrera's parents are Sammy and Rachel Barrera.

West sent Jared Cave and Gina Hermosillo to the spelling bee. Cave is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Bryan Cave. Hermosillo's parents are Mr. and Mrs. Johnny Hermosillo.

The regional bee is set March 22 at the National Ranching Heritage Center.

Snyder ISD's bee began at 9 this morning at the Fine Arts Theatre at Western Texas College. Dr. Edward Barkowsky, English professor, served at the dictionary and recording judge.

Christy Smith, SHS English teacher, was the head judge. Other judges were Melanie Graf, WTC English instructor; and Emily Hataway, GED and ESL instructor at WTC.

Pam Hart, Central Elementary principal, was the master of ceremonies.

All students received a medal and trophies were presented to the top two spellers.

This morning's bee was different because only Snyder students competed. Previously, this bee was for all county schools. Now each school sponsors its own bee.

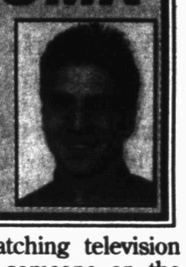
Ira ISD held its bee Tuesday and Hermleigh ISD will have its bee Friday.

TOP TWO SPELLERS — J.W. Wesson, left, won Snyder ISD's spelling bee this morning and Shawn Burns is the runner-up. Wesson now advances to the regional bee set March 22 in Lubbock. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Brian Brisendine



We were watching television recently when someone on the tube mentioned the new fad of guys with a lot of money purchasing trips into outer space, via the Russian space agency.

Price of the jaunt is a mere $20 million after the customer passes a few rigorous physical exams. One of our fellow viewers asked if we'd take advantage of the opportunity, assuming money were no object.

Our answer was both quick and decisive — absolutely, in a heartbeat.

That was before Saturday's disaster that claimed the lives of seven of our country's astronauts in the Columbia.

It's the second time in our lifetime that the space program has suffered such a setback. We were in the first grade, watching from the school library when the Challenger met its premature end upon liftoff in 1986.

Both happenings were terrible outcomes to what promised to be wonderful journeys.

In both instances the American public was quickly reassured that the space program would continue despite the setbacks.

We think this entirely appropriate and we're sure that's how all of the astronauts who perished would want it.

These few brave folks have one of the most dangerous jobs in the world. But in almost every case, when an astronaut finally reaches space, it's a goal they've been dreaming of since childhood.

We're sure they wouldn't want the space program to cease, thus suffocating the dreams of today's children — tomorrow's astronauts.

Even after the highly visible tragedies suffered by the space program, our lofty aspirations of reaching space someday haven't changed.

We'd go tomorrow if given the chance and we don't find fault with anybody who forks over money for help in reaching the stars.

We've always loved an adrenaline rush. Whether it's provided by an amusement park roller coaster or a mean ski slope, we love that feeling.

We also have a need for speed and have a hard time imagining anything faster than a space vehicle.

We think the shuttle would be a great ride, but getting to space and coming home would be only half the fun.

Just imagine looking down on the earth from outside its atmosphere.

The photos taken from that vantage are incredible, but we'd like to witness it firsthand.

The feeling of weightlessness also would be unique. We always enjoy watching astronauts float freely around the craft.

Something tells us we might get the chance to make the trip someday — and we'd venture that it won't cost $20 million.

Our bet is that in a decade or two, space tours will be as common a vacation as Caribbean cruises are today.

Space planes that once could only be found on the cover of Popular Mechanics will seat as many tourists as today's passenger jets.

Elementary students will write papers about how they spent their summer — on the moon.

We realize all this might sound farfetched, but how silly was the idea in 1950 that an American would walk on the moon less than 20 years later?

We'll go ahead and reserve our seat.

ASK US

Q—With the weather as bad as it is, are the SHS softball teams going to scrimmage in Abilene today?

A—No. The scrimmages have been cancelled.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Cathy Peoples...

...and her husband, Thomas, have two of their four children graduating this year. Their oldest daughter, Alicia, will finish her degree at Trinity University, and daughter, Zipporah, is a senior at Snyder High. Daughter, Aeryal, is a freshmen at SHS and son, Jordan, is in the third grade. Cathy, an SISD school board trustee, said her favorite things are serving the Lord and decorating.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Pain comes from the weather, but joy is a choice.
—Rodney Crowell

FEB 06 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Scurry Lodge #706 meeting

Scurry Lodge #706 AF&AM will have a called meeting tonight at 7 to work in the Fellowcraft Degree. All Master Masons are welcome.

West yearbook deadline

This is the final week to purchase yearbooks at West Elementary.

Ira booster fund raiser

Ira's booster club will have a country style supper from 6:30-8:30 p.m. today in the school cafeteria. Prices are $6 for adults, $3 for children. The menu includes barbecue brisket and pork, German sausage, elk fajitas, turkey and rice, elk dirty rice, chili, stew, beans and cornbread.

Hermleigh Booster Club

The Hermleigh Booster Club will meet at 7 this evening in the school cafeteria. All parents are urged to attend.

Senior water aerobics

Senior water aerobics will be held from 10-11 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays at the WTC pool.

West Elementary awards program

The West Elementary awards program is at 9 a.m. Friday. First graders will present the program and then the primary students will receive their awards. The sixth grade awards will be presented at 9:35.

GED pre-registration and testing dates

The math segment of the GED test will begin at 8 a.m. Friday at Western Texas College. For more information about the GED test call Molly Kattes at 573-2919 or Emily Hataway at 573-8511, ext. 297, or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Krispy Kreme donuts

Price Daniel Unit employees are selling Krispy Kreme donuts. To pre-order, call 573-1114 by Friday and ask for Mrs. Merritt or Mrs. Cheyne. Orders will be picked up beginning at 7:30 a.m. Monday in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

Country and Gospel music

Country and Gospel music will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Senior Citizens Center.

8th grade parents meeting

There will be a meeting of all Snyder 8th grade parents to plan an end-of-school party. The meeting will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at 3300 Ave. U. Anyone interested is invited. For more information call Cindy Brewster at 573-6337, Carlene Lee at 573-2709 or Tina Stansell at 573-4157.

Retired teachers meeting

Snyder Retired Teachers Association will meet at noon Monday at the Shack. Program, "What About Music," will be presented by Emily Hataway.

Support groups

Adult family violence support group and children's family violence support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Monday at Gateway Family Service. For information call 573-1822.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "Everybody Needs Jesus," followed by "Ingredients of a Godly Home."

Relay captains to meet

Team captains for the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life will meet at 5:30 p.m. Tuesday in the teachers' lounge at Stanfield Elementary.

Apostolic Faith Church special services

The Apostolic Faith Church is holding special services at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday through Friday with Mark Palmer from Anchorage as guest speaker. The public is invited to attend the meetings at 2510 25th St. For additional information, call 573-8115.

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

2003 Ira annuals available

The 2003 Ira Bulldog annuals may be purchased until Monday, Feb. 17. Cost is $26 with name on cover or $22 without. Contact the school to purchase one.

Hospice memorial service

A memorial service for families who lost someone during 2002 will be held at 7 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18, in the First Presbyterian Church.

Relay for Life cookbooks

The cookbooks of the Cogdell Memorial Hospital Relay for Life team are now available for a $10 donation. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Call Becky Craig at 573-2472, Jo Schooler at 573-7807 or 573-6374.

Relay for Life teams needed

Teams are now being recruited for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Scurry County to be held April 25-26 at Tiger Stadium. For more information, contact Margaret Presswood, recruitment chairperson, at 573-4873.

Alzheimer's meeting

An Alzheimer's meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Monday, Feb. 18 in the Colonial Hill library. The topic will be financial management for caregivers. For more information, call Kinney Robinson at 573-9377.

Snyder Oaks family council

The family council of Snyder Oaks Care Center will meet from 6:30-7:30 Thursday, Feb. 27. The meeting is for resident's family members on a program presented by Brenda Elkins of the Area Agency of Aging.

WTC adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes at WTC will be held Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8 a.m. until noon, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include E.S. L., GED and refresher courses. Certified teachers and Spanish speaking aides teach the classes. Call 573-8511, ext. 322.

Ending Robin Hood plan gains momentum

AUSTIN (AP) — Sunsetting Robin Hood became the first bill to make it out of committee during the 78th Legislature. Now, the Texas House is going straight to work with plans to wipe out the so-called Robin Hood school finance system — with or without an alternative.

House Speaker Tom Craddick said Wednesday a bill that would end Robin Hood by 2005 probably will get to the House floor within the next two weeks. That's when all 150 members of the Republican-dominated House will get to vote on it.

The House Education Committee approved the bill Tuesday evening with a 6-2 party-line vote. Republicans on the panel voted for it; the two Democrats opposed it.

The legislation would eliminate the state's share-the-wealth school finance system, in which property-rich districts give money away to property-poor districts. But the lack of an alternative plan caused some lawmakers to criticize the move.

And the bill's fate in the Senate is uncertain.

"I've never been one to put a gun to my own head. What it is is an admission that the Legislature can't come to grips with this problem without a gun to its own head," said Sen. Bill Ratliff, R-Mount Pleasant, who authored the Robin Hood law in 1993.

Ratliff said he doubts he'll support the bill.

Meanwhile, Craddick appointed a five-member working group to address school finance, likely behind closed doors. The group will not be charged with crafting legislation, but will "look at steps we need to take to get there," Craddick said.

MORE BUDGET WOES:

The Capitol is being flooded with bad budget news. This time flooding is to blame.

House Appropriations Committee members learned Wednesday of $29 million more in higher-than-expected costs related to major floods. That bumps budget overruns up to $445 million this fiscal year.

Lawmakers were told last month that the state is expected to have a $1.8 billion deficit in fiscal year 2003, which ends Aug. 31. Part of that number included higher expenses in Medicaid, Children's Health Insurance and other programs.

But the $29 million in overruns for disaster relief was just reported this week by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, John Keel, director of the Legislative Budget Board, told the committee.

Another $8.1 billion shortfall is projected for the next two-year budget cycle, meaning deep cuts are expected to balance the 2004-05 spending plan the House committee will help draft.

INSURANCE PLAN

About 1,400 Texas homeowners have signed up to get their coverage through the state's newly established insurance market of last resort.

Homeowners are eligible for the plan if they have been declined residential property insurance by at least two insurance companies that are licensed to write and are actually writing residential property insurance in Texas.

Also, the homeowners may not have received a valid offer of comparable residential property insurance from an insurance company licensed in Texas, not including surplus lines insurers.

The first policy through the program was written Dec. 31.

Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor said he is pleased the program is working.

"It's reliable coverage and it's coverage sufficient to satisfy their lenders so its not an agonizing issue in terms of being able to comply with your bank note," Montemayor said.

'TEXAS TRAGEDY'

Displaying a huge banner that read, "Texas Tragedy," Texans with mental retardation and their families and advocates gathered in front of the Capitol to urge more funding for community services.

Then they dispersed throughout the Capitol to press their case.

The group The Arc of Texas said 25,000 people across the state are on waiting lists for community-based services for the mentally disabled. Some have been waiting 10 years, said Richard Garnett, president of the organization.

PLANNED PARENTHOOD

About 500 supporters of Planned Parenthood met in Austin and later converged on the Capitol to stress their belief in protecting women's reproductive rights.

Planned Parenthood also received recognition during the Senate prayer by Rabbi Barry Block of San Antonio.

"Planned Parenthood saves lives. Reproductive freedom is a cherised American liberty," Block said during the prayer.

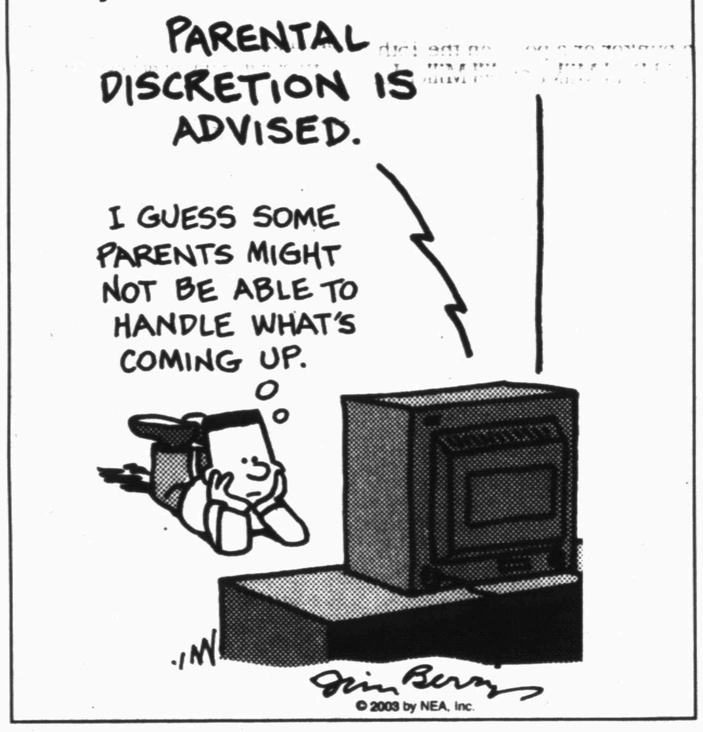
TEXAS ROYALTY

Former University of Texas football coach Darrell Royal was honored in the Senate. Lawmakers heaped praise on the legendary sports figure, and several of them wanted their picture taken with him.

AND...

Texas Health and Human Services Commissioner Albert Hawkins announced Wednesday that Jason Cooke will head the state's Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance programs. Cooke had been serving as the CHIP director. He replaces Charles Bell.

Berry's World



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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Feb. 7, 2003

Major beneficial changes could be in the offing for you in the year ahead in many phases of your life. Disagreeable situations or people will be replaced with attractive arrangements and circumstances.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — There are personal opportunities hovering about you today from sources you'd least expect. Be a good listener if a trusted friend starts talking about an interesting development she or he encountered.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — This could turn out to be an exceptionally pleasant day for you, especially if you are single and attend some type of event where there are lots of members of the opposite gender present.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — You could find yourself on the same wavelength today with persons who have considerable influence. It's an excellent time to press for a favor if you're in need of one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — If you plan to leave your home today, take your cell phone with you or leave a message where you can be reached. Someone you've been hoping to hear from might be trying to reach you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Without being asked, a person who cares a great deal for you, but who is not very demonstrative, may show his or her desire to please you by doing something very nice for you today.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Connect with someone or some group today and offer your involvement. Any partnership arrangement you make should work out very well for you, even if you play a minor role.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — You'll not only achieve a great sense of accomplishment today by performing up to your highest level, but what you do will be noticed and admired by others as well.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Whether you seek them or not, a number of social invitations could be coming your way today. You're far more popular than you may think.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — A subtle but important change for which you've been hoping may transpire today. It will bring you and someone you love much closer together.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You could find yourself in the middle of an altercation between two of your pals. You will have them laughing in no time at what caused the tension in the first place.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — If you check your resources carefully today, you should be able to find, much to your delight, the ways and means to purchase something rather luxurious that you've been longing for.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Fun diversions won't be a waste of time today where you're concerned. In fact, bringing a little levity into your life will have a revitalizing affect upon your outlook.

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Date Book

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003

Today is the 37th day of 2003 and the 47th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1788, Massachusetts became the sixth state to ratify the Constitution, by a vote of 187-168.

On this day in 1937, John Steinbeck's novella "Of Mice and Men" was first published.

On this day in 1985, President Ronald Reagan delivered his State of the Union address, wherein he laid out what has become known as the "Reagan Doctrine," a foreign policy in support of aiding "freedom fighters" in other countries in order to fight Soviet and left-leaning political movements.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Aaron Burr (1756-1836), U.S. vice president; George Herman "Babe" Ruth (1895-1948), athlete; Ronald Wilson Reagan (1911-), U.S. president, is 92; Zsa Zsa Gabor (1919), actress, is 84; Francois Truffaut (1932-1984), director; Bob Marley (1945-1981), musician.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1971, astronaut Alan Shepard used a specially designed 6-iron to hit a golf ball on the surface of the moon.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Emancipate yourselves from mental slavery / None but ourselves can free our minds!" — Bob Marley

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Feb. 1) and first quarter (Feb. 9).

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events

LOTTO TEXAS™
TEXAS LOTTERY
RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — One ticket correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $5 million.

The ticket (was/were) sold in: Dalhart

The numbers drawn Saturday night from a field of 54 were: 5-13-21-33-35-48.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $4 million.

Pick 3
(Day) 8-4-5
(Night) 2-4-6
Cash Five
3-9-15-29-33

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Lifestyles

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son, Hope Cole,
Kayla Guerrero.
college of art and
Photo by Jo Ann

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MATH CONFERENCE — A mathematics conference for young women at Abilene Christian University was attended by seven Snyder High School students. The girls, outstanding math students, were chosen by their math teachers. Attending were (from left) top row, Blake Robertson, Hope Cole, Krista Chaidez, Kim Cooper; front row, Rachael Herrera, Lacey Kincaid and Kayla Guerrero. The trip was sponsored by the Mathematical Association of America and ACU's college of art and sciences and the department of mathematics and computer science. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Snyder Garden Club; Scurry County Library; "Landscape Design" by Patsy Huckabee, master gardner, master flower show judge, emeritus; 4 p.m.

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 574-8015, 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.

Golf course features Snoopy bunker

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — A fairway at the St. Paul's Highland 18 Golf Course features more than a dog leg — it has the whole dog, and a famous one at that.

Golfers on the 15th hole will encounter a large fairway bunker with the outline of Snoopy, the "Peanuts" comic strip character created by the late St. Paul native Charles Schulz.

"We knew about Charles Schulz's connection to Highland where he used to play and caddie, so we dropped Snoopy in as a bunker or a pond on the 15th," said Paul Miller of Gill Miller Inc.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 02-06-03
♠ A K 4
♥ 8 5 2
♦ 6 3
♣ A Q 10 5 4

West
♠ 8 6 5
♥ A K 7
♦ J 8 7 4 2
♣ 7 6

East
♠ 7 3
♥ Q 10 4 3
♦ K Q 5
♣ J 9 8 3

South
♠ Q J 10 9 2
♥ J 9 6
♦ A 10 9
♣ K 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 NT	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ A

Thursday, Feb. 6, 2003

The long and short of opening

By Phillip Alder

We have been looking at deciding whether to open when you are holding only 11 or 12 high-card points.

As mentioned yesterday, many writers recommend including distribution points in your initial count. If you like this approach, first, do not add for short suits. If you have a book recommending that, give it to your opponents. I feel strongly that you should only upgrade for shortages once a trump fit is found.

You may add a point for every card over four in a suit. Long suits rate to be useful. But it is best to rely on the good-suit and rebid requirements discussed earlier in the week — in my opinion!

Today's South hand is a borderline opening, but it has five good spades, no rebid problems, and good intermediates (nines and 10s).

If you would have reached three no-trump, well bid. (I think North should rebid a forcing three spades, but many play it is as nonforcing.)

West leads the heart ace: two, 10 (encouraging), six. West cashes the heart king, then leads a third round. After winning with his queen, East shifts to the diamond king.

You have five spades and one diamond, so need four club tricks, not five. The right play is to draw two rounds of trump, leaving an honor in the dummy. Are spades 4-1? If they are, draw trumps, using the club king as the hand entry, and hope the club suit runs. But when spades break 3-2, play a club to your king, a club to the ace (or queen), and ruff a club in hand. Cross to dummy with a trump, cash the queen-10 (or ace-10) of clubs and discard your diamond losers.

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Southwest Airlines seeks to bring back the SeaWorld penguin tours

DALLAS (AP) — Southwest Airlines is seeking the government's approval to bring back its popular SeaWorld penguin tours, in which two of the tuxedoed waddlers are put on jets to promote the amusement park as a summer destination.

The promotion was shut down after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and some security concerns must be addressed before the promotion can restart.

"One of the things that they mentioned was, 'Would it be possible that we would be able to wand the animals?'" said Melanie Jones, creative manager for the Dallas-based carrier.

SeaWorld and Southwest Airlines have worked since the 1980s to lure business to parks in San Antonio, San Diego, and Orlando, Fla. Southwest flew SeaWorld animals to cities that have nonstop flights to the parks.

"If we can find a way to make this happen, far be it from us to not say yes," said Ed Martelle, spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration. "The trick is being able to do this and not compromise security."

Southwest has been informed that whatever animals would be brought would be subject to wanding at the security checkpoint. SeaWorld officials say that's OK since the penguins travel well and are used to being handled.

"We feel like they really brighten people's days," said Fran Stephenson, SeaWorld's spokeswoman in San Antonio. "Besides, they don't have any pockets to empty."

—

Most of the million or more dolphins and porpoises that die each year in fishing nets are not even wanted but are the "bycatch" of fishermen seeking other prey, usually fish or squid, according to National Geographic.

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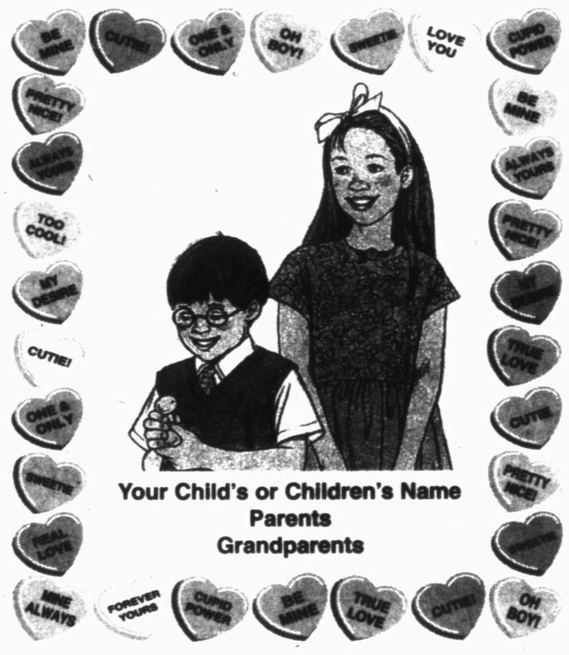
Tuesday, February 11



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1994 Chevy Caprice Runs Great	$3,800
1994 Pontiac Grand Am 57K Miles, Must See	$8,500
1995 Mercury Cougar V-6, School Car	$6,500
1997 Chrysler Sebring LXI 2 Door	$5,850

FEB 06 2003

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman

THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski

BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr

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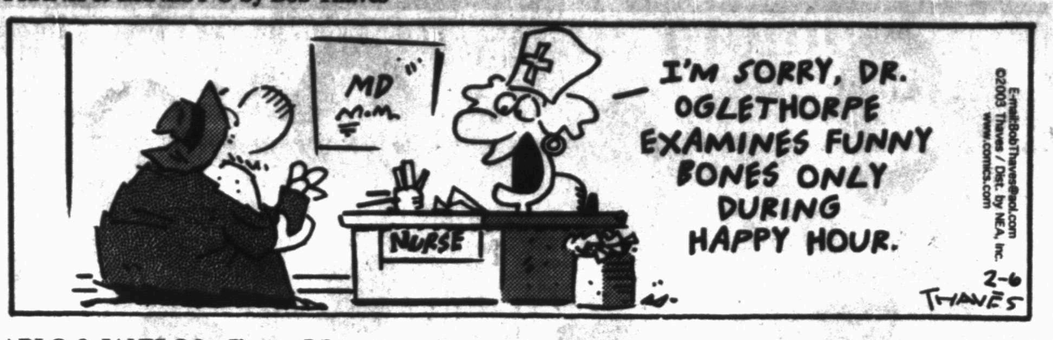
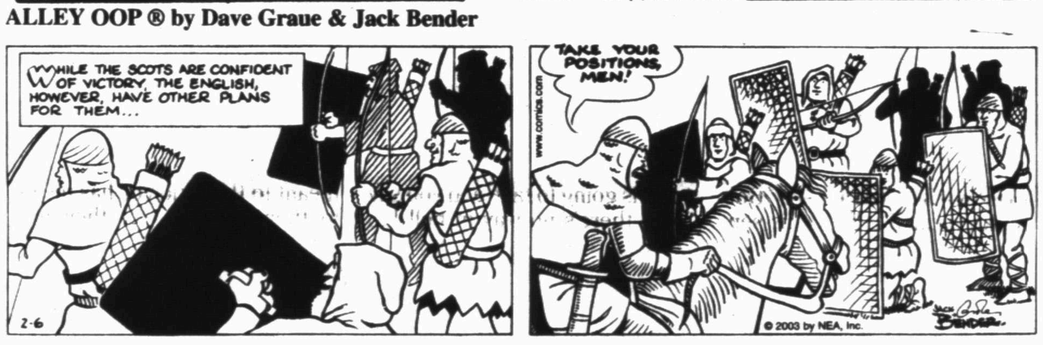


ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson

BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce

MONTY ® by Jim Meddick

ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Light wood
6 House pets
10 Not transparent
12 Rococo
14 More or less
15 Kind of soup
16 Makes up for
18 Rover's greeting
19 Mongolian desert
21 — spumante
23 Pull
24 Graceful tree
26 Celebrity
29 Lend a hand
30 Lamprey
32 Dragged into court
34 Mirth
36 Lilly or Wallach
37 "— -Pan" (Clavell novel)
38 Bridge bldr.
40 Double curve
42 World Series mo.
43 Talks on and on
45 Starting gate
47 Merchandise ID
50 Hanging ornament
52 Flashes
54 Young raptors
58 Travel stopovers
59 Lebanese port
60 Sampras of tennis
61 Horse race

DOWN

1 Python
2 Aries mo.
3 Southeast Asian
4 Pigeon
5 Daddy's sister
6 Hilltope
7 "That Girl" girl
8 So long, in Soho (hyph.)
9 Mix up
11 Ancient Tokyo
12 Pamplona shouts
13 Brownie
17 Unknown
19 Cunning
20 Limerick writer — Nash
22 "— a deal!"
23 Price ticket
25 Spike or Bruce
27 Traffic jammers
28 Show surprise
31 Lily, to Pierre
33 Telegraph signal
35 — foo yung
39 Unnerve
41 Erupted
44 Game fish
46 Dragon of puppetry
47 "Yuck!"
48 Drop heavily
49 Summon to court
51 Express grief
53 Beauty-salon item
55 Slip up
56 Open container
57 Animal shelter

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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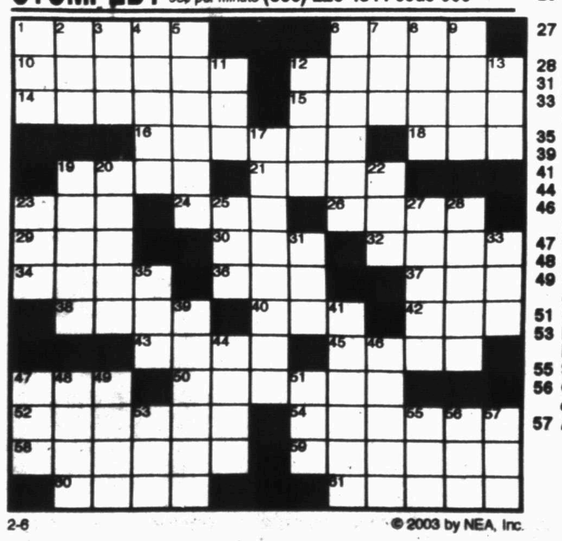

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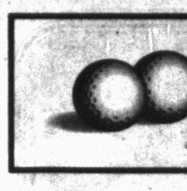
Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"He's swallowed $4 in small change! Can you operate before the stores close?"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Offse
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By Bobb
SDN Spor

One can feel the
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High School weig
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whole lot of smiles

A group of stud
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from bench to
squats to leg press

Another group
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They run back
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Rogers said. "We

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LUBBOCK (A
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Basketball:
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Basketball:
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Baseball:
Softball:
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Powerlifting:
Tennis:
Golf:

National

EASTERN CON	
Atlantic Di	
	W
New Jersey	34
Boston	27
Philadelphia	25
Washington	24
Orlando	24
New York	21
Miami	17
Central Di	
	W
Indiana	34
Detroit	32
New Orleans	26
Milwaukee	24
Atlanta	19
Chicago	17
Toronto	14
Cleveland	10
WESTERN CON	
Midwest Di	
	W
Dallas	36
San Antonio	32
Minnesota	25
Utah	25
Houston	26
Memphis	13
Denver	12
Pacific Di	
	W

SPORTS

Offseason program builds strength and camaraderie

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

One can feel the heat radiating from the players in the Snyder High School weight room, can see the sweat running down reddened faces, and there aren't a whole lot of smiles.

A group of student athletes is laboring at weight training, going from bench to dumbbells to squats to leg presses.

Another group is running speed and agility drills with head coach Chad Rogers shouting out "Nebraska!" or "Oklahoma!" as the students switch gears at the sound of the drill's name.

They run backward, forward and sideways, sprinting around cones, and placing their hands on designated spots on the map.

Still another group is outside, supervised by defensive coordinator Armando Martinez, running loops with free weight plates tied around their waists.

The last group is running the hill south of the field house on the practice field, flipping massive tractor tires and hauling large logs down and then back up the incline.

All this activity is carefully planned and orchestrated in a way that would make an Army physical training instructor proud. It is an effort to better prepare athletes — not just football players, although they comprise the bulk of the players participating — for the upcoming season.

"We try to produce better athletes, regardless of the sport," Rogers said. "We want to be bigger, quicker and stronger."

Every school day at 2:30 since classes resumed after Christmas, athletes dress out to try to do just that, pushing themselves, and each other, through the grueling challenge of the staff's offseason program.

"These kids work extremely hard," he said. "It is very structured. We challenge them, but they know the goals and they challenge each other."

The 55-minute athletic period takes full advantage of advances in both weight training and coaching, Rogers said.

It is evident from the musculature carried on most high school football players today, compared with even ten years ago, that strength training has become the norm rather than the exception.

"My high school coach knew a little about weight lifting," he said. "Now, everybody lifts, and the kids like it because they can see the results."

Coaches have also become more adept at getting maximum physical performance from athletes, with kinesiology (the study of the movement of the body) and anatomy courses required to complete a physical education degree.

But weight training is just one part of the workout equation.

Students all stretch at the start of the class, then run through drills designed to increase flexibility and agility.

The drills include kicking and leaping, and Rogers said the added flexibility — combined with the increased strength — also improves safety.

"The risk of injury goes down with better conditioning," he said.

But the offseason work is more than just a physical endeavor.

Rogers said one major goal is to build a team atmosphere.

"We want to create a brotherhood, and have them make a commitment to each other," he said.

He admitted that forming that kind of camaraderie is not easy, and takes time over the course of the offseason to develop.

But one can see signs of that "brotherhood" already forming among the players. Many stay after the class is over, some to do more work, but most stay just to spend time with their teammates.

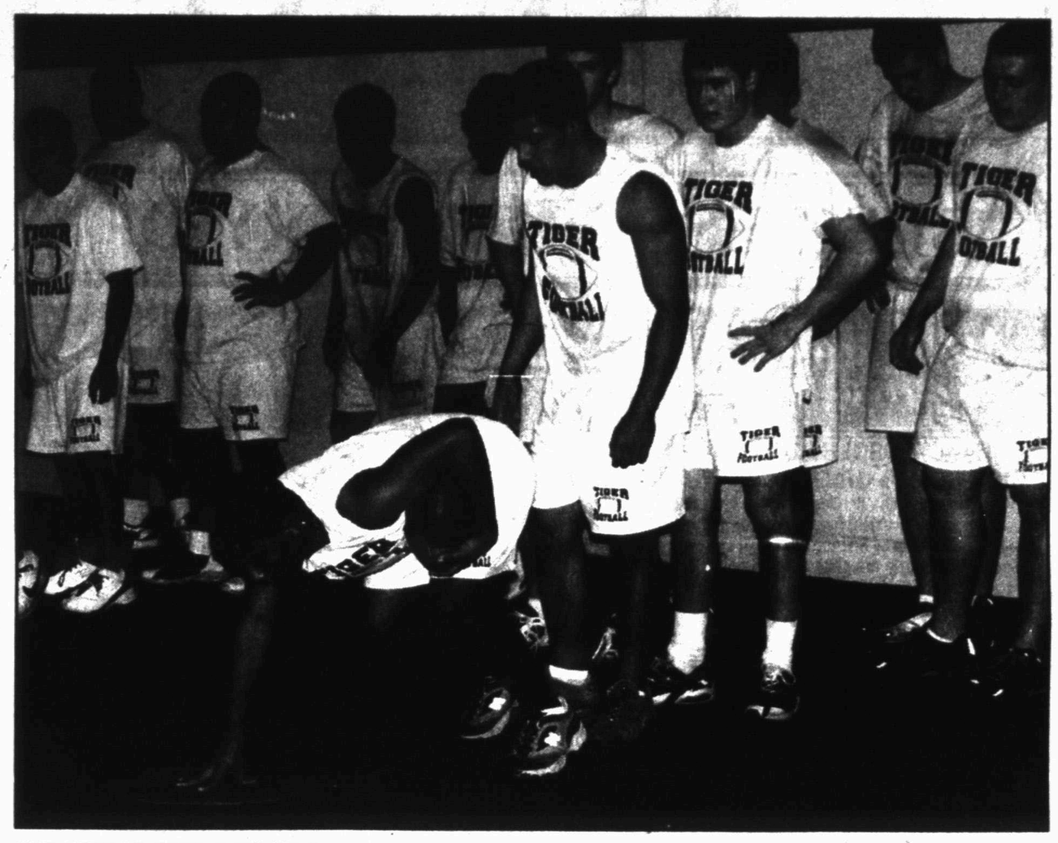
"I think it is evident they enjoy it," Rogers said. "This is not something everyone can do, but this group does a good job."

Attention to detail and discipline are key components of the program, and Rogers uses the time between stations to focus on goals — both for the season and for life. He places a special emphasis on mental preparation.

"Mental toughness precedes physical toughness," he said.

And the enthusiasm the students show is a direct reflection on a coaching staff that obviously loves its work.

"A team takes on its coaches demeanor," Rogers said. "Some coaches make the mistake of thinking they aren't a role model. But as a head coach, you are *the* role model."



SWEATING THE DETAILS — Snyder gridders line up to run through flexibilty and agilty drills during the program's offseason workouts. Boicy Martinez, with a football, takes his place at the starting line. The workouts began when student athletes returned from the winter break. (SDN Staff Photo)

Knight nostalgic after 800th win

LUBBOCK (AP) — Bob Knight revealed a bit of his sentimental side after his 800th victory.

He spoke of an opportunity to take an offer with CBS in 1981 that he declined and then of his desire to coach the U.S. Olympic team, which he did with a gold-medal performance in 1984.

"I stayed long enough to do that and then I just kind of kept coaching," Knight said. "I think you look back and you say to yourself when you start coaching, 'Well, I think I'll coach 1,100 games. Then you look how long 1,100 is going to take and you say 'Well, there's no way in hell I'm going to coach 1,100 games.'"

The 62-year-old Knight coached his 1,103rd game Wednesday night, leading Texas Tech past Nebraska 75-49.

He also spoke about the fans who have reached out to him through the years.

"It's kind of nice to get a letter from somebody that you don't know at all writing to you telling you how much what you've done with a basketball program or what you've done with kids or how you've dealt with kids has meant to their kids or has meant to them in whatever they do," Knight said. "So it's been enjoyable."

With fans chanting his name and the magic number, Knight became only the fourth Division I men's coach to reach 800 victories.

After the victory Wednesday night, Knight took to the microphone and spoke to his supporters.

"I've had some milestones, but I've never had a milestone in front of a crowd that I appreciated so much," he said. "I appreciate very much the support we have and the support that's been given us. Most of all I appreciate the support you students have given us."

When he was finished speaking, the team circled around him, hugging him and jumping up and down.

Fans got into the excitement throughout the game.

The crowd chanted "Bobby!" and "800" during the final couple of minutes of the game. A group of 11 Tech students stood frequently throughout the game, holding up white placards with red lettering that spelled out 1-800-Bob-Nite with the word 'WON' written vertically on the No. 1.

USC, LSU top recruiters

By the Associated Press

Southern California capitalized on its late-season surge to keep most of the state's top recruits at home.

Florida sold the opportunity to play right away to beat out its in-state rivals for the top talent in the Sunshine State.

LSU did an even better job than both of those schools, locking up the top high school football players in a strong year in Louisiana and poaching other players around the South to land the nation's top recruiting class Wednesday.

LSU got top honors from the Prep Football Report, Rivals.com and National Blue Chips — three prominent recruiting services.

USC was ranked No. 1 by SuperPrep, which had the Tigers third.

"They have absolutely dominated the state of Louisiana and reached into Florida, Mississippi and Texas and taken away blue chip athletes," said Bobby Burton of Rivals.com. "What's more impressive to me than any single player is the number of top players they have. The depth they have is unbelievable."

"I think almost at every position we recruited a player that can upgrade that position at some point in time in the future," coach Nick Saban said.

USC, which won its final eight games of the season, signed 12 of SuperPrep's top 17 players in talent-rich California, including receiver Whitney Lewis (Ventura), who chose the Trojans over Florida State on Wednesday.

Duncan sparks Spurs to victory

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — David Robinson had no doubt the San Antonio Spurs would make his final game in Oakland one to remember.

Leaving on a good note here might help the retiring center forget one particularly bad ending against Golden State. In 1991, the Spurs were the top seed in the Western Conference, and lost to the eighth-seeded Warriors in the first round of the playoffs.

Tim Duncan had 30 points, 12 rebounds and five assists before fouling out with 2:51 left and the Spurs never trailed in a 103-99 victory over the Warriors on Wednesday night.

Robinson, who will retire after the season, started his final game here despite soreness in his right knee. He had only six points and six rebounds, but he scored a put-back dunk on a miss by Parker with 2:26 left.

Sports Briefs

Football booster club

The SHS football booster club will meet Monday night at 7 in the film room. Parents of all freshman, JV and varsity players are encouraged to attend.

Little League accepting applications

Snyder Little League will be accepting applications for manager and coach positions for the eight-and nine-year-old major and minor leagues.

Applications may be picked up at Farmers Insurance at 2517, and must be turned in no later than Monday.

No late applications will be accepted and please no phone calls.

WTC basketball tournament

The Western Texas College Student Government Association will host an Outsiders Basketball Tournament Feb. 28 and March 1 at the WTC Gym. The entry fee is $100 per team, and there is a limit of 10 players per team. The deadline to sign up is Feb. 26. For more information or to sign up, call Kendra at 573-8511 ext. 674 or Casey at573-8511 ext. 509.

Williams settles lawsuit

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — Former NBA star Jayson Williams settled a civil lawsuit filed by the family of a limousine driver who was shot to death at his mansion.

Billy Williams released from hospital

CHICAGO (AP) — Hall of Famer Billy Williams was back home after being hospitalized briefly to adjust a heart monitor.

Williams, 64, had a defibrillator implanted "a couple months ago and there was a problem with the equipment," Chicago Cubs spokeswoman Sharon Pannozzo said.

Seahawks exercise options on QB

KIRKLAND, Wash. (AP) — The Seattle Seahawks exercised a two-year, $10.5 million option in the contract of quarterback Matt Hasselbeck.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY	
Basketball:	Jr. High Gold at Lamesa tourney.
	Jr. High Black at Snyder tourney, jr. high gym.
Softball:	Snyder JV at Cooper, Abilene, scrimmage.
	Snyder varsity at Wylie, Abilene, scrimmage.
FRIDAY	
Basketball:	Snyder varsity boys at Denver City, 7:30 p.m.
	Snyder frosh at Denver City, 6 p.m.
Baseball:	WTC at Weatherford JC, 2 p.m.
	Snyder vs. Ft. Stockton, scrimmage, 4 p.m.
Golf:	Snyder varsity boys at Horseshoe Bay.
	Snyder JV boys and girls at Big Spring.
SATURDAY	
Baseball:	WTC at Weatherford JC, double header, 1 p.m.
	Snyder varsity at Lubbock High, scrimmage.
Softball:	WTC vs. Western Oklahoma, 2 p.m.
	Snyder and JV at Odessa Permian, scrimmage.
Basketball:	Snyder jr. high Gold at Lamesa tourney.
	Jr. high Black at Snyder tourney, jr. high gym.
Powerlifting:	Snyder at Levelland, 9 a.m.
Tennis:	Snyder at Levelland quad meet, 9 a.m.
Golf:	Snyder varsity boys at Horseshoe Bay.
	Snyder Jv boys and girls at Big Spring.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	34	15	.694	—
Boston	27	22	.551	7
Philadelphia	25	24	.510	9
Washington	24	25	.490	10
Orlando	24	26	.480	10½
New York	21	26	.447	12
Miami	17	32	.347	17

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Indiana	34	15	.694	—
Detroit	32	15	.681	1
New Orleans	26	24	.520	8½
Milwaukee	24	23	.511	9
Atlanta	19	30	.388	15
Chicago	17	32	.347	17
Toronto	14	34	.292	19½
Cleveland	10	40	.200	24½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	38	10	.792	—
San Antonio	32	16	.667	6
Minnesota	29	20	.592	9½
Utah	29	20	.592	9½
Houston	26	22	.542	12
Memphis	13	35	.271	25
Denver	12	36	.250	26

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	34	17	.667	—
Portland	32	16	.667	½
Phoenix	29	21	.580	4½
L.A. Lakers	23	23	.500	8½
Seattle	21	26	.447	11
Golden State	21	27	.438	11½
L.A. Clippers	17	32	.347	16

Tuesday's Games

Washington 93, Cleveland 84
L.A. Lakers 97, Indiana 94
Portland 96, Orlando 89
New York 105, L.A. Clippers 92
Toronto 96, Milwaukee 95
Minnesota 103, Houston 89
Sacramento 110, Dallas 109
Denver 102, Chicago 100, OT

Wednesday's Games

Boston 114, Seattle 74
Cleveland 105, Houston 102
Portland 101, Miami 87
New Jersey 111, Philadelphia 85
Detroit 89, L.A. Clippers 80
New Orleans 108, Sacramento 84
Utah 105, Memphis 84
San Antonio 103, Golden State 99

Thursday's Games

L.A. Lakers at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Seattle at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
San Antonio at Denver, 10 p.m.

Friday's Games

No games scheduled

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
New Jersey	33	12	3	4	73	138	98
Philadelphia	28	14	8	2	66	124	112
N.Y. Islanders	24	21	5	2	55	144	150
Pittsburgh	21	23	4	5	51	140	154
N.Y. Rangers	21	27	6	2	50	142	174

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Ottawa	33	14	6	1	73	177	124
Toronto	28	20	4	1	61	150	130
Boston	26	19	5	2	59	153	136
Montreal	21	21	7	5	54	144	158
Buffalo	15	25	7	4	41	110	134

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Washington	25	20	7	3	60	158	150
Tampa Bay	22	20	7	4	55	146	149
Florida	15	20	10	8	48	118	160
Carolina	17	26	6	5	45	117	153
Atlanta	18	27	3	4	43	143	186

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
St. Louis	28	15	7	4	67	172	138
Detroit	27	15	9	2	65	154	132
Chicago	22	19	9	3	56	127	128
Columbus	20	25	6	2	48	150	164
Nashville	17	23	9	4	47	121	142

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Vancouver	30	16	8	0	68	166	141
Edmonton	25	16	6	6	62	148	141
Minnesota	26	18	8	1	61	128	117
Colorado	21	14	11	5	58	147	129
Calgary	17	26	7	3	44	114	150

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Dallas	30	11	12	1	73	167	109
Anaheim	23	19	7	4	57	130	132
San Jose	20	21	6	5	51	143	154
Los Angeles	21	24	4	4	50	132	147
Phoenix	19	22	7	4	49	131	142

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Wednesday's Games

New Jersey 4, Washington 1
Vancouver 4, Columbus 4, tie
Ottawa 5, N.Y. Rangers 3
Toronto 6, Florida 0
Minnesota 2, Chicago 1
St. Louis 2, Dallas 2, tie
Edmonton 2, Anaheim 1
San Jose 6, Carolina 2
Los Angeles 4, Phoenix 3

Thursday's Games

Montreal at Boston, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Tampa Bay, 7 p.m.
Florida at Pittsburgh, 7:30 p.m.
N.Y. Rangers at St. Louis, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Detroit, 8 p.m.
Chicago at Calgary, 9 p.m.

Friday's Games

Vancouver at Buffalo, 7 p.m.
N.Y. Islanders at Washington, 7 p.m.
Atlanta at New Jersey, 7:30 p.m.
San Jose at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Calgary at Edmonton, 9 p.m.
Carolina at Los Angeles, 10:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.

Scurry County
Girls Little Dribbler Basketball
Sign-Ups
Thursday - Saturday
February 6,7,8
First Baptist Family Life Center
Thursday, Feb. 6 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 8 9:00 a.m. - Noon
For More Information Call
573-8649 or 573-8296
8-12 Year Old Girls as of August 1, 2003
Child must be accompanied by parent and must bring birth certificate.
$30 for one girl, $15 for each additional girl in same family.

FEB 06 2003

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79549

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Marsha Kubena, Agent

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Jim Coventry
Owner

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The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within 5 days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement. All ads are cash unless customer has an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
The Publisher is not responsible for copy omissions, typographical errors, or any unintentional error that may occur further than to correct it in the next issue after it is brought to his attention.

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Missing - girl's pink & white bike, vicinity 3000-3100 blk of Austin Ave. 574-1444

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1974 Ford Ranger XLT
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Employment

Best Home Care in Big Spring is seeking RN for supervision of branch office to be located in Snyder. Please fax resume to 915-268-9924, or call 800-750-3851 to schedule an interview.

Full-time parts person needed Mon.–Fri., 7a.m.–5p.m.?? Some mechanical knowledge preferred. Serious inquires only. Apply in person at 84 Truck & Trailer.

Help needed at Burnett Safety Services. Start off salary possible. Apply in person at 307 N. College.

ATTN: SNYDER
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Moore Controls looking for industrial electricians, journeymen and apprentices - Kinder Morgan. Call 574-2930.

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Apply at **Bowlin Automotive**.

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Sunoco Partners Marketing & Terminals L.P. is seeking applicants for drivers in the Clairemont area. The successful candidates will transport oil from lease sites to pipeline storage tanks and perform minor repairs to unit. Gauge and test product, use hand-held computer to complete transactions and interface with wide range of customers.

Candidate must be at least 21 years of age, possess a CDL with air brake, tanker, and hazardous material endorsement. No more than two moving violations in the last five years and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to pass a DOT medical exam. Sunoco offers medical and dental insurance, 401K, and a generous hourly wage for qualified persons.

If interested, please call Sunoco at 915-672-4888 for an application packet. EOE, M/F, D/V

Four ask why they lost jobs on safety panel

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Two years ago, NASA dismantled an expert panel that was questioning the budget-strapped space agency's long-term plans for safety. Now, with the Columbia disaster bringing safety issues to the fore, some are wondering why panel members were dismissed.

Five of nine members of NASA's Aerospace Safety Advisory Panel and two consultants to the panel were replaced in the summer of 2001, midway through their annual review, by then-NASA Administrator Dan Goldin. Most of those removed had more than a dozen years of service.

"I don't have any direct knowledge that we were kicked off because of our views or positions, but I do know that we annoyed some people," said John B. Stewart, a former aerospace consultant who served 21 years on the board and now lives in Knoxville.

A sixth member, retired Navy Vice Adm. Bernard Kauderer, resigned after the dismissals. And the chairman, Richard Blomberg of Stamford, Conn., was replaced soon after the panel's report to NASA and Congress was completed in March 2002.

Stewart, Kauderer and Blomberg all stressed that no connection can be drawn between the panel's turnover and the Columbia disaster on Saturday, which killed all seven astronauts on board.

"I couldn't possibly say that. In fact, I don't think it is relevant to Columbia at all," Stewart said. "But it will be relevant once the shuttle (program) gets flying again.

"How are you going to maintain these vehicles for the long term? Will you make investments now that will make that possible? All of those issues come right back to the surface as soon as the three remaining shuttles are declared operational."

NASA Associate Deputy Administrator Michael Greenfield said Wednesday that "the panel had done a wonderful job," but the agency decided it would benefit from new members with more specific high-tech skills.

The advisory group, made up of former NASA officials and outside experts, was formed by Congress in the wake of the 1967 Apollo spacecraft fire that killed three astronauts.

NASA's inspector general suggested in 1997 that too much time on the panel might impede a member's "independence, objectivity and willingness to delve into areas of substance and controversy."

But Stewart said the panel's fight to remain independent of NASA oversight is the very thing that led to the dismissals.

Blomberg, reached at his Stamford, Conn., consulting business, said he never a received an explanation.

"I don't think it was a single issue. I do think there was pressure maybe to change to people who would sing a little different tune, if you know what I mean," Blomberg said.

"What was happening was that the panel over and over was saying there is a problem — we think things are underfunded. We think you are not preparing for the future," he said. "NASA was concurring, but it was lip service."

Blomberg said the funding issue may have been more of a political problem with Congress or the White House, but the panel felt the heat from NASA. He was asked to reorganize the panel, then dismissed after nearly 15 years of service before his term ended.

"I was really disappointed in the treatment that these very senior, very experienced members of the panel received," Kauderer said in explaining why he resigned after four years on the board.

He said he also was concerned that the newly reconstituted panel would not "maintain the same level of independence."

The panel, with replacement members, wrote in the report released in March that its "safety concerns have never been greater."

"Unless appropriate steps are taken to reduce future risk and increase reliability are taken expeditiously, NASA may be forced to choose between two unacceptable options — operating at increased risk or grounding the fleet until time-consuming improvements can be made," the panel said.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

An ominous heart irregularity

DEAR DR. GOTT: I recently suffered from a bout of ventricular tachycardia for which I was hospitalized and placed on Lanoxin and Tenormin. I question whether these medications could cause allergic reactions.

DEAR READER: Ventricular tachycardia is a serious short-circuit in the heart's conduction system, leading to bursts of rapid pulse that can progress to more serious, even life threatening, cardiac irregularities if not treated. Therefore, you need medicines. The question is, which ones?

Any drug can cause side effects or allergic reactions in a small percentage of its users. Thus, your medications are no exception.

I suggest that you return to your doctor for clarification. Lanoxin, a form of digitalis, commonly causes nausea, loss of appetite and slow pulse; Tenormin, a beta-blocker, is frequently associated with low blood pressure, difficulty breathing and a slow pulse.

These symptoms are consequences of drug therapy — not allergic reactions — and can be eliminated or lessened by adjustments in dose. You need to review your concerns with your physician, who can decide whether to alter your present medications or change them entirely. For example, there are newer, more potent drugs to treat ventricular tachycardia. In addition, most cardiologists now recommend using an implantable defibrillator, an electronic device that is attached to the heart itself. It can sense when harmful rhythms affect the heart and will deliver a tiny, electrical jolt to return the pulse to normal.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Coronary Artery Disease." 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: Every two or three beats, my heart skips a beat. This can last for several minutes, then stops. A Holter monitor was normal, but I wasn't aware of any pulse irregularity while I was being tested. What's your suggestion?

DEAR READER: A Holter monitor is a type of cardiogram that records each heartbeat for a 24-hour period. While it is an extremely useful test, it is activated only for that time frame and will fail to show heartbeats at other times, as you have discovered.

I believe that your doctor should order an event monitor. Similar to a Holter, the event monitor only records when activated by the patient; therefore, it can be worn for days or weeks. I believe that this test might solve your problem and enable your physician to diagnose your pulse irregularity. For most of us, occasional skips are common, benign and may be triggered by caffeine, stress, fatigue and so forth. However, on occasion, skipped beats may reflect a cardiac disorder that requires medication.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Has there been a compilation of your articles in book form and, if not, do you plan on writing one? I am one of the many fans who love your column. I am also thrilled by your new photography book. It's beautiful.

DEAR READER: I published a collection of essays in 1986, called "No Housecalls"; the book was released by Simon and Schuster, later by Pocket Books. Unfortunately, it's out of print now, so it would be difficult to find unless you go to a source that stocks out-of-print publications.

I am delighted that you enjoyed "Windows of 'Sconset on Nantucket Island." Other readers who would like a signed copy can order it by sending $14 to Ice Island Press, P.O. Box 433, Lakeville, CT 06039.

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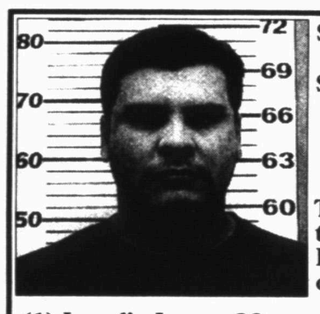

SNYDER POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION
January 27, 2003

NOTICE

The following person has registered with the Snyder Police Department as a convicted sex offender.

(1) Locadio Luera, 28 years of age, male, 4100 Brick Plant Road, Apt. #E4, Snyder, Texas 79549, convicted of "Sexual Assault". Victim was a female child 15 years old.

NOTIFICATION

El siguiente persona se a registrado con el Departamento de Policia de Snyder, y fue convicto de una offensa sexual.
(1) Locadio Luera, Un hombre, 28 anos de edad, 4100 Brick Plant Road, Apt. #E4, Snyder, Texas 79549, convicto de "Asalto Sexual". La victima era nina, quince anos de edad.

(s) Stephen W. Warren
Chief of Police

CAUSE NO. 21208

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
§
COUNTY OF SCURRY §

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF TEXAS,

Notice is hereby given as follows:

To **BARON KEITH BARBER** and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s),

You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do (does) not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of **PROSPECTIVE ADOPTIVE PARENTS**, Petitioners, was filed in the 132nd Judicial District Court of Scurry County, Texas, on the 3rd day of January, 2003, against **BARON KEITH BARBER**, Respondent(s), numbered 21208, and entitled 'In the interest of **A.N.B.**, a child.' The suit requests termination of any existing the parent-child relationships, and further requests adoption of the child by Petitioners. The date and place of birth of the child who is the subject of the suit: April 18, 1997 at Snyder, Texas.

The court has authority in this suit to render an order in the child's interest that will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the child's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and seal of the Court at Snyder, Texas, this the 3rd day of February, 2003.

Clerk of the District Court of
Scurry County, Texas.

By _____, Deputy.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	3.18	3.05	3.08	+ .06
AOL TimeWrn	10.65	10.05	10.61	+ .10
AT&T Corp rs	18.36	17.50	17.80	—.56
Albertsons	20.80	20.35	20.55	—.05
Alltel	45.70	44.70	44.98	—.63
AmEl Pw	22.56	21.87	22.01	—.05
AndarkPtr	45.15	44.20	44.53	—.66
ATMOS Egy	22.19	21.88	21.94	—.02
Aviall	7.95	7.80	7.88	+ .04
BP PLC	38.72	37.59	37.72	—.99
BakerHughes	31.99	31.40	31.72	+ .07
Bank of Amer	68.51	67.62	68.25	—.25
BellSouth	23.70	22.83	23.13	—.48
BurlNoSFe	26.05	25.56	25.83	—.02
Caterpillar	43.99	43.19	43.65	—.01
CenterPoint	6.74	6.51	6.61	—.14
ChevronTex	65.07	63.57	63.97	—1.10
Citigroup	33.65	32.70	33.00	—.65
CocaCola	40.12	39.65	40.01	—.04
ColgatePal	51.49	51.04	51.05	—.45
CrnclMetals s	14.61	14.39	14.55	—.10
ConocoPhill	49.42	48.50	48.65	—.76
Cooper Inds	38.35	37.48	37.50	—.69
DaimlrChry	30.55	29.93	30.28	—.77
DeltaAirl	9.58	9.30	9.39	—.06
Dillards Inc	15.24	14.79	14.79	—.21
DowChem	28.79	28.25	28.43	—.36
DuPont	37.56	36.90	37.05	—.35
EastmanChem	33.81	33.21	33.32	—.40
EstKodak	31.49	30.61	30.84	—.42
EDS Corp	16.16	15.87	15.98	—.26
Entergy	45.60	45.20	45.34	—.16
ExxonMobil	34.72	33.17	33.28	—.62
FootLocker	10.45	10.30	10.45	+ .08
GenDynam	66.36	65.75	65.98	—.02
GenElec	23.07	22.70	22.71	—.29
GenMills	44.59	44.03	44.19	—.43
GenMotors	36.39	35.90	36.19	—.28
GaPacific	15.83	15.23	15.37	—.39
Goodrich	17.37	17.00	17.14	—.16
Goodyear	3.65	3.33	3.54	—.13
GtAtlPac	5.10	4.80	4.95	—.14
Halliburtn	19.09	18.72	18.87	—.09
Hanson ADS	22.93	22.31	22.35	—.41
HarteHanks s	18.12	17.85	18.00	+ .05
HomeDepot	21.80	21.22	21.76	+ .45
Honeywellintl	24.15	23.75	24.11	+ .07
IBM	77.25	76.51	77.04	—.07
IntlPaper	36.20	35.42	35.48	—.42
JohnsonJn	52.11	51.38	51.60	—.50
KinderMorg	46.40	45.70	46.06	—.19
Kroger Co	14.62	14.21	14.25	—.22
LockheedM	51.05	49.83	50.17	—.40
Lowes Cos	35.09	34.27	34.65	+ .03
Lubys	1.57	1.50	1.56	+ .06
LucentTech	1.64	1.56	1.59	
MarathonOil	22.02	21.70	21.90	—.11
MayDeptStr	20.12	19.49	19.58	—.39
Medtronic	43.50	43.01	43.40	—.14
Motorola	7.85	7.72	7.82	
NCR Corp	18.95	18.44	18.62	—.03
Navistar	25.29	24.65	24.87	—.38
PNM Rescs	21.00	20.83	20.91	+ .09
Penney JC	19.70	18.88	19.22	—.02
PepBoys	10.45	10.22	10.30	—.05
PepsiCo	40.82	39.50	39.77	—1.31
Pharmacia	40.92	40.44	40.70	+ .05
PhelpDodge	35.05	34.25	34.34	—.70
PilgrmPrd B	7.65	7.25	7.45	—.12
Praxair	54.20	53.05	53.55	—.51
ProctGamb	85.17	84.21	84.70	—.60
RadioShack	20.36	19.99	20.08	—.36
RoyalDut	40.40	39.87	40.09	—1.41
SBC Comm	25.60	24.65	24.91	—.44
SaraLee	20.98	20.64	20.84	+ .12
Scripps EW	79.43	78.56	78.90	—.37
SearsRoeb	25.55	23.04	23.75	—1.79
SherwinW	27.19	26.25	26.65	—.53
SouthernCo	28.45	28.11	28.39	+ .35
SwstAirl	13.05	12.76	12.90	—.14
SprintFON	12.52	12.12	12.23	—.29
SprintPCS	4.19	3.95	4.03	+ .03
Sunoco Inc	33.12	32.66	32.97	—.29
TXU Corp	17.80	17.23	17.25	—.69
TempleInland	44.35	43.47	43.73	—.47
TexInd	22.60	22.13	22.35	—.06
TexasInst	15.60	15.18	15.30	—.19
Textron	38.95	38.34	38.59	+ .18
TrinityInds	17.36	17.02	17.36	+ .05
TylerTech	4.16	4.11	4.15	+ .03
UnionPacif	56.29	55.78	55.95	—.18
USSteel	12.45	11.73	11.79	—.40
UnitedTech	64.60	64.03	64.31	+ .22
Unocal	27.57	27.19	27.33	—.37
VerizonComm	38.54	37.48	37.80	—.70
WalMart	48.50	46.74	47.14	+ .40
WellsFargo	46.19	45.00	45.55	+ .23
WstnGasRs	34.12	33.76	33.96	—.08
WinnDixie	13.10	12.89	13.01	+ .02
Xerox Cp	8.82	8.64	8.72	—.03
YumBrands s	22.59	22.21	22.32	—.13

SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIED
ALWAYS A WINNER

Merchandise

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Booths #109 - 110
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• Tuned Wind Chimes
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2 GARAGE SALES
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China Grove Community
Friday 9a.m. – 6p.m.
Saturday 9a.m. – 3p.m.
from Chevrolet house go 11.8 mi. south on Hwy 208, turn left on CR 4156, go 3.3 mi. to 1st stop sign, turn right to sale
Towels, Sheets, Blankets, Quilting material, Sewing items, Craft items, Tupperware, Pots & pans, Refrigerator, Chest type freezer, Glassware, Clothes, Medical aids (walker, cane, bath bench, etc), Videos, Books, Knick-knacks, Tools, Battery charger, Saws. Too much to list! All items priced to sell!

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Friday 3p.m. – 6p.m.
(rain or shine)
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Stock Farm 146 Acres Near Dermott
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2 Living Areas, 3-1¾-1+2cp....2111 43rd
Nice Storm Cellar 3-2-2cp 314 36th $37.5T
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FEB 06 2003

FBI: al-Qaida remains main threat to the United States

WASHINGTON (AP) — Amid new concerns about a possible terrorist attack, the FBI says al-Qaida remains the paramount threat to hit targets in the United States even though it is weakened and scattered.

The new assessment, to be presented to Congress next week, says al-Qaida represents the gravest danger even though a number of Muslim extremist groups unconnected to the terror organization also are committed to "jihad," or holy war, against the United States, Israel and other countries.

The report comes amid new jitters about potential terrorist attacks timed to coincide with the Hajj, the annual pilgrimage Muslims make to Mecca. The holy period begins Sunday.

It also comes as the United States amasses military power for a possible war with Iraq to force disarmament. Secretary of State Colin Powell presented evidence to the United Nations on Wednesday to buttress the U.S. position, including assertions that al-Qaida has some ties to Iraq.

The FBI's central conclusion is that "al-Qaida led by Osama bin Laden remains, for the foreseeable future, the most serious threat against the United States," a government official familiar with a declassified version of the assessment said Wednesday.

Other terrorist groups provide "varying degrees of support" for al-Qaida but are less likely to strike within the United States, the report adds.

Recent intelligence, coupled with the Muslim holy days, could lead to a higher level of warning in the nation's terrorism alert system, according to U.S. government officials speaking on condition of anonymity. It now stands at yellow, or elevated, which is the middle tier in a five-color system.

Gordon Johndroe, spokesman for the Homeland Security Department, said the threat level is evaluated daily and there are no immediate plans to raise it.

"We remain concerned about the continued al-Qaida activity overseas as well as al-Qaida sympathizers here in the United States," he said. "Should additional information and analysis develop requiring the threat level to be raised, we will keep the American public informed as always."

The government official declined to discuss whether the FBI assessment describes a greater danger of terrorism if the United States goes to war with Iraq.

But Germany's top counterterrorism official, Interior Minister Otto Schily, told reporters Wednesday that such a war — which his government opposes — would inflame Muslim extremists worldwide and increase the terror threat.

"If a war takes place, the emotions will intensify," said Schily, who met this week with Attorney General John Ashcroft and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge. "It's a matter of concern. You can't exclude repercussions."

The FBI assessment, most of which is classified, will be delivered to members of the House and Senate intelligence committees next week by FBI Director Robert Mueller. Originally promised in 2000, a version was completed just a day before the Sept. 11 terror attacks and has since been rewritten amid criticism from Capitol Hill for the delay.

The report cites various U.S. intelligence sources as evidence that al-Qaida operatives around the world continue to discuss large-scale strikes against the United States. Al-Qaida is actively attempting to acquire chemical, biological, radiological and even nuclear weapons, the report adds.

The organization remains viable despite being driven from its refuge in Afghanistan, the report says. It cites the October nightclub bombing in Bali, Indonesia, that killed nearly 200 and November attacks on a resort and airliner in Kenya as evidence the network can still inflict great damage.

AIDS among migrant workers to be studied

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Government researchers from California and Mexico plan to jointly study the spread of AIDS among migrant workers and their families in hopes of preventing it from reaching epidemic proportions in Mexico.

The study will be the most comprehensive effort to track HIV infection rates in the migrant work population, said Dr. George Lemp, director of the University of California's AIDS Research Program.

The program was announced Wednesday as representatives from Mexico and California's health and social service agencies met in San Francisco to discuss details of the initiative. Its focus will be seasonal farm workers, day laborers and urban service workers in Fresno and San Diego counties in California; those same groups and their relatives will also be studied in the Mexican states of Oaxaca and Michoacan.

"Addressing the health needs of Mexican migrants is very important both to Mexico and California, and previously there hadn't been a collaborative effort to address the matter jointly," Lemp said.

For three years, scientists will conduct field interviews, collect blood and urine samples and develop statistical models before making specific policy and program recommendations.

Mexico's HIV-infection rate of 0.3 percent is five to six times lower than the United States, said Dr. Carlos Magis Rodriguez, research director for Mexico's National Center for the Prevention and Control of HIV/AIDS.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

'Odd ducks' in teen years can easily turn into swans

DEAR ABBY: May I comment on the letter from the girl who has a crush on the "weird" guy in her high school band?

Thirty years ago, I was that weird guy with the burr haircut, buck teeth, horn-rimmed glasses and skinny as a rail. I had a crush on a good-looking blonde, but she was out of my league, so I never asked her out.

Twenty-nine years later, I was on the Internet. Through a classmates reunion site, she and I started chatting. She was divorced, as was I. The more we talked, the more we fell for each other. When I finally decided to visit her, "fireworks" flew.

We have been married one year this week, and it has been one of the most exciting years of my life. Tell "Odd Duck" to hang in there. Things will be great if meant to be. **— HERMAN B., WATERFORD, CALIF.**

DEAR H.B.: Congratulations on your anniversary. (I'm a sucker for a happy ending!) Many people, like fine wine, improve with age. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: I'd like to respond to "Odd Duck in South Texas." Bravo for you, young lady! When I was in high school, I was considered an "odd duck" myself. I didn't drink, smoke, or ride around aimlessly every Friday and Saturday night. I studied, got excellent grades, respected my parents, and for that, I was ostracized by my classmates and always felt like an outsider.

You and your friend Tad should hang in there. When you finish high school, and later, college, you'll realize that the people most worth knowing just might be those "odd ducks." **— HILLARY IN WEINER, ARIZ.**

DEAR HILLARY: You're right. Some people develop social skills later than others.

DEAR ABBY: I, too, was not the "coolest" kid in high school, and I was also in the band. I was desperately in love with a popular girl I'll call Susan. We were good friends, but it never went further.

Years later, Susan confessed to me that she also had feelings for me, but was afraid her friends would turn on her for not dating someone from the "cool" crowd.

Living your life by someone else's standards is not living at all. "Odd Duck's" ugly duckling might someday become a swan. **— HAPPILY MARRIED IN PHILLY**

DEAR HAPPILY MARRIED: It takes courage to stand by one's convictions. Susan's lack of maturity was its own punishment.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am an 11-year-old boy, and my mom says if I want something at the store, I have to pay for it myself. I try to do chores for money, but I'm always too busy with schoolwork. I barely get enough time to play outside. Do you have any suggestions on how to get money? — NEEDS $$

DEAR NEEDS $$: Talk to your parents and ask them if your chores can be done on the weekends. If you want something badly enough, you'll find the time.

**

WORTH REMEMBERING: "People can keep a journal to record their life, their thoughts, their happiness, the events of their families, etc. They can also keep a journal of creative observations, their hopes, their ideas and dreams, as Leonardo da Vinci did. He always had a notebook hanging from his belt to record his observations. I have one constantly in my pocket and on my night table. We must be the source of good ideas and dreams for a better world. We are part of evolution." **— ROBERT MULLER**

**

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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To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable — and most frequently requested — poems and essays, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Ventura to get own cable show

ST. PAUL, Minn. (AP) — He's been a professional wrestler, talk-radio host and Minnesota governor. Next up for Jesse Ventura: his own cable show.

Ventura announced Wednesday on "The Tonight Show With Jay Leno" that he'll soon begin hosting a nightly program on MSNBC.

"I'm going to educate 'em, entertain 'em and tell people the truth," Ventura said, adding that he hopes the show attracts the sort of young people who helped him get elected in 1998, but who may not be paying much attention to politics these days.

Ventura said he didn't know what day the show will begin airing, or who his first guest will be. He said he'll be on five nights per week, and probably start within a month.

The announcement will surprise few. News of the show had leaked out months before and the "Tonight Show" Web site had listed "MSNBC" as the reason for Ventura's visit.

But Ventura, who had a talk radio show before running for governor, did his best to create his own hype.

"I don't know if they're ready for me," the former pro wrestler growled to Leno. "If there's one person that can get MSNBC off the air, you're looking at it."

The cable channel is seeking to reverse a fall in the ratings against rivals Fox News Channel and CNN.

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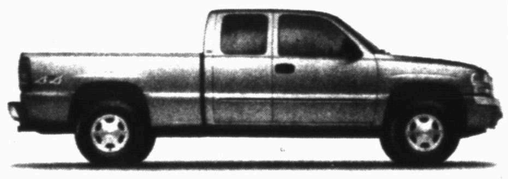
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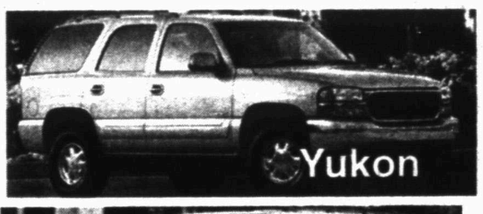
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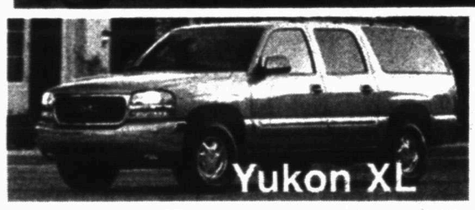
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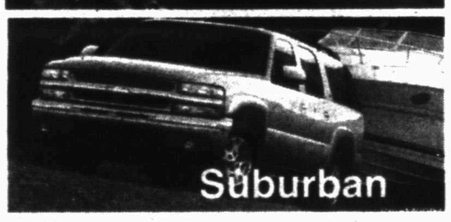
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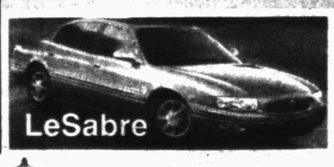
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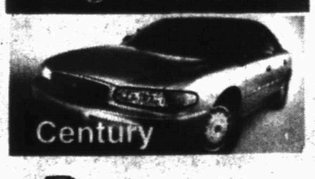
Park Ave.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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

NASA widens search for clues

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — NASA is casting a wider net in the space shuttle investigation now that it has essentially ruled out a theory that a breakaway piece of foam may have caused Columbia to rip apart.

Other possibilities abound, from an accidental triggering of explosive devices on board to a collision with a piece of space garbage, or perhaps a flaw in a wing that caused the spacecraft to swing out of control and disintegrate moments before it was to land.

Space shuttle program manager Ron Dittemore said every theory was being examined.

"Was it something that happened after launch? Was it something that happened during the entry? Or was it something that happened during ascent (launch) and we didn't see it? Those are all possibilities," Dittemore said at a news conference Wednesday.

Today, searchers working in heavy rain continued to scour a large swath of Texas and Louisiana for any debris that could yield clues to the shuttle's destruction. In Washington, a memorial service was planned at the National Cathedral to honor the seven Columbia astronauts.

For days, the investigation into the shuttle's breakup has centered on a 2½-pound chunk of foam insulation that peeled off the external fuel tank during launch and smashed into the underside of Columbia's wing. The theory was that the collision damaged the thermal tiles that keep the craft from burning up during re-entry into Earth's atmosphere.

Dittemore said a rigorous analysis concluded that the impact would not be strong enough to doom the shuttle.

"It just does not make sense to us that a piece of debris would be the root cause for the loss of Columbia and its crew," said Dittemore. "There's got to be another reason."

In one of several factors being examined, investigators have noted that during Columbia's descent, its automatic control system struggled to maintain the craft at the precise angle required for a safe return to Earth.

The autopilot caused the craft to rapidly move its control surfaces — devices like flaps and rudders — and eventually fired small rockets in a vain attempt to keep Columbia in proper alignment.

White House sees critical period ahead for support on Iraq

WASHINGTON (AP) — As foreign leaders weigh his detailed indictment of Iraq's arms programs, Secretary of State Colin Powell sought today to bolster congressional support for a possible war with Saddam Hussein. A senior White House official said the next 24 hours or so will be critical.

During an appearance before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Powell planned to seek support for the Bush administration's view that weapons searches have about run their course and that Saddam is determined to defy U.N. inspectors and U.N. disarmament resolutions.

Democrats, especially, have been reluctant to endorse war with Iraq even while agreeing that Baghdad has a record of years of defiance.

The committee's top Democrat, Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, lauded Powell's appearance before United Nations, in which he laid out the U.S. case against Iraq.

" I am proud to be associated with you," he said. "I think you did better than anyone could have because of your standing, your reputation and your integrity as it is understood by our European friends as well as others around the world."

But Biden also encouraged Powell to keep seeking support of the members of U.N. Security Council.

"Although it's a Herculean task, I believe that it is possible to bring most along and leave others in a position where they are not objecting," he said.

President Bush, appearing this morning at the National Prayer Breakfast, said a potential war in Iraq and the constant threat of terrorism pose "a testing time for our country."

"One thing is for certain, we didn't ask for these challenges, but we will meet them. I say that with certainty because this nation has strong foundations that won't be shaken," Bush said

On the Republican side, Sen. Pat Roberts of Kansas, who was briefed at the White House in advance of Powell's presentation to the U.N. Security Council on Wednesday, said he thought the administration would give the United Nations about a "two-week time frame" to digest the material Powell offered.

In Baghdad, Iraqi officials dismissed Powell's case as a collection of "stunts," "special effects" and "unknown sources" aimed at undermining the work of U.N. arms inspectors in Iraq.

As for U.S. allies, most believe more weapons inspections are necessary before any resort to force in Iraq.

Man arrested for possession of marijuana

•***Arrest***

A 40-year-old man was arrested on U.S. 84 at 9:30 a.m. Wednesday for possession of marijuana, under two ounces.

•***Accident***

A two-vehicle accident was reported at 10:40 a.m. Wednesday near Stanfield Elementary.

Involved were a 1993 Chevrolet Suburban driven by Vaughn Wiggins, 18, of 5284 W. Hwy. 180 and a 1992 Buick driven by Peggy Kenner, 48, of 5247 CR 242. No injuries were reported.

•***Criminal trespass***

An employee at Davidson's IGA reported two females being in the store that had been advised to stay away. The women had left when officers arrived, but they were contacted later and issued criminal trespass warnings.

•***Forgery***

A possible forgery was reported at First American Bank Wednesday morning. Officers advised of the proper steps to take, but no report was filed.

•***Close patrols***

A woman on Rose Circle advised juveniles were picking on her child on the school bus and officers advised a close patrol would be maintained after school hours.

At 5 a.m. today, a woman in the 400 block of 33rd Street reported neighborhood dogs barking. Officers checked the area and advised a large dog was running around causing the disturbance.

•***Gas drive off***

A clerk at Town and Country East reported a gas drive off worth $126.45 at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday and advised the vehicle was an 18-wheeler, but had no other description.

A gas drive off in the amount of $24 was reported from the Allsup's in Hermleigh just before 11 p.m. Wednesday.

LUCKY PAIR — Snyder EMT Jason Gruben checks on Fernando Sanchez, 23, and Jose Garcia, age unknown, both of Mexico after the 1989 Ford van they were in careened out of control Wednesday afternoon on U.S. 84. Sanchez suffered the only injury, a minor cut on his forehead. (SDN Staff Photo)

Obituaries

Susie Autrey

1922-2003

ANSON — Susie Morris Autrey, mother and mother-in-law of Ronney and Lindabeth Autrey of Snyder, died Tuesday, Feb. 4, in an Anson hospital.

Service for Mrs. Autrey, 80, will be at 2 p.m. Friday at Bethel Baptist Church with Revs. Emmett Autrey, Bill Dickson and Rufus Wilson officiating. Burial will be in Mount Hope Cemetery, directed by Lawrence-Adams Funeral Home.

Susie Autrey

Born Feb. 26, 1922, in Comanche County, Mrs. Autrey was a daughter of the late Marion Edward and Nona Gardner Morris. She married James "Jim" Autrey on Nov. 19, 1936, in Throckmorton. He died Dec. 6, 2001.

Mrs. Autrey, a homemaker, moved to Anson from Ira in 1968. She was a member of Bethel Baptist Church.

Her parents, two brothers and two sisters also preceded her in death.

Survivors include three other sons and daughters-in-law, William and Maggie Autrey of Canadian, James and Neva Autrey of Yorktown and Emmett and Dean Autrey of Amarillo; two daughters and sons-in-law, Golda and Edwin Evers of Merkel and Linda and William Martin of Granbury; one brother, Alvin Morris of Truth of Consequences, N.M.; 13 grandchildren; 30 great-grandchildren; and three great-great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to West Texas Rehabilitation Center, 4601 Hartford, Abilene, TX 79605.

Mike Sierra

1945-2003

LUBBOCK — Funeral Mass for Mike Sierra Sr., the father of Patsy Ramon of Snyder, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in St. Joseph's Catholic Church with Father Michael O'Dwyer officiating. Burial will follow in Peaceful Garden Memorial Park under the direction of Resthaven Funeral Home.

Mike Sierra

Mr. Sierra, 57, died Tuesday, Feb. 4, in Lubbock.

Born May 8, 1945 in Robstown, he attended school there and married Frances Lopez on March 16, 1966 in Seminole.

A self-employed mechanic, he was the owner of Mike's Garage and a member of St. Joseph's Catholic Church, the Guadalupanas Society at St. Joseph's and was an usher there for many years.

Survivors include his wife, Frances Sierra of Lubbock; a son, Mike Sierra Jr. of Lubbock; three other daughters daughters, Mary Sandy Gonzales and Irma Enriquez, both of Wolfforth, and Lucy Ann Perez of Houston; his father, Juan Sierra Sr. of Lubbock; four sisters, Santos Reyes and Catarina Sierra, both of Robert Lee, Paula Trevino of Bovina and Frances Sierra of Lubbock; 10 brothers, Guillermo, Antonio, Arthur, Abraham, Manuel, Juan Jr., and David, all of Huntsville, Lorenzo of Amarillo, Fermin of Lubbock and Luis of Clovis, N.M.; and 15 grandchildren.

The family requests memorials be made to St. Joseph's Catholic Church.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 2/7	Sat 2/8	Sun 2/9
32/21	49/22	57/27
Cloudy skies. High 32F. Winds ENE at 5 to 10 mph.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the upper 40s and lows in the low 20s.	Partial sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 20s.
Sunrise 7:34 AM Sunset 6:22 PM	Sunrise 7:33 AM Sunset 6:23 PM	Sunrise 7:32 AM Sunset 6:24 PM

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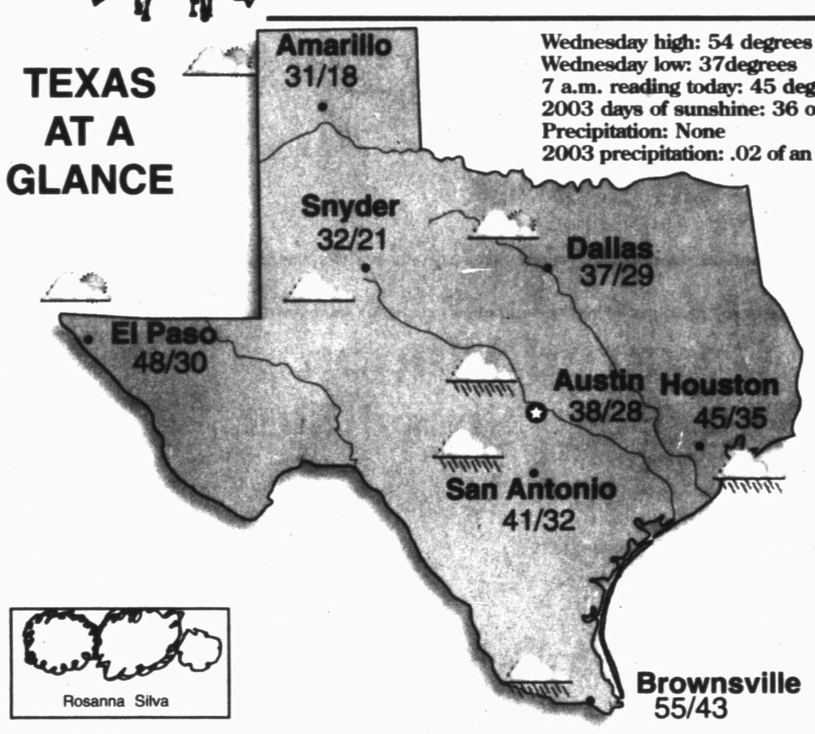
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Wednesday high: 54 degrees
Wednesday low: 37degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 45 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 36 of 37
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: .02 of an inch



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	33	26	cloudy	El Paso	48	30	pt sunny	Midland	35	26	cloudy
Amarillo	31	18	pt sunny	Fort Stockton	36	27	sn shower	Raymondville	47	36	rain
Austin	38	28	rain	Gainesville	33	21	pt sunny	Rosenberg	45	35	rain
Beaumont	46	33	rain	Greenville	35	23	pt sunny	San Antonio	41	32	rain
Brownsville	55	43	rain	Houston	45	35	rain	San Marcos	40	30	rain
Brownwood	36	26	cloudy	Kingsville	45	35	rain	Sulphur Springs	36	24	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	43	36	rain	Livingston	44	32	cloudy	Sweetwater	33	23	cloudy
Corsicana	37	27	cloudy	Longview	42	26	cloudy	Tyler	41	30	cloudy
Dallas	37	29	pt sunny	Lubbock	35	21	cloudy	Weatherford	35	22	cloudy
Del Rio	43	35	mixed	Lufkin	45	33	cloudy	Wichita Falls	35	21	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	48	25	rain	Houston	45	35	rain	Phoenix	66	45	pt sunny
Boston	32	22	snow	Los Angeles	63	47	pt sunny	San Francisco	57	41	pt sunny
Chicago	19	14	pt sunny	Miami	84	63	pt sunny	Seattle	51	33	pt sunny
Dallas	37	29	pt sunny	Minneapolis	21	19	pt sunny	St. Louis	25	16	windy
Denver	31	12	pt sunny	New York	33	21	snow	Washington, DC	37	26	snow

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Feb 1	Feb 9	Feb 16	Feb 23

UV Index

Fri 2/7	Sat 2/8	Sun 2/9
2	4	4
Minimal	Low	Low

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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FEB 06 2003

2912 College
Snyder

DAVIDSON'S IGA SUPERMARKETS

2015 Lamar
Sweetwater

STOCK-UP SALE

2 Days Only - Friday, Feb. 7 & Saturday, Feb 8, 2003

SUPER BUY! 81% LEAN
Ground Chuck
Family Pack
99¢ Lb.

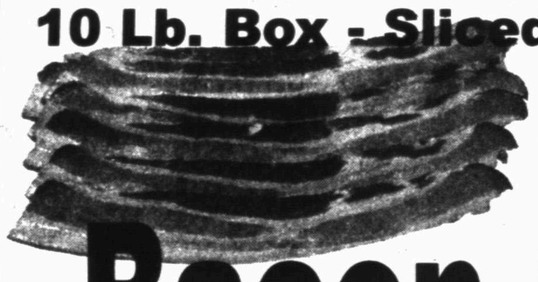
Exceptional Value
4 Lb. Bag
Sugar 99¢
Limit 1, Thereafter $1.29

Peter Pan - 25 Lb. Bag
Flour 2.69

Value Star
40 Count
Foam Plates 79¢

Exceptional Value
Gallon
Bleach 79¢

Covered Wagon
10 Lb. Box - Sliced Slab
ONLY 89¢ LB.

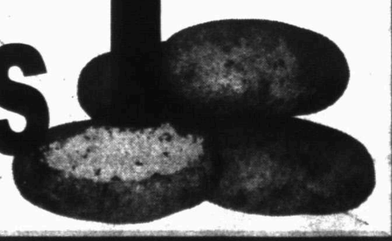


Bacon 8.90

Family Pack

Beef Tripe for Menudo 49¢ Lb.

15 Lb. Bag
Russet Potatoes 1.99



Pigs Feet
Family Pack
59¢ Lb.