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WTIC Posted - $34.00
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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

April 14, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 300
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Jamie Hall

Bush braces nation for 'difficult days'

WASHINGTON (AP) — Giving no ground despite rising casualties, President Bush says more American troops may be heading for Iraq with authority to use decisive force in a mission that "may become more difficult before it is finished."

Bush said America's will was being tested by violence that has turned April into the deadliest month in Iraq since the fall of Baghdad a year ago.

"Look, nobody likes to see dead people on their television screens," Bush said. "I don't. It's a tough time for the American people to see that. It's gut-wrenching."

The president went before the nation Tuesday night with a speech and question-and-answer session focusing on Iraq and the government's reaction to warning signs about terrorists before the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Neither Bush's 17 minutes of opening remarks nor the 15 questions that followed strayed from those two topics, which the president has made central to his re-election but on which his support in polls has declined markedly.

Nonetheless, the president expressed confidence he would win over voters this fall.

"I don't plan on losing my job. I plan on telling the American people that I've got a plan to win the war on terror. And I believe they'll stay with me," he said.

Though nearly half the questions Bush fielded offered him the chance to admit a mistake or express regret for his administration's actions in Iraq or on the 2001 attacks, he never did — except to apologize that he couldn't come up with any example of a failing.

"I don't want to sound like I have made no mistakes. I'm confident I have," he said. "I just haven't — you just put me under the spot here, and maybe I'm not as quick on my feet as I should be in coming up with one."

A recent spike in violence has killed at least 83 U.S. troops this month as U.S. forces fight Sunni Muslim insurgents in the city of Fallujah, Shiite militiamen in the south and gunmen in Baghdad and on its outskirts.

In response, Bush said he has told military commanders to be prepared to use "decisive force" against insurgents and that he was ready himself to allow an increase, rather than the planned decrease, in U.S. troop strength in Iraq.

He promised "evidence in the months to come" of progress in Iraq, for both Iraqis and Americans growing weary of the instability and violence plaguing the country. But he also warned that success could come at an even higher cost than already is being paid.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Jo Ann Nunley



With the weight of the world's problems, job-related problems and family problems that headline the news each day, the following will help us to forget these problems momentarily while reading trivia facts about the tiny food product we all seem to enjoy.

The information comes from the Texas Peanut Producers Board — the oldest commodity board in Texas.

A peanut is not a nut at all. It is a legume and more closely related to beans, black-eyed peas and lentils.

There are roughly 540 peanuts in a 12-ounce jar of peanut butter.

An acre of peanuts can yield more than 30,000 peanut butter sandwiches.

The PB&J is *the* most popular sandwich that kids carry to school.

By the time a child graduates from high school, he or she will have eaten about 1,500 peanut butter and jelly sandwiches; the total amount of peanut butter eaten by all Americans annually could wrap the earth in a ribbon of 18-ounce peanut butter jars one and one-third times.

Arachibutyrophobia is the fear of getting peanut butter stuck to the roof of your mouth.

In the early 1900s, Dr. George Washington Carver discovered more than 300 uses for peanuts and their by-products, including paint, shoe polish, shaving cream, lipstick, shampoo, soap, explosives, paper, fireplace logs, wallboard and cat litter. Dr. Carver is considered "The Father of the Peanut Industry" because of his extensive research and selfless dedication to promoting peanut production and products.

Peanut butter was invented in 1890 by a St. Louis physician seeking a nutritious, easily digested, high-protein food for some of his patients.

Two American presidents were peanut farmers — Thomas Jefferson and Jimmy Carter.

Peanuts are the #1 snack nut consumed in the U.S., accounting for two-thirds of the snack nut market.

Peanuts and peanut butter are packed with protein and are cholesterol free.

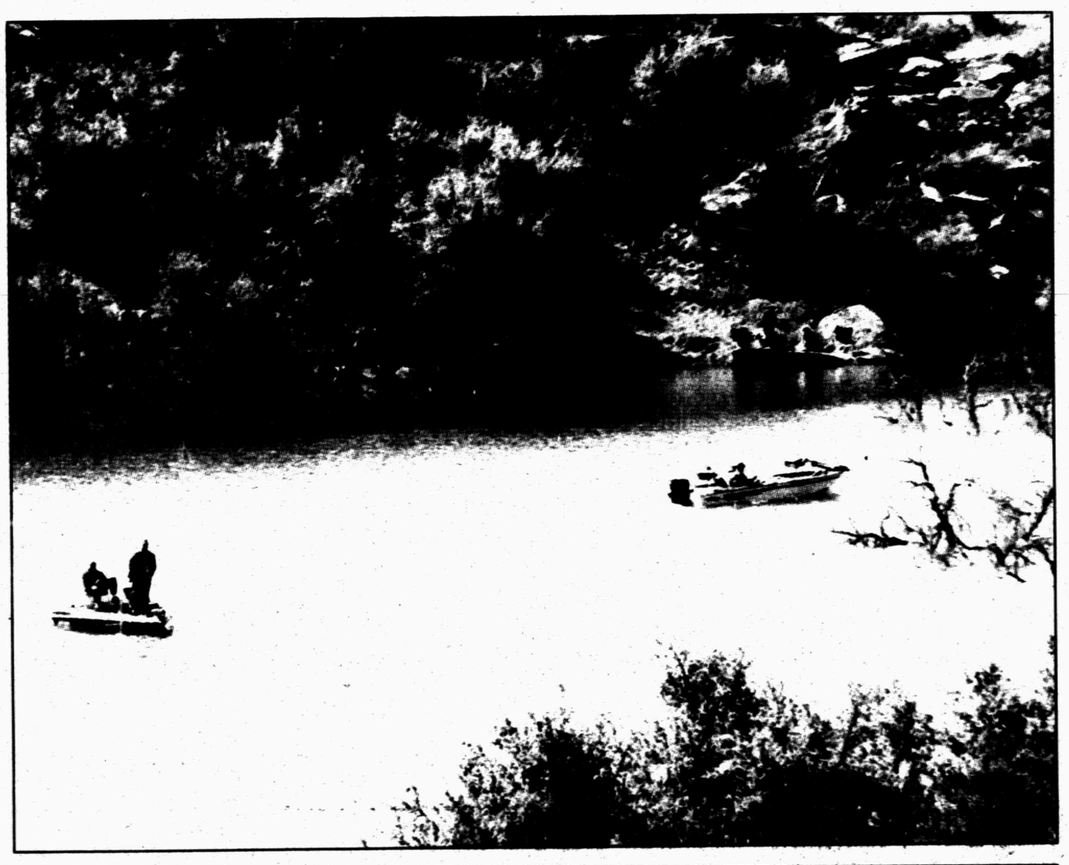
Peanuts and peanut butter are acceptable for most diabetic, sodium-restricted, cholesterol-restricted and some weight-reduction diets.

A peanut butter sandwich, a glass of milk and an orange make a nutritionally balanced meal.

By federal regulations, commercial peanut butter must be at least 90% peanuts. No artificial flavors, artificial sweeteners, chemical preservatives, natural or artificial color, purified vitamins or minerals are allowed.

A jar of peanut butter is a principle commodity on the SDN break table, and occasionally, an industrious employee will create unresistable confections including peanuts to share with co-workers.

I'm not sure the Texas Peanut Producers Board would add to their list of interesting uses of peanut butter — bait for a mousetrap. At an earlier time, the scary little critters began to make frequent appearances at SDN and managing editor Wade Warren purchased traps and tried several tasty baits to no avail. He finally offered the unwelcome visitors peanut butter since they seemed to enjoy the same foods consumed by people. If my memory serves me correctly, they didn't appreciate the staple as much as the employees do or maybe they suffer from arachibutyrophobia.





THAT TIME OF YEAR — A number of boats were out fishing recently at Lake Alan Henry, a diversion that is likely to draw more numbers as the weather gets even warmer. At left, Snyder resident Chris Muschalek displays a 13 ½ lb. largemouth bass he caught at Lake Thomas on 6 lb. test line using a black and blue crappie jig.

Eight enter guilty pleas in district court

Eight guilty pleas have been entered in 132nd District Court, and two defendants will now serve time in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice. A third offender also was assessed a prison sentence following a probation revocation hearing on Monday.

Senior District Judge Joseph Connally sentenced Samuel Lee Davis, 19, of 802 29th Street to serve 10 years in TDCJ after Davis pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance on Dec. 6, 2003. He also was fined $2,000.

A 41-year-old Rotan man pleaded guilty to a Feb. 7 charge of felony driving while intoxicated. Clarence Conner III was ordered by District Judge Ernie Armstrong to serve six years in TDCJ.

Judge Armstrong also revoked the two-year probated sentence of Rodolfo Martinez Solis, 24, of 905 30th Street.

Solis was serving a five-year probated sentence for the Sept. 22, 2002 offense of evading arrest. The motion to revoke probation was based on an Oct. 9, 2003 violation of driving a vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

Jeremy Hegedus, 24, of 4503 College, Apt. 3, pleaded guilty to a Jan. 3 charge of criminal mischief.

Judge Armstrong sentenced Hegedus to serve two years in a state jail facility, probated for five years. Hegedus also was fined $750 and ordered to make $5,259 in restitution to Donna Hegedus.

Alvino Pedroza, 19, of Dallas pleaded guilty on two counts, criminal mischief and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle — both occurring on Sept. 6, 2003.

Judge Connally ordered Pedroza to serve two years in a state jail facility, probated for five years, on each count. The two sentences will be served concurrently.

Pedroza was ordered to pay $2,465 in restitution to Wilson Motors and $4,823 in restitution to Pat Vineyard.

Two persons pleaded guilty to possession of a controlled substance.

Judge Connally handed down a 10-year prison sentence, probated for 10 years, to Michael Eugene Lucas, 37, of Hereford for the Sept. 24, 2003 drug offense. Lucas also was fined $1,000.

Christopher Mikael Hanson, 29, of Sulphur Springs also pleaded guilty and was sentenced to serve two years in a state jail facility, probated for three years with deferred adjudication. He also was fined $2,500 by Judge Connally.

Johnny Dale Gardner, 58, of 1908 Scott Street, pleaded guilty to a Feb. 9 charge of felony driving while intoxicated. Judge Connally assessed a five-year prison sentence, probated for five years. Gardner also was fined $1,000 and must serve 240 hours in the Scurry County jail.

Victor Carrillo wins GOP primary race

Carrillo receives 49 votes in Scurry County, while challenger receives six

AUSTIN (AP) — Railroad Commissioner Victor Carrillo waged a Republican primary battle across our big state and spent big doing it.

The result?

A solid victory Tuesday in the GOP primary runoff over low-profile challenger Robert Butler, a retired state employee.

"It looks pretty decisive, and we're looking forward to refocusing for the November general election and then serving in this capacity for the next six years, at least," Carrillo said. He'll face Democrat Bob Scarborough of Fort Worth in the general election.

Carrillo had 145,706 votes, or 64 percent of the vote, compared with Butler's 81,105 votes, or 36 percent, with all precincts reporting.

Carrillo was appointed last year by Gov. Rick Perry.

Area sales tax rebates

City	March '04	March '03	+/-	Year '04	Year '03	+/-
Abilene	$1,870,865.18	$1,773,489.90	5.49%	$8,776,530.47	$8,501,683.01	3.23%
Big Spring	$279,288.21	$223,970.12	24.69%	$1,276,872.78	$1,131,551.85	12.84%
Colorado City	$30,047.44	$26,531.20	13.25%	$139,150.76	$128,245.36	8.50%
Lamesa	$54,155.62	$58,798.88	-7.89%	$268,012.98	$279,167.47	-3.99%
Lubbock	$2,040,680.43	$1,981,253.19	2.99%	$9,883,508.66	$9,524,684.21	3.76%
Post	$30,298.60	$20,510.79	47.72%	$161,254.46	$83,877.76	92.24%
Roby	$1,322.66	$1,156.42	14.37%	$6,644.06	$5,381.29	23.46
Rotan	$11,726.49	$7,297.37	60.69%	$45,136.85	$39,833.92	13.31%
Snyder	$137,127.10	$126,501.68	8.39%	$601,335.53	$558,540.61	7.66%
Sweetwater	$139,128.89	$141,528.78	-1.69%	$620,790.21	$655,361.19	-5.27%

SLIGHT JUMP — Snyder sales tax rose just over eight percent for the March figures, which reflects sales in January. The state as a whole saw sales tax revenues grow by 17.2 percent, receiving $1.18 billion for the month. So far sales tax revenues for the state are running 8.7 percent higher than this time in 2003.

ASK US

Q–When is the deadline for registering for credit by exam by the Snyder school district?

A–Friday.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Jim Edmonds...

...has lived in Snyder 11 years and is married to Linda. They have a daughter Janna McSpadden of Quanah; a son, Joe of Vernon; two grandchildren and one great granddaughter. Jim is the owner of Scurry County Gin and likes to work on antique and classic cars.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Grief can take care of itself, but to get the full value of joy, you must have somebody to divide it with.

—Mark Twain

APR 14 2004

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

WTC GED testing dates

Western Texas College has scheduled GED testing dates, the next set for Friday and registration is from 10:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Thursday. The remaining date is April 30. To take the test or for more information contact Betty Thompson at 573-2310 or Emily Hataway 573-8511, ext. 297 or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Hermleigh ISD Relay for Life

The Hermleigh ISD Relay for Life team will have a Mexican salad supper from 6-7:30 p.m. Thursday in the school cafeteria. Adult plates are $5, children's plates under 12 are $2.50.

Choir booster club

The SHS Choir Booster Club will meet at 6 p.m. Thursday in the choir room.

Game night

The adult singles class of First Baptist Church meets the first and third Thursdays at the old bus barn across the street from the church in the Desperados meeting room. Learn to play bridge. All singles welcome.

Snyder Healthcare birthdays

Snyder Healthcare Family Council will sponsor a residents birthday party at 2:30 p.m. Friday.

What's up guidelines

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

Newest congressman in Texas worries terror vigilance waning

TOMBALL (AP) — Texas' newest congressman, an expert in counterterrorism, heads to Washington concerned that the horrors of terrorism and Sept. 11 may be fading.

"I feel there's some complacency now 21/2 years after the fact, in the country and in the congress," Michael McCaul said. "We can't afford to go back to sleep again. I think we need to remain vigilant, and also policies, foreign policies, need to remain strong."

McCaul, a former federal prosecutor and a former chief of counterterrorism in the Justice Department, defeated Houston-area mortgage banker Ben Streusand in a runoff Tuesday to win the Republican nomination for seat in the newly configured 10th congressional district.

With Democrats not fielding a candidate, McCaul will take office next January barring a miracle longshot write-in effort by a candidate in November.

McCaul, 42, said the two issues people talked the most about while he was on the campaign trail were terrorism and the nation's economy, which "are inseparable and intertwined, because we're just now recovering from 9-11."

"I'll talk to people in Brenham and they're not concerned al-Qaeda is going to attack Blue Bell Ice Cream," he said. "But at the same time, the economic impact that could occur certainly is relevant."

McCaul spent about $2 million to win in his first run for public office, fending off a $3 million-plus effort from Streusand and cashing in on endorsements from just about all of the state's prominent Republicans, including Gov. Rick Perry and former President George Bush.

"He's been wonderful," McCaul said of the elder Bush. "He basically said I'm the candidate he wanted to work with his son."

McCaul grew up in Dallas, studied business and history at Trinity University and then went to law school at St. Mary's University. Both schools are in San Antonio.

After law school, McCaul went to Washington and joined the Justice Department in 1990. There he met an oceanographer whose job was in intelligence, tracking Soviet submarines. The two married and now they have five children, including 21/2-year-old triplets.

"That's the best thing in my life," he said of his family.

After nine years at the Justice Department, he was hired by John Cornyn, then Texas attorney general, as a deputy attorney general.

"I was looking to surround myself with the best talent I could find," said Cornyn, now a U.S. senator. "Michael fit the bill. He had prosecuted some high profile campaign finance violations. So he had demonstrated his competence and merit."

McCaul credits his father, a World War II veteran, and his family's Catholicism for instilling the idea of public service.

"I believe I have a responsibility to sacrifice for future generations," he said. "I think religiously I was raised to serve others. That's what motivates me."

He said his first goal in Washington will be to work toward making President George W. Bush's tax cuts permanent, then push for a change in the tax code.

"We have a system incredibly complex," he said. "No one understands it. It's easy to cheat if you're dishonest and almost impossible to comply with if you're honest."

He favors a consumption-based tax, eliminating all taxes except for a national sales tax.

"Illegal immigrants pay into the system, criminals pay into the system, people from foreign countries pay, everybody pays into it," he said. "I think with enough Republicans in the Congress, we can start looking at reviving this debate ... and look toward fundamental tax reform."

On the Net:
www.mccaulforcongress.com

AP poll: Most people prefer balanced budget to tax cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — Half of Americans say the overall taxes they pay — federal, state and local — have gone up during the last three years, more than triple the number who feel they've gone down, an Associated Press poll found.

"Every time you turn around, there's a new gasoline tax, more property taxes, a library tax — because they don't have enough money," said Tom Artley, 52, a supervisor at a manufacturing plant in Williamsport, Pa. He was referring to increasing financial problems faced by many cities and states.

"I'd like to retire in the next five years," Artley said. "It's scary for people like me who are going to be living on a fixed income."

The perception that taxes have not gone down may cause many people to have a lukewarm attitude toward tax cuts.

By almost a 2-1 margin, Americans prefer balancing the nation's budget to cutting taxes, according to the poll conducted for the AP by Ipsos-Public Affairs. Sixty-one percent chose balancing the budget while 36 percent chose tax cuts when they were asked which was more important.

As the tax deadline of April 15 approaches, many feel their tax burden has been increasing. About half in the poll, 49 percent, said their overall tax burden — including federal, state and local taxes — had gone up over the past three years. That's almost four times the 13 percent in the poll who said their overall taxes had gone down.

Even when it comes to federal taxes, most in the public don't feel those taxes have gone down over the past three years. Twenty-five percent in the poll said their federal taxes had gone up during that time, while 43 percent said they had stayed the same.

Among those most likely to say their federal taxes have gone down are investors and the wealthy.

Both the conservative-leaning Tax Foundation and the liberal-leaning Center on Budget and Policy Priorities have concluded that the federal tax burden is easing for the average family. The Tax Foundation suggests that federal income taxes are the lowest for Americans in almost four decades.

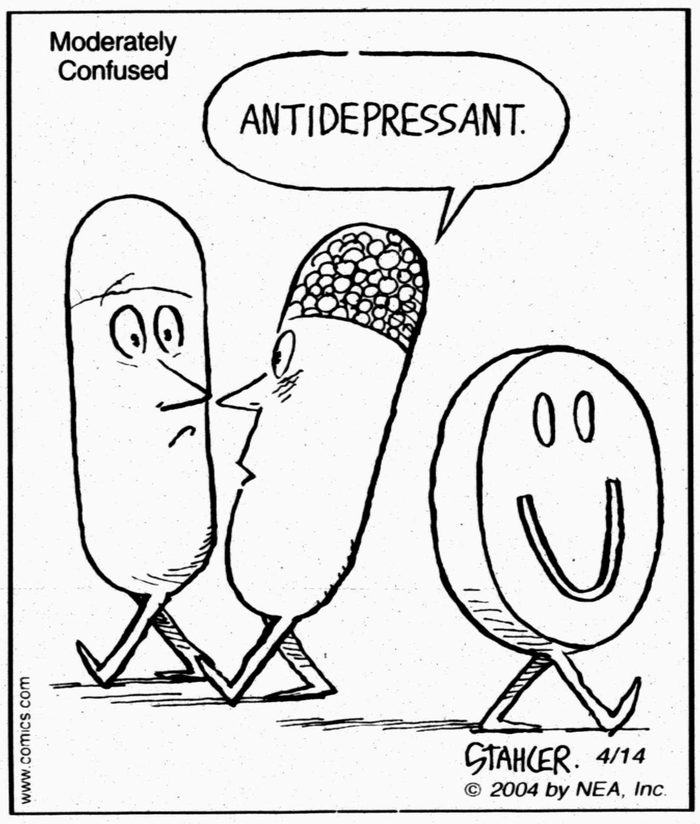
LA police investigate new abuse claim

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Detectives are investigating a new allegation involving a person who claims to have been abused by pop star Michael Jackson in the late 1980s, a police spokeswoman said.

Jackson pleaded innocent to child molestation charges involving another alleged victim in Santa Barbara County. A pretrial hearing in that case is scheduled for April 30.

On Tuesday, Jackson attorney Benjamin Brafman said he was unaware of the Los Angeles Police Department investigation of the new allegation.

"We have never been informed by the LAPD of any investigation that they are conducting of Michael Jackson," he said. "I would point out that since I have been involved in this case I have addressed literally dozens of completely baseless rumors on a daily basis, and this appears to be just another one of them."



events

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers

Mega Millions

ATLANTA (AP) — The jackpot in the multi-state Mega Millions lottery drawing grew to $13 million Wednesday.

None of the tickets sold for Tuesday's $10 million drawing matched all five lotto numbers and the Mega Ball. The next drawing will be Friday.

There were three second-prize winners from Tuesday night's drawing. Fourteen players matched four of the five lotto numbers, plus the Mega Ball number. Those tickets are each worth $5,000.

The winning numbers from Tuesday's drawing were: 13, 36, 39, 50, and 51. The Mega Ball number was 34.

Texas Two Step

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

Winning numbers drawn: 2-18-23-30. Bonus Ball: 1.

Number matching four of four, plus Bonus Ball: 0. Prize: $725,000.

Number matching four of four: 8. Prize: $1,778.

Number matching three of four, plus Bonus Ball: 25. Prize: $69.

Number matching three of four: 1,183. Prize: $20.

Number matching two of four, plus Bonus Ball: 669. Prize: $23.

Number matching one of four, plus Bonus Ball: 4,242. Prize: $7.

Number matching Bonus Ball alone: 7,703. Prize: $5.

Estimated jackpot for Friday night drawing: $850,000.

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 4-10-21-28-32.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $39,865.

Winning tickets sold in: Houston.

Matching four of five: 130. Prize: $138.

Matching three of five: 3,924. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 41,315. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Wednesday night.

Pick 3

(Day) 9-8-7

(Night) 0-0-9

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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Central

Central Elementary students received the following awards for the fifth six weeks.

Third graders receiving Super Kid recognition are Deserary Rivera, Jaeda Jordan, Jose Torres, Taylor Duzan, Robyn Thompson, Heather Medrano, Mindy Warren, Cherie Northcutt, Aubrie Norwood and Dawn Carrillo.

Others are Daniel Morin, Nick Hernandez, Israel Islas, Taryn Kubena, Kodee Simpson, Justice Terrazas, Mallorie Warren, Tishara Young, Vivi Facundo and Jeffrey Stewart.

Kindergarten Super Kids are Christian Castillano, Chrystal Silva, Branon Castillano, Ivan Robles.

First graders named Super Kids are Angel Facundo, Briana Torres, Abrium Huddleston and Ana Yanez.

Huff inducted into honor society at HU

SEARCY, Ark — Harding University's chapter of Omicron Delta Kappa inducted 32 new members, including Jimmy Huff of Snyder, a senior computer engineering major.

Omicron Delta Kappa is a national organization that honors college juniors and seniors who are in the top third of their class academically and whose leadership qualities have been note by the faculty.

Huff, a graduate of Haskell High School, is the son of Dale and Diane Huff of Snyder.

Bilano returns from routine deployment

Marine Corps Sgt. Joe Bilano Jr., a 1996 graduate of Snyder High School, has returned from a routine scheduled deployment on board the USS Peleliu, homeported in San Diego, while assigned to the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), based out of Camp Pendleton, Calif.

During the deployment, Bilano's unit conducted humanitarian assistance, security and stabilization missions in Iraq. They also patrolled international waters in the Red Sea and Horn of Africa to deter the transport of terrorist personnel and equipment.

Bilano's unit is an expeditionary intervention force with the ability to rapidly organize for combat operations in virtually any environment.

CDC will stockpile flu shots for kids

ATLANTA (AP) — Caught off-guard last year by a flu vaccine shortage, the government will begin stockpiling flu shots for the first time ever and target them toward children.

"We were caught with our pants down," Dr. Lance Rodewald, head of immunization services with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said Tuesday. "The pressure on CDC to find vaccine was enormous."

The government plans to spend $80 million over the next two years to pay for the 4 million-dose stockpile, which will be set aside for children up to 18 years old, said the CDC's Dr. Stephen Cochi.

Congress could allow adults to tap into the supply during a crisis, Rodewald said.

This past winter's flu season got off to an alarming start with emergency rooms filling up and parents lining up at doctors' offices seeking the shots for their children. Flu was blamed for dozens of children's deaths by Christmas.

Most state health departments and doctors told the CDC they had run out of flu shots, or had few doses left. The sudden demand in late November also surprised the nation's vaccine manufacturers, which already had ended production of last season's vaccine.

At the same time, the CDC and health officials were urging people to get their shots when there were none available.

Texas Dems oust 2 more House incumbents

AUSTIN (AP) — The 2004 primary season may become known as the Democratic Party purge in the state House.

Democrats on Tuesday rejected two more House incumbents, capping a primary season in which party loyalists showed their displeasure with members who cozied up to the state Republicans who hold majority power in the Legislature.

Democrats ousted seven-term Rep. Roberto Gutierrez of McAllen and first-termer Gabi Canales of Alice in the primary runoff, sending both to resounding defeats. Neither managed to win even 30 percent of the vote in their races.

"These two did not represent their districts well," Democratic Party Chairman Charles Soechting said. "They ran as Democrats but never voted like Democrats."

Democrats have rejected a total of seven party incumbents from the House in the March primary and Tuesday's runoff.

Gutierrez had been targeted for ouster in District 41 by the Democratic party because of his alignment with Republicans on some key votes last year, including support for GOP-backed legislation to limit lawsuit liability awards for pain and suffering.

He was defeated by civil litigation lawyer Veronica Gonzales of McAllen.

Gutierrez faced personal problems as well as political. Shortly after the March 9 primary, he announced that he was diagnosed with Guillain-Barre Syndrome, an immune disorder which attacks part of the peripheral nervous system and causes weakness or paralysis. He did not actively campaign against Gonzales in the runoff.

In District 35, Canales was defeated by attorney Yvonne Gonzalez Toureilles of Alice.

Canales, a defense lawyer, had faced negative publicity for using her legislative position to obtain delays of clients' trials during the 2003 legislation sessions.

She also comes from a family that had endured harsh publicity in recent months. Her father, a former state district judge, was removed from the bench last year after allegations of sexual harassment. The state Supreme Court rejected his appeal last week.

Gabi Canales could not immediately be reached for comment Tuesday night. Gutierrez's office did not return several phone messages left in the days leading up to the runoff.

In two other Democratic runoffs, attorney Abel Herrero defeated businesswomen Nelda Martinez in Corpus Christi's District 34 and Bexar County attorney David Leibowitz defeated county employee Ken Mireles in San Antonio's District 117. Herrero and Martinez advanced to the runoff after defeating incumbent Jaime Capelo in March.

In Republican runoffs, rancher Jean Killgore of Somerville defeated engineer Jay Yates of Bastrop in District 17, and real estate broker Rob Orr of Burleson defeated Cleburne investor Sam Walls.

Walls, 64, refused to withdraw from the District 58 race after photos of him in women's clothing began circulating. Walls said he would not give in to "blackmail" from opponents. Orr won with 60 percent of the vote.

After his loss, Walls read a statement at the Johnson County GOP headquarters, where he arrived with about 50 supporters.

"Some people have said they feel sorry for me, but let me tell you how wonderful it has been for me. If you have not had the opportunity to find out that all your friends are true friends then I feel sorry for you," he said.

Study questions reliability of new cancer detection method

CHICAGO (AP) — Virtual colonoscopy — a cancer-detecting procedure that gives doctors a computer-generated 3-D view of the colon — is less reliable than previously thought and not ready for widespread use, researchers say.

Its accuracy varies considerably, depending on the training and methods of the doctors performing it, according to a study of 600 patients at nine major clinics.

In conventional colonoscopy, a long, flexible viewing tube about the thickness of a garden hose is inserted in the rectum and threaded several feet into the colon. A device on the end of the tube is used to remove suspicious growths, which are later tested for cancer.

Virtual colonoscopy is designed to take some of the discomfort out of the examination. A narrower rectal catheter is inserted, and a CT scanner produces images of the colon.

In the latest study, the patients underwent virtual colonoscopy first, then traditional colonoscopy on the same day.

The virtual method detected 55 percent of patients with at least one suspicious polyp at least 10 millimeters in diameter, compared with a 100 percent success rate for traditional colonoscopy. For smaller tumors, at least 6 millimeters in diameter, the results were worse: 39 percent for virtual colonoscopy versus 99 percent for the traditional method.

Eight patients ultimately were diagnosed with cancer; virtual colonoscopy missed the disease in two of them.

As recently as December, a widely reported study found that virtual colonoscopy was at least as accurate as the conventional variety.

But the authors of the new research said many of the previous studies were largely based on data from a single hospital and did not take real-world conditions into account.

The leader of the research team called the latest findings "a bucket of cold water" thrown on the growing enthusiasm for virtual colonoscopy.

While the technique might be effective "in the hands of experts, it has yet to be proven that this expertise can be taught and disseminated reliably into daily practice," said the research team, led by Dr. Peter Cotton, a gastroenterologist at Medical University of South Carolina.

"If this technique is worth doing, it's worth doing by regular folks," Cotton said.

Nevertheless, Cotton said doctors should not give up on virtual colonoscopy. "I suspect that in five years' time, with better software and training and maybe some more intelligent computing ... this will become a useful technique," he said.

The study appears in today's Journal of the American Medical Association.

Participating radiologists were required to have performed at least 10 previous virtual colonoscopies. Only one of the centers had substantial previous experience with the procedures and it had the best results, detecting 82 percent of patients with at least one of the smaller polyps. The eight other centers combined had a detection rate of 24 percent.

"The differences between what virtual colonoscopy can do and what it will do if applied in ordinary practice circumstances are so great that physicians must be cautious," Dr. David Ransohoff of the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill said in a JAMA editorial.

The American Cancer Society recommends that people over 50 get a conventional colonoscopy every 10 years, calling it the "gold standard" of colon cancer screening. The society concluded that there is not enough evidence to recommend the virtual test for those with average colon cancer risk.

While some doctors offer virtual colonoscopies, most insurance companies do not cover the method. And when the technique does find suspicious growths, standard colonoscopies are required to remove them.

Colon cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States. It accounts for nearly 60,000 deaths each year. The detection and removal of polyps can help prevent cancer from developing.

World Almanac

Wednesday, April 14, 2004

Today is the 105th day of 2004 and the 26th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth. Lincoln died the next day.

In 1927, the first series-manufactured Volvo came off the assembly line in Goteborg, Sweden.

In 1986, the United States launched air strikes against Libya.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Sir John Gielgud (1904-2000), actor; Rod Steiger (1925-2002), actor; Loretta Lynn (1935-), singer, is 69; Pete Rose (1941-), baseball player, is 63; Aprile Millo (1958-), opera singer, is 46.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1910, President William Howard Taft began a tradition by throwing out the first ball on the Washington Senators' opening day.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "You've got to continue to grow or you're just like last night's cornbread — stale and dry." — Loretta Lynn

TODAY'S FACT: Among U.S. taxpayers in the 50 states, New Mexico residents (in 2002) received the most in federal outlays for each tax dollar paid: $2.37.

TODAY'S NUMBER: 19,340 — Height in feet of Mt. Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, Africa's highest peak.

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (April 11) and new moon (April 19)

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Actor saves home

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Neighbors are crediting actor Robert Davi with saving their home after a fire broke out under a water heater.

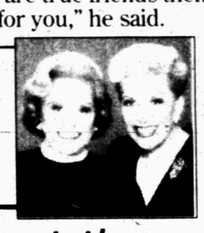
Shea Logdson, 19, said Davi got her 10-year-old sister out of the Northridge home on Monday and fought the flames until firefighters arrived.

Davi was joined by two plain-clothes police officers, apparently friends of the actor who played the villain in the 1989 James Bond film "Licence to Kill" and an FBI agent in the "Profiler" TV series from 1996-2000.

"This actor saved my home," said Larry Logdson, the girls' father and a high school teacher.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Doctors who give what they can feel pressure to give more

DEAR ABBY: I am a woman physician in a small city. My husband is also a physician in the same practice. We have a lovely family, and both of us love our work. We donate time and resources to our community, including free medical care to people who are homeless and the working poor, and money to worthy causes. We are blessed with a wonderful life.

So why am I writing? Because I do not know how to handle a sensitive situation. Our community becomes angry when we refuse to donate to each and every cause. Abby, we give all we can; however, we are early in our careers and are still paying off our loans from medical school.

We live modestly and within our means. We love our community and want our neighbors to know that we, too, are on a budget. Most physicians have seen drastic pay cuts with increased liability, hours and overhead. Unfortunately, many doctors have left the field to pursue technology jobs with higher salaries and fewer hours. Medical schools have watched the business world lure our best and brightest into lucrative careers with less liability. Please enlighten people through your column.

I hope this letter is legible. I wrote it by hand, because I didn't want the office manager to see this on the computer. — **ANONYMOUS FAMILY DOC IN THE USA**

DEAR ANONYMOUS DOC: A wise and street-smart man once observed that no one has as much money as other people assume he does. One reason for it is that everyone has a silent partner — the tax man. And everyone is aware of the effect that managed care has had on the medical community.

For your neighbors to become angry when you cannot donate to each and every cause is wrong. When it comes to charitable giving, like everything else, people must prioritize. There are many worthy causes, and it is impossible to give to all of them. You can't please everyone, so stop allowing people who sulk to lay a guilt trip on you.

Remind your neighbors that you give in ways other than money. Continue to do your best. You have much to be proud of, and your community is lucky to have you.

**

DEAR ABBY: My husband passed away four years ago. About two years ago, a dear friend, "Hugh," lost his wife. Hugh and I went on two dates and hit it off. He told me he loved me and always had. I have a deep affection for him. Nine months after his wife passed away, we moved in together and have been living together ever since.

Hugh and I are happy, but I would like to be married. At first, he asked me to give him time to deal with his loss. A year ago, he confessed that he had made a deathbed promise to his late wife that he would not marry again. He wants to see her in the afterlife.

Christianity says there is no marriage in heaven. Even though we may see loved ones there, we wouldn't be married. Hugh says he's working on getting past this, but I am beginning to think he may never let go of the baggage he's carrying.

I want a life with Hugh. I am trying to be patient, but I feel he has let me down. Have you any advice for a forlorn person? — **GROWING IMPATIENT IN RICHMOND**

DEAR GROWING: Hugh should have leveled with you from the beginning. Had he done so, you would have been better informed before setting up housekeeping with him. As it stands, he is enjoying all the benefits of marriage without any of the responsibilities, and that is unfair to you.

If it's marriage you want, be prepared to move out. Hugh has some important decisions to make — and he may not make them until he feels your absence.

**

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

**

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

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Today's chuckle

Taiwanese cat shows of toilet skills

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP) — A white and tan Taiwanese cat made his successful television debut — on the toilet.

"Tiger" showed off his skills Wednesday, hopping on the front end of the toilet seat and carefully balancing himself as he did his business.



Tiger's owner, Dong Hsiu-yuan, told reporters in her home in central Taichung County that the former stray cat only recently acquired his toilet skills.

"Last week, I saw him jump on the toilet. I didn't know what he was doing and then I noticed he was urinating," she told CTI cable news.

Dong said that Tiger was self-taught. "He would watch me from the bathroom doorway. If I closed the door, then he would meow loudly," she told SCT cable news.

Although Tiger's skills are impressive, he still hasn't mastered the art of flushing.



FISH DAY

Channel Catfish (4"-6")	$29.00 per 100
Channel Catfish (6"-8")	$49.00 per 100
Straight Bluegill (1"-3")	$39.00 per 100
Hybrid Bluegill (1:-3")	$35.00 per 100
Black Crappie (1"-3")	$59.00 per 100
Large Mouth Bass (2"-4")	$79.00 per 100
Fathead Minnows	$8 per Lb.

Will Be At: Snyder Ezell Key Feed & Seed - 1615 26th Street
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No Advance Orders Necessary. Just Show Up.
TOMMY'S FISH TRUCK (501)796-6349

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CALL TOLL FREE 1-866-839-3378 FOR INFORMATION & HOURS
T M A

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LOANS FROM $100-$510
We sell name brand merchandise
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Snyder, TX 79549
325-573-9335

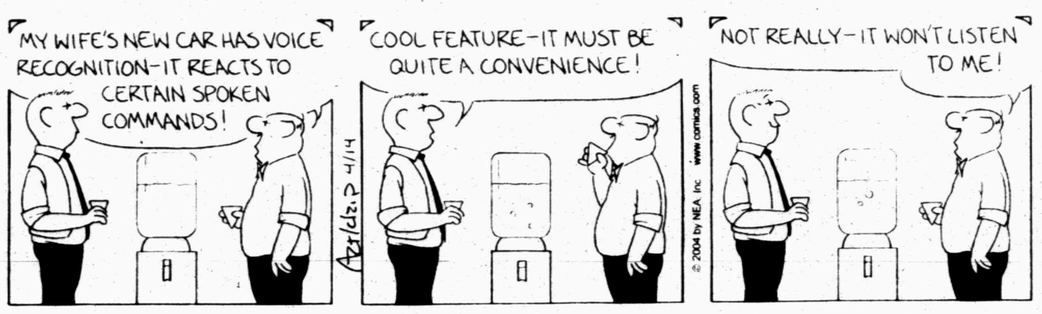
THE SCURRY COUNTY HEALTH UNIT
will be giving immunizations for
Spring Roundup
at the Health Unit
911 26th.
The clinic dates are:
Thursday April 22, 2004 1:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M.
Friday April 23, 2004 7:00 A.M. to 1:00 P.M.
Bring your child's shot record and Medicaid Card if they have one.
All shots are $5.00
ALL AGES WELCOME.

APR 14 2004

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



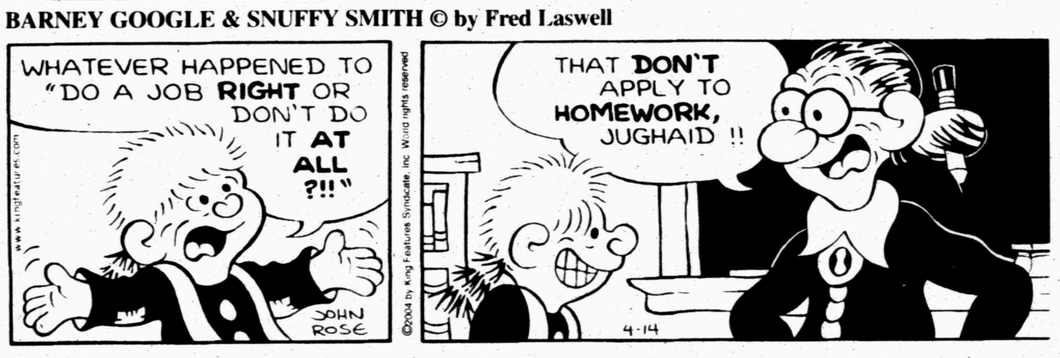
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



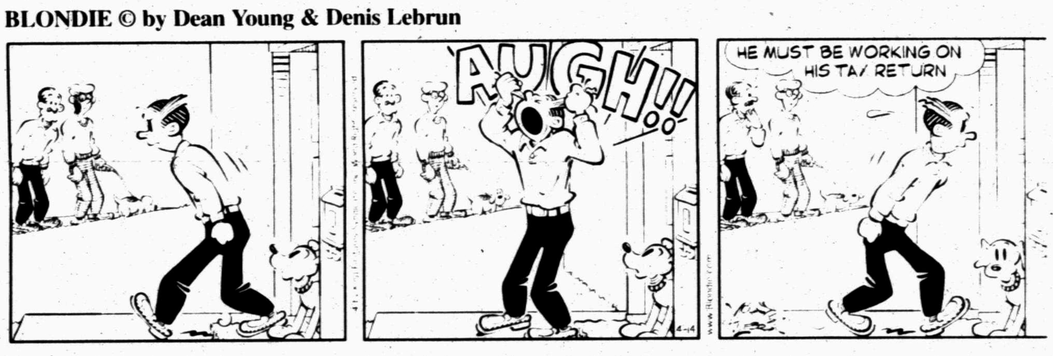
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



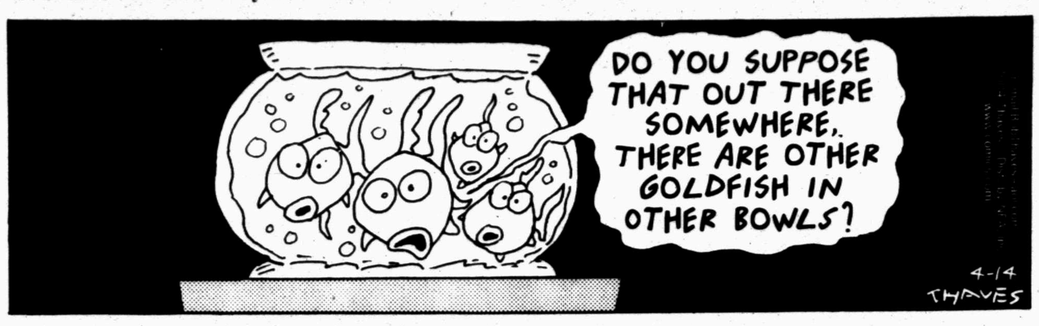
BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



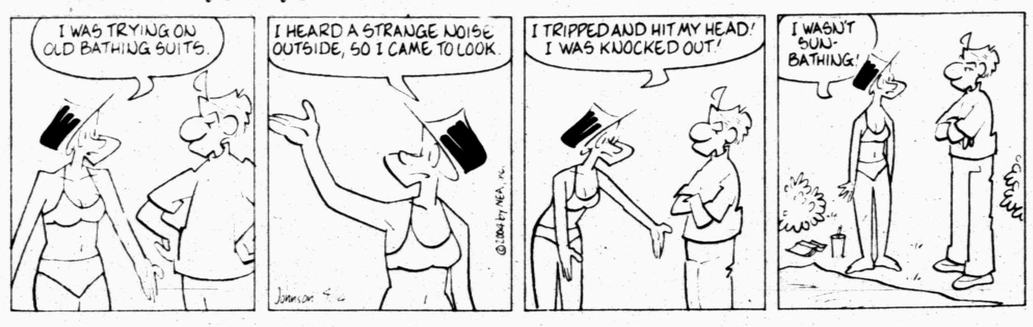
THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



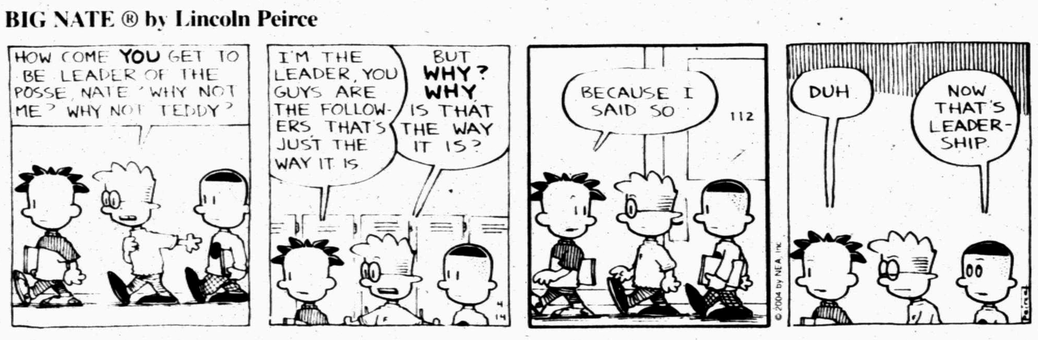
FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



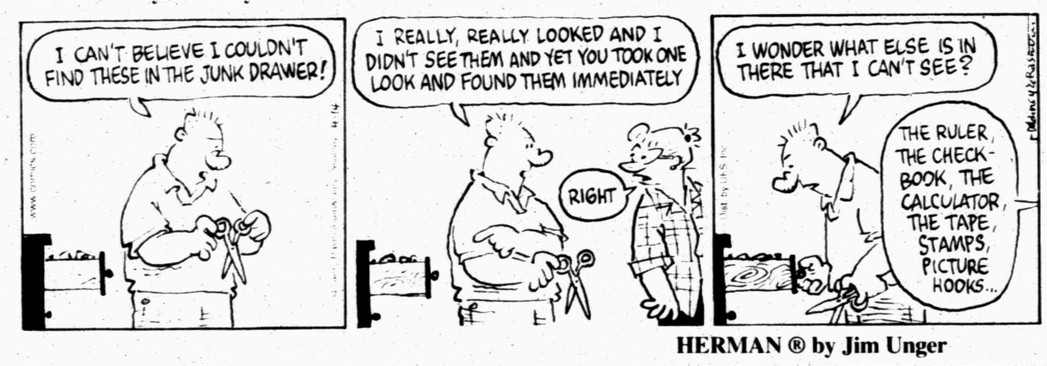
MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen

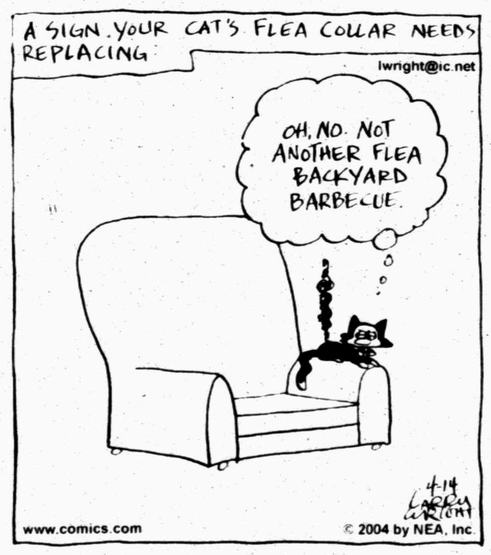


HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Take off your tie and unbutton your shirt. There are nine women on the jury."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Pinch together
6 Hesitate
11 Era
13 Steal software
14 Thoroughfare
15 Joins forces
16 RN specialty
17 Early veggie
18 Trial VIPs
21 Footstep
23 Robust energy
26 Furrow
27 Ruby
28 Give out tickets
29 Splendidly attired
31 This, in Tijuana
32 Enemies
33 Driving force
36 Snare
37 Flair for music
38 Feel under par
39 Chatter
40 Walkway
42 Hog's abode
43 Yellow Pages contents
44 Seine landmass
46 Share
49 Vicar's helper
53 Not obliged
54 Magazine VIP
55 Wild animal
56 Use the door

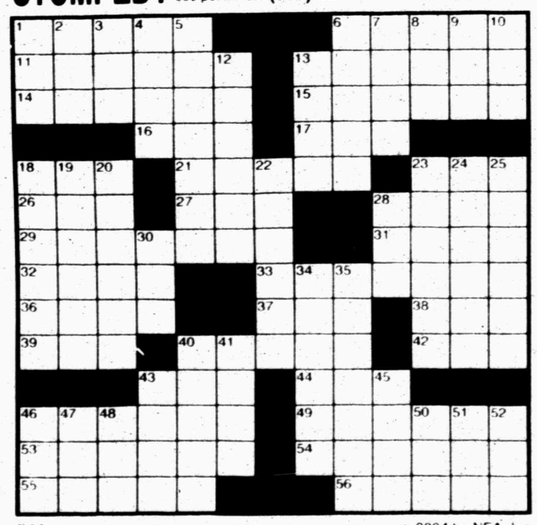
DOWN

1 IRS form expert
2 Clergy mem.
3 Fury
4 Tangy flavor
5 Ducks or geese
6 — and dined
7 Diva's rendition
8 Big tank
9 Yves' vacation time
10 Thing in law
12 Royal order
13 Cocoon dweller
18 Exposed to the wind
19 Northern lights
20 Run of luck
22 Whirlpools
23 Panoramic views
24 Have a hunch
25 Skimpy
28 Admission —
30 Viper
34 Animosity
35 Overture
40 Pass a bill
41 Can't be
43 Goals
45 A Walton daughter
46 Soldier in gray
47 Chop
48 Mild brew
50 LL.D. holder
51 Sock part
52 Blow it

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for answers ● Touch-tone or rotary phone 95c per minute **(900) 226-4344** code 000



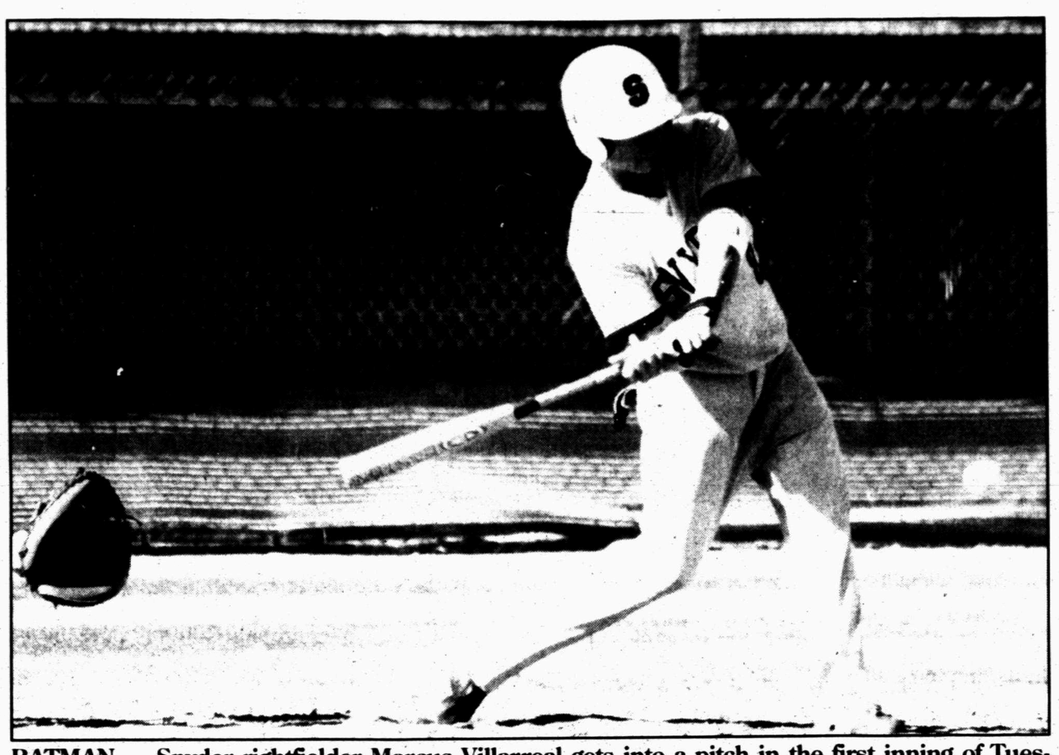
4-14 © 2004 by NEA, Inc

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



SPORTS



BATMAN — Snyder rightfielder Marcus Villarreal gets into a pitch in the first inning of Tuesday's 23-1 win over Lamesa. Villarreal drove in five runs as the Tigers solidified their standing in District 3-3A. (SDN Staff Photo by Bobby Allen)

Tigers trample Tors, 23-1

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

LAMESA — After emerging on the top end of a 4-2 battle with Lamesa in the district opener, the Tigers were determined to display a better brand of baseball in their second go-round with the Tors.

"We felt defeated in our hearts (after the district opener)," said centerfielder Bradley Price. "We wanted to show how much better we really are."

Point taken.

Snyder (16-3, 6-0) batted around in each of the first three innings Tuesday, sending 37 batters to the plate over that span in annihilating Lamesa, 23-1, in a five-inning contest.

"Our guys know we play a different level of ball," head coach Charles Bollinger said. "We worked on our fundamentals and the defense played good. We need to keep the bats warmed up, because we are going to run into better teams."

Blake Grimmett set the tone immediately — yanking the first pitch he saw from starter Britt Rebber for a double — and was soon joined by the rest of the lineup, as the Tigers put up five runs before recording an out.

Snyder sent 10 hitters to the plate in the first, 12 in the second and 15 in the third inning, as Lamesa used four pitchers through the first 2 1/3 innings.

Jordan Dea went 4-for-4 with three RBIs and four runs scored, and Marcus Villarreal twice hustled all the way around the horn on outfield singles that Lamesa'a Charlie Anderson misplayed.

Villarreal was 2-for-3 with five RBIs.

Alex Neal hit a pair of stand-up triples and drove in three runs and Ramon and Grimmett each cracked two hits.

Freshman Ryan Mitchell got the win, throwing three shutout innings while striking out two.

Dustyn Williams pitched the final two innings in relief.

Following Tuesday's deconstruction of Lamesa and an emotional win over Sweetwater last Friday, the first-place Tigers are now marked by the rest of their district foes.

"We're on top, and everyone is going to want to knock us off, so we have to play our game and bring our A game every night," Bollinger said.

District 3-3A Standings

	District		Season	
Team	**W**	**L**	**W**	**L**
Snyder	6	0	16	3
Sweetwater	5	1	15	4
Seminole	4	2	10	7
Merkel	2	4	7	9
Lamesa	1	5	3	15
Denver City	0	6	7	15

Boys golf wins second straight district crown

The varsity Tigers will return to the regional golf tournament as district champions for the second consecutive year after firing their best round of the district tournament Tuesday at Denver City.

"We played well from top to bottom. This is a very young group of kids who have really matured and come a long way," head coach Ricky Hunter said.

Snyder fired a 300, 19 strokes better than Sweetwater in the round and 50 better than the Mustangs over the full three rounds of the tournament.

All five players from last year's state championship team were replaced with new faces this season, but the results, so far, have been similar.

"I could not be more proud of a group of kids," Hunter said. "They have done all that they have been asked to do and then some. These guys are real winners."

Sweetwater and Seminole tied for second (960), with Sweetwater winning the playoff and earning the second berth out of District 3-3A.

Jay Weaver fired the best round of the tournament Tuesday, carding a 71 and leaping over teammate Alan Gray and Seminole's Brady Shivers to finish as top medallist with a 223.

Shivers and Gray ended the tourney with identical scores in every round, both carding a total of 225 after shooting a 75 at Denver City.

Tanner Bloom stroked a 74 in the final round, Jake Cottrell shot an 80 and Cole Robertson posted an 82.

Weaver, Gray, Bloom and Cottrell all finished in the top five in district, earning all-district honors in the process. They will be joined on the first team by Shivers and Sweetwater's Jospeh Rameriz and Ryan Williams.

Wyl Wiggins and Robertson earned second-team distinction with top 10 scores.

Snyder B placed fourth, 15 shots off second place.

The varsity boys have little time to prepare for the Region I tournament, with tee-off looming first thing Monday morning.

"We have only the rest of this week to get ready for the regional tournament," Hunter said. "We are looking forward to the fierce competition that will be there."

District 3-3A Tournament
Final Round
Denver City
April 13, 2004

Team Standings

1. Snyder A 302-308-300 910; 2. Sweetwater 317-324-319 960*; 3. Seminole 322-324-319 960; **4. Snyder B 328-326-321 975**; 5. Lamesa A 318-357-324 999; 6. Lamesa B 319-383-344 1046; 7. Denver City A 352-359-337 1048; 8. Seminole B 347-365-343 1055; 9. Sweetwater B 348-382-332 1062; 10. Denver City B 394-400-369 1163; 11. Merkel A 435-406-405 1246; 12. Merkel B 504-495-447 1446.

*-won playoff

Snyder A

1. Weaver 78-74-71 223; 2. Gray 74-76-75 225; 3. Bloom 76-79-74 229; 4. Cottrell 74-79-80 233; 5. 78-82-82 242.

Snyder B

1. Blake Seale 88-84-81 253; 2. Wyl Wiggins 83-78-76 237; 3. Matt Schoolcraft 84-81-82 247; 4. Syd Wiggins 83-87-82 252; 5. 87-83-92 262.

Lady Tigers drop first district game at Merkel

The Lady Tigers suffered their first defeat in district Tuesday, getting blanked by the Merkel Lady Badgers, 2-0.

Snyder (17-9, 9-1) could have clinched a share of the district title with a victory, but were stymied at the plate by Merkel starter Shonna Wagley, who limited the Lady Tigers to three hits.

Ashley Martinez was tagged with the loss, despite allowing just four hits. Martinez was victimized by four Snyder errors.

Merkel also committed two errors, but worked around both.

Snyder can try to clinch a share of the district crown when Denver City comes to town Friday on Senior Night.

The game will get underway at 5 p.m.

The JV had better luck at Merkel, pounding out 20 hits in a 20-5 win.

Kendra Birks had four hits and three RBIs, Joshlyn Tovar added four hits and two runs driven in and Sarah Covington recorded three hits and a run batted in.

Several players had two hits, and every Snyder player in the lineup cracked at least one base hit.

Jessica Yanez improved to 4-0 and the JV ran its record to 12-1-1.

The JV plays Denver City at 7 Friday night.

A's down Rangers in slugfest

ARLINGTON (AP) — No matter how bad Barry Zito's line looked, the Oakland starter deserved this victory.

Damian Miller had three hits, including a three-run homer, and Oakland's big bats overcame Zito's poor start Tuesday night in a 10-9 victory over the Texas Rangers.

When Zito pitched against the same team last week, he got a loss after giving up just two runs in eight innings.

"Funny game," Oakland manager Ken Macha said. "Barry goes out there last time against these guys and loses 2-1. This time, he gives us a bunch of runs and gets a win, so you figure it out."

Zito (1-1) allowed six runs on 11 hits while throwing 107 pitches in five innings. Two of the runs were unearned, after his throwing error in Texas' three-run second.

While Zito never trailed, he squandered a 6-0 lead and the Athletics led by only a run before Miller's first homer made it 10-6 in the fourth.

"It seems like it should be reversed, a win last week and a loss tonight," Zito said. "I just battled out there and luckily got through the fifth inning.

"We don't look for 10-run games. But when you can line up big offensive games with the games that you scuffle, it's nice."

The A's had 16 hits, seven of them for extra bases, in their first road game. Every starter had a hit, and five players had more than one.

Miller, the catcher hitting just .125 coming into the game, was 3-for-4 with a walk and a double. Eric Byrnes had three hits in his first start of the season and Jermaine Dye had a homer and an RBI double.

All of that offense still almost wasn't enough for the A's and Zito, the 2002 AL Cy Young winner who is 12-1 in 19 career starts against Texas. The only loss was the 2-1 game last Wednesday.

Sports Briefs

Snyder opens National Little Dribblers tourney

The Snyder nine and 10-year-old Little Dribblers All-Stars will open the National Little Dribblers Tournament Thursday at 3:30 p.m. at Levelland against Martin Mills.

Friday swingers

The SCGA will host a couples play day at 5:30 p.m. each Friday. Format is handicap scramble, and the cost is $10. Call the pro shop at 573-7101 for more information.

Gateway Golf Classic

The third annual Gateway Golf Classic will be held Saturday at Sammy Baugh Golf Course at WTC. Format is four-person scramble, and cost is $240 per team. Shotgun starts are set for 8:30 a.m. and 1 p.m. All proceeds benefit Gateway Family Services. Call 573-4351 for more information.

Bonds passes Mays

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Barry Bonds hit his 661st homer, passing Willie Mays to take sole possession of third place on baseball's career list. Only Babe Ruth and Hank Aaron still lead Bonds.

Major League Baseball

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Florida	6	1	.857	—
New York	4	3	.571	2
Atlanta	3	4	.429	3
Montreal	2	5	.286	4
Philadelphia	1	6	.143	5

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cincinnati	5	2	.714	—
Houston	5	3	.625	½
Pittsburgh	4	3	.571	1
Milwaukee	4	5	.444	2
St. Louis	4	5	.444	2
Chicago	3	4	.429	2

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	5	3	.625	—
Los Angeles	4	3	.571	½
San Diego	4	3	.571	½
Colorado	3	4	.429	1½
Arizona	2	5	.286	2½

Tuesday's Games

Florida 5, Montreal 0
Houston 5, St. Louis 3
San Francisco 4, Milwaukee 2
San Diego 8, Los Angeles 3

Today's Games

Houston (Miller 1-0) at St. Louis (Carpenter 1-0), 12:10 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Vogelsong 1-0) at Chicago Cubs (Clement 0-1), 1:20 p.m.
Milwaukee (Obermueller 0-1) at San Francisco (W.Franklin 0-0), 2:35 p.m.
Florida (Willis 1-0) vs. Montreal (Ohka 0-1) at San Juan, 6:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Acevedo 1-0) at Philadelphia (Padilla 0-1), 6:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Thomson 0-0) at N.Y. Mets (Yates 0-0), 6:10 p.m.
Arizona (Dessens 0-0) at Colorado (Kennedy 0-0), 8:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Ishii 1-0) at San Diego (D.Wells 0-0), 9:05 p.m.

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	4	3	.571	—
Tampa Bay	4	3	.571	—
New York	4	4	.500	½
Baltimore	3	4	.429	1
Toronto	2	5	.286	2

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	5	2	.714	—
Chicago	4	3	.571	1
Kansas City	4	3	.571	1
Minnesota	3	4	.429	2
Cleveland	3	5	.375	2½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	5	2	.714	—
Anaheim	5	3	.625	½
Texas	4	4	.500	1½
Seattle	1	6	.143	4

Tuesday's Games

Chicago White Sox 12, Kansas City 5
Baltimore at Boston, ppd., rain
Toronto 7, Detroit 5
Tampa Bay at N.Y. Yankees, ppd., rain
Oakland 10, Texas 9
Anaheim 7, Seattle 5

Today's Games

Tampa Bay (Hendrickson 0-0) at N.Y. Yankees (K.Brown 2-0), 12:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Affeldt 0-1) at Chicago White Sox (Garland 1-0), 1:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Ponson 1-0) at Boston (Lowe 1-0), 6:05 p.m.
Toronto (Lilly 0-0) at Detroit (Robertson 0-0), 6:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Silva 0-0) at Cleveland (D'Amico 1-0), 6:05 p.m.
Oakland (Redman 0-0) at Texas (Dickey 1-0), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Garcia 0-0) at Anaheim (Ra.Ortiz 0-1), 9:05 p.m.

Snyder Bowling Leagues

Men's Commercial League

Team	W	L
Snyder Iron&Metal	145	76
Circle M Welding	130.5	90.5
Good Guys	127.5	93.5
BJ Services	121	100
The Shack	114.5	106.5
Timely Pawn	112.5	108.5
Culligan	97	124
Anadarko	88	133
WTP Energy	87.5	133.5
Robert Early's Weld	81.5	139.5

High series: Jeff Smith, scratch, 611; John Guzman, handicap, 719.
High game: Butch Evans, scratch, 235; Melvin Boatman, handicap, 242.

Jack-N-Jill

Team	W	L
Turkey Hunters	40	12
Renegades	34	18
Outcasts	33.5	18.5
Snyder Lanes	32	20
WTP Energy	29	23
Snyder Iron&Metal	28	24
Moment's Captured	27	25
JB's	25	27
Timely Finance	22.5	29.5
ED Walton	20	32
Replacements	19	33
Phantom Team	2	50

High series: Scratch: Lynn Smith, 664; Dana Stone, 528. **Handicap:** Roger Pavlik, 740; Dana Stone 648.
High game: Scratch: Roger Pavlik, 244; Dana Stone, 211. **Handicap:** Roger Pavlik, 276; Dana Stone, 251.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Golf: SHS girls at Seminole, district final round
Track: District meet, Snyder

FRIDAY

Baseball: SHS varsity at Denver City, 7 p.m.
WTC vs. Midland JC, DH, noon
Softball: SHS varsity vs. Denver City, 5 p.m.
SHS JV vs. Denver City, 7 p.m.

SATURDAY

Softball: WTC vs. Clarenson, DH, 2 p.m.
Baseball: WTC vs. Midland JC, DH, noon
SHS JV vs. Sweetwater, DH, noon
Track: District meet, Snyder

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CLASSIFIEDS

Bush vulnerable, but Kerry unknown to many people, campaign poll says

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush appears vulnerable on several fronts, including support for whether he deserves re-election and worries about the country's direction, but Democratic rival John Kerry has been unable to capitalize on those weaknesses, a bipartisan poll suggests.

The result six months before the Nov. 2 presidential election is a tight race between a vulnerable incumbent and a challenger who has not yet defined himself, according to the Battleground 2004 poll released today. The survey was conducted by Republican pollster Ed Goeas and Democratic pollster Celinda Lake.

Bush and Kerry were virtually tied in the survey, with Kerry at 49 percent support and Bush at 48 percent.

The poll found Bush retains an advantage on personal qualities like strong leadership, and on such issues as his handling of the campaign against terrorism and the war in Iraq. Kerry holds a slight edge on such qualities as compassion, and leads Bush on handling the economy and health care.

Both have similar favorable ratings, with slightly more than half of voters viewing each favorably.

But on the intensity of those feelings, Bush has the advantage, with 38 percent saying they feel strongly for Bush and 26 percent saying the same about Kerry.

That intensity of feeling helps Bush stay close to Kerry despite mixed feelings about his re-election and Kerry's advantage on the economy, health care and Social Security.

"With advantages like this, we should be way ahead," Lake said. "How do we translate Kerry's issue advantages into a lead against Bush?"

The Battleground Poll asked open-ended questions, such as why voters thought the country was either headed in the right direction or down the wrong track.

Those who said the country was headed in the right direction were most likely to say the economy was improving and that Bush is a strong leader doing a good job.

Those who said the country was on the wrong track were most likely to mention the war and unemployment levels.

The poll was taken before the recent spike in violence in Iraq, which has led to a drop in some polls in the public's approval of Bush's handling of that situation.

GOP pollster Goeas said it's important for Bush's re-election campaign to define Kerry and turn his softer supporters into opponents. In some other polls, as many as four in 10 people say they don't know enough about Kerry to decide how they feel about him.

The Battleground 2004 poll highlights several groups that are key "swing voter" groups — those not firmly committed to either candidate — such as Hispanics, white seniors, white suburban women, married women and Catholics, Goeas said.

Kerry's task is to spell out his positions on the economy and Iraq, while making progress introducing himself to voters, Lake said.

The poll of 1,000 likely voters was taken from March 28-31 and has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Postoperative complication of breast surgery

DEAR DR. GOTT: After I had a benign lump removed from my left breast four months ago, I developed a huge blood clot in the breast. The pressure is painful and there is continuing bloody drainage at the operative site, to the extent that even the stitches pulled out. What can I do?

DEAR READER: Although it is a rare complication of surgery, hematoma (clot) formation is always a possibility. Your story concerns me for two reasons.

First, postoperative healing should be complete within a month or two after surgery. Your convalescence has been abnormally extended.

Second, the presence of pain, pressure and drainage suggests to me that, for some reason, there is continuing bleeding (and possible infection) within the breast. If so, this must be corrected.

Therefore, I advise you to return to your surgeon. In my opinion, if he knew about your problem sooner, he should have aggressively addressed the issue. Now, four months later, the situation is more complex — and, I'm certain, more disfiguring — so you may need further surgery to correct the problem.

Should your surgeon choose a hands-off approach, I urge you to consult with a second — or even third — surgeon, because I do not believe that your pain, pressure and drainage will right itself with time. Let me know how you resolve this difficult complication.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Breast Cancer and Disorders." 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: Mein Gott! You sure shot yourself in the foot when you recently put down reflexology. I'll bet there are a million people in the world who would like to do a Bobbectomy on you — me included. Is acupuncture a pseudomedicine, too?

DEAR READER: What on Earth is a Bobbectomy? Is it done at home, or in a reflexology environment?

Acupuncture has been shown in numerous studies to be an effective method of treating certain disorders, particularly musculoskeletal problems.

In contrast, reflexology hasn't made the grade. Reputable medical authorities are in agreement about reflexology: It is pure quackery. This fraud is based on the phony principle that pressure on the hand or foot can relieve pain, cure diseases and benefit health.

This is pure hogwash, merely another way of separating the sucker from his buck. Mein Gott! Could that be you?

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a 56-year-old widow who wears black clothing. I've recently noticed a number of dark moles on my body. Could these be a consequence of my grieving or garb? What should I do about them?

DEAR READER: I doubt that your clothing preferences have played a role is causing moles. However, regardless of the cause, you should have the moles examined, possibly biopsied or removed.

Check with your primary care physician or, if that's not possible, consult a surgeon or dermatologist.

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

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Girl, 5, found in ravine near wreck

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A 5-year-old girl found in a ravine survived on dry noodles and Gatorade while remaining near her dead mother following a car crash more than a week ago, relatives and authorities said.

The girl, apparently uninjured, was identified as Ruby Bustamante, the daughter of Norma Bustamante, 26, of Indio, said Jane Evans, nursing supervisor at Riverside Regional Medical Center. They were reported missing April 4.

California Department of Transportation workers repairing a road barrier Tuesday morning found the girl, her mother's body and a wrecked Ford Taurus 150 feet down a ravine off the 60 Freeway between Moreno Valley and the Banning Pass, said Chris Blondon, spokesman for the California Highway Patrol.

The car had crashed about 10 days ago, and the girl was hungry and thirsty but unhurt, Blondon said in a statement.

Relatives gathered at the hospital late Tuesday where Evans said Ruby was in stable condition.

Bill Cooney, the girl's great-grandfather, told local TV networks that Ruby told him she survived on ramen noodles and Gatorade. Ruby also said her mother was alive for "a couple days" after the crash, he said.

Cooney criticized the CHP and other authorities for not searching for Bustamante and her daughter when they were first reported missing April 4.

Two U.S. Marines face court-martial

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. (AP) — Two Marines face a court-martial on charges including assault and dereliction of duty in the death of an Iraqi prisoner in their custody, a Camp Pendleton spokeswoman said Tuesday.

Maj. Clark A. Paulus is to be arraigned on four charges and Sgt. Gary Pittman faces six charges in the death of a 52-year-old Iraqi man who was allegedly mistreated at a Marine detention facility in southern Iraq last year, said 1st Lt. Amy Malugani, a public affairs officer.

Maj. Gen. William Bowdon, the commanding general at Camp Pendleton, dismissed the most serious charge, negligent homicide, against Paulus and Lance Cpl. Christian Hernandez.

Bowdon decided on the court-martial Friday after receiving recommendations in March from an investigating officer, Malugani said. She did not know if an arraignment had yet been scheduled.

Overall, five Marines were investigated during an Article 32 hearing in February. Bowdon dismissed all charges against two other Marines and the fifth faced administrative discipline. Article 32 hearings are the military equivalent of a civilian grand jury probe.

Nagem Sadoon Hatab was killed June 6 when Hernandez grabbed him by the neck and snapped a bone in his throat, according to the Marine Corps. Hatab had been left lying naked, covered in his own feces, for hours when he was found dead at the detention facility near Nasiriyah.

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AT&T Corp	19 06	18 77	19 00	+ 08
Albertsons	22 26	22 00	22 06	— 31
Alltel	49 86	49 50	49 52	— 15
AmEl Pw	30 54	30 30	30 53	— 14
AndarkPtr	53 99	53 25	53 35	— 21
ATMOS Egy	25 01	24 74	24 79	— 26
Aviall	15 89	15 42	15 85	+ 32
BP PLC,	53 33	52 90	53 03	— 58
BakerHughes	36 15	35 50	35 85	
Bank of Amer	80 86	79 09	80 45	— 05
BellSouth	26 40	26 05	26 05	— 27
BurlNoSFe	32 02	31 55	31 97	+ 27
Caterpillar	82 01	81 00	82 01	— 01
CenterPoint	10 99	10 86	10 96	— 09
ChevronTex	91 20	90 31	90 76	
Citigroup	51 20	50 51	51 00	— 20
CocaCola	51 25	50 71	51 11	+ 22
ColgatePal	54 10	53 41	53 98	+ 42
CmclMetals	30 10	29 16	29 71	— 29
ConocoPhll	71 98	70 91	71 37	— 07
Cooper Inds	57 51	57 14	57 23	— 32
DaimlrChry	40 14	39 67	40 10	— 33
DeltaAirLines	7 99	7 49	7 89	+ 19
Dillards Inc	17 20	16 99	17 16	— 04
DowChem	41 47	40 66	41 41	+ 62
DuPont	44 84	44 06	44 74	+ 1 05
EastmanChem	43 13	42 61	42 77	— 06
EstKodak	25 20	24 55	25 06	+ 03
EDS Corp	20 16	19 87	19 92	— 13
Entergy	55 75	55 21	55 74	— 31
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GenDynam	93 30	92 01	92 84	+ 41
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GenMotors	46 39	45 93	46 31	+ 02
GaPacific	35 06	34 13	34 98	+ 86
Goodrich	29 55	28 94	29 49	+ 26
Goodyear	8 78	8 58	8 66	— 07
GtAtlPac	7 85	7 65	7 77	— 28
Halliburtn	29 87	29 46	29 70	— 06
Hanson PLC	38 00	37 80	37 93	—1 34
HarteHanks	23 55	23 23	23 51	+ 22
HomeDepot	35 94	35 45	35 84	— 02
HoneywellIntl	35 08	34 31	34 82	+ 22
IBM	92 98	92 10	92 96	— 08
IntlPaper	41 55	41 07	41 52	— 05
JohnsonJn	52 28	51 26	52 27	+ 88
KinderMorg	60 86	60 00	60 01	— 89
Kroger Co	17 16	16 87	16 97	— 15
LockheedM	46 88	46 37	46 69	+ 24
Lowes Cos	53 02	52 30	52 33	— 75
Lubys	5 80	5 55	5 78	+ 15
LucentTech	4 34	4 21	4 26	
MarathonOil	33 80	33 29	33 41	— 26
MayDeptStr	33 23	32 89	33 17	— 06
Medtronic	49 80	49 25	49 77	+ 57
Motorola	17 81	17 40	17 67	+ 12
NCR Corp	46 54	46 09	46 47	+ 12
Navistar	48 54	47 17	48 27	+ 56
PNM Rescs	28 96	28 66	28 58	— 21
Penney JC	34 33	33 89	34 24	— 17
PepBoys	27 00	26 65	26 93	+ 16
PepsiCo	54 74	54 29	54 57	— 18
PhelpDodge	74 14	73 15	73 86	—1 35
PilgrimsPride	22 18	21 99	22 11	+ 11
Praxair s	38 53	37 96	37 97	— 04
ProctGamb	105 76	104 99	105 26	— 67
RadioShack	31 00	30 66	30 92	+ 12
RoyalDut	48 42	48 15	48 34	— 15
SBC Comm	24 34	24 01	24 02	— 24
SaraLee	22 00	21 74	21 95	+ 10
Scripps EW	103 31	102 47	103 31	+ 14
SearsRoeb	42 11	41 12	42 00	+ 28
SherwinW	37 97	37 50	37 74	+ 06
SouthernCo	29 05	28 70	29 02	— 19
SwstAirl	15 10	14 80	15 06	+ 14
SprintFON	19 05	18 55	18 96	— 14
SprintPCS	9 54	9 20	9 49	— 05
Sunoco Inc	63 75	62 40	62 53	— 93
TXU Corp	27 68	27 15	27 61	— 13
TempleInland	61 73	61 20	61 45	— 53
TexInd	37 56	36 25	36 80	— 76
TexasInst	29 38	28 75	29 10	+ 12
Textron	52 73	51 93	52 72	+ 27
TimeWarner	16 85	16 66	16 71	— 19
TrinityInds	27 63	27 02	27 53	+ 32
TylerTech	9 94	9 36	9 94	+ 42
UnionPacif	57 17	56 66	57 17	+ 40
USSteel	37 79	36 70	37 39	— 02
UnitedTech	88 58	87 45	88 30	+ 22
Unocal	37 32	37 06	37 14	— 25
VerizonComm	37 29	36 75	36 87	— 27
WalMart	57 09	56 39	57 04	+ 57
WellsFargo	56 00	54 79	55 80	+ 15
WstnGasRs	50 93	50 42	50 53	— 52
WinnDixie	7 78	7 61	7 68	— 11
Xerox Cp	14 49	14 32	14 46	+ 15
YumBrands	37 93	37 34	37 35	— 82

APR 14 2004

Scurry County Country

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dannheim, CEA- Family and Consumer Sciences 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

During the past six weeks, I have been recuperating from major surgery and thus not writing my article, "Scurrying Around Snyder." A special thanks to those of you who called to check on my progress and to those of you that sent cards/notes. It is nice to be missed!

Put In The Big Rocks First!

In "First Things First," Stephen Covey tells a story that one of his associates heard at a seminar. The seminar presenter pulled out a wide-mouth gallon jar and placed it next to a pile of fist-sized rocks. After filling the jar to the top with rocks, he asked, *"Is the jar full?"*

The group replied, *"Yes."*

He then got some gravel from under the table and added it to the jar. The speaker jiggled the jar until the gravel filled the spaces between the rocks. Again, he asked, *"Is the jar full?"*

This time, the group replied, *"Probably not."*

The speaker then added some sand and asked, *"Is the jar full?"*

"No! shouted the group.

Finally, the speaker filled the jar to the brim with water and asked the group the point of this illustration.

Some big rocks might be:

- exercising more often;
- eating additional calcium foods;
- trying some new vegetables;
- getting more sleep;
- starting to lift weights
- spending added time with family and friends
- doing volunteer work in your community;
- reading inspirational literature.

As you make decisions during the moments, days and months of the year ahead, ask: *"Is this a big rock?"*

Quickie Quiz

Which activity looks like a big rock to you?

Watching a rerun of a less-than-favorite TV show **OR** taking a walk with a friend or family member.

Checking your e-mail every few minutes **OR** writing a letter of praise/thanks to a co-worker or friend.

Giving your thumb a workout with the TV remote control **OR** lifting some heavier weights to benefit your total body.

Spending your time "crawling the mall" **OR** enriching your cuisine by learning how to prepare a healthy vegetable.

Doing that "one more thing" on a night you're extremely tired **OR** going to bed and getting a good night's sleep.

Screaming at other drivers when you're stuck in heavy traffic **OR** putting a symphony on the tape player and thinking "life's too short to be uselessly angry."

Trying to follow a "if it tastes good, spit it out" diet **OR** going on a treasure hunt for recipes for lower fat and calorie treats.

As you make choices this year, say "yes" to your "big rocks" first. Don't feel you need to explain each "no" when the smaller gravel and sand try to fill your time. "No" can be a complete sentence!

Should you use dark metal, shiny lighter - colored metal or glass bakeware?

If you're uncertain about which pans to use for baking, these tips may help decide the best type for different foods. The two major differences in bake ware materials are their effect on baking time and how much food browns.

- Foods absorb more heat and bake faster in glass or dark metal containers than shiny lighter-colored metal ones. In turn, they may be done in less time.

TIP: When substituting a dark metal or glass baking pan in a recipe specifying a shiny lighter-colored metal pan, some bakers reduce the over temperature by 25 degrees F to allow for a faster baking time.

- Foods brown more in glass and dark metal baking pans than in shiny lighter-colored metal ones:
- Some cooks bake cookies and cakes in shiny lighter -colored metal pans as they prefer a lighter brown color for these foods.
- When baking pies and breads, darker pans or glass pans may be preferable.

NOTE: Some people choose glass over dark metal as it is easier to see how a food is browning.

- A nonstick finish on pans can be harmed if you cut foods while they're still in this type of pan.

Report: Rice crops look promising

COLLEGE STATION (AP) — Despite recent rainy weather, rice planting is on schedule and progressing smoothly, Texas Cooperative Extension reports.

According to Rick Jahn of Wharton, extension agent in Wharton County, both the rice crop and market price look promising.

"Producers have had great weather for planting," he said. "Rice thrives in a hot and dry environment. Producers took advantage of beneficial weather and, as a result, got a good part of their crop planted on time."

Although spring rains have kept soil conditions too wet for planting, an estimated 75 percent of Wharton County's rice crop is already in the ground, Jahn said.

"The (rice planting) window is closing and that's causing producers to get a little nervous, but a good part of the rice is in," he said. Prime planting dates for rice are March 15 to April 15. According to Jahn, this time period is especially important if a second crop, called a ratoon crop, is planned.

"A majority of producers try to 'double crop,' or make two crops on their rice," Jahn said. "If a farmer plants the first crop too late, it decreases the probability of harvesting a good second crop."

According to Christopher Schneider of Edna, extension agent in Jackson County, planting past the optimal window could cause problems for producers.

"The best time to plant is right now," he said. "Lots of environmental and pest concerns pop up when farmers try to push their planting time-line luck."

Schneider listed stink bugs and Mexican rice borers as potential pest problems.

"They cause damage by feeding on the plant's leaves, likely stunting the growth of the rice."

Insects are a major concern for rice growers, Jahn said, and this year producers are experiencing new problems.

"There have been reports of aphids in rice," he said. "Last year there were a few sightings, but nothing like what we are encountering this year."

Rice crops are also affected by disease.

"Panicle blight is a disease that causes the abortion of rice grains before filling," Jahn said. "It has never been a problem in Texas, but its numbers are increasing." Technology has played a major role in combating these problems, he said and it has also impacted management tactics.

"The variety Cocodrie is an example of technology in breeding," Jahn said. "It gives producers the much-needed option to plant different maturities, backgrounds and qualities of rice."

Rice producers also use a laser beam to level the seed bed, Schneider said.

"It has been around for a few years, but it's a great tool provided by technology.

"Technology is changing things dramatically, not necessarily in planting genes into the crop, but in creating new herbicides and pesticides and presenting improved varieties of rice," he said. "Technology changes the playing field in a big way. It definitely keeps me busy."

Wharton County has 50,635 acres for the 2004 rice crop.

"We're up 20 percent acreage wise from last year," Jahn said. "The price outlook is great and we've had favorable weather."

Statewide, extension estimates growers could plant between 200,000 and 205,000 acres this year, which is a 12 percent to 15 percent increase from last year's acreage. Nationwide, the U.S. Department of Agriculture forecasts the total rice acreage will increase 8 percent this year to 3.26 million acres.

In the Panhandle, Bob Robinson, regional program director, said recent rains and unseasonably cold temperatures have affected wheat and corn in his district. Overnight lows of 32 degrees have some producers worrying about crop damage, he said.

"Most of the Panhandle received rain over the course of several days with most areas recording totals for the week well over an inch," Robinson said.

Corn planting has been delayed until fields dry. The rain has helped forage for grazing and the wheat crop, he added. Scott Durham of San Angelo, district Extension administrator, said the rains in the West Central district caused road closures and flooding.

According to Tony Douglas, district extension administrator for East Texas, cattle conditions are greatly improving. Hay feeding has been terminated because of the high quality and quantity of forage. Markets are reported as strong.

The following specific livestock, crop and weather conditions were reported by district Extension directors:

PANHANDLE: soil moisture is adequate to surplus. Below-normal temperatures were recorded for most of the week. Recent rains have halted planting until fields dry. Wheat is rated fair to good and making excellent growth, but forecasted freezing temperatures might cause some damage. Russian wheat aphid infestations continue to be reported. Alfalfa weevils are being reported. Rangeland continues to make good progress. Cattle are in fair condition; supplemental feeding is slowing.

SOUTH PLAINS: soil moisture is adequate. Rainfall ranging from 1-5 inches has caused planting to be delayed, but the moisture has been very beneficial. Corn and sunflower planting will soon begin. Wheat has made good progress and is in fair to good condition. Ranges and pastures are in fair condition. Winter grasses, weeds and annual forages are beginning to green up. Cattle conditions are improving; supplemental feeding continues.

ROLLING PLAINS: soil moisture is adequate. Cooler temperatures and rainfall were reported throughout the area. Cotton and sorghum land preparation continues. Some hay grazers have been planted and are benefitting from soil moisture. Wheat continues to grow and look promising. Range and pasture conditions are excellent. Livestock conditions are good. Cattle have excellent grazing conditions and the stock tanks are reported full.

NORTH TEXAS: soil moisture is adequate. Wheat is in fair to good condition. Pastures and ranges are in fair to good condition. Corn is 95 percent to 100 percent planted and 45 percent to 95 percent emerged. Many residents have reported cankerworms eating foliage. Bermuda grass pastures are beginning to show signs of growth. Temperatures ranged from mild days and cool nights. Some showers were reported.

EAST TEXAS: soil moisture is adequate. More seasonal temperatures arrived with rain showers this week. Clovers and ryegrass are providing quality forage while the spring grasses are progressing. Hay sprigging and planting continue. Cattle conditions are improving; hay feeding has halted and markets are strong. Spring planting is underway.

FAR WEST TEXAS: soil moisture is short to adequate. Some flooding was reported. Pastures and ranges are in poor to fair condition, but are improving due to recent moisture. Cotton and winter wheat are in poor to fair condition. Perennial warm-season grasses continue to establish in depleted areas. Moderate to warm temperatures and cooler evenings were reported. Cotton planting has been delayed due to soil moisture.

WEST CENTRAL TEXAS: soil moisture is in good condition. Temperatures have been moderate. Wheat fields continue to thrive due to recent rain. Wet soils have delayed any field activity. Small grains and pastures are experiencing good growth. Range and pasture conditions are improving. Spring greenup has started. Livestock is in fair to good condition.

CENTRAL TEXAS: soil moisture is adequate. Spring weather and recent rains have helped pastures. Winter wheat disease problems are increasing. Many fields have been sprayed for stripe and leaf rust.

SOUTHEAST TEXAS: soil moisture is adequate to excess. Cool weather may slow emergence of cotton, but with warmer weather, it should begin to grow. Forage availability is good to excellent; livestock condition is good and continuing to improve. Rice is emerging and progressing; the cool weather will slow growth.

SOUTHWEST TEXAS: soil moisture is adequate. Cool weather followed excellent rainfall during late March and early April. Flowers are blooming and everything is green. Forage availability is over-average. Wheat, oats, corn, sorghum, potatoes, pecans, cantaloupes, watermelons and cabbage are making good progress. Cotton planting was delayed by the recent rain, but planting gained full momentum this past week. Livestock are in good condition.

COASTAL BEND: soil moisture is adequate. Many areas will have to be replanted due to standing water. Rainy weather with some hail was reported.

SOUTH TEXAS: soil moisture is adequate. The area received 2 to 4 inches of rainfall. Row crops are progressing well. Onion harvesting continues.

Friday deadline for EQIP sign up

The last day to sign up for EQIP (Environmental Quality Incentives Program) is Friday. EQIP is a voluntary program that provided cost share assistance to qualified farmers and ranchers to install certain eligible conservation practices on the land that will achieve conservation and environmental objectives.

Persons engaged in livestock or agricultural productions are eligible for EQIP. Eligible land includes cropland, rangeland and other farm or ranch lands. NRCS will work with the participants to develop a proposed plan of operations for EQIP. Applicants will be ranked based on a member of factors, including environmental benefits and cost effectiveness of the proposed plan of operations.

Applications may be filed at your local USDA Service Center located at 5309 Big Spring Highway, Snyder. Office hours are 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

Markets

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc had a run of 240 head of livestock for the Thursday, April 8, sale. Cows were $2 to $3 better. Yearlings and calves were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows:
(High dressing, cutters, utility) 47.50-56.50
Canners and low cutters: 35-47
Slaughter bulls: 55-69
Feeder steers:
300-400: 115-148
400-500: 105-125
500-600: 92-110
600-700: 88-92
700-800: 85-92
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 105-115
400-500: 92-110
500-600: 87-105
600-700: 82-93
700-800: 80-90
Feeder bulls – Good and choice
500-600: 90-106
700-800: 80-90
Cow and Calf Pairs
Good: 750-990
Grade: 650-750
Springers: 425-900
Baby Calves: 175-325
Doodlers: 150-300

?Weather Whys?

Topic: St. Elmo's Fire

Q: Sometimes you hear of something called St. Elmo's Fire. What is it?

A:"It's one of nature's more unusual displays," says Kelsey Curtiss of Texas A&M University. "When skies are stormy and lightning is present, St. Elmo's Fire can occur. It's an electrical discharge in the air and instead of appearing like a lightning bolt, it appears like a glow around an object, especially tall ones like church steeples, masts on ships," explains Curtiss.

"It is scientifically known as a corona or point discharge, where the electrical field strength reaches 1,000 volts per centimeter. It can only occur during an electrical storm. When a thunderstorm occurs, the air between the clouds and the ground can become statically charged, resulting in a 'glow discharge.'

"It's different from lightning in that it is continuous and its glow around an object can last for several minutes. It's the same principle used to create fluorescent tube lighting."

Q: Has it been around a long time?

A: "For thousands of years, but it has been called different names and described in many ways," adds Curtiss. "It is named after Saint Elmo, the patron saint of sailors. St. Elmo's Fire was mentioned in one of Julius Caesar's Commentaries, also in Herman

"Melville's *Moby Dick* and other works, and Ben Franklin noticed its appearance around steeples during his experiments with lightning.

"It's usually described as a blue or bluish-white glow attached to an object, and sometimes this gives off a very eerie, ghost-like appearance," Curtiss adds. "Sailors considered it a good omen. Today, it can also appear on the wings of airplanes and propellers, and it can disrupt radio transmission. It sounds like a hissing noise on radio receivers, according to many pilots."

ABOUT WEATHER WHYS

"Weather Whys" is a service of Texas A&M University's Department of Atmospheric Sciences. Past and current topics can be viewed via the Web at http://rev.tamu.edu/weather-whys/.

For more information, please contact Keith Randall at (979) 845-4644 or kr@univrel.tamu.edu. Suggestions for future topics may be directed to news@univrel.tamu.edu.

Grain futures fell on Board of Trade

CHICAGO (AP) — Grain futures tumbled Tuesday on the Chicago Board of Trade.

Soybean prices advanced.

Wheat for May delivery fell 14 1/2 cents to $3.93 a bushel; May corn fell 10 1/2 cents to $3.11 3/4 a bushel; May oats fell 9 cents to $1.63 a bushel; May soybeans rose 4 1/2 cents to $9.71 1/2 a bushel.

Beef and pork futures retreated on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

June live cattle fell .28 cent to 78.67 cents a pound; May feeder cattle fell .43 cent to 89.62 cents a pound; May lean hogs

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Top Ten Perennials for Landscape Use

The common name is listed first, followed by scientific name, exposure and comments, if applicable.

Baby sun/sunray, moonbeam/zagreb, coreopsis grandiflora, Sun.

Daylily, hemerocallis sp, sun or semi-shade.

goldstrum rudbeckia, rudbeckia X goldstrum, sun.

Perennial hibiscus, hibiscus X mosheutos, sun.

Hibiscus, hibiscus moscheutos (rose mallow, mallow rose, swampmallow), full sun; grown primarily for its large flowers (six to 12 inches wide), the plant forms a large (three to eight foot) shrub. White, pink and red hibiscus are available. The plant is actually a herbaceous perennial and will over winter. Do not confuse this hibiscus with H. syriacus (althea), a woody deciduous shrub common in the landscape or with H. rosa-sinensis (Chinese hibiscus), a tropical hibiscus which is not hardy. The moy grande, flare and Lord Baltimore are highly recommended for full sun locations, wet or dry.

Purple coneflower, echinacea angustifolia, sun.

Garden canna, canna X generalis, sun.

Turk's Cap, malvaviscus drummondii, sun or shade.

'Texas Gold' Columbine, aquilegia hinckleyana, shade.

Firebush, hamelia patens, sun.

Perennial verbena, verbena X hybrida, sun.

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

LAKE J. B. THOMAS (200,604 ACRE FEET AT ELEVATION 2258.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 4-11-03	LAST WEEK 4-2-04	THIS WEEK 4-11-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	16.26	18.47	19.32
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	16,343	20,700	22,543
PERCENT FULL	8.15	10.32	11.24
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	2.00
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

E.V. SPENCE RESERVOIR (517,262 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1898.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 4-11-03	LAST WEEK 4-2-04	THIS WEEK 4-11-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	34.66	39.46	40.36
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	27,938	40,142	42,766
PERCENT FULL	5.40	7.76	8.27
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.60	0.70

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION

O.H. IVIE RESERVOIR (554,340 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1551.50 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO 4-11-03	LAST WEEK 4-2-04	THIS WEEK 4-11-04
ELEVATION (FEET)	26.52	25.46	25.68
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	201,704	191,830	193,842
PERCENT FULL	36.39	34.61	34.97
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	1.13

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 4-4-04 3-29-04	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 4-11-04 4-5-04	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 4-11-04 4-5-04
BIG SPRING	4,051,429	3,511,429	4,060,000
ODESSA	16,270,000	12,394,286	14,291,000
SNYDER	1,719,757	1,549,300	1,784,800
MIDLAND	20,030,314	15,403,400	19,112,100
SAN ANGELO	12,298,243	10,365,700	12,725,700
STANTON	305,571	241,286	311,000

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By Phill

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By Phill

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Copyright 2
Enter

Young lawmakers walking halls of statehouses

MIAMI (AP) — Some of Dave Aronberg's Harvard Law School classmates a few years ago are now powerful attorneys in New York, making hefty six-figure salaries and living amid Manhattan's bustle.

Aronberg, meanwhile, toils in virtual anonymity, proudly working a part-time job that pays less than $30,000 a year and draws him to Tallahassee, a place where many streets are church-quiet by nightfall.

He's among an increasing number of young adults who've made successful forays into state lawmaking and wouldn't have it any other way.

"I want young people to see me and other young lawmakers and say that being involved in politics and getting involved is cool," said Aronberg, a Democrat and, at 32, the youngest member of the state Senate. "I want them to see that politics matters to them and that one person can make a difference."

Florida's steady movement toward younger lawmakers mimics national trends; most states have at least a couple lawmakers under 30. Ohio elected a teenager to its statehouse in 2000. Derrick Seaver, then 18, is now seeking a third term.

In Minnesota, 28-year-old Rep. Tony Sertich is credited by other — and older — lawmakers with helping energize young voters. Pennsylvania boasts Rep. Dave Reed, 26, who also is running for re-election.

Reed's political interest was sparked during his teens when his father was laid off twice, forcing the family to rely on unemployment insurance and food banks.

"During his time of need, the government was there as a safety net, providing for us until we got back on our feet," Reed said. "That's when I saw the good side of government, how it truly can help people who want to work hard and play by the rules."

While the average age of a lawmaker voted to serve in Tallahassee has risen steadily over the last decade, from 46 in 1994 to 50 for this year's session, there's also been an increase in the number of young politicians who have found their way into the Capitol.

Out of the 160 lawmakers in the Florida House and Senate, 13 are under 35 — and two, Reps. Marcelo Llorente and Rene Garcia, are still twentysomethings, more than four decades younger than their chamber's elders.

Political experts and scientists say the role of young lawmakers is vital in the effort to either keep — or, in many cases, make — the legislative process interesting to Gen Xers.

Some national observers say it's the biggest generational change since the baby boomers started making their way into politics three decades ago.

"Any role model is helpful," said Matthew Corrigan, an associate professor at the University of North Florida in Jacksonville. "As younger people get involved and move up the ladder, that will encourage more people to get involved."

Term limits, approved overwhelmingly by Florida voters in 1992, have played a role in the gradual introduction of more young legislators. No longer can incumbents, who are re-elected a vast majority of the time, perpetually hang on to a seat; the constitution now limits them to eight years in one office.

And many of the freshest faces in the Florida Legislature took advantage of that amendment when claiming their seats.

"I'd never been to a legislative session before I was elected," said Sen. Mike Haridopolos, who — at 34 — is the second-youngest state senator. "But I knew people believed in term limits because they want someone with fresh perspectives. People are crying out for straight talkers."

Haridopolos, a history and political science professor at Brevard Community College, said he uses his lawmaker role as a vehicle to get into high schools and middle schools, talking to youth about the role they'll one day play in setting policy. And the Republican often hears the same comment: "You're not very old."

Aronberg also works closely with World Wrestling Entertainment's "Smackdown Your Vote!" initiative, a campaign aiming to get 1 million more young adults to vote in 2004's presidential election than did in 2000.

State law sets the minimum age for serving in the Florida Legislature at 21. The youth movement isn't limited to the state level; the youngest current congressman, Adam Putnam, 29, is from Florida and was only 26 when first sworn in.

Aronberg, whose full-time job is as a corporate litigator with a West Palm Beach law firm, was told by some power brokers in his own party that he was too young to win a state Senate seat.

In fact, Palm Beach County Democratic leaders told him they wanted him to run for another seat — on the county school board.

Ultimately, he won both their backing and the seat. Voters were drawn to his experience as an assistant U.S. attorney general and his one-year stint as a White House fellow who worked in both the Clinton and Bush administrations.

Abuse of 9-11 detainees spur changes

WASHINGTON (AP) — While the U.S. intelligence and law enforcement community is under scrutiny this week for whether it did enough to prevent the Sept. 11 attacks, one agency now concedes it might have overreached in detaining hundreds of people afterward.

Responding to strong criticism from both inside and outside government, the Homeland Security Department acknowledged problems Tuesday in its post-Sept. 11 detention procedures.

The agency announced new rules designed to prevent immigrants picked up in terrorism probes by the FBI from languishing in prison while investigators sort out their cases.

The changes follow a Justice Department Inspector General report last year which found "significant problems" with the treatment of post-Sept. 11 detainees, including physical abuse and mistreatment at a federal lock-up in New York City.

"This is not a fine-tuning, this is a very significant correction," said Asa Hutchison, the Homeland undersecretary for border and transportation security. "Immigration basically acquiesced in the decision-making, or the lack of decision-making process, by another agency and that resulted in a very serious problem."

Civil rights groups welcomed Tuesday's announcement, but said they would like to see the Justice Department follow suit.

"Any changes like these are a positive first step," said Charlie Mitchell, legislative counsel of the American Civil Liberties Union. "Homeland Security is trying to learn from their mistakes, and the Department of Justice doesn't seem interested."

The new guidelines are an attempt to cement a system of checks and balances strengthening Immigration and Customs Enforcement officials' control in cases in which the FBI wants to hold a suspect on immigration violations.

High-ranking Homeland Security officials will be required from now on to review individual cases involving long-term detentions.

Detainees will be given some form of written notice explaining why they are being held, even if such notice does not spell out specific, intelligence-sensitive information, Hutchison said. Homeland Security officials will no longer seek closed hearings in immigration court proceedings for entire groups of detainees.

Hutchison said a lack of clear guidelines led to problems in Sept. 11-related investigations in which the FBI asked for individuals to be held, with some detentions lasting months with no apparent progress.

The rules are being laid out now so they already will be in place in case of another major terrorist attack, Hutchison said.

An FBI spokesman did not immediately return calls for comment.

St. Elizabeth Sausage Festival
ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT
Sausage Dinner Complete With All The Trimmings
•Game Booths
•Raffles • Country Store
Sunday, April 18
11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
St. Elizabeth Parish Center
30th at Ave. A, Snyder, Texas
Meal Tickets Sold At Door
$7.00 Adults
$4.00 Children 12 & Under
$7.00 All Take Outs
Sausage Sold By The Pound
$3 Lb. (Uncooked)
$4 Lb. (Cooked)

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, April 15, 2004

There may be a plethora of ways to generate extra money in the year ahead, allowing you to be able to put away something for a rainy day. However, don't be tempted to blow your cash reserves on extravagant desires.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Your ideas may be grandiose and wonderfully imaginative, but, unfortunately, you're not apt to match them with action. If you want to soar to the heights, you can't simply be a dreamer.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Avoid associating with those who have extravagant tastes but stingy wallets. Chances are just such a type will single you out today for your generous nature, hoping you'll pick up the tab.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — In situations where a large assignment is at stake, you'd better not drag your feet today or try to push the difficult parts off onto others. The powers that be will see right through any slothfulness.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Little white lies will come home to roost today, so no matter how tough it may be to tell things like they are, it'll be easier than having to deal with the consequences of being caught fibbing.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — If you happen to be the one in charge of a social situation today, before making expenditures on your own, check to make certain everyone agrees with the costs or they may refuse to ante up.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Be willing to make compromises today if you have any hope of reaching an agreement on an undertaking that's important to you. Nothing will move forward without give-and-take.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Someone with whom you had little time to be helpful to in the past might not be available for you today just when you need this person the most. Chalk it up to experience.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Speculative ventures could have more glittering appeal today than usual, yet it may be all packaging and little substance. Don't let its glow blind your judgment. Check things out well first.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Try not to be too restrictive of those in your charge today. If you're too confining and demanding, they could deliberately break the rules you've set down just to spite you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Make it a point to personally probe for all the facts today concerning a matter that is important to you. Someone who would like to trip you up may be deliberately withholding vital information.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — When it comes to financial matters today, you must be extremely realistic and put all wishful thinking aside. Face up to the facts and act in accordance with what you have at hand.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — You won't tolerate anyone bullying, badgering or running roughshod over you today. However, that's exactly what you might try to do to those who are numbered among the more gentler souls.

Trying to patch up a broken romance? The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel can help you understand what to do to make the relationship work. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-14-04
♠ A 5 2
♥ 7 2
♦ A 8 6 5
♣ A J 9 3

West
♠
♥ J 8 6 5 3
♦ K Q 10 9
♣ 8 7 4 2

East
♠ 10 9 8
♥ 10 9 4
♦ J 7 4 3
♣ K Q 10 6

South
♠ K Q J 7 6 4 3
♥ A K Q 4
♦ 2
♣ 5

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♠	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♠	Pass
7 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♦ K

Wednesday, April 14, 2004

Jump preference is more encouraging

By Phillip Alder

Professor Martin Seligman, a psychologist at the University of Pennsylvania, claims that we gain more pleasure from doing things than from buying stuff. After a trip, we remember the good bits, quickly forgetting the mosquitoes and other inconveniences. Seligman lists particularly beneficial activities, starting with reading and ending with playing bridge!

We have a preference for bridge, and this week, we are looking at responder's giving preference to one of the opener's two suits.

You open one spade, partner responds two clubs, and you rebid two hearts. How many spades and how many points will partner have if he rebids either two spades or three spades?

You (South) reach seven spades. West leads the diamond king. How would you plan the play?

Following a two-over-one response, if responder gives preference to two spades, he promises exactly three spades and 10-12 support points (the values to invite game). If he jump-rebids three spades, though, he has precisely three-card spade support and game-forcing values.

South was safe in rebidding two hearts because North's two-over-one response guaranteed a second bid. Then, when North rebid three spades, South launched Blackwood before bidding seven.

You win with dummy's diamond ace, draw one round of trumps (you can claim immediately if trumps are 2-1), cash the ace-king of hearts, and ruff the heart four with dummy's spade ace. What? You don't have the spade ace left on the board? You have been overruffed and gone down? Ah well, better luck next time!

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'Passion' soundtrack has been certified as gold according to Integrity Media Inc.

MOBILE, Ala. (AP) — The soundtrack to Mel Gibson's "The Passion of the Christ" has been certified gold by the Recording Industry Association of America, according to Integrity Media Inc.

The album sold 500,000 copies in February, the Mobile-based company that publishes and distributes Christian products, said Monday. The CD was released by Integrity Music to the Christian market and by Sony Music to the general market.

The company also said Nielsen SoundScan reported that through the week ending April 4, the soundtrack had been the best-selling Christian music album for six consecutive weeks on Billboard's contemporary Christian chart.

"The success of this CD clearly illustrates the power and appeal of music, by allowing so many moviegoers to extend their experience of 'The Passion of the Christ' through the purchase of the soundtrack," Integrity Music President Jerry Weimer said in a statement.

On the Net:
http://www.thepassionofthechrist.com.

A tomato is the fruit of the tomato plant. However, in 1887 the U.S. Supreme court ruled that tomatoes are vegetables because they are eaten as a principal part of a meal, rather than for dessert.

Happy Birthday Jamie
You're a beautiful lady and a wonderful friend.

TEXAS RATTLE SNAKE HUNTING
one family's experience over 100 years
BY CLIFFORD ETHERIDGE

For sale now at the
Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.

APR 14 2004

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

U.S. forces engage insurgents in Fallujah

FALLUJAH, Iraq (AP) — U.S. warplanes and helicopters firing heavy machine guns, rockets and cannons hammered insurgents today in the besieged city of Fallujah, and the commander of U.S. Marines here warned that a fragile truce was near collapse.

With officials reporting four more Marines killed, the death toll of 87 U.S. troops in April made it the deadliest month since the military set foot in Iraq.

In the south, 2,500 U.S. troops were digging in outside the Shiite holy city of Najaf, preparing for a possible assault against radical cleric Muqtada al-Sadr. An attack on the city would likely outrage Iraq's Shiite majority, a community that has so far shunned anti-U.S. violence.

Iraqi clerics and politicians have launched negotiations with al-Sadr, trying to get him to back down sufficiently to avert a U.S. attack. But al-Sadr appeared to take a tough stance, demanding U.S. troops withdraw from all Iraqi cities.

Russia said it would evacuate hundreds of its workers from Iraq after an outbreak kidnappings in which at least 22 foreigners are still captive.

U.S. officials and the top U.S contractor in Iraq, Halliburton, were trying to determine whether four bodies found belonged to seven Americans missing since gunmen attacked their convoy outside Baghdad on Friday. One of the seven, Thomas Hamill of Macon, Miss., is known to have been kidnapped and is threatened with death.

U.N. envoy Lakhdar Brahimi said the security situation must improve "considerably" before scheduled elections in January.

He said he was confident a caretaker government could be set up to take power from the U.S.-occupation administration by June 30, but warned that elections were "the most important milestone."

U.S. troops were holding back their full firepower on both fronts to allow Iraqis time to negotiate.

French TV journalist has been freed in Iraq

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — A French television journalist taken hostage in Iraq as he was videotaping a U.S. military convoy under attack has been freed, his employer said today in Paris.

Alexandre Jordanov was kidnapped Sunday amid a wave of recent abductions in which at least 21 foreigners are still being held captive.

Capa Television gave no further details other than the fact that the 40-year-old Jordanov was released.

He disappeared south of Baghdad while traveling with cameraman Ivan Ceriex, who was kidnapped separately and released Monday.

Ceriex was picked up by a group of armed Sunni fighters and was freed after he convinced his kidnappers that he was French. France opposed the U.S.-led war in Iraq and has no troops participating in the occupation.

The State Department said Tuesday that four unidentified bodies were discovered in a shallow grave west of Baghdad, and officials were in contact with the families of seven missing U.S civilians as part of the investigation, spokeswoman Rhonda Shore said today.

An official in Baghdad with Halliburton's subsidiary Kellogg, Brown & Root said the company was working with the Army to investigate whether the bodies were those of any of its seven employees missing since a convoy was attacked Friday.

The employees and two U.S. soldiers disappeared after the attack, near Abu Ghraib, a district west of Baghdad where gunmen have repeatedly attacked convoys and battled U.S. forces.

Initial reports said the bodies were mutilated, but those reports were not confirmed, the official said.

NBC News reported the bodies were found between Fallujah, 35 miles west of Baghdad, and Abu Ghraib after an Iraqi led U.S. officials there.

Two U.S. soldiers were missing along with the seven KBR employees.

The roads west of Baghdad have been a site of many of the kidnappings since fighting broke out across Iraq this month. Some abductions have also occurred in the south.

A U.S. spokesman said Tuesday that 40 foreigners from 12 countries were held by kidnappers — but an Associated Press count put the number at 21, with today's release of the French journalist.

An Iranian delegation was headed to Baghdad to help in trying to gain the release of four Italian security guards working for a U.S.-based company who were abducted Monday, Italian Foreign Minister Franco Frattini said.

Frattini advocated "looking into every means of obtaining the release of the Italians and all the hostages" without negotiating with the kidnappers.

Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi ruled out a withdrawal of troops based in the southern city of Nasiriyah.

CIA chief says time is needed to improve terrorism defenses

WASHINGTON (AP) — CIA director George Tenet predicted today it will take "another five years of work to have the kind of clandestine service our country needs" to combat al-Qaida and other terrorist threats.

"The same can be said for the National Security Agency, our imagery agency and our analytic community," Tenet testified before the commission investigating the worst terror attacks in the nation's history.

He said a series of tight budgets dating to the end of the Cold War meant that by the mid-1990s, intelligence agencies had "lost close to 25 percent of our people and billions of dollars in capital investment."

A needed transformation is under way, he said, and appealed for a long-term commitment in funding. "Our investments in capability must be sustained," he added.

Tenet's appearance was ironic to the core.

Several commissioners lavished praise on him for his foresight and efforts to restructure intelligence-gathering. Yet the panel's staff issued a report as the hearing opened that was sharply critical of the agency and apparatus he has lead for seven years as the nation's director of central intelligence.

"While we now know that al-Qaida was formed in 1988, at the end of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the intelligence community did not describe this organization, at least in the documents we have seen, until 1999," the report said.

As late as 1997, it said, the CIA Counter-Terrorism Center "characterized Osama bin Laden as a financier of terrorism."

Arrests, burglary top police blotter

• ***Arrests***

Dora Ann Morin, 27, of 4400 Ave. U #4C3, was arrested at 9:20 a.m. Tuesday in the 1300 block of 23rd on a felony warrant to revoke her probation.

A 68-year-old woman was arrested in JP court for contempt of court and failure to follow court orders at 11:35 a.m. Tuesday. She had refused to make a juvenile attend school.

A 14-year-old boy was taken into custody on charges of assault/family violence at 4:43 p.m. Tuesday.

At 5:52 p.m. Tuesday, a 48-year-old male was arrested for assault/family violence as police were called to a residence by a woman who said she was being assaulted by her husband.

• ***Burglary***

A burglary was reported at 9:04 a.m. Tuesday at Chem Pac Inc., 3509 W. 23rd Street. The only thing missing was the hand set of a telephone.

• ***Rattlesnake***

Sheriff's deputies responded to the 7700 block of Round Top Road at 5:13 p.m. when a resident found a large rattlesnake in her front yard. A deputy disposed of the snake.

• ***Motorist assist***

Peace officers were able to assist seven motorists unlock their vehicles Tuesday.

Obituaries

Roberto Lopez

1991-2004

Roberto R. Lopez, a sixth grader at West Elementary, died Tuesday, April 13, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock.

Funeral service was set for 2 p.m. today in Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church with U.S. Army Chaplain Capt. Leo Moras, a family friend, officiating. The Rev. Roy Badillas of St. Elizabeth Catholic Church, the Rev. Rudy Casta, pastor of St. Margaret Mary Catholic Church in Lamesa, and the Rev. John Chero, pastor of St. Michael Catholic Church in Anson, were to assist. Burial was to follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.



Roberto Lopez

Born July 8, 1991 in San Angelo with congenital heart disease, he had undergone successful surgery on Dec. 21, 1995 at Children's Medical Center in Dallas. Roberto had an avid interest in computers, video games and movies.

Survivors include his father and mother, Jose L. and Maria Lopez of Snyder; two sisters and a brother-in-law, Maritza and Ubaldo Juarez of Snyder and Ginelda Lopez of Snyder; a brother, Jose Lopez Jr. of Snyder; paternal grandparents, Humberto and Candelaria Lopez of San Angelo; two nieces, Andrea and Adrianna Juarez of Snyder; and Leo Moras, a brother in faith.

John Derryberry

1932-2004

John Paul "Pod" Derryberry of Snyder died Sunday, April 11, in Snyder.

Graveside service for Mr. Derryberry, 71, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born May 9, 1932 in Loraine, Mr. Derryberry was a retired cowboy, bull rider, rodeo clown, and had worked on ranches throughout West Texas. He was an Army veteran and had served in Korea. Mr. Derryberry had lived in Snyder the past three years, moving from Lubbock where he had lived 15 years. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

His wife, Foy Bilbrey Derryberry, died in 2000.

Survivors include two brothers, Larry Dan Derryberry and wife, Sherry, of Snyder and Sonny Derryberry of Edgemont, S.D.; four sisters, Bobbie Ray Moore of Midland, Louise Brimmer of Highmore, S.D., Paulette McCollum of California, and Sandra Kimsey of Texarkana, Ark.; and several nieces and nephews.

Florence Frazier

1929-2004

JACKSBORO — Florence "Short" Frazier, a former resident of Snyder, died Monday, April 12, in Wichita Falls.

Funeral service for Mrs. Frazier, 74, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Coker Funeral Home Chapel with B.J. Nunley officiating. Burial will follow in the Oakwood Cemetery.

Born Sept. 19, 1929 in Jack County, Mrs. Frazier had worked as a cook at the Green Frog Café.

She was preceded in death by her parents, Willie and Zella Rummage Isbell; a daughter, Sharon Hammond; two sisters, Eula Mae McCullum and Ardath Frazier; and two brothers, Jerry Isbell and Kenneth Isbell.

Survivors include four daughters, Joanne Mason of Jacksboro, Jeannie Davis of Beaumont, Debbie Heathcote of California and Danta Truvette Frazier of Jacksboro; three sons, Danny Frazier and Freddie Frazier, both of Jacksboro, and Michael Frazier of California; two sisters, Jolene McBee of California and Thelma Frazier of Memphis, Texas; five brothers, Loyd Isbell of Snyder, Cecil Isbell of Gordon, Sonny Isbell, Allen Isbell and Claude Isbell, all of Jacksboro; 14 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Sarah Richards

1930-2004

Sarah Geneta Richards died this morning at her home in Snyder.

Services are pending with Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Mrs. Richards was born on April 7, 1930.

She is survived by her husband, Wilmer Richards, and a son, Larry Richards, both of Snyder.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Friendly Flower Shop
3203 1/2 College Ave
325-573-5260, 325-573-3851

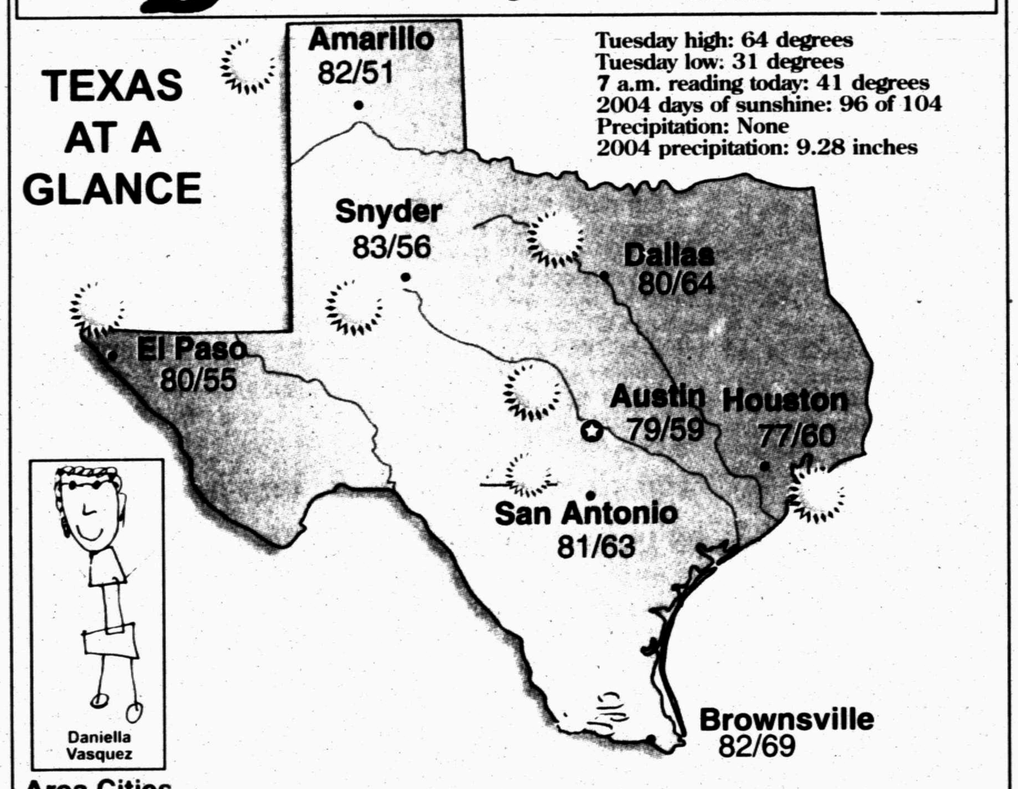
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200 East 37th St.
Snyder, Texas
325-573-6200

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 4/15	Fri 4/16	Sat 4/17
83/56	86/58	79/58
Mainly sunny. High 83F. Winds SSW at 15 to 25 mph.	Sunshine. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the upper 50s.	Partly cloudy with a stray thunderstorm.
Sunrise 7:14 AM, Sunset 8:14 PM	Sunrise 7:12 AM, Sunset 8:15 PM	Sunrise 7:11 AM, Sunset 8:15 PM

Texas Savings Bank
"MOVE IT ON OVER"
2619 College Avenue FDIC 573-9305



Tuesday high: 64 degrees
Tuesday low: 31 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 41 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 96 of 104
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 9.28 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	82	59	sunny
Amarillo	82	51	sunny
Austin	79	59	sunny
Beaumont	76	58	sunny
Brownsville	82	69	windy
Brownwood	84	59	sunny
Corpus Christi	79	67	mst sunny
Corsicana	79	60	sunny
Dallas	80	64	sunny
Del Rio	82	63	pt sunny
El Paso	80	55	sunny
Fort Stockton	89	54	sunny
Gainesville	79	59	sunny
Greenville	78	59	sunny
Houston	77	60	sunny
Kingsville	82	66	pt sunny
Livingston	78	55	sunny
Longview	77	56	sunny
Lubbock	82	54	sunny
Lufkin	79	55	sunny
Midland	88	54	sunny
Raymondville	84	66	pt sunny
Rosenberg	77	59	sunny
San Antonio	81	63	mst sunny
San Marcos	80	60	sunny
Sulphur Springs	78	58	sunny
Sweetwater	83	58	sunny
Tyler	78	58	sunny
Weatherford	80	60	sunny
Wichita Falls	83	59	windy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	72	45	sunny
Boston	48	38	rain
Chicago	67	53	windy
Dallas	80	64	sunny
Denver	72	45	mst sunny
Houston	77	60	sunny
Los Angeles	67	53	pt sunny
Miami	73	63	mst sunny
Minneapolis	72	49	t-storm
New York	55	40	rain
Phoenix	90	63	sunny
San Francisco	59	46	pt sunny
Seattle	54	44	rain
St. Louis	75	55	windy
Washington, DC	60	42	windy

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	Full
Apr 12	Apr 19	Apr 27	May 4

UV Index

Thu 4/15	Fri 4/16	Sat 4/17
High	High	High

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

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