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WT-Int. Crude - $28.23
WTIC Posted - $25.00
Natural Gas - $3.201

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

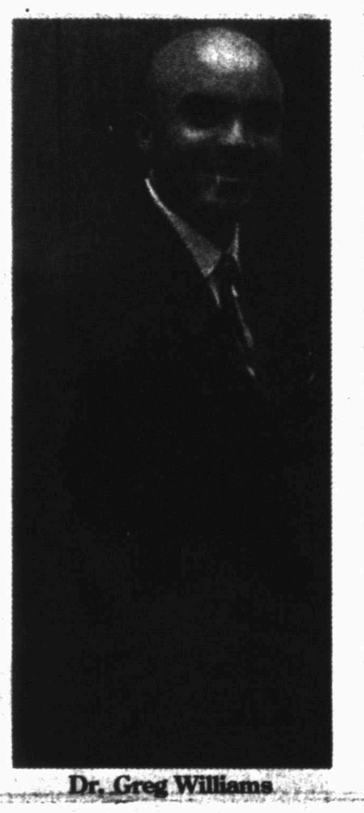
WEEKEND
July 7-8, 2001
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Home of Roger Batchelor

Greg Williams starts Monday...

Enrollment is major goal of new Western Texas College president

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Dr. Greg Williams Monday officially becomes the fourth president of Western Texas College. One might assume he is approaching his first day on the job with apprehension.



Dr. Greg Williams

"Apprehensive? The only thing I'm apprehensive about is getting these boxes filled up so the truck can haul them to Snyder," laughed Williams this past week.

Another reason Dr. Williams is confident is that he has several firm goals in mind.

Among those is to increase the enrollment, make the college more a part of the community and the area, and add baseball and softball as part of the growth program.

Dr. Williams, most recently vice president of student services at Midland College, follows Dr. Harry Krenek who retired after serving as president for 14 years.

Dr. Williams said his first order of business would be getting to know the faculty and staff, and the Snyder community.

The new president says he expects to be very active in community and plans to make WTC more visible.

"We need to get WTC's name out so when a potential student thinks of a community college, they think of us first."

This would generate more enrollment, said Dr. Williams.

"We have to grow our enrollment. Every college in Texas has to grow enrollment if they want to continue to be successful.

"But we must remember that while we are trying to increase our enrollment, we must maintain a high quality of education."

Dr. Williams said he wants the words WTC and quality to be interchangeable.

"We will strive for quality in everything we do — whether it is in the classroom, or maintaining the campus grounds."

Dr. Williams has a goal of making the institution more student-friendly.

"We're not going to lower the bar for anyone, but we want to make it easier for the students to clear the bar. The same goes for our faculty. We don't want them to be good, we want them to be great."

Dr. Williams said he and his staff would explore every avenue to obtain outside funds for college programs.

"We need to seek out every federal and state grant and look outside the traditional funding sources of the college."

One way he envisions enrollment growth is to add baseball and softball.

"I want to take a close look at the benefits those two programs could bring to our school. I really think they would be great for us," said Dr. Williams.

"These sports would not only give local students a chance to earn scholarships, it would get the WTC name out as well."

Dr. Williams said that while the initial start-up costs of these programs could be high, he feels they would eventually be almost self-supporting.

Whatever the cost of initiating the two sports programs might be, Dr. Williams said the money would not come from areas that affect students' education.

"We'll need some help from the community initially, but I think the two programs would be a worthy investment."

Dr. Williams will be attending his first WTC board meeting Monday and will face his first budget work with the board.

"We have been working on the budget and I feel it is one we can live with as it will start us on the track of meeting some of our long-range goals."

The proposed budget includes a three percent salary increase for faculty and staff, said Dr. Williams. "We need to make sure we support our faculty and staff. It's hard to find good people and it's even harder to keep them." "I'm not saying things are going to be just alright," said Dr. Williams. "I'm saying things are going to be good at the college."

"No, things are going to be fine."

About Dr. Williams

Born in Tyler, Dr. Williams is a 1983 graduate of Odessa Permian High School and earned his bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Texas of the Permian Basin in 1986.

He earned his master's degree in education mid-management from UTPB in 1990 and earned a master's degree in psychology from the same school in 1994.

In 1996, he received his doctor of education in higher education administration from Baylor University.

Dr. Williams and his wife, Karen, have three children – Kiaran, Gregory and Kara.

Infamous escape fallout...

Price Daniel Unit housing medium security inmates

The inmate population at the Price Daniel Unit is changing as the unit is now housing medium security prisoners.

Senior Warden Wilhelmenia Howard said the unit has received 70 medium security inmates and is expected to receive around 39 more.

"This action is a direct result of the escape of the seven prisoners from the unit in Kenedy," Howard said.

Seven prisoners escaped from that unit and before being captured in Colorado, killed an Irving policeman.

"Changes are being made throughout the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as far as classifying offenders," said the warden.

The unit has always been designated a medium security facility, but only minimum security inmates have been housed here.

Warden Howard said the new inmates would be housed in two separate wings in one of the prison's housing units.

"Among the reasons an offender can be classified as medium security is that they have received two or more non-assault disciplinary actions while in prison," said Warden Howard.

"One of the disciplinary actions can be the result of an offender or staff assault without a weapon in the past 12 months."

Warden Howard said the new inmates would be under direct supervision at all times and will be fed and have recreation separate from the rest of the inmate population.

They are also limited on their commissary purchases.

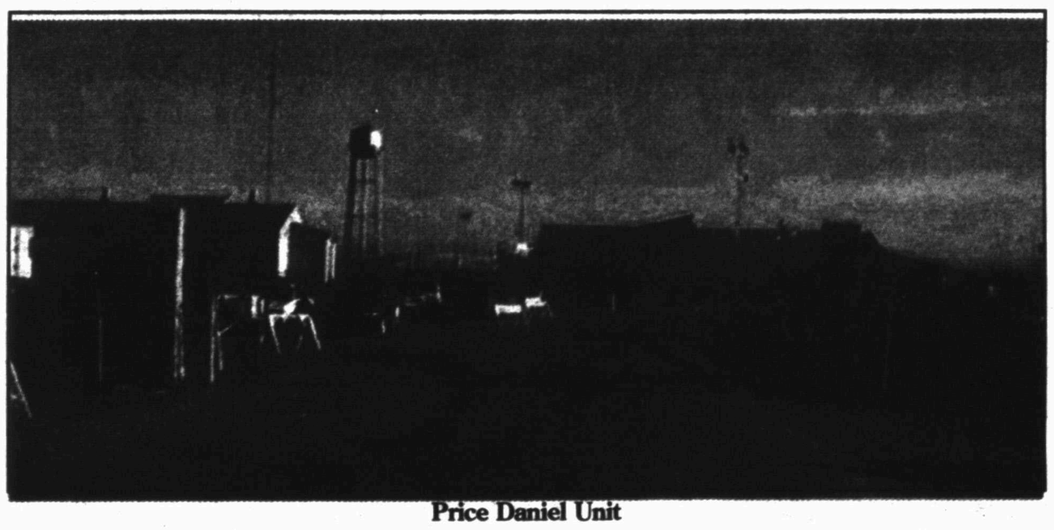
"A medium security offender can purchase only $30 worth of items every two weeks," said Warden Howard.

This is in contrast to a minimum security inmate who can purchase up to $75 from the commissary every two weeks.

"The new inmates will be able to go to church services, and work in the utility squads, or in the fields, said the warden.

Warden Howard said the prison staff had undergone training prior to the new classification of inmates arriving.

"Some of the new ones are testing the boundaries with our staff," said the warden. "But if they can't go by our rules here, they'll be shipped out."



Price Daniel Unit

Second summer semester to get underway Monday at WTC

Western Texas College students have wrapped up the first session of summer classes with most taking final exams on Thursday.

Students just finished with tests for the first session and registration for the second summer session begins at 8 a.m. Monday. Students will register and then go straight to class.

Registration will take place in the admissions office in the student center on campus.

Courses in math, psychology and English will be offered during this six-week session. Summer classes will wrap up Aug. 16.

New students need to bring their driver's license, a copy of their TASP test scores, and a high school or college transcript in order to register on Monday.

Water rates are expected to go up

While the city administration did not recommend an increase in water rates for the 2001-02 budget, it now appears one is imminent.

"What the council will be looking at is just recouping what the CRMWD is going to be passing on to the city," said City Manager John Gayle.

"The water district has told us that they will have to increase their rates to us due to escalating energy costs for pumping the water," Gayle said.

Gayle said Friday he did not know how much local rates would have to go up.

"Hopefully, it won't be much."

John Grant, general manager of the Colorado River Municipal Water District, said there is no way the water district can avoid raising rates to its member cities.

"Based on our increased distribution costs, we don't have any other choice," said Grant.

Grant said their new rates would not be known until the water district finishes its budget work in August.

THE SDN COLUMN
By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Ever notice that the people who are always late seem more happy than those who have to wait for them."

The dictionary defines "oxymoron" as a combination of contradictory words. At first we thought it was a big, dumb guy, but actually it's stuff like government intelligence and happily married.

Here's some more:

—Some people say I'm superficial, but that's just on the surface.

—If there's one thing I can't stand, it's intolerance.

—The world is full of apathy, but who cares.

—Perspective is in the eye of the beholder.

—Prejudiced people are all alike.

—Exaggeration is not all it's cracked up to be.

—Evil is not all bad.

—I'm not sure that I understand ambiguity.

—Always be on the lookout for conspicuousness.

—There's no such thing as non-existence.

—Cooperation can only be reached if we work together.

—As far as I'm concerned, treachery will sometimes bring loyalty into question.

—I disagree with unanimity.

—I have doubts about disbelief.

—Prepositions are not words to end sentences with.

—One should never generalize.

—Avoid cliches like the plague.

—Analogies in writing are like feathers on a snake.

—On one hand, I'm indecisive, but on the other, I'm not.

—I have a twin brother; he's identical, but I'm not.

—Exaggeration is a billion times worse than understatement.

—Death to all fanatics.

—An oral contract isn't worth the paper it's written on.

—I'd give my right arm to be ambidextrous.

—If we do not succeed, we run the risk of failure.

—Don't be redundant by repeating yourself.

—Grammar has got to be one of the most importantest things ever.

—My identity lies in not knowing who I am.

—I am becoming increasingly worried that there isn't enough anxiety in my life.

—I have this nagging fear that everyone is out to make me paranoid.

—Free advice is worth what you paid for it.

—I keep telling myself that I am a pathological liar, but I am not sure if I believe it.

And favorite oxymorons of the federal government has to be "tax simplification" and "paperwork reduction."

Snyder ISD sets TAAS tests

The exit level Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) tests will be given Tuesday through Thursday at Snyder Junior High.

Registration begins each day at 8 a.m. at the junior high's snack bar, and testing will start at 8:30.

Exit level writing tests will be given on Tuesday, while the math test will be given Wednesday.

The reading test will be administered Thursday.

Enrolled students and out-of-school examinees that have not met minimum expectations on all sections of the TAAS may retake the necessary sections.

Anyone having questions about the TAAS tests can contact Dr. Melissa Jones at the administration office at 573-5401.

ASK US

Q—What is the disciplinary policy for a city employee who assaults someone while they are on the job?

A—City Manager John Gayle said the punishment could range from a reprimand to suspension.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Friday, 98 degrees; low, 73; reading at 7 a.m. Saturday, 74; no rain; total precipitation for 2001 to date, 9.44 inches.

Area Forecast: Mostly sunny and hot, high near 100. S to SE wind 10 to 20 mph. Low 70 to 75.



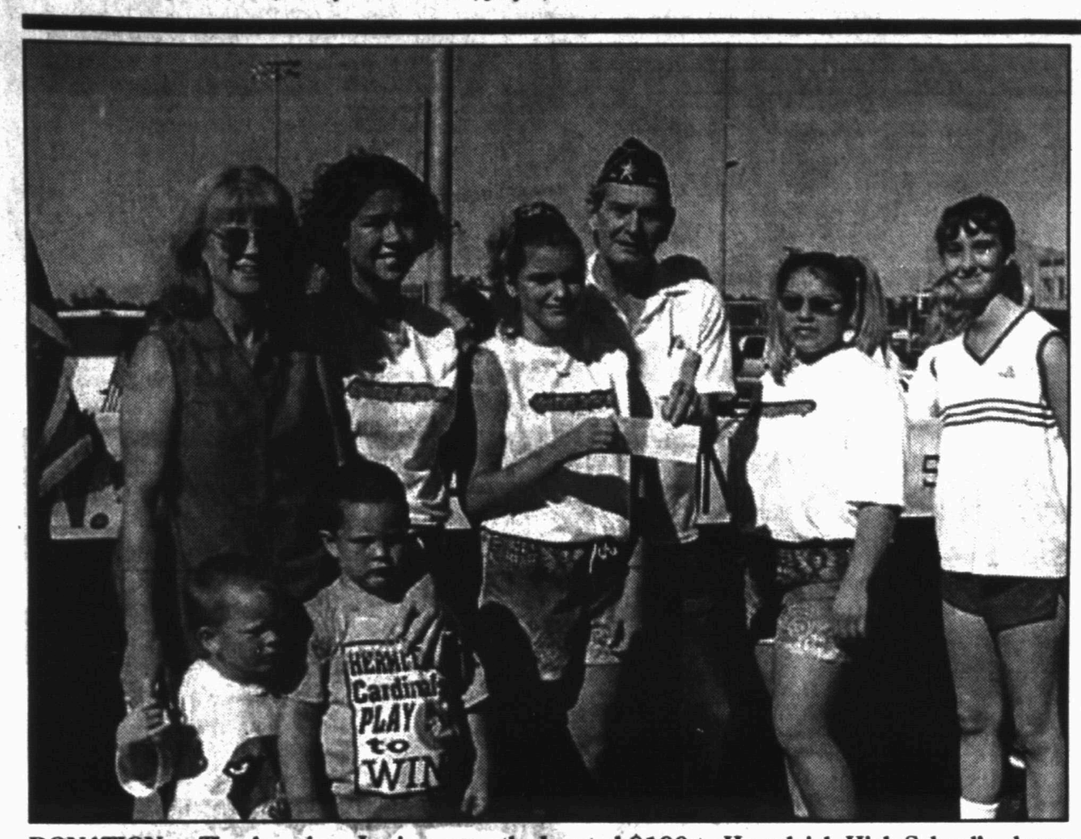
Ashley Fuentez
Hot

Sunset:
8:51 p.m.
Sunrise:
6:47 a.m.
Of 187 days in 2001, the sun has shone 175 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Maturity is the ability to live in peace with that which we cannot change.
—Ann Landers

JUL 08 2001



DONATION — The American Legion recently donated $100 to Hermleigh High School's cheerleaders. The American Legion will perform flag raising ceremonies for some of the football games this season. From left are, Joyce Lionberger, sponsor, her grandsons, Jacob and Doug Gilbert, Brittainy Jones, Cassie Harvin, William Pettyjohn , Amelia Hermosillo and Valerie West, mascot. (Contributed Photo)

Officials in Houston hope to reduce image as 'fat city'

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston's distinction as the fattest city in America has got city officials exercising their minds in search of a plan to slim the city down.

A national magazine gave Houston the not-so respectable rank in February. Now, Mayor Lee Brown has asked the city's Parks and Recreation Department to help residents get in shape so they can collectively lose weight — and the fattest city title.

"Our ultimate goal is to take care of our lifestyles and our habits so we can be healthier," said Joy Sewing, the department's spokeswoman. "No one wants to be known as the fattest city."

The February edition of Men's Fitness magazine named Houston the fattest city out of the top-fifty top 50 cities in America. Detroit is No. 2 and Philadelphia, which held the title in 1999, is now No. 3.

According to the magazine, the average Houston resident watches too much TV, drinks too much, eats poorly, has a terrible commute, breathes some of the worst air in the country and has too few choices for recreational facilities.

Nonetheless, Sewing doesn't "quite agree with the magazine's criteria for how they chose the fattest city.

"We weren't sure if they (magazine officials) were looking at obesity as a factor," she said. "It's obscure. But, it's an opportunity to get us focused on fitness."

In April, Brown sent Gwen Foster, the parks department fitness czar, and Ray Wilson, the department's director of recreation of parks, to Philadelphia, to get ideas for Houston's program.

"It was a fact-finding mission for Houston," Sewing said. "Philadelphia has been successful in unifying everyone in the city to do their program, but it takes a while."

After a year of initiating its campaign, "76 Tons of Fun," Philadelphians actually did slim down.

KEY TO THE KINGDOM
The Battle With Temptation
GETTING TO KNOW GOD
Getting to Know God's Presence
Cox Cable TV Channel 2,
July 9, 7:00 pm

3 SHS cheerleading squads do well at Texas Tech camp

Snyder High School's three cheerleading squads gave a good account of themselves at the High Plains Cheerleading Camp at Texas Tech University June 4-7.

Eleven cheerleaders were nominated for the All American cheerleader recognition, with five winning. They include Vanessa Freeman, Josh Ortegon, Ashlye Amox, Malorye Miller and Bailey Stoker.

Also nominated were Abee Foree, Stacey Williamson, Ashley Owen, Kacey Crill, Loryn Brown and Jaci Smith.

Ortegon was also asked to join the National Cheerleading Association Camp staff.

The varsity and junior varsity squads were also nominated to compete for the top squad honors.

The varsity cheerleaders competed in the champion chant, performing one of the chants they learned at camp.

The varsity squad also received the Herkie Award. All of the squads attending the camp pick the squad they think has the most spirit and works well together.

The varsity, junior varsity and freshman squads all received spirit sticks.

The cheerleaders attended camp from 8:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. daily, learning new cheers, dances and stunts. Over 450 cheerleaders attended from 4A and 5A schools.

Varsity cheerleaders include Bailey Stoker, Morgan Miller, Loryn Brown, Josh Ortegon, Kasey Crill, Jaci Smith, Vanessa Freeman, Ashley Owen, Ira Gonzales and Malorye Miller (mascot).

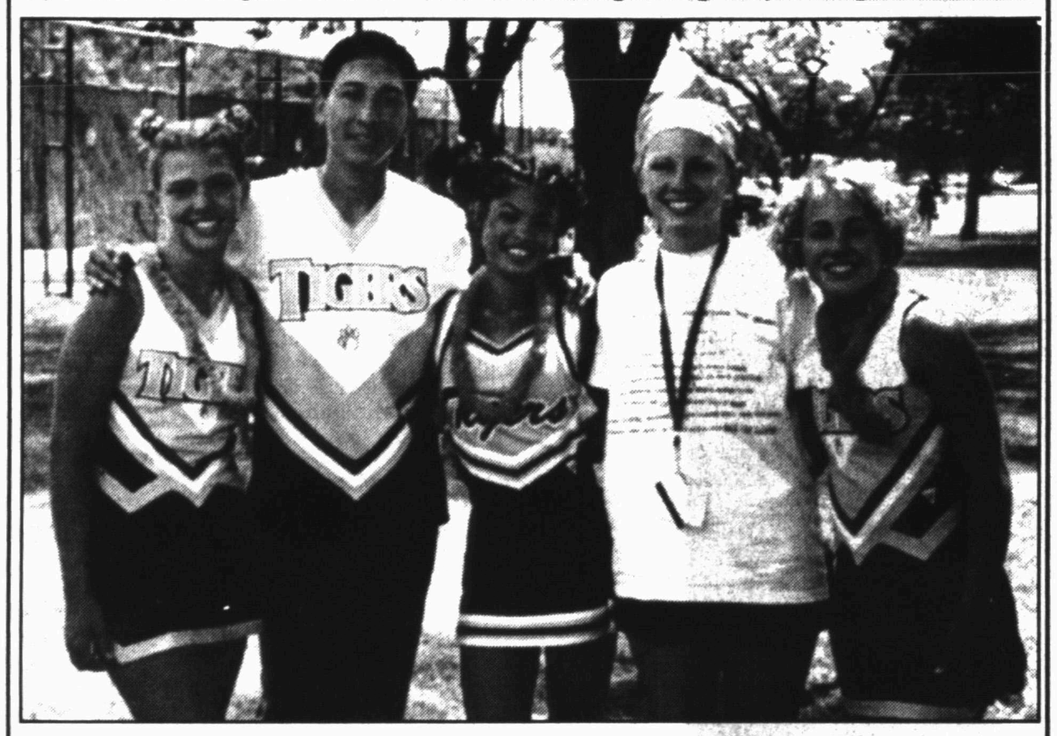
Junior varsity cheerleaders include Molly Mason, Sara Thornhill, Katie Chandler, Kristel Fitts, Gerrico Greenlee and Ashlye Amox.

Freshman cheerleaders are Stacey Williamson, Taren Knipe, Marisa Munoz, Abee Foree, Heather Zajicek and Heather Holmes.

Rhonda Ward, sponsor, accompanied the cheerleaders.

The SHS cheerleaders have now turned their attention to the 2001 football season, Ward said. She added that they are very excited and are practicing sign painting as they get ready for the new school year.

Ward also complimented the three squads saying all of the cheerleaders "did really well (at the camp). They work very well together and all get along. They are all good kids."



ALL AMERICAN CHEERLEADERS — All American cheerleaders include (from left) Vanessa Freeman, Josh Ortegon, Ashlye Amox, Malorye Miller, Bailey Stoker. (Contributed Photos)



NOMINEES — All American nominees include from left, bottom row, Abee Foree, Stacey Williamson; middle row, Ashley Owen, Kacey Crill, Vanessa Freeman, Ashlye Amox, Malorye Miller (mascot), Loryn Brown, Jaci Smith, Bailey Stoker, and (in back) Josh Ortegon. (Contributed Photo)

Hug lady popular at hospital

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Approaching her 93rd birthday, Irene Hahn remains a coveted fixture at Northeast Methodist Hospital.

More than a dozen doctors, therapists, nurses and volunteers at the hospital celebrated her birthday on Friday, affectionately referring to Hahn as "The Hug Lady."

For the past few years, Hahn has roamed the hospital halls on a motorized wheelchair that sports a license plate that reads "Hugmobile." She offers hope through a warm, hearty embrace for patients and staff facing hopelessness.

"It makes me feel good and makes people feel good, so I'm glad," said Hahn, whose birthday is Tuesday. "There are a lot of patients who need encouragement and need to know someone cares about them.

"If they're too sick to hug, I'll give them a kiss on the forehead or a pat on the leg."

Hahn, who was a nurse for 50 years, has volunteered at the hospital since 1988. About four years ago, the hospital's chaplain, Marvin McRoberts, noticed Hahn hugging nurses and advised her to start hugging anyone who could use it. Wednesdays at the hospital soon became known as "hug day."

Sweet's Shop
Corner of Ave. G & Coliseum Drive
will be closed
for vacation
July 7 thru July 16
RE-OPEN JULY 17

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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SPECIALISTS — Western Texas College students, Connie Irvine, Charlotte Barrett and Lisandra Bueno (from left) are the first three Computerized Business Technology students at the college to receive certifications as Microsoft Office User Specialists (MOUS). To receive certification, students passed comprehensive examinations on Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Access. Microsoft then issued certificates stating that these students are highly skilled in these programs. Each of the students completed comprehensive training through the CBT department at WTC before taking the exams. For more information regarding MOUS certification, contact Joann Snider at 573-8511, ext. 217, or Tammy Wesson at ext. 241. (WTC Photo)



SALES AWARD – The Snyder Bealls store recently received two sales awards. The first was for being the number one store in the district against the sales plan for the year 2000. The second award was for first place in sales for the first quarter of 2001. Shown from left are Deidra Goebel, Miranda Eckert, Daphne Lopez, Syleta Neeley, Kathleen Huddleston (store manager), Nada Cotton, James Sharp and Vickie Ferdin. Not pictured are Cenny Sheppard, Billy Abel, Charli Boone, Paula Brownlee, Melissa Hicks, Lois Collier, Sue Martini, Luis Aguilar and Karen Merrick. (Contributed Photo)



DONATION — The M.D. Jirous Foundation and Sonic recently donated $2,000 in scholarship funds to Western Texas College. Two $1,000 designated scholarships will be awarded to WTC students for the fall 2001 semester. Local Sonic owners, Michael and Shara Humphrey, are shown presenting a check to WTC Financial Aid Director Kathy Hall and Dean of Student Services Jim Clifton. (WTC Photo)

DPS can test drivers at stop

GARLAND (AP) — Good news for drivers, bad news for drunken drivers.

Every state trooper in Texas is now equipped with a portable breath tester to determine blood-alcohol levels on the spot, said Department of Public Safety spokesman Tom Vinger.

In Texas, a driver with a blood alcohol concentration level of .08 is legally intoxicated.

The devices began being distributed to the officers several years ago.

The lightweight, handheld devices won't replace the sobriety test or the certified breath test back at the station. Results of the portable test aren't even generally admissible as evidence in court.

But troopers say the new devices help confirm their hunches on the scene.

"This is not a deciding factor," said DPS Senior Cpl. David Warren in Garland. "They give us the satisfaction of knowing that everything we observed was true."

The devices will come in handy if sobriety tests aren't possible, as in the case of an accident, officers said.

Texas leads the nation in alcohol-related traffic deaths. The Texas Department of Public Safety reports 24,865 alcohol-related traffic crashes in 1999, resulting in 998 fatalities and 25,547 injuries.

Many states were ahead of Texas in adopting new breath test technology, said Mac Forrester, chairman of the board for St. Louis-based breath test maker Intoximeters Inc.

Texas Two Step

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Texas Two Step numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:

2-4-6-14

Bonus number 35

Estimated jackpot: $200,000

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Friday by the Texas Lottery:

8-13-31-35-37

Pick 3

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

8-7-5

—

Inventor and automobile magnate Henry Ford was interested in discovering new uses for soybeans. He once appeared at a convention clothed entirely (except for his shoes) in materials derived from soybeans.

—

Wisconsin is the 30th state.

Bush's daughter fined $600 for drinking, ID violation

AUSTIN (AP) — President Bush's 19-year-old daughter Jenna was fined $600 Friday and her driver's license was suspended for 30 days on charges of underage drinking and trying to use someone else's ID to buy liquor.

The University of Texas student did not attend the back-to-back hearings held to settle two separate incidents. Defense attorney Bill Allison said she was out of town.

Allison entered a no-contest plea to a charge that Bush tried to use someone else's identification to buy alcohol at a popular Mexican restaurant May 29.

Municipal Judge Karrie Key ordered Bush to pay $100 in court fees, perform 36 hours of community service and attend a session where victims of alcohol-related crimes discuss their experiences. If she completes the requirements and stays out of trouble for three months, the charge will be dismissed.

However, the underage drinking charge, which stems from an incident in April, will go on her record as a conviction because of the restaurant violation. Bush's no-contest plea had been deferred by Community Court Judge Elisabeth Earle, who found her guilty Friday, fined her $500 and suspended her license.

Jenna's twin sister, Barbara, a Yale University student, pleaded no contest last month to underage possession of alcohol stemming from the visit to the Mexican restaurant.

"Insurance - Poor"

"The last thing in the world that I need is another insurance policy - I'm insurance poor!"

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REVIVAL AND SEMINAR

July 13, 14, 15

Friday Night .....7:00 p.m.
Saturday Seminar .....9 a.m. to Noon
Saturday Night .....7:00 p.m.
Sunday Services .....10:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

STEVE HARBIN
from Nashville, Tenn.
Doctorate from Southern Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky



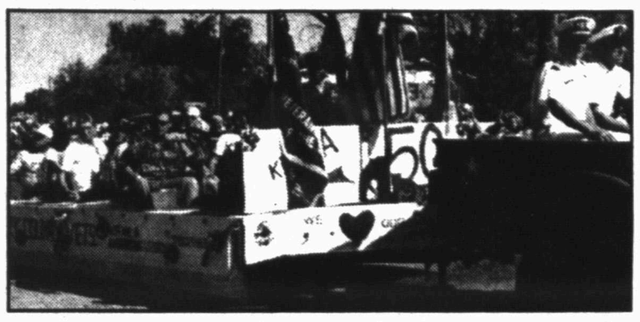
Steve & Flora Harbin

Nursery Provided For All Services

First Church of the Nazarene

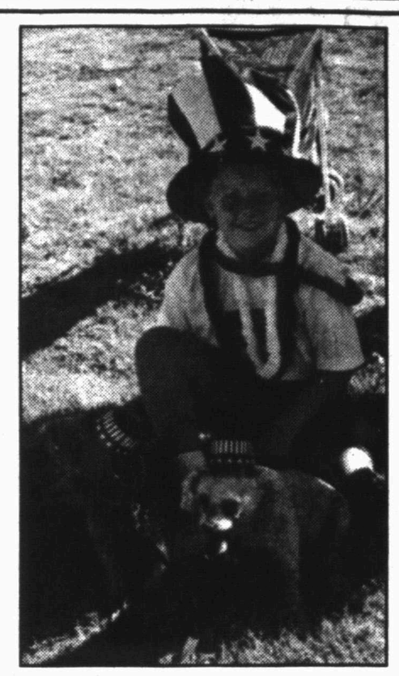
S. Hwy. 208 (Across from Big Country) 573-5601

More July Fourth 2001







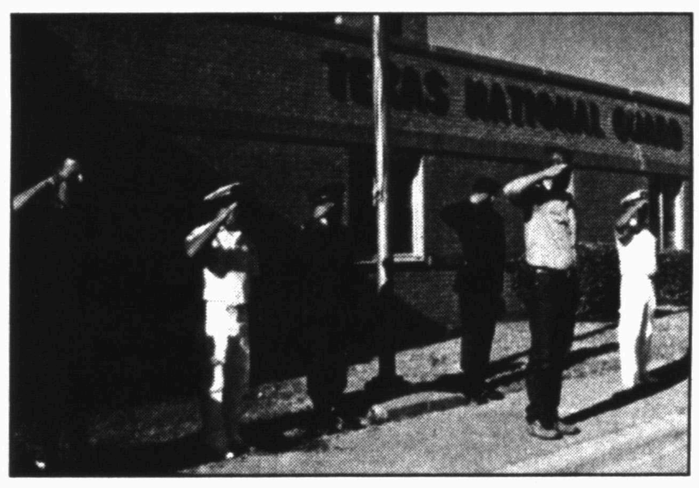


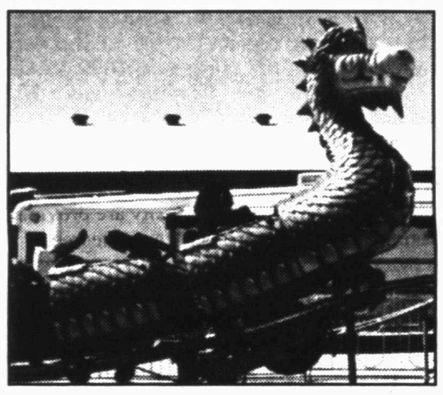




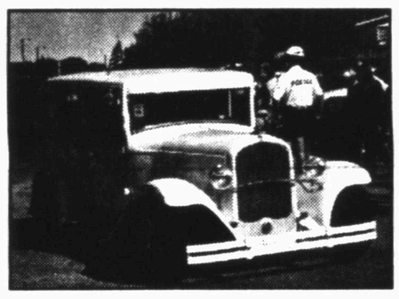














SDN Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman

Financial Focus

High-quality Bonds Can Smooth Out Portfolio

When the stock market took off for much of the 1990s, everybody wanted to go along for the ride. Unfortunately, many investors became too enthused and put nearly all their investment dollars into stocks. This proved to be a costly mistake when the stock market declined in 2000 and early 2001. That's when the real value of portfolio diversification became clear. And one of the best ways to diversify a portfolio is through high-quality bonds.

In 2000, these bonds provided more than diversification — they also achieved very good returns. In fact, long-term Treasury bonds — those with maturities of 20 years or longer — returned 21.5 percent for 2000. Other fixed-income investments also did well. Municipal bonds returned 11.68 percent, and U.S. agency bonds — those issued by government-sponsored corporation, such as the Federal National Mortgage Association ("Fannie Mae") — returned 12.18 percent.

Of course, you can't always count on stellar returns from high-quality bonds. However their values typically won't fluctuate nearly as much as stock prices. And that's why high-quality bonds are so useful: They'll help diversify your portfolio and ease some of the volatility caused by large swings in stock prices.

Before you invest in bonds, however, consider these suggestions:

• ***Look for quality*** — The major rating agencies — such as Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Duff & Phelps — evaluate a bond's quality by looking at the creditworthiness of the corporation or governmental agency that issued the bond. These agencies assign ratings such as "investment grade," "speculative," "extremely speculative" and "default." But there are variations even within these ratings categories. Generally speaking, however, the higher the quality of the bond, the less its return will fluctuate. So, if you're particularly interested in stabilizing your investment portfolio, you may want to look at very high-quality bonds — those rated AA+ or AAA (Moody's uses Aa1 and Aaa).

• **Look for the right "fit"** — Your individual investment needs are not the same as everyone else's. Consequently, some high-quality bonds will be more suitable for you than others. For example, if you are in one of the higher tax brackets, you may benefit more from a tax-free municipal bond than a taxable corporate bond.

• **Build a "ladder"** — Rising interest rates will cause the price of your existing bonds to drop; conversely, falling market rates will drive the prices up. To protect yourself against this volatility, you may want to create a "bond ladder." To build a ladder, you simply invest in short-, intermediate- and long-term high-quality bonds. In the long run, a bond ladder can help stabilize your portfolio income, because the majority of your portfolio remains invested. Over time, a bond ladder also will generally provide you with more income than if you just purchased short-term bonds and certificates of deposit — a combination that causes portfolio income to be more volatile and less predictable.

You can't control the stock market's ups and downs. But you can take steps to diminish the effects of the fluctuations on your portfolio. And high-quality bonds can help.

Missing intern was 'upbeat'

WASHINGTON (AP) — The day before she was last seen, Chandra Levy called her aunt and left a message saying she had "some big news" to share.

Linda Zamsky says she still has no idea what her niece meant by the message left April 29, but that there's no reason to believe it was something ominous.

"She was upbeat and full of life. There was absolutely no indication that she was upset," Zamsky said.

Zamsky described the message in a statement issued Friday that was devoted mainly to providing details about the affair Zamsky says Levy told her she had with Rep. Gary Condit. Levy is from Modesto, Calif., which Condit represents.

Condit, 53 and married, has called Levy, a former intern at the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, a "good friend." His aides have denied a romantic relationship.

Zamsky, who lives on Maryland's Eastern Shore, a couple of hours northeast of Washington, said she decided to publicize what Levy confided to her because Condit has not been forthcoming about the relationship.

"We believe that Rep. Condit's lack of candor is hindering efforts to find Chandra," Zamsky said. Her statement was released by the public relations firm that has been hired by Billy Martin, the Levy family attorney in Washington.

Police have characterized Condit as cooperative in two interviews, and have said he is not a suspect in Levy's disappearance. A police official said authorities already had Zamsky's account, and found little in it to help them, including the cryptic message about important news.

Telephone calls to Abbe Lowell, Condit's attorney, and his congressional office were not returned. Marina Ein, a publicist hired by Lowell, said, "None of this stuff is advancing the investigation per se."

Levy was two weeks beyond her 24th birthday when she was last seen April 30, canceling her membership at a Washington health club. A search of her apartment found nothing missing but her keys.

Police have no evidence of a crime, no suggestion that Levy ran off, no similarities between Levy's case and those of other missing persons, Police Chief Charles Ramsey said Thursday. He said police have all but ruled out suicide because so much time has passed and no body been found.

Zamsky said Levy, in several conversations beginning around Thanksgiving, described a secretive relationship with Condit that began last fall, shortly after she arrived in Washington for her internship. Levy was a graduate student at the University of Southern California who was completing her master's degree in public administration with a Washington work-study program.

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STEPS interns ... Snyder Junior High

Thirty-five Snyder Junior High School students have just completed their internships in STEPS (Striving To Experience Positive Shadowing).

The STEPS program, funded through a grant from the West Central Texas Council of Governments, has recently completed its fourth year.

In cooperation with area businesses, seventh and eighth grade students spend one week of their summer vacation learning about various jobs and careers through hands-on experiences.

Linda Huestis and Margaret Corkran coordinated the program.

Participating business partners in the STEPS program are American State Bank, Cogdell Memorial Hospital, Friendly Flower Shop, KSNY, Scifres Tire and Auto, Scurry County, Senior Citizens Center, Snyder Daily News, Snyder Police Department and Y-Z Systems.



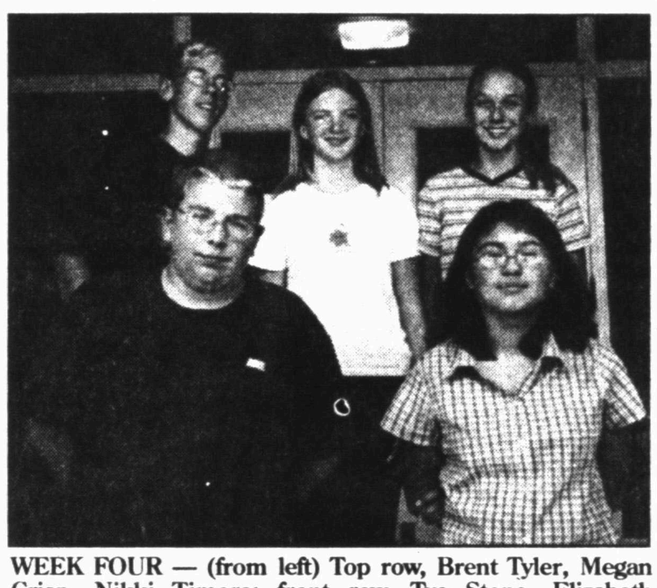
WEEK ONE — (from left) Top row: Blake Robertson, October Wells, Matthew Morris, Patrick Jones; middle row: Tyler Eveland, Paige Anderson, Brandon Bragg, Austin Hatfield; front row: Laura Boyd, Jennifer Campbell, Nallely Garza, Whitney Kinney. (Contributed Photo)



WEEK TWO — (from left) Top row: Shaela Thompson, Hadley Hirt, Kasey Melton; middle row, Seth Cooper, Santino Hermosillo; front row, Daniela Garcia, Nathan Graves, Corie Hernandez. (Contributed Photo)



WEEK THREE — (from left) Stanley Forbes, Jessica Robbins, Albert Rocha, Thomas Hefner; middle row, Ashley Flores, Joe Garza, Jarrod Fletcher, Ashley Hyer; front row, Kayla Hartzog, Christi Williams. (Contributed Photo)



WEEK FOUR — (from left) Top row, Brent Tyler, Megan Crisp, Nikki Timora; front row, Tye Stone, Elizabeth Dominguez. (Contributed Photo)

Bush presses for quick approval of education plan

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine (AP) — Quick approval of the administration's education blueprint is a final exam Congress must pass before it recesses for the summer, President Bush said Saturday.

"We need to act quickly because states and schools must make decisions on how to use their new flexibility and live up to their new responsibility," Bush said in his weekly radio address, recorded at the stone-and-shingle home that has been his family's summer retreat for a century.

The day after celebrating his 55th birthday at a family dinner, the 43rd president played a second round of golf Saturday with his father, the 41st president. On Friday, both sported caps embroidered with their respective numbers.

They were joined at a local golf course Saturday morning by the president's brother, Florida Gov. Jeb Bush, and a cousin, Hap Ellis.

On the first tee, President Bush said that after the game he would receive a national security briefing and then meet with Chief of Staff Andrew Card before spending "a little quality time with my family."

"The amazing thing about this job though is the job seems to follow you around," the president said.

When asked if he'd been anxious to get out of Washington for a few days, Bush smiled and said "well spoken."

Spokesman Ari Fleischer said Bush plans a series of events to prod Congress into acting soon on issues central to his agenda that he believes have been relegated to the back burner.

Fleischer said these include education, the patients' bill of rights and Bush's proposal to broaden the participation of religious groups in government social welfare programs.

In the radio address, Bush said rapid movement on his education initiative is a vital first step.

"Completing the work of education reform is a final exam for Congress before they go home in August for summer vacation and before America's school children go back to school," he said.

Bush's proposed education plan seeks to use federal aid as a carrot to improve failing schools. The measure, approved in separate versions by the House and Senate, brings several major changes to the federal system, foremost among them the requirement that schools annually test students in math and reading in grades three through eight and once in high school.

If scores don't improve, schools would be eligible for higher federal aid. Pupils at schools in which scores don't improve could use federal money for tutoring or transportation.

Typhoon death toll on rise

HONG KONG (AP) — A powerful tropical storm killed three people as it swept through the southeastern Chinese province of Guangdong, wiping out 4,700 homes and causing $2.6 billion in damage, state-run media reported Saturday.

The storm, called Utor, had been downgraded from a typhoon as it slammed into China on Friday after blowing through the Philippines earlier in the week.

Authorities in the Philippines on Saturday raised the death toll in that country to 112 from 70 one day earlier, with 69 others still missing. More than 120 were injured.

Meanwhile, thousands of passengers were stranded at the Hong Kong airport Saturday as authorities tried to clear a backlog of flights caused by the storm and a labor action by Cathay Pacific pilots.

As the storm moved into Guangxi province in China, authorities mobilized more than 10,000 soldiers and 100,000 civilians to strengthen dams and battle severe floods, China News Service said.

One rural town near the provincial capital, Nanning, was submerged in record flood waters. Electricity and transportation were completely cut off, CNS said.

Utor was centered about 70 miles north of Nanning and was moving west at about 15 mph, the Hong Kong Observatory said.

Utor, which means "squall" in the language spoken on the Marshall Islands, hit hardest earlier in mountainous provinces of the northern Philippines.

The storm also killed one Taiwanese man by sweeping him into the ocean when it churned past the island.

Seven sailors who had been missing in waters off the Philippines were alive, boat owner Chen Shun-liang said, quoting unidentified shipping sources. Officials could not confirm the information.

In Hong Kong, Airport Authority spokeswoman Wong Sau-ying said 116 airplanes were canceled or delayed Saturday, on top of the 87 flights canceled and 407 flights delayed Friday.

Some were trapped inside planes stranded by the storm. Fifteen people were taken to the hospital, with four remaining in stable condition, authorities said.

Cathay Pacific pilots' "work-to-rule" industrial action compounded problems at the airport. The pilots' union aimed to disrupt flights without breaking regulations after talks with the airline management broke down over pay and working conditions late last week.

Cathay said 39 out of 128 flights were canceled Saturday, in addition to the 56 flights canceled Friday due to the storm.

On the Net:

Joint Typhoon Warning Center at http://www.npmoc.navy.mil/jtwc.html

Taiwan's Central Weather Bureau at http://www.cwb.gov.tw

Actress plays mother of robot in 'A.I.'

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Frances O'Connor plays the "mother" to David, a robot boy programmed to love, in Steven Spielberg's new film, "A.I. Artificial Intelligence."

The robot boy, played by Haley Joel Osment, is placed with O'Connor and her husband (Sam Robards), whose real son is in cryonic freeze because of an incurable disease. The experiment fails, and David is abandoned.

O'Connor, whose previous films include 1999's "Mansfield Park," doesn't believe there will be robots like David any time soon.

"I don't think we'll ever get to the point where we'll re-create people to that level because, I mean we might, but it won't be for a very long time," she says.

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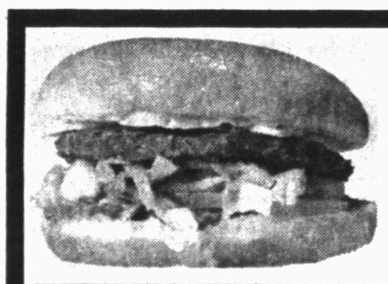
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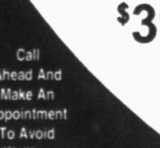
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SPORTS

Padres' All-Stars overpower Texas

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Ryan Klesko and Phil Nevin are squeezing everything they can out of the season's first half.

Klesko drove in four runs, and fellow All-Star Nevin hit his 20th homer as the San Diego Padres beat the Texas Rangers 8-3 Friday night.

Klesko has driven in 74 runs, matching Greg Vaughn's 1998 club record for RBIs before the All-Star break.

"I want to finish the season strong," Klesko said. "I don't worry about first-half numbers. It's nice, obviously, to be in the books with something like that, but I'll happy to be going to the All-Star game. It's an exciting time for me."

Klesko hit a two-run triple in a four-run fourth and drove in two runs in the fifth before being thrown out trying to stretch his hit into a double.

Nevin, who drove in three runs, hit a two-run homer in the fourth two pitches after Klesko tripled. He added an RBI double in the seventh to finish with three hits.

"It's been a good week," said Nevin, who has three straight 20-homer seasons.

"Obviously, the All-Star deal kind of helped me out a little bit, the way I've been swinging the bat the last few days. It kind of gave me something to smile about. And we're playing well."

Nevin had been 1-for-24 in the last seven games.

"I haven't felt that bad at the plate. Results just didn't happen," Nevin said. "I felt the same tonight as I did the last couple of nights. They just happened to fall in there tonight."

Mark Kotsay also had three hits for San Diego, extending his hitting streak to eight games.

The Padres won for the third time in four games. The Rangers were coming off two straight wins over baseball's best team, the Seattle Mariners.

Kevin Jarvis (5-7) sprained his left ankle hitting a single in the fifth but stayed in the game for another inning before it stiffened. He said he thinks one of his spikes got caught in the dirt.

Jarvis allowed five hits, including Michael Young's two-run homer in the second, struck out four and walked two in six innings.

Trevor Hoffman struck out Rafael Palmeiro with the bases loaded for his 18th save in 20 chances.

Jarvis lined a ball to right in the fifth and immediately fell down. He got up and hobbled down the line, and was safe because Palmeiro was watching the ball and didn't cover the bag.

Jarvis needed a few minutes to shake off the injury and remained in the game, scoring ahead of Kotsay on Klesko's single to right. Klesko was thrown out trying to stretch it into a double.

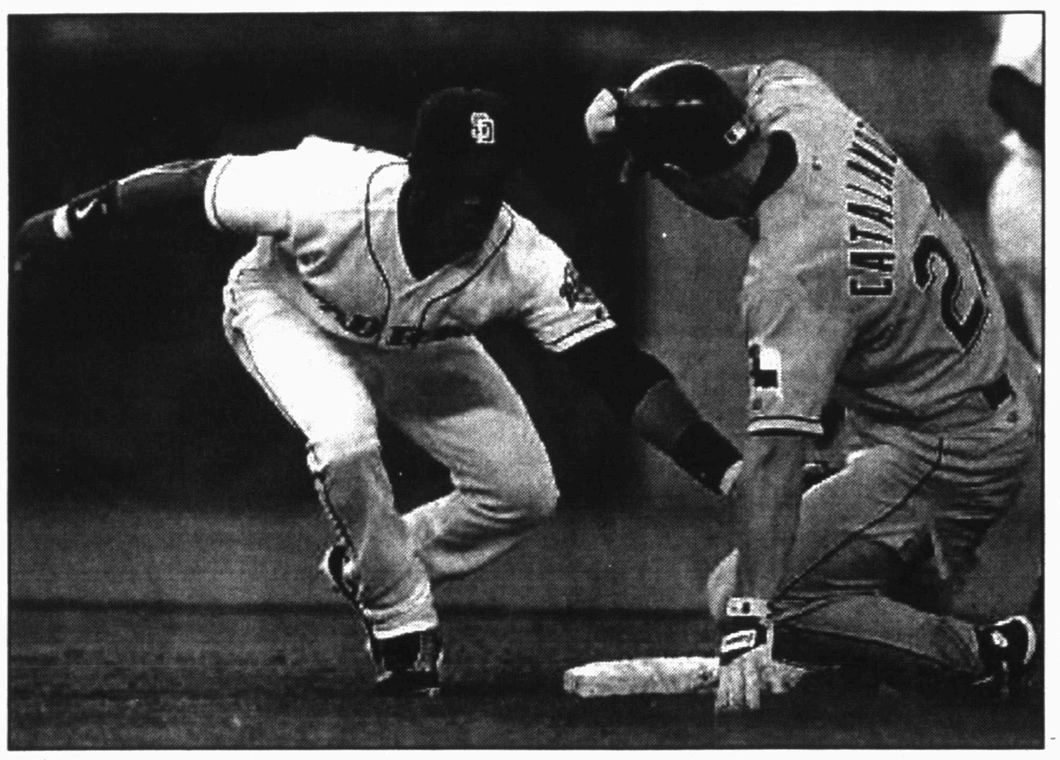
Rick Helling (5-8) allowed singles to Rickey Henderson and Kotsay to start the fourth, and Klesko drove them home with a triple into the Texas bullpen in the right-field corner to tie it at 2.

Nevin then homered to center to make it 4-2.

"They scored four runs about as quick as you can possibly score them," Texas manager Jerry Narron said.

Helling allowed six runs and eight hits in five innings for his first loss in six starts. He struck out five and walked none.

Young hit his second homer of the season with one out in the second.



SLIDE — The Texas Rangers' Frank Catalanotto tries to slide under the tag of Padres second baseman Damian Jackson during the Rangers 8-3 setback in Friday night's interleague game at San Diego. (AP Photo)

McGwire not ready to retire

CLEVELAND (AP) — Mark McGwire is embarrassed. He's disappointed, frustrated and annoyed that he's not hitting tape-measure home runs or even bloop singles these days.

It's tearing the St. Louis slugger up.

"I'm not who I am right now," he said.

But while McGwire may be nearing the warning track of his career, he said he isn't going, going, gone just yet.

On Friday, McGwire refuted a front-page story in Friday's St. Louis Post-Dispatch that he is contemplating retirement at the end of this season.

"I'm struggling," he said before the Cardinals lost 14-2 to the Cleveland Indians. "The question was asked, 'Do I think about it (retirement)?' Well, when you're 37 years old and you've played as long as I have, you always think about it.

"Who doesn't think about it? ... It doesn't take a rocket scientist to figure out I'm at the end of my career. It's going to happen one of these days."

McGwire, who hasn't been the same since undergoing knee surgery in October, snapped a career-long 0-for-29 slump with a single in his first at-bat Friday night and finished 1-for-2 with two walks.

McGwire, batting just .188 with seven homers, was benched for Thursday's game in Milwaukee. In an interview beforehand, he told Cardinals beat writer Rick Hummel of the Post-Dispatch that he was "embarrassed" by his production and hoped to turn things around in the second half.

"I sure hope it's not the last half of my career," McGwire told Hummel.

Friday's Post ran a front-page headline that said: "Frustrated McGwire Wonders if End is Near."

McGwire said he wasn't expecting a simple interview to turn into big news.

"Every word and every thing I do in the city of St. Louis is unfortunately huge news and somebody decided to take it and make it headlines," McGwire said. "Unfortunately, it was taken very much out of context.

"... There is a headline person who saw the word 'retirement' and decided to use that as a headline. Maybe there was nothing going on in St. Louis yesterday."

McGwire said he first realized the story had taken on a life of its own when he got a call from his girlfriend early Friday morning.

"She said, 'You're the talk of the town,'" McGwire said. "And I said, 'For what?' She read me the headlines, and it really blows me away how the article was turned around."

Brad Hainje, the Cardinals' assistant media relations director, said that by 10 a.m. his hotel voice mail was filled with dozens of questions about McGwire's future.

Local team bows out of tourney

SWEETWATER — Just when Snyder seemed to have a lock on the game, Colorado City came to life.

Colorado City belted two home runs, and scored 13 runs over the final three innings to knock off Snyder, 16-9, Friday night in an elimination game of the 13 and 14-year-old all-star baseball tournament in Sweetwater.

The setback ends Snyder's tourney run, while C-City advances to face Abilene Senior.

Snyder was in control early, jumping out to a 9-3 lead in the third inning thanks to a pair of doubles by Cade Simpson and other extra-base hits from Eric Martinez, Damion Reece and Garrett Pinson.

Colorado City started its comeback in the fourth inning and built a 12-9 advantage by the fifth. Two home runs, combined with a couple of Snyder errors, pushed the margin to 16-9 by game's end.

Chris Smith, Dustin Williams and Blaine Minton split time on the mound for Snyder.

In other all-star tournaments, Snyder's 9 and 10-year-old squad squares off with Sweetwater at 8 p.m. Saturday in Colorado City.

Snyder's 11 and 12-year-old all-stars take on Rotan at 8 p.m. Saturday at Abilene's Southern Little League complex.

Major League Baseball

National League

All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	49	36	.576	—
Atlanta	48	37	.565	1
Florida	42	44	.488	7½
Montreal	37	49	.430	12½
New York	37	50	.425	13

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	50	34	.595	—
Houston	46	38	.548	4
St. Louis	42	42	.500	8
Milwaukee	40	44	.476	10
Pittsburgh	33	51	.393	17
Cincinnati	33	52	.388	17½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	51	34	.600	—
Los Angeles	47	39	.547	4½
San Francisco	46	40	.535	5½
San Diego	40	46	.465	11½
Colorado	39	46	.459	12

Friday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 8, N.Y. Mets 3
Cleveland 14, St. Louis 2
Montreal 10, Toronto 7
Philadelphia 3, Baltimore 2, 10 innings
Atlanta 6, Boston 5, 10 innings
Minnesota 5, Cincinnati 4
Tampa Bay 5, Florida 4, 11 innings
Chicago Cubs 15, Detroit 9
Houston 8, Kansas City 3
Pittsburgh 10, Chicago White Sox 6
Oakland 3, Arizona 0
Anaheim 6, Colorado 5
San Diego 8, Texas 3
Seattle 13, Los Angeles 0
San Francisco 3, Milwaukee 2, 11 innings

Saturday's Games

N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 1:15 p.m.
St. Louis at Cleveland, 1:15 p.m.
Montreal at Toronto, 4:05 p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles, 4:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at San Francisco, 4:05 p.m.
Florida at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Atlanta at Boston, 5:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Detroit, 5:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Minnesota, 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m.
Anaheim at Colorado, 8:05 p.m.
Houston at Kansas City, 8:05 p.m.
Texas at San Diego, 10:05 p.m.
Oakland at Arizona, 10:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Atlanta (Glavine 6-5) at Boston (Ohka 2-3), 1:05 p.m.
Montreal (Matteo 2-0) at Toronto (Michalak 5-6), 1:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Wood 8-5) at Detroit (Lima 1-0), 1:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Hermanson 6-7) at Cleveland (Westbrook 2-0), 1:05 p.m.
Florida (Dempster 9-8) at Tampa Bay (Kennedy 3-1), 1:15 p.m.
Philadelphia (Person 6-5) at Baltimore (Mercedes 4-9), 1:35 p.m.
Cincinnati (Dessens 6-5) at Minnesota (Radke 9-4), 2:05 p.m.
Houston (Elarton 4-8) at Kansas City (Durbin 6-7), 2:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh (Ritchie 5-8) at Chicago White Sox (Lowe 3-1), 2:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Rapp 2-9) at Colorado (Chacon 4-4), 3:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Wright 8-5) at San Francisco (Hernandez 6-11), 4:05 p.m.
Seattle (Sele 9-1) at Los Angeles (Prokopec 6-4), 4:10 p.m.
Oakland (Zito 5-6) at Arizona (Johnson 11-5), 4:35 p.m.
Texas (Oliver 7-3) at San Diego (Williams 5-6), 5 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Reed 7-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Keisler 1-2), 8:05 p.m.

Monday's Games

No games scheduled

American League

All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	51	33	.607	—
Boston	50	35	.588	1½
Toronto	40	46	.465	12
Baltimore	39	46	.459	12½
Tampa Bay	26	60	.302	26

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	53	32	.623	—
Cleveland	48	35	.578	4
Chicago	39	44	.470	13
Detroit	35	47	.427	16½
Kansas City	34	51	.400	19

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	62	23	.729	—
Oakland	42	43	.494	20
Anaheim	40	45	.471	22
Texas	34	51	.400	28

Friday's Games

N.Y. Yankees 8, N.Y. Mets 3
Cleveland 14, St. Louis 2
Montreal 10, Toronto 7
Philadelphia 3, Baltimore 2, 10 innings
Atlanta 6, Boston 5, 10 innings
Minnesota 5, Cincinnati 4
Tampa Bay 5, Florida 4, 11 innings
Chicago Cubs 15, Detroit 9
Houston 8, Kansas City 3
Pittsburgh 10, Chicago White Sox 6
Oakland 3, Arizona 0
Anaheim 6, Colorado 5
San Diego 8, Texas 3
Seattle 13, Los Angeles 0

Saturday's Games

N.Y. Mets at N.Y. Yankees, 1:15 p.m.
St. Louis at Cleveland, 1:15 p.m.
Montreal at Toronto, 4:05 p.m.
Seattle at Los Angeles, 4:05 p.m.
Florida at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.
Atlanta at Boston, 5:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs at Detroit, 5:05 p.m.
Cincinnati at Minnesota, 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Pittsburgh at Chicago White Sox, 7:05 p.m.
Anaheim at Colorado, 8:05 p.m.
Houston at Kansas City, 8:05 p.m.
Texas at San Diego, 10:05 p.m.
Oakland at Arizona, 10:05 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Atlanta (Glavine 6-5) at Boston (Ohka 2-3), 1:05 p.m.
Montreal (Matteo 2-0) at Toronto (Michalak 5-6), 1:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Wood 8-5) at Detroit (Lima 1-0), 1:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Hermanson 6-7) at Cleveland (Westbrook 2-0), 1:05 p.m.
Florida (Dempster 9-8) at Tampa Bay (Kennedy 3-1), 1:15 p.m.
Philadelphia (Person 6-5) at Baltimore (Mercedes 4-9), 1:35 p.m.
Cincinnati (Dessens 6-5) at Minnesota (Radke 9-4), 2:05 p.m.
Houston (Elarton 4-8) at Kansas City (Durbin 6-7), 2:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Rapp 2-9) at Colorado (Chacon 4-4), 3:05 p.m.
Seattle (Sele 9-1) at Los Angeles (Prokopec 6-4), 4:10 p.m.
Texas (Oliver 7-3) at San Diego (Williams 5-6), 5 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Reed 7-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Keisler 1-2), 8:05 p.m.

Astros reach season's best mark

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Houston manager Larry Dierker has been around baseball long enough to know that sometimes it's better to be lucky than good.

The Astros followed that formula perfectly against the Kansas City Royals on Friday night.

Wade Miller struggled through 5 2-3 innings, allowing three runs on nine hits, but Houston still defeated Kansas City 8-3 to move to a season-best eight games over .500.

"I don't think that we swung the bats all that well except in the innings we scored," Dierker said. "This is the first game we've played in the hot weather and we looked sluggish.

"I'm real happy we won it, because we didn't play our best game. We still managed to win, and that's a good sign in itself."

The Astros only scored in three innings, but one big inning helped. Houston touched Dan Reichert for five runs in the sixth to turn a 3-1 deficit into a 6-3 lead. Miller, however, couldn't make it out of the sixth.

"He didn't look comfortable," Dierker said. "I don't know what his pitch count was (90), but the way he normally pitches, I wouldn't take him out in the sixth inning. He really didn't have it. Fortunately for us, the guys who came in after him did."

Ron Villone followed with 1 1-3 scoreless innings, and Nelson Cruz pitched two scoreless innings for his second save.

Miller (11-3) won his fourth straight start, even though he never felt like he was in control. He gave up three runs on nine hits, walked two and struck out two.

"I struggled a little bit at first," Miller said. "I wasn't quite hitting my spots. You have to bear down with runners in scoring position. I give all the credit to the offense, because they came back."

Miller is second in the NL in victories to Arizona's Curt Schilling (12).

All-Star Lance Berkman went 2-for-4 with a homer and two RBIs, and Vinny Castilla hit a two-run double in the sixth for the Astros, who improved to a season-best eight games over .500.

Berkman extended his hitting streak to a career-high 19 games, the best in the NL this season and the longest active streak in the majors. He is hitting .446 (33-for-74) during the streak.

Trailing 3-1, Houston jumped on Dan Reichert (7-7) in the sixth.

Julio Lugo led off with a single and stole second before Jeff Bagwell walked. After Berkman bounced into a force play, Moises Alou singled home Lugo, extending his hitting streak to a career-high 14 games.

Richard Hidalgo reached on a run-scoring infield single, and Reichert gave up the tying run on a four-pitch walk to Daryle Ward. Castilla doubled to center to score two more and chase Reichert.

UH forward signs with Suns

HOUSTON (AP) — Former University of Houston forward Alton Ford has signed with the Phoenix Suns, a television station reported.

Ford said in June that he would pass up his final three years of eligibility at Houston.

Ford told Houston television station KRIV on Friday that he signed a one-year deal plus a club option for the second year. He was drafted in the second round by the Suns, the 51st pick overall.

"I'm glad to get this over with so I can do whatever Phoenix wants me to do," Ford said. "This means I can concentrate now on trying to make the Suns team."

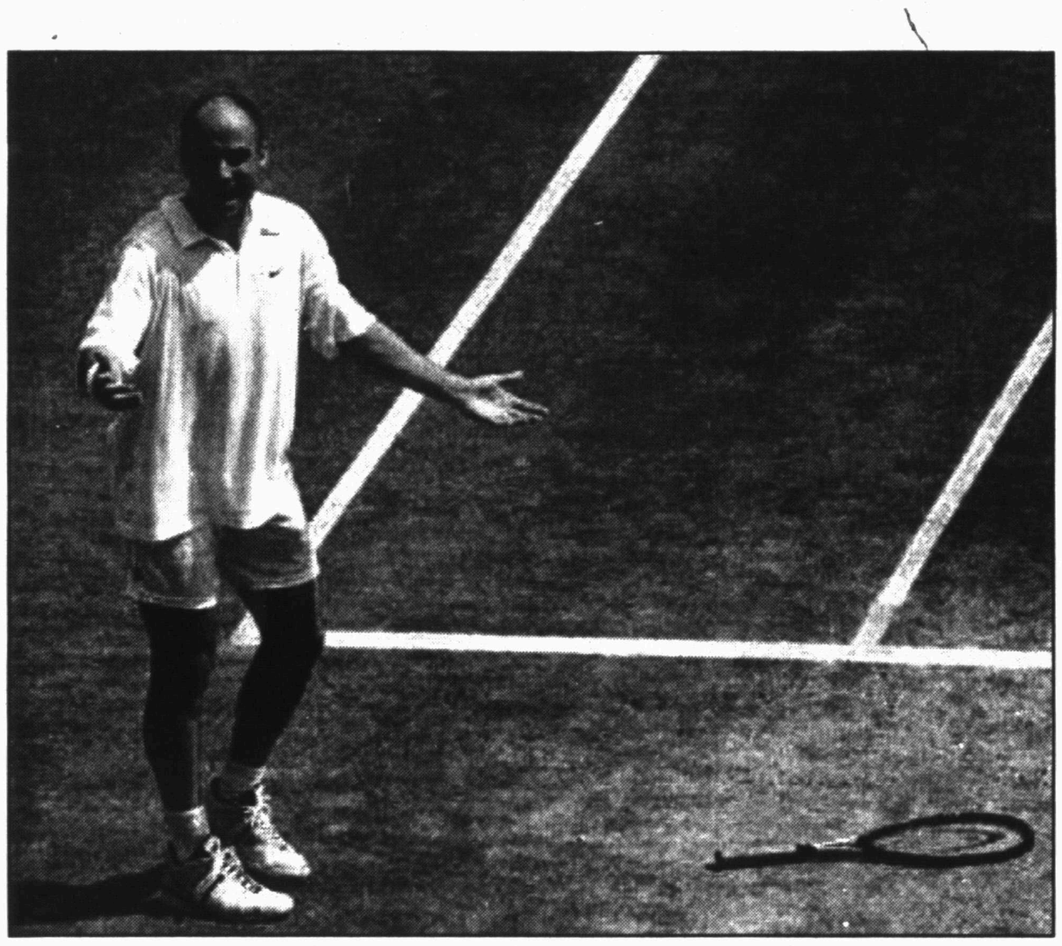
The 6-foot-9, 275-pound forward averaged 11 points and six rebounds last season with the Cougars, who went 9-20.

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SPORTS



DISAGREEMENT — Andre Agassi disputes a call Friday during his loss to Australian Patrick Rafter in the semifinals at Wimbledon. (AP Photo)

Rafter ousts Agassi in five-set semifinal

WIMBLEDON, England (AP) — The end was near for Patrick Rafter, stretching for Andre Agassi's blasts from the baseline and sprinting to the net only to watch the ball whiz past him.

His best and, very possibly, last chance at winning Wimbledon was flying by.

The end of his career might not be far off, but his ferocious fight Friday means a picture of him hoisting the championship trophy could grace the final page of his scrapbook.

"I was aggressive and I stayed aggressive," he said. "And it went my way."

Improbable as it was, Rafter's 2-6, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 8-6 victory sent him into his second straight Wimbledon final Sunday. He plans to take six months off after this year and probably won't return to Wimbledon next summer.

Venus Williams also is in her second consecutive final, and can become the first woman with back-to-back wins since Steffi Graf in 1995-96. Williams was scheduled to play 19-year-old Belgian Justine Henin in Saturday's championship match.

Rafter, meanwhile, didn't know his next opponent since the Tim Henman-Goran Ivanisevic semifinal was delayed for the second straight day Saturday.

With former President Clinton due to sit in the Royal Box, rain began about a half hour before the scheduled restart. On Friday, the match was suspended by darkness after a two-hour rain delay. Henman led 2-1 in sets and 2-1 in games with Ivanisevic serving.

Most fans could have guessed the identity of one of last year's finalists even before that tournament began. Pete Sampras had won six of the previous seven titles and did it again in 2000.

His victim was Rafter, who had beaten Agassi in another five-set semifinal that year.

Rafter squandered a commanding lead against Sampras, just as Agassi did Friday, winning the first set but letting a 4-1 lead in the second-set tiebreaker slip away. He lost in four sets and said he was nervous.

"I hope I get in that situation again" with a lead in the final, Rafter said Friday. "I was saying, 'Relax' last time. 'Relax, relax.' It didn't work. Maybe I might say, 'Choke, choke.' See what happens."

Agassi didn't choke Friday, but was rattled by a warning in the next-to-last game for an obscenity.

With the fifth set tied 6-6 and the score at deuce on Rafter's serve, Agassi hit a ball that landed near the sideline, but out. That's when he blurted out the bad word close enough for a lineswoman to hear.

She scurried to Mike Morrissey in the umpire's chair and reported the epithet. The code violation, for which Agassi was fined $2,000, seemed to unnerve him.

"That's quite upsetting and a little classless for Centre Court, to go running up there," Agassi said. "I got upset at a shot I missed, and I didn't think anybody could hear it."

Rafter won the next four points to go up 7-6 and 0-40. Agassi got two points back, but lost the next. The match was then over.

Rafter thrust his first in the air and smiled in relief. Agassi smacked a ball in the direction of the lineswoman who was standing at the other end of the court.

"I meant to hit that in the net," he said unconvincingly.

It was another of his shots that landed in the wrong spot and gave two-time U.S. Open winner Rafter a crack at his third Grand Slam championship.

There's little chance he'll return to Wimbledon next June.

"He's a pretty stubborn bloke," his coach, Tony Roche, said. "He'll definitely have a break. When he's away four or five months, he'll say, 'this wasn't a bad idea,' or he'll miss it. He's set on having this break."

His biggest breaks Friday came in the 10th and 14th games of the fifth set. Trailing 5-4 and 30-15 with Agassi serving, Rafter was two points from defeat. But he won the game to break service.

Then he broke again in the final game with a backhand shot that flew over Agassi's head and landed in the corner — Agassi's final chance floating by as he reached the end of his tournament run.

"You've got to just shake it off, try to move forward," he said. "What else can you do?"

If you're Rafter, you still can reach the end as a champion.

Sports Briefs

Western Texas MGA

The Men's Golf Association of Western Texas College holds a weekly event at 6 p.m. each Tuesday. Players need to register in the pro shop by 5:30.

Volleyball camp

Snyder volleyball camp is scheduled for July 16-19 from 9 a.m. until noon each day. Incoming fifth through ninth grade girls are eligible, and cost is $40. Deadline to register is Friday.

For more information, call Coach Patty Grimmett at 573-9416 or 575-1785. If no answer, leave a message.

Tuesday scramble and all-day MGA

The Men's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club holds its weekly scramble at 5:30 p.m. each Tuesday.

Also, an all-day MGA event is held each Thursday.

WGA play day

The Women's Golf Association of Snyder Country Club holds its weekly play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday. Format is low score on even holes.

Athletic physicals

Seventh and ninth grade SISD athletes, and anyone who has never participated in Snyder athletics must take a physical. SISD will pay for the physicals through Aug. 3.

An appointment should be made with one of the following doctors: Raykov, Burleson, Cooper, Thompson, Nussey, Wobolt, or P.A. Beth Ashley.

All SISD athletes must return completed athletic forms to the athletic director's office or Steve Kreuger.

Bucs manager fined

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pirates manager Lloyd McClendon was fined $1,000 by major league baseball for walking off the field with first base during a game last week.

He took the base, tucked it under his left arm and marched to the dugout after being ejected by first base umpire Rick Reed for arguing a call against Jason Kendall.

DeShields agrees to terms with Cubs

DETROIT (AP) — Delino DeShields, waived by the Baltimore Orioles, agreed to contract terms with the Chicago Cubs.

DeShields hit just .197 in 58 games this season after batting .296 with 43 doubles and 84 runs for the Orioles in 2000.

Gilder leads senior event

ADA, Mich. (AP) — Senior PGA Tour rookie Bob Gilder shot a 7-under 65 to take a two-stroke lead after the first round of the Farmers Charity Classic.

Gilder, who won the Verizon Classic in February and finished third at the Senior PGA Championship in late May, birdied the final three holes. Defending champion Larry Nelson, Mike Hill and Jim Dent opened with 67s.

Rhoden tops celebrity tourney

STATELINE, Nev. (AP) — Rick Rhoden, seeking a record sixth title, birdied the final five holes for a 7-under 65 and a four-stroke lead in the Celebrity Golf Classic.

Former hockey player Dan Quinn was second after a 69. Charles Barkley was just glad to get off the course and back to the blackjack tables after shooting a 107.

The only other players to shoot under par were NFL tight end Brian Kinchen and actor Jack Wagner at 70, and former NFL stars Joe Theismann and Dick Anderson at 71.

Jones posts fastest 100-meter time

SAINT-DENIS, France (AP) — Marion Jones ran the fastest women's 100-meter dash of the season, clocking 10.84 seconds at the Paris Grand Prix.

Another Olympic champion, Maurice Greene, easily won the men's 100 in 9.96.

Jones, who won three gold medals and two bronzes at the Sydney Games, trailed slightly at the start before accelerating over the final 50 meters to run her second race under 11 seconds this year.

Greene, who holds the world record of 9.79, took the lead early in his race and crossed the line well ahead of Tim Montgomery.

Valentine takes jab at Yanks' manager

NEW YORK (AP) — New York Mets manager Bobby Valentine sent Florida's Cliff Floyd a letter Friday saying he regretted the controversy caused by not picking the Marlins' outfielder for the All-Star game.

Floyd said he was so certain he had made the team after talking to Valentine by phone on Tuesday that he spent $16,000 on airplane tickets to Seattle for family and friends.

When the team was announced Wednesday, Floyd wasn't on it, setting off an acrimonious "he said" battle, which showed no sign of abating.

Valentine said his letter to Floyd said: "Even if you thought I said you were on the team, it's regretful." He repeatedly maintained that he ended his conversation with Floyd by saying "anything can happen in the next 24 hours."

Valentine also said he would add Floyd to the NL team if an infielder or outfielder got hurt.

"It's a good gesture on his part. I try not to knock anybody. I'm not out to be a butthead," Floyd said after Florida lost to Tampa Bay 5-4 in 11 innings. "No controversy."

And what about making the team as a replacement?

"I hope and pray that nobody gets hurt so that everything goes well. The guys who were selected deserve to be playing," he said. "If chosen, if anything should happen before Tuesday, I would be honored to still go and be represented with the best players of 2001."

Valentine dismissed talk that he deliberately set up Floyd for a fall because Floyd called him a "stupid manager" earlier this season.

"That is like Looney Toons," Valentine said. "That's a cartoon world, that I'm going to set him up so I can look like a fool on one of the bigger weekends of my life?"

Valentine made light of Floyd's ticket dilemma, saying. "There might not be Christmas presents now — spent all the money on tickets."

Said Floyd: "I just wish the truth would come out."

"I swore today on probably everybody in my family that if you misunderstand something, you misunderstand maybe one word — not three or four sentences pertaining to the fact that I'm on the team. It's over," he said.

"The best thing that can happen right now is that I go home and relax for three days and get my thoughts together — forget all the stuff that I've been reading. Forget about all the stuff I've seen on TV and go out and just play ball," he said.

Valentine also launched a thinly veiled attack on New York Yankees manager Joe Torre for not selecting Seattle reliever Jeff Nelson for the AL team. Nelson was angry last year, his final season with the Yankees, when Torre bypassed him.

"Almost everyone believes Nelson didn't get picked for personal reasons," Valentine said. "Floyd doesn't get picked for professional reasons and I get criticized for making it personal."

WNBA Glance

All Times EDT

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	11	5	.688	—
New York	11	5	.688	—
Miami	6	9	.400	4½
Charlotte	6	10	.375	5
Indiana	5	9	.357	5
Washington	5	10	.333	5½
Detroit	4	10	.286	6
Orlando	4	10	.286	6

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	12	2	.857	—
Los Angeles	13	3	.812	—
Sacramento	10	6	.625	3
Portland	9	6	.600	3½
Seattle	8	8	.500	5
Utah	6	8	.429	6
Minnesota	5	9	.357	7
Phoenix	5	10	.333	7½

Friday's Games

Charlotte 67, Detroit 50
Sacramento 75, Orlando 68
New York 70, Minnesota 57
Houston 79, Indiana 64
Utah 73, Cleveland 69
Portland 69, Washington 58

Saturday's Games

Seattle at Charlotte, 6 p.m.
Sacramento at Miami, 7 p.m.
Washington at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Sunday's Games

Cleveland at Houston, 2 p.m.
Detroit at Orlando, 4 p.m.
New York at Indiana, 6 p.m.
Minnesota at Los Angeles, 9:30 p.m.
Utah at Portland, 10 p.m.

Love III fires round of 67 to grab tourney lead

LEMONT, Ill. (AP) — As Davis Love III got ready to leave for the Western Open last Sunday, his 7-year-old son started crying.

A bulging disc has kept the elder Love home more than usual this year, and his son has gotten used to having him around.

"I spoiled him, I guess," Love said.

Bringing home a big, shiny trophy might make the younger Love feel better, and dad is halfway there. Love shot a 5-under-par 67 Friday to take a three-stroke lead after the second round of the Western Open.

He's at 11-under 133 for the tournament, which is sponsored by Advil.

"I'm very happy with the way I'm playing," Love said. "It's fun to not only be hitting it good and scoring well, but then to also have the chip-ins and the fun putts go in."

Brandel Chamblee was second at 8-under, and Scott Hoch (68) and Frank Nobilo (69) were another stroke behind at 137. Phil Mickelson, one shot off the lead after the first round, was seven strokes back after double-bogeying the 18th and finishing with a 2-over 74.

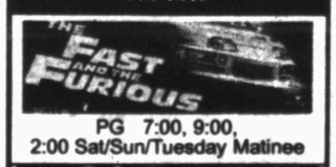
Tiger Woods, who was in danger of missing the cut after finishing the first round tied for 92nd, rebounded with a 4-under 68 and is eight strokes back.

"I don't really think about the cut," Woods said. "I'm trying to get back in the tournament, at least give myself a chance going into the weekend. At least now, I'm somewhat within striking distance going into the weekend."

With the wind swirling in the morning, no one made a good run at the leaderboard. But conditions had calmed by the time Love teed off in the afternoon, and he took advantage.

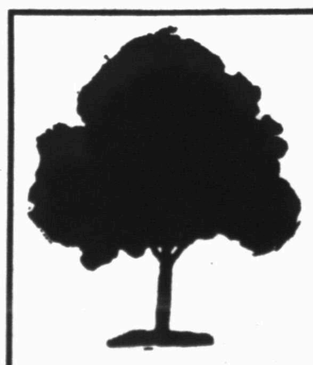
He eagled the par-5 5th when he made a 35-foot downhill putt, and made the turn at 9 under.


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The City of Roscoe is taking bids for a Cemetery Maintenance Contract. The person placing the bid will be responsible for full maintenance of the Roscoe Cemetery. Some responsibilities include, mowing, weed eating, trimming trees, removing dead foliage/trees, picking up trash, removing dead flowers, filling in holes/leveling spaces, painting, repairing broken water lines, and properly displaying the American and Texas Flags. The person awarded the contract will provide all equipment, tools, blades, weed eater string, oil, gas, trailers, transportation, and their maintenance. A copy of the Cemetery duties can be obtained at Roscoe City Hall. Bids must be received by close of business on July 09, 2001. Bids can be hand delivered to 115 Cypress or mailed to Roscoe City Hall, P.O. Box 340, Roscoe, Texas 79545. The City of Roscoe is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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COUNTY OF SCURRY §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of DONNIE LOUISE CHORN, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,685:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the estate of Donnie Louise Chorn, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by RICKY FRITZ, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 5th day of July, 2001, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to: E. H. Dever Jr., 3734 Avondale, Snyder, TX 79549, within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 5th day of July, 2001.

(s)E. H. DEVER, JR.
Independent Executor
of the estate of
Donnie Louise Chorn,
deceased

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The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within 5 days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement. All ads are cash unless customer has an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
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$16.95 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Vehicles

Collector's Car
1986 Pontiac Fiero SE. Gold, V6, auto, 61.5K. Very nice! $5,500 OBO 574-1441

Mother's car, 1996 Olds 88. Loaded, nice car! $4,850 Call 573-4425 or 573-1550.

WANT TO BUY
Good Used Pickup
Call 573-4940

Business Opportunity

AAA Greeting Card Route
49 Super Locations (Local)
$2500 wkly. 800-277-9424 24hrs

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Business Services

Awnings, Drives & Walkways Fences & Welding
575-4774
Call for quote

Dot & James
Lawn care & Handyman
Free Estimates, Sr. Discount
573-4214

Handyman will work on nearly anything. Can fix any small engine. Very mechanically inclined. Call Billy 915-270-5866.

Need furniture moved?
One piece or house full.
573-9420

R & J CONSTRUCTION
Metal buildings, Roofs
Carports & Fences
John Green 573-3976

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

Business Services

Shredding of lots
and small acreage.
Jerry Echols 573-0972

The Carpet Store & More
915-235-8180 Sweetwater, TX
Free Estimates On Flooring
Open Mon. – Sat.

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

Business Services

TILLING–LEVELING
Walk-Behind Tiller, Tractor Tiller, **Front-end Loader**. Small acreage plowed. **573-8264**

ELKCO
WIRE LINE SERVICES
Accepting applications for Rigman/Drivers
- Paid Vacations
- Paid Holidays
- Retirement Plan
- Major Medical & Dental
- Furnished coveralls and safety equipment

Applicants must
- Be 21 years of age
- Clean Driving record
- Pass pre-employment drug screening
- Pass DOT physical examination and certification

Rigman will be on ***24 hr call***, exposed to ***frequent overtime*** with some ***overnight travel involved.***
Call (915) 573-6991 to set up interview

Business Services

WEST PAINTING
Interior, Exterior, Dry wall,
Acoustical ceilings, Wall papering
30 years experience
573-2490/573-4746

WILL HAUL
Clean your garage, attic, old estate or house.
For estimates call Tim **573-3047.**

Student Work

LAWN CARE
College student experienced w/professional landscaping company mowing, edging, weed eating. Call **Seth** 573-0712, 806-787-4958

LAWN CARE
Experienced: Clean-up, Mowing, Edging & Weed Eating.
Call Jay at **573-8648**

LAWN CARE
Mowing, edging, weed eating. Experienced. Reasonable rates! Tate **338-9397**, leave message.

Will mow, till, do any odd jobs. Call Jeff 573-7062.

Employment

Abilene Reporter News carrier wanted. $1,200/month 7 days per week/early morning hours. 1-800-588-4284 ext. 5236

Caprock Home Health is hiring attendants in your area. Please call 1-800-658-9569 and ask for Shelle.

Caterpillar mechanic needed. Contact Greg Smith, 915-573-2398.

City of Roscoe (pop. 1378) Director of Public Works
Duties include supervising all phases of City operations. Applicant must have Class "C" water and wastewater certification or able to obtain within 6 months. Must have 2 yrs college or technical training with 3 years experience in water works or related field and 3 years supervisory experience. Will report to City Council and be responsible for financial control and budget preparation. Must live in City and have commercial driver's license. Salary negotiable dependent on qualifications. Equal Opportunity Employer. Send resume to City Secretary, P.O. Box 340, Roscoe, Texas 79545 no later than 7-9-01, or fax at 915-766-2313.

Evening childcare giver position. Apply in person, Kid's Kampus, 111 37th St. No phone calls please.

Full-charge Bookkeeper
Big Country Electric Cooperative, Roby, Texas, has immediate opening for full-charge bookkeeper. Need extensive knowledge of general ledger, balancing accounts, bank reconciliation, Microsoft Excel, Word & Windows. Send resume to: Finance Manager, P.O. Box 44, Roby, Texas 79543

Full-time customer service rep., full-time teller and part-time teller needed. Send resumes to P.O. Box 949A, Snyder, TX 79550.

Growing Business Needs Help! Work from home.
Mail Order/E-Commerce
$522+/week PT $1000-$4000/week FT
www.BettrLivn.com (800)353-4835

Hair Stylist &
Massage Therapist Wanted
THE CUTTERY
2417 College Ave.
Call today!
Talk To Gina

HOME MAILERS NEEDED
Earn $635 weekly mailing letters. Easy! Limited open positions. Call 1-888-333-7114 Ext 8125 24 Hrs.

L&L Service Station needs part-time clerk weekends and nights. Apply in person at 3812 College.

ALWAYS A WINNER THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

Employment

Nurse with blood drawing experience or Phlebotomist. Apply in person or send resume to 5206 Trinity Blvd., Snyder, TX 79549. 915-573-8594

PART TIME RN'S AND HOME HEALTH AIDES NEEDED IMMEDIATELY!!

Excellent Pay For Part Time Work! Girling Health Care, Inc. needs RN's and Home Health Aides to make Home Health Visits. Please call 1-800-950-0786 for more information. EOE

Part-time Activity Aide needed at Snyder Oaks Care Center. Contact Deanna McClure for information at 573-9377 or apply in person at 210 E. 37th St.

Presser needed at MD Laundry. Apply in person, speak to Margaret.

PRODUCT DEMONSTRATOR
Mature outgoing person for various weekend samplings in local supermarkets. $8 hr. +
1-800-687-3366

RNs Acute Care
Travel Assignments.
Excellent wages & benefits.
Call Today! 1-800-788-0279

Rolling Plains Memorial Hospital Sweetwater, TX
is currently seeking a Registered Nurse for our Obstetrical Department. The position is full time, 7p.m. – 7a.m. We offer excellent salary and benefit package, shift and specialty differentials, and a great work environment. Previous OB experience preferred. Interested candidates should call 235-1701, ext. 222, fax resume to 235-1783 or mail to P.O. Box 690, Sweetwater, TX 79556.
EOE

Sell Avon FT or PT
Start Immediately
Start Fee $10 Earn 40%
573-1271 Ind. Rep

Snyder Oaks Care Center is now hiring LVNs and CNAs on all shifts. Call Ladell or Trisha 573-9377 or apply in person 210 E. 37th.

Wanted: Class A CDL's, Laborers, Dist. Oper. for West Texas area. 401K & ins. EOE Phy & D/S. Call Nancy @ 800-880-4547

For best results, use Snyder Daily News classifieds. They really work! 573-5486

Employment

FULL TIME RN NEEDED
SIGN ON BONUS
EXCITING AND REWARDING POSITION AS PATIENT CARE SUPERVISOR IN YOUR OWN COMMUNITY. LARGE, ESTABLISHED HOME HEALTH AGENCY NEEDS LOCAL RN WITH RECENT EXPERIENCE IN SKILLED CARE WHO HAS GOOD CLINICAL SKILLS AND SUPERVISORY EXPERIENCE. BE AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF YOUR MEDICAL COMMUNITY AS A PART OF OUR WINNING HOME CARE TEAM.
CALL 1-800-437-9383 TODAY
GIRLING HEALTH CARE, INC EOE

****WORK AT HOME!!****
$500–$5000 plus/mo.
1-888-557-5736
www.frommydinningroom.com

Laid off? Work from home. Be your own Bo$$! First, call the Federal Trade Commission to find out how to spot work-at-home schemes.
1-877-FTC-HELP
A message from The Snyder Daily News & the Federal Trade Commission.

Positions Wanted

Housekeeper needing work! General housecleaning, laundry, ironing. Available Mon.–Fri. 8–5 573-5247

Instructions

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course**. **Saturday July 14th, 8a.m.–3p.m., Texas Savings Bank, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.**

MORRIS SHAW SCHOOLS of **Defensive Driving Course**. Mon. & Tue., July 9th & 10th, 6p.m.–9p.m., Texas Savings Bank, 2619 College Ave. For more information call 573-2850. No reservations needed. CO199-CP315.

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

Financial

Bad credit, need money to borrow? No fees involved. Fast easy approval. All applicants welcomed. Call toll free 1-866-325-9259

Advance-Fee Loans or Credit Offers
Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit **before** you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC HELP. A public service message from Snyder Daily News and the Federal Trade Commission.

Woman's Column

MARY KAY COSMETICS
Complimentary Facial or Reorders! Call Geraldine Thames, 915-573-9433, 1812 38th St. Snyder.

Farmer's Column

FOR SALE
Alfalfa hay & Oat hay
CRENWELGE FARMS
Scott
575-5356 (D) 573-5356 (N)
Ted
575-3207 (D) 573-5586 (N)

Square Bales
Coastal Hay
Ross Preston **573-1217**

Recreational Vehicles

1976 motor home. Sleeps 6, generator, self contained. Clean! $3,000 573-2476

Merchandise

(6)-Windsor style dining chairs, $150, OBO. Antique Monmouth cookie jar, $75, valued at $140. 573-2772

Beautiful, Hammond Rhythm II organ. Excellent condition! **Call 573-7418.**

Leer long bed camper shell for sale. Call 574-2051

Merchandise

CAROL'S
1809 25th St.
CRITTER CORNER
BOOK NOOK
BABY...and Before & more!
T-W-TH-F-S 1p.m. – 5p.m.
573-0990

CONVALESCENT NEEDS
Wheel Chairs, Walkers, Canes, Home Blood Pressure Kits, etc.
Sales & Rentals
3706 College **573-7582**

GE 1970's model, gold side by side refrigerator, double oven, cook-top & sink. 574-1606

GUARANTEED USED APPLIANCES
Washers, Dryers, Refrigerators, Ranges & Freezers
WESTERN AUTO 2510 Ave. R

HewlettPackard office equipment: Deskjet 660C color printer and 900 fax machine. Owner's manuals included. **573-2000**

Leidman of San Antonio 15" Crosby roper saddle, custom made w/15" Crosby hardwood rawhide covered tree, new lining 7 stitching, Blevins quick change leathers, Bailey roping cinch, includes new saddle pad, blanket & saddle rack, $300. 574-1922

Mattress set for sale, double extra-long, $100. Also wall lamps, mirrors, hide-a-bed couches – $5 & up. See at Purple Sage Motel.

PALLETS FOR SALE
2 For A $1.00
Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

Boston Terrier puppies. Well marked. Call 573-9747.

FREE PUPPIES
Border Collie/cross, 6 weeks old
Call 573-6029

Jack Russell Terriers, 6 weeks old. Call 573-2101.

To Be Given Away
½ Collie, ½ Cocker Spaniel, black.
338-7496 or 573-0616 after 5p.m.

Garage Sales

MARY'S BARGAIN SHOP
1605 8th St.
All Week Long
8a.m. – 11a.m.
Lots Of Misc.!!!
Bring Small Change

Apartments For Rent

In Hermleigh - 1 bedroom furnished apartment. Very nice. Bills paid. $215/mo. 573-8150, 721-2240

Nice 2 bedroom, furnished or unfurnished. All bills paid. Weekly/Bi-weekly/monthly rates. For more information, 573-5773.

Partially furnished efficiency apartment for rent. Bills paid plus cable. $325/mo., $200/dep. 573-2843

Golden Terrace Village Apartments
1 & 2 Bedrooms
Especially for Senior Citizens age 62 +
Rent Based On Income
To Apply: Please Call
915-573-1416
Locations @:
2006 37th St.
1607 52nd St.
1911 Martha Ann Blvd.

Houses For Rent

2-1-1 house in country. $200/mo. + deposit 573-6041

(2) 3 bedroom, 1 bath houses. References required. Call for information, 573-1640 or 725-8349

3814 Ave. V 2-1, den w/FP, evaporative air. $150/dep., $325/mo. Ready to move into. 573-4473

Everyone reads classifieds!

Houses For Rent

Large 2-1 vintage house. Appliances, freshly painted, garbage paid. $325/mo. plus deposit. References required. 915-573-1047

LEASE
3-1-1, CH/A, fenced, updated, carpet. 573-0712, 725-2531

SDN CLASSIFIEDS CALL 573-5486

Mobile Homes For Rent

DIVORCED. Make up 3 back payments. 3bdrm Double Wide. Call **915-563-9004**

Any time is the right time to use the classified ads. Call today!

JACK & JACK
Realtors
611 Coliseum Dr.
Ford Spikes, Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452

3-1¾-1+1 Det. Great Pens, Barns & Sheds + CRP A's
Ira ISD 5 Acres 3-1¾ Arena, Barn & Shop
3-2-1-2 Car Storage 320 36th Pl. $36.5T
3749 Avondale Neat Yard w/trees Updated 3-1¾
REDUCED 2204 44th 3-1¾+2cp, shop $39.5T
3202 40th 3-1-1 Nice Kitchen & Carpeting $29.5T
Good Floor Plan 3-1¾+2 4006 Jacksboro $54.9T
REDUCED 2800 35th 4-1¾+ ½-2 Covered Patio
Very Nice Mobile Home 2309 O'Neal 3-2 $32.5T
3-2½-2+4+RV Gar., Pool, Hot Tub, 2501 48th
2701 34th Updated-Nice 3-2-2+sunroom $86T
Really Nice Starter 302 36th Pl. 3-1....$32.5T
Nice & Roomy 3-2-2+2 Living Areas $92.5T
ATTRACTIVE! 4-2-2 2211 27th.....$42T
C. City 4+A's Lovely Home 3-2-2.....$60T
CRP Acreage w/3-1¾+2 + Office + Great Shop
1.89 A's w/2-1-2cp Neat country Near Hermleigh $25T
3007 41st 3-1 Nice Storage, Metal Fence $43.9T
160 A's 3-2-cp & shop 5.2 mi. NE of Hermleigh
Bargain Buy 2-1-1 2218 Sunset.....$20T
Eastridge 4104 Nice 2-1-1+ office....$29T
IRA BULLDOG CORNER STORE HWY 350
Starter Home 2-1-1 707 27th St.....$19.5T
Wonderful Game Rm + 4-1¾+4 2208 45th $62T
Good Size Home 2805 Ave. V 3-1¾+1cp $46.5T
Price lowered Country Dream Home 4-1¾+2 plus pool 20 acres, great out building.....$159T
14.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub, Sprinkler System...$85T
3107 40th 3-1-1-1cp.....$11T
Fixer-Upper: 1011 28th.....Call
BARGAIN! 1901 29th 3-1¾+1 1464sq.ft.
Great Starter Home 208 31st 2-1-1 Only $26.5T
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

Elizabeth Potts Realtors
1707 30th Street 573-8505
Temi Matthies
Owner/Broker
Annette Waller
573-9467

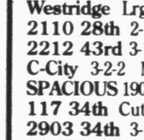

Sarah Jamison
573- 4028


Dee Kemp
573-1152


Rita Knox
573-7082

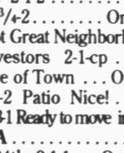
New Listing 4020 Irving 3-1¾+2 $56.5T
2501 48th 3-2½+4 RV parking, Shop, Pool
4014 Irving Great Buy 3-2-2-Fp Only $65T
2312 FM 1611 Log home on 1 acre $115T
Westridge Lrg. 4-3-2 w/Lap Pool $135T
2110 28th 2-1¾+Office Brick...$30T
2212 43rd 3-1 2 living areas, FP $39.9T
C-City 3-2-2 Must See!.....$68T
SPACIOUS 1908 30th 5-2 w/Apart...$48T
117 34th Cute 2-1-2.....$55T
2903 34th 3-1¾+2.....Only $75T
2606 47th Lg lot Great Neighborhood $8T
1600 27th Investors 2-1-cp ... $5.5T
Small 2-1 Edge of Town ... Only $10T
3505 44th 3-2-2 Patio Nice!....$65T
Nice 3406 44th 3-1 Ready to move into $29.8T
320 Acres IRA.....Call
Investors 209 34th 2-1-1... Only $6.5T
3502 Irving 3-1½+1 New carpet, tile $38.9T
1500 FM 1609 3-2-2, pool.....$86.5T
2693 Pleasant Hill Rd 3-2-3 2 A's...$76.9T
Ira Reduced 3-2-2 Needs Work..$25T
Owner says Sell 2708 48th 4-2-2 $88.5T
3305 Irving 4-3-2 w/loft.....$125T
2611 48th 3-2½-2, Brick, Den w/FP Red. $134T
1801 22nd Reduced Comm. 7 offices/yd
Old Lubbock Hwy -Office w/lrg shop $30T
2605 33rd Magnificent Custom Built Home
1804 38th 3-1½-1cp Brick, Nice..$48T
3006 El Paso 3-2¾+2 Beautiful $125T
6 to 22 acres tracts... Owner Finance
2701 34th 3-2-2.....$86T
900 25th, 2309 25th 2703 College Call
2609 36th 4-3-1, brick, FP, Must See $112T
3602 Kerrville 3-2-2 Nice!!.....$55T
Ira 4-2-2 Plus 20 acres.....$159T
Close to Stanfield 2205 42nd 3-1-1..$40T
2302 Sunset 4-2-2 Very Spacious. $48T
New Listing 3308 45th 3-2-2 ... $95T
We Have Rentals Available

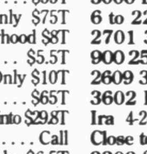
Stevenson Real Estate
573-5612
2405 25th Street
Snyder, Texas

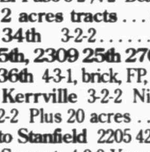

BillyDurham
573-0446

Also Doris Beard 573-8480


Bill Dryden
573-9739


Wenona Evans
573-8165


Lora Lord
573-1700


Kayla Moreland
573-4809

2409 36th Nearly new 4-3-3..$190T
2501 48th 4-3½-4, pool.....$180T
Near Ira 4-2-2 sm. acreage, pool $155T
FM 1611 2 story log home on 1 acre $135T
3006 El Paso 3-3-2 storage $125T
2609 36th 4-3-1, breezeway, cp $112T
2708 48th 4-2-2.....$88.5T
2705 35th 4-3-2+ office.....$87.5T
4505 El Paso Nice 4-2-2....$86.5T
Country West 3-2-2 4 acres..$86.5T
2701 34th 3-2-2.....$86T
2511 30th 3 or 4-2-3.....$85T
2944 Gary Brewer 3-3, liv. + den $76.5T
2301 43rd 3-2, living + den.....$69.5T
3605 Jacksboro 3-2½-2.....$69.5T
2601 28th 3-2-2..Reduced $68.5T
3310 Ave. V 3-2-2.....$62T
2907 Ave. T 2-2 2 living areas $60T
2218 45th 3-2-1cp office, large den w/fireplace, storage area.....$59.5T
3109 Ave. A 4-3-1cp.....$57.5T
3503 Kerrville 3-2-2.....$49.9T
College Ave. Large Office Bldg $48T
3007 41st Updated 3-1, 2 liv. areas $43.9T
1809 KSNY Dr. 3-1 edge of town $42.5T
New Listing 2404 42nd Brick 2-1-2 $40's
206 32nd 4-2 det. garage.....$35T
3717 Avondale Cute 3-1-1.....$35T
S. Hwy 208 Brick 2-1.....$29.9T
New Listing Off Hwy 84 in Hermleigh 3 bedroom, 2 bath.....$29.9T
2106 42nd 3-1-1.....$29.5T
2401 40th 3-2-1-1cp New Lisitng...$29.5T
3725 Rose Circle 2-1-1.....$25.9T
5603 Cedar Creek Lovely 3-3-2 plus office, RV gar., Lots of extras.....Call
Hermleigh 3-2 w/acreage Call for Details
Comm. Bldgs. N, S, W sides downtown
Land, Farms, Acreage listed.
Rentals Available

VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT:
snydertex.com/stevensonrealestate/index.htm

Has Healthcare Stressed You Out?

Come join our relaxed atmosphere. When your career is at D.M. Cogdell Memorial Hospital, you don't have co-workers, you have teammates and partners. People who know the difference, a little thing such as - a hug, a kind word, time to listen - can make, to a patient or a colleague. So join our environment as we grow to include our renovated Radiology Department, Rehab Department, Obstetric Department, Acute Care Unit, Long Term Care Unit and upcoming renovation of the Emergency Department and increased outpatient services.

POSITIONS AVAILABLE AT COGDELL MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Full-time:	RN	Director of Nurses
	RN's	CCU (7P/7A)
		Med/Surg (7P/7A)
		OB (7P/7A)
	LVN's	Med/Surg (7A/7P)
		Price Daniel Unit (11P/7A)
		Price Daniel Unit (3P/11P)
	CNA	Home Health
		Medical/Surgical
Part-time:	LVN	Price Daniel Unit (Various Shifts)
PRN:	RN's	OB (7P/7A)
		ER (7P/7A)
		Med-Surg (7P/7A)
		Home Health (AM)
	LVN's	OB (7P/7A)
		Home Health
		Long Term Care
		Med/Surg (7A/7P)
		Med/Surg (7P/7A)
	CNA's	Long Term Care
		Home Health
		Medical/Surgical

Ancillary Positions:		
Full-time:	Radiology Tech	Radiology
Full-time:	Mammographer	Radiology
PRN:	Respiratory Therapy Tech	Respiratory Therapy
Support Positions:		
Full-time:	Maintenance Worker	Maintenance

CERTIFIED NURSE AIDES: We have openings for Full Time and PRN positions. Certification required; previous experience preferred, but not required.

RN's and LVN's Full Time and PRN positions open. We offer competitive salary, shift differentials and benefits.

EOE Applicants may contact Jo Beth Hardegree, RN, Human Resources Office, Cogdell Memorial Hospital, 1700 Cogdell Blvd., Snyder, Texas 79549, 915-574-7282, by FAX: 915-574-7433 or e-mail: jbhcmh@snydertex.com

WE SAVE YOU MORE! DO THE MATH.
2 BEDROOM MOVE-IN SPECIAL
2 Bdr., 2 bath W/D Connections Pool & Playground
Western Crest & Windridge Village
3901 Ave. O
Snyder, TX
Val Trammell - Apartment Mgr.
We Have Apartments for Hud Housing & Section 8 Qualifiers
Call 573-1488 in Snyder
Quality Living At An Affordable Price

HERITAGE HOMES REALTORS
3405 Snyder Shopping Center Suite B
915-573-5056


Dolores Jones
Broker/Owner
573-5308


Joan Tate
573-8773


Shirley Drum
573-1550


Faye Blackledge
Broker/Owner
573-1223

C-City Lake- Ideal Retreat! 3-2-2, dock & more.....$100's
3007 41st Doll house 3-1, den ..$40's
4603 El Paso Have it all! 3-2-2, F.L. & dining, beautiful pool & landscaping $100's
C-City Lake - Summer Fun!! 3-2-2, boat storage.....$99.5T
308 33rd Cute as a bug! 3-2-1.....$30's
2609 36th 4-3, isolated master $112T
2809 Westridge - Seller wants offer! 3-3-2, basement & more.....RED! $130's
2300 32nd Outstanding Value! Master and parlor on main level, four bedrooms upstairs, formal living & dining, beautiful early 19th century home. $100's
Log Home/Perfectly maintained, reduced 3-2, loft room & basement $100's
3-2-2, den & living - income property plus acreage.....$100's
2808 47th - Pretty 3-2-2 $75T
3765 Sunset 3-1½-1 & office...$25T
2905 Ave. W -Open & Airy- 3-1½ $30's
2510 Towle Park Rd. Great view 3-2-cp-pool .....$90's
2208 45th Walk to Park! 4-2-4 $62T
2202 41st - Real Deal- 3-1, den $30's
In-1905 older home- 3-2, office, 30 A, rentals $100's
Country Getaway 2-2, office, 20+A's $100's
3505 Irving Terms! 3-1-¾,1.....$40's
80 A's/Extra nice home 3-2-2, basement $100's
PRIVATE 3-1¾-cp 160 A's $100's
2403 42nd - Roomy 3-1¾+1.....$55T
2701 34th UPDATED 3-2-2 bonus room.....$86T
4107 Avondale GOOD BUY 3-1-1 $38T
3403 Irving EXTRA ROOM 5,2 $60's
4500 Denison Best Value 3-2-2cp $50's
3609 Irving Walk to school 3-1¾+1....$40's
2315 40th Family Home 4-2-cp $40's
2405 41st Refurbished! 3-3-2 $50's
5402 Cedar Creek Especially Nice 3-2-2 w/hot tub.....$100's
Blockline Rd! 4-2-2, pool, acreage Call
3309 Irving Newer, 3-2-2.....$100's
207 26th Bargain 3-1.....$19.5T
2311 Ave. M .....**ONLY** $9.7T
IRA 3-2 Mobile Home 18 Acres.....$58T
REDUCED 3-2 M.H., game room, shop $48T
IRA Older Brick w/284 A's.....$130T
Martha Ann Blvd. Bldg. site $21T
DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL
plus rental income
10 plus city acres platted, ready for new homes
Two plats @ Roundtop Acres/Improvements

PUBLISHED 0820 01

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

Mobile Homes

12'x50' mobile home, ideal for storage or hunting lease. $800 OBO 573-2251

1st TIME BUYER. No Credit Exclusive land home finance program. EZ qualify by phone **1-800-755-9133**

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Beautiful Doublewide in country. Call Laura 915-665-3544.

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Very Affordable
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$29,900 New 3bdrm, 2 bath, D/W. Delivered only at
A-1 Homes 915-563-9000

Repossessed Double Wides and single wides. 100's to choose from in all price ranges. Financing available 915-725-8478/915-725-8479.

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Mobile Home Lot(s) for Sale

5 city lots for sale. Mobile home ready. $3,500 573-7166

Cemetery Plots

Hillside Memorial Gardens "Everlasting Life Section", Lot 214A–Space 3. Adjoining space 2 available. 806-273-2647

Real Estate

108 Peach $25,000, 3-1, garage, 2 living areas, stove, new metal roof, tile fence. 573-7229/915-692-7155.

4 bedroom, 2 bath, CH/A, built-ins, fence. 206 32nd St. 573-7164

5506 Cedar Creek 3-2½-3 Good buy at $86,900 for a quick sale. Call 806-698-1590.

Brick home, 9.02 acres. 105 East 23rd, 3bdr.-2bth, fireplace, large dining, large den, basement, 2-carport, RV parking, storage building, water well & city water. 573-6629, 573-5885, 573-8273

Real Estate

Country home close to town. 3-2, 5 trailer hook-up, large storage, 3 acres. 573-3019, 915-453-2678.

FOR SALE
Great neighborhood! 4008 Irving 3-1¾-2, CH/A, fenced. $58,000
573-0337

IRA SCHOOL DISTRICT
Brick 4-1¾-2cp w/lrg. 2 bay shop. 2000 sq.ft., CH/A, w/appliances, lrg. front porch, nice shade trees. Will sell with 1–20 acres. 721-1889/915-728-8460

Large Austin stone, 3-2. 3106 Hill Ave. Will take smaller house in trade. 573-2649 before 5p.m.

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2800 sq.ft. home, 3-2-1, Living rm./Dining rm., Kitchen, Utility, Basement, Swimming pool. Plus 80 acres w/pens & roping arena. For more info.–call 915-686-0060, 573-6701 after 6p.m., or 915-638-6773.

Repossessed house for sale in Ira. 3-2 on 1.5 acres. Down payment as low as $800. Call Chad at 1-800-944-1559 between 8a.m.–11a.m., and 3p.m.–6p.m.

This 4 Bedroom, 2 Bath home located at 2434 Sunset has 1,616 square feet and a lot of potential. Special financing is available with approved credit. See John Shirley at West Texas State Bank or call 573-5441, Ext. 238 or 214.

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Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

CARD OF THANKS

THANK YOU

The family of Randy Dollins wishes to thank the Community of Snyder for the tribute you paid to him. Your prayers sustained us.

To the many friends who came to his side to visit. The many calls you made to him. He said one day, "I love seeing everybody that walks through that door". Sometimes he laughed and sometimes he cried but he always loved.

Thank each of you for the beautiful memorial of flowers, donations and cards you so generously sent.

To Dr. Burleson - Thank you for being his doctor and for your kindness to our family.

To Bill Harris - Thank you for your gentle hands and the knowledge you had to stop his unbearable pain. We shall always be grateful to you.

We thank God for giving us nine months to be close to him. To gather around him as a family. To love and laugh and have fun.

To our church - For feeding our families. To our neighbors for the food you brought to our home.

To Cogdell Memorial Hospital - We thank everyone. He could not have received better care anywhere else.

To all of the precious nurses that waited on him - we love you. You cared so much and we appreciate you all.

To our minister Dale Huff - Thank you for a wonderful and comforting service. Randy would have been pleased.

Our sincere heartfelt thanks to the people of Snyder and surrounding communities.

Belinda Dollins
Kevin & Jennifer Dollins Kerry & Linda Dollins
Don & Marie Dollins Louis & Lisa Midwell
Louis Lee Midwell Amanda Midwell
Daryl & Sharon Meador Chris Meador
Stephanie Ruiz

Snyder Daily News Classified Ads Get Results Call 573-5486

Other hospitals eying artificial heart surgery

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP) — While the world's first recipient of a self-contained artificial heart recovers, other hospitals are poised to perform similar operations.

"We are very much interested in getting the next one done," said Dr. Jaime Moriguchi, of UCLA Medical Center, one of a handful of hospitals approved to transplant the Abiocor artificial heart into a patient.

The Food and Drug Administration has given approval for five of the experimental surgeries to be performed. Hospitals in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Louisville, Boston and Houston are prepared to do them.

Moriguchi, who screens possible candidates for the surgery, said in a telephone interview from Los Angeles that his staff is awaiting approval from Abiomed Inc., the manufacturer of the device, to begin a clinical trial.

"We would like to do it as soon as possible, but we have hit a few snags administratively," Moriguchi said, adding doctors will perform one more surgery on a pig before the device is implanted in a human.

Drs. Laman A. Gray Jr. and Robert D. Dowling, University of Louisville surgeons, implanted the wireless, self-contained artificial heart into a terminally ill man Monday as part of an experiment to test the effectiveness of the device.

The man, who is described only as a diabetic in his mid- to late- 50s with a history of heart attacks, was on a ventilator but awake on Friday, said Jewish Hospital spokeswoman Linda McGinity Jackson.

His condition has been stable all week and doctors remain guardedly optimistic that the experimental device will sustain him for at least 60 days.

"The doctors are pleased with the progress thus far," McGinity Jackson said.

Surgeons at Hahnemann University Hospital in Philadelphia could begin the procedure within 48 hours of finding a candidate, but staff members are watching the progress of the man in Louisville, said Dr. Louis E. Samuels, who is participating on the transplant team.

"We're sort of holding ourselves to wait and see how the patient and the process goes in Louisville," Samuels said. "We haven't come close to getting a patient who would qualify."

Candidates for the surgery must be more than 18 years old, have an 80 percent chance of dying within 30 days and be ineligible for a human heart transplant. Thousands of Americans die every year from heart failure, including more than 2,000 last year who were on waiting lists for donor hearts.

Experts said it will take years before the device used here becomes widely available — and only if it proves itself in long-term use among several dozen experimental patients.

Moriguchi said several patients have been asked about the surgery, but none have formally agreed.

Dr. O.H. Frazier, chief of cardiopulmonary transplant at the Texas Heart Institute in Houston, which is also approved to test the device, could not be reached for comment Friday.

In Boston, doctors at Brigham & Women's and Massachusetts General are also prepared to test the device.

Jewish Hospital doctors said there are no immediate plans to perform a second surgery. But the hospital continues to evaluate prospective candidates.

"We don't have anything imminent," Dowling said.

On the Net:

Abiomed: http://www.abiomed.com

FDA: http://www.fda.gov

Jewish Hospital Artificial Heart Project: http://www.heart-pioneers.com

American Heart Association: http://www.americanheart.org

Air rage making sky less friendly

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brawls in the sky and other acts of air rage are getting worse, according to flight attendants, who accuse airlines and government agencies of endangering air travelers by failing to combat the problem.

In its second annual air rage report card, the Association of Flight Attendants gave failing grades Friday to airlines, the Justice Department and the Federal Aviation Administration.

"U.S. airlines have failed to promote cabin safety over their profits," Patricia Friend, the union's president, said at a news conference. Five years ago, she said, airline crews "didn't have to worry about going to work and getting beat up."

Friend said airlines fail to train crews properly to deal with air rage, which can include passenger misconduct ranging from making too much noise to breaking into cockpits and attacking airline crews.

"It is a problem, but we don't think it's a huge epidemic that is out of control," said Diana Cronin, a spokeswoman for the Air Transport Association, which represents major U.S. air carriers. She said the association estimates 3,000 to 4,000 incidents occur each year in which passengers are rude or obnoxious but break no laws.

Cronin cited FAA figures identifying 314 incidents of misbehaving passengers last year that resulted in arrests or other official reports to the agency.

The flight attendants said that number does not represent the true scope of the problem and criticized the FAA for not forcing airlines to report all incidents of air rage.

FAA spokesman Les Dorr wouldn't comment on the union's charges but said existing rules allow the agency to fine "unruly" passengers up to $25,000.

The flight attendants also said the Justice Department has not sufficiently informed local law enforcement officers that they have federal authority to arrest abusive passengers.

Department spokesman Chris Watney said local officers have been deputized as federal marshals when there has been a need at specific airports.

Lynn White, a United Airlines flight attendant, said that in April she was struck in the face by a passenger, one of identical twin sisters who were arrested and charged with causing such a disruption that the flight from San Francisco to Shanghai, China, had to be diverted to Anchorage, Alaska.

Prosecutors said Cynthia and Crystal Mikula, aged 22 at the time, drank too much and fought with each other and the flight crew. The case is pending, and if convicted the sisters face up to 20 years in prison.

Democrats continue push for patients' rights approval

WASHINGTON (AP) — Rep. John Dingell disputed the Bush administration's claim that patients' rights legislation will be a boon to lawyers who want to get rich by filing lawsuits.

Republicans' claims are "a gross and deliberate misrepresentation," Dingell, D-Mich., said in the Democrats' weekly radio address Saturday.

"Trial lawyers will not benefit from our bill. Patients will," he said.

The Senate-passed version of the bill backed by Democrats promises new health care protections for millions of Americans and offers them the ability to sue their health maintenance organizations.

President Bush said he will veto a bill that includes the liability provisions of the Senate version. House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., is promising a GOP plan that is "much more balanced."

The Democratic bill sets no limits in federal court suits for losses of wages, pain and suffering and has a $5 million cap on punitive damages.

Dingell drew a comparison between the Senate bill and patients' rights legislation enacted in Texas in 1997, saying it resulted in the filing of only 17 lawsuits.

"Lawyers in Texas aren't getting rich by filing lawsuits against negligent HMOs, but patients are getting better treatment," said Dingell.

Democrats believe patients should have the right to sue insurers in state as well as federal courts.

Deputy faces sex charge

GEORGETOWN (AP) — A Williamson County Sheriff's Office corrections officer has been charged with having improper sexual activity with a person in custody while working at an off-duty job.

Bruce Simon, 41, surrendered to authorities Friday after a warrant was issued for his arrest on the state jail felony. He is accused of improper conduct with a female inmate.

Simon, a corrections officer at the Williamson County Jail since 1998, also worked as a civilian contract employee for Aramark Correctional Food Services, a company that provides food to the jail.

The sheriff's office said the incident occurred in mid-June while he was on his off-duty job, overseeing inmates in the kitchen.

On Monday, he was suspended with pay pending the outcome of the investigation.

A disciplinary review board will convene Monday to consider an administrative penalty in which he could be fired.

LEGAL NOTICE



SNYDER POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION
July 6, 2001

NOTICE

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

(1) Locadio Luera, 27 years of age, male, 611 34th Street Snyder, Texas 79549, convicted of "Sexual Assault". Victim was a female child 15 years old.

NOTIFICATION

El siguiente persona se a registrado con el Departamento de Policia de Snyder, y fue convicto de una offensa sexual.

(1) Locadio Luera, Un hombre, 27 anos de edad, 611 34th Street, Snyder, Texas 79549, convicto de "Asalto Sexual". La victima era nina, quince anos de edad.

(s) Stephen W. Warren
Chief of Police

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Unemployment rate climbs

WASHINGTON (AP) — The nation's unemployment rate climbed to 4.5 percent as the economy shed 114,000 more jobs in June, capping the biggest three-month job decline since the last recession a decade ago.

The 0.1 percentage point increase returned the jobless rate to the same level as in April. The jobless rate had temporarily dipped to 4.4 percent in May.

The Labor Department report Friday showed that the job losses in June were centered in manufacturing, which suffered its 11th straight month of job cuts as factory workers continued to bear the brunt of the yearlong economic slowdown.

Employment was also weak last month in the service sector, where most Americans are employed, adding just 5,000 jobs, the poorest showing in 10 months.

The Bush administration, which took office emphasizing the economy's weakness in an effort to build support for President Bush's tax cut, insisted Friday that the economy will rebound in coming months, helped by the tax cut Congress has passed and lower interest rates from the Federal Reserve.

"The stable economy is poised to take off after tax rebate checks begin to arrive at the homes of American taxpayers this summer and fall," said Labor Secretary Elaine Chao.

But many private economists were not as optimistic. They said that the rise in the unemployment rate, which had fallen to a three-decade low of 3.9 percent last October, could raise fears among Americans about their own job prospects.

If these concerns became widespread, they could trigger a cutback in consumer spending, the major force that has kept the economy out of a recession so far.

"We continue to see labor markets deteriorating," said Richard Berner, chief economist at Morgan Stanley in New York. He blamed much of the job loss on companies fighting a profit squeeze by laying off workers.

Berner said he believes the country will endure a small recession, with economic output contracting in the just-completed second quarter and the third quarter of this year. By one definition, a recession reflects two consecutive quarterly declines in the gross domestic output.

Reno makes defense on radio talk show

MIAMI (AP) — In South Florida, ground zero for people who believe Elian Gonzalez should not have been returned to Cuba, Janet Reno doesn't shy away from defending her decision.

The former attorney general who authorized the boy's seizure has been hitting the radio talk shows, saying she wants to openly discuss the issue and help her hometown move on.

The media tour lets her "work through the issues in a thoughtful way," she said. But it also has another purpose: It gives her a sounding board as she considers a run for Florida governor.

"I want to make sure that I look at the issue and see: Can I be more effective on the inside or the outside?" she said.

"I have considered every day what I did," Reno said. "And no matter what you think of what I did, you've got to understand that it was for one reason. To be vilified for returning a little boy to his father is not a pleasant circumstance."

Disc jockey Gino Latino, who thought Reno was wrong to allow Elian's father to take him back to Cuba, offered her a parting gift: a container of milk.

"You see, from 7 years of age in Cuba, children can't drink milk," he said on the air. "When you drink it today maybe you'll think of Elian and you'll consider what you've done."

Milk is hard to come by in Cuba and has been rationed for young children. Reno said she had to reject the offer because it wasn't skim milk.

"She gets to hear the good, the bad and the ugly," said Florida Democratic chairman Bob Poe, a former radio producer.

Reno, a former Miami prosecutor, has spoken on Coral Gables' WQBA, a Cuban-American talk station. She gave interviews on three stations Thursday and appeared on cable TV's MSNBC.

South Florida could be an important constituency in the race, and Elian's case is ingrained in its consciousness.

The boy, then 5, survived a November 1999 ship sinking in which his mother was killed as she attempted to reach the United States. Relatives in Miami fought a seven-month custody battle to keep him, but courts sided with his father. Reno authorized federal agents to seize Elian from the relatives' home, and his father is now raising him in Cuba.

Reno is repeatedly asked about her decision, and her speaking engagements frequently draw protests.

"Elian is imprisoned in Cuba ... how can you say you have no regrets?" one caller asked Thursday.

Reno's friends say she is not hiding from criticism. She has no aides to schedule her appointments and typically drives to speeches in her red pickup truck.

Reno tells her audiences that whether she runs for governor or not, she wants more money for early childhood development, smaller class sizes and better-paid teachers, retraining for workers and respite care for the elderly.

"She wants folks to know that she's not writing off any voters or anyone with concerns with Florida," said Hugh Westbrook, CEO of a Miami-based health care corporation and a longtime supporter. "She isn't afraid to meet with any group or any constituency."

Anti-Navy protests is nearing anarchy

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Anti-Navy protests have brought near-anarchy to Vieques island, a U.S. federal judge said in sentencing Robert F. Kennedy Jr. and others to 30 days in jail for breaking into a bombing range to stop military exercises.

The sentence, handed down Friday, will probably prevent Kennedy from witnessing the birth of his sixth child, who is due next week, his supporters said.

Kennedy is the latest of several well-known protesters to serve time in a growing movement to stop six decades of Naval bombardments on a prized bombing range on the outlying Puerto Rican island.

The Rev. Al Sharpton is still serving a 90-day sentence. Jacqueline Jackson, wife of the Rev. Jesse Jackson, spent 10 days in jail last month for protesting on Vieques.

The U.S. Navy strenuously denies that its exercises hurt the 9,300 islanders' health and environment, and says local studies showing a higher incidence of cancer and other ills are biased and unscientific.

The range, Navy officials say, provides training that is vital to saving lives in combat.

"I believe that every nation has a right to ask its citizens to sacrifice their lives for their nation during times of war," Kennedy told the court, noting that he comes from a naval family that has often answered that call.

"But we do not have the right to force involuntarily civilians — men, women and children — to sacrifice their lives and their health for a dubious military exercise that everybody, including the president, now agrees is unnecessary."

Theft investigation results in drug arrest at local truck stop

• ***Arrests***

Officers were called to Rip Griffin's at 7:45 a.m. Friday in reference to a possible break-in of a truck.

During the investigation, drugs were found and officers arrested Darryl Glenn Ellison, 35, of Lubbock for felony possession of a controlled substance and misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.

DPS troopers arrested a 21-year-old female at 2:47 p.m. Friday in the 3100 block of Avenue B on outstanding DPS warrants. The original charge was for not wearing a seat belt.

At 8:30 p.m. Friday, DPS troopers arrested a 37-year-old man on Highway 84 near the Plaza Restaurant for not having a valid driver's license.

Following a report of an accident at 10:49 p.m. Friday on Round Top Road, DPS troopers located the driver who left the scene and took him into custody for driving while intoxicated. He was arrested in the 100 block of 20th Place.

At 12:26 a.m. Saturday, DPS troopers arrested a 39-year-old male north of Snyder on U.S. 84 for driving while intoxicated and unauthorized use of a radar detector.

• ***Thefts***

Officers are investigating a burglary of a residence that was reported at 4:19 p.m. Friday at 417 20th Street, and pipe that was reported missing from Snyder Iron and Metal Friday morning.

• ***Runaway***

An offense report for a runaway was made at 12:20 a.m. Saturday in reference to a male juvenile and a female juvenile running away from home.

• ***Vicious dogs***

Deputies were called to the area of Huffman and Avenue L Friday morning as a person reported dogs had killed some calves in the area.

Obituaries

Tomas Gutierrez

1968-2001

Tomas P. Gutierrez Jr. of Snyder died Wednesday, July 4, in Lubbock's University Medical Center after being hit by a train at 17th Street and Ave L. earlier in the day.

Mass for Mr. Gutierrez, 32, is set for 2 p.m. Sunday at Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. The Rev. Leo Moras will officiate. Burial will follow in Snyder Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.



Mr. Gutierrez

Rosary will be held at 8 p.m. Saturday at the funeral home.

Born Nov. 10, 1968 in Snyder, Mr. Gutierrez was an oilfield worker and a member of Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church. He married Roberta Thurman in 1987 in Snyder.

Survivors include his wife, Roberta Gutierrez of Snyder; his parents, Tomas and Yolanda Gutierrez of Snyder; a son, Zerick Gutierrez of Snyder; two sisters, Sandra Molinar and Toni Gutierrez, both of Snyder; and three brothers, Roy Gutierrez, Timothy Gutierrez and Benjiman Gutierrez, all of Snyder.

Kenneth Ashley

1935-2001

Kenneth Ashley of Kingsland, a former Snyder resident, died Thursday, July 5, in Lubbock's Covenant Medical Center following a lengthy illness.

Graveside service for Mr. Ashley, 66, is set 10 a.m. Monday in the Snyder Cemetery. The Rev. Dan Dale, pastor of Seminole's South Side Baptist Church, will officiate. Arrangements are under the direction of Wright Colonial Funeral Home.



Mr. Ashley

Born on April 21, 1935 in Horatio, Ark., Mr. Ashley married Mary June McGinty on July 15, 1953 in Snyder. An U.S. Army veteran, he was a retired plant operator for Phillips Petroleum in Seminole.

Preceding him in death are his parents, Reed and Verna Ashley; and a brother, Maurice Ashley.

Survivors include his wife, June Ashley of Kingsland; three sons, Darrell Ashley and his wife, Nancy, of Andrews and David Ashley and his fiancee, Debbie Todd, of Seminole and Jerry Ashley of Brownwood; a daughter, Kenita Ashley of Seminole; four sisters, Midge Clement of Abilene, Reeda Thomas of Snyder, Brenda Bridges of Baytown and Debra Valentine of Sandusky, Ohio; two brothers, Tommy Ashley of Burnet and Charles Ashley of Tahlequah, Okla.; eight grandchildren, Ty Gage of Hays, Kan., Cassie Jannamon of Odessa, Nikki Ashley of Seminole, Larry Fletcher of Andrews, Becky Terry and Ann Llorante, both of Big Spring, Russell Fletcher of Lampasas and Kim Whitt of Taylor; 23 great-grandchildren; and two great-great-grandchildren.

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FOR INFORMATION GO TO WWW.AMERICANMEMORIALS.COM

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Spanish computer classes

The Continuing Education Department of Western Texas College is offering a three-week introduction to computer course in Spanish in July and August. The cost is $40. Call 573-8511, ext. 390, for more information.

Summer Bible Club

The Summer Bible Club, sponsored by the Northside Baptist Church, will be held from 10-11 a.m. beginning Monday and continuing until Friday at the Western Crest Apartment's club room. It will be held from 2-3 p.m. at the church's fellowship hall at 1909 16th St. through the week also. The club is for ages 6-16. Call 573-7105 for more information.

United Way meeting

United Way directors will meet at noon Monday at the Girl Scout Hut, 2501 35th Street. A Dutch treat lunch will be provided.

Masonic Lodge

Scurry Masonic Lodge will have a chapter and council meeting at 7:30 p.m. Monday.

Bible study tapes

Bible study videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "The Battle with Temptation," followed by "Getting to Know God's Presence."

White Elephant Sale

Snyder Lions Club will conduct its annual White Elephant Sale at noon Tuesday. Members must bring a gift or be fined.

GED testing

GED testing will be held Tuesday at Western Texas College. For more information, call Molly Kattes at 573-2919 or Emily Hataway at 574-2112.

Alzheimer's information meeting

There will be a meeting at 6 p.m. Tuesday for Alzheimer's families or any other interested persons at Snyder Oaks Care Center. Call Kinney Robinson at 573-9377 for more information.

Revival, seminar

First Church of the Nazarene, S. Hwy 208, will hold a revival and seminar next weekend starting at 7 p.m. Friday. Saturday's sessions are 9 a.m. until noon and again at 7 p.m. Sunday services are 10:45 a.m. and 6 p.m. Dr. Steve Harbin of Nashville, Tenn, will be the featured speaker.

Children's Saturday fun time/VBS

Children's Saturday fun time has joined the Vacation Bible School at Avenue D Baptist Church, 324 30th St.. Sessions are planned from 9 a.m. until noon on Saturday during July. The VBS is for those who have completed kindergarten through the sixth grade. This year's them is "Truth Trackers." For more information, call 573-6878 or 573-0971.

Southern gospel concert

The Toney Brothers will be at First Baptist Church in Hermleigh at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17, for a two hour show. There is no admission charge, but a love offering will be received.

Class of 1966 reunion

The SHS class of 1966 will hold a reunion July 27-28. Anyone with classmates' addresses is asked to write to Janeen Patterson at Box 208, Snyder.

Class of 1976 reunion

The SHS class of 1976 will hold its reunion July 28 at Jack Greene's pasture. For information, call Lorinda Hardin at 573-2700 or Sherry Thompson at 338-0026. The website is classmates.com.

Senior water aerobics

Senior water aerobics at the WTC pool will be from 11 a.m. until noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. For more information, call Bobbie Taylor at 573-7144 or the Senior Center at 573-4035.

WTC swimming pool

The WTC swimming pool is open for public use. Lap swimming: M-TH 6:30-8 a.m. Open swimming: M-TH 2-5 p.m. Cost is $3 per person or $50 for a semester pass. The pool is also available for parties on Fridays and Saturdays. For more information, contact Mike Harrison at 573-8511, ext. 279.

Free lunch program

The free lunch program at Central Elementary continues through July 27. Meals will be served on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from noon until 1 p.m. All children who qualify for free lunches at school may eat. An adult accompanying a child will also be served. For more information, call 573-6915.

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients is available every day free of charge to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland. For more information, call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakely Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

2 Marines killed in mishap

BANGOR, Wash. (AP) — An armored vehicle carrying Marines rolled over at Bangor Naval Submarine Base, killing two people and injuring three others, base officials said.

The five were in a V150 armored troop carrier on a routine security patrol when the vehicle rolled over while making a turn, base spokesman Paul Taylor said.

He said the vehicle rolled on top of two Marines, killing them. Three others in the vehicle received minor injuries.

The V150 resembles a tank but has tall rubber tires rather than tracks. It is used by the military and some civilian police units as an armored assault vehicle.

Taylor said drivers commonly operate the V150 with their head or part of their upper body outside, but he did not know where the victims were in relation to the vehicle. Naval Criminal Investigative Service is investigating.

The names of the victims were not released, pending notification of relatives.

About 450 Marines are stationed at Bangor, which serves as a base for Trident nuclear submarines. Taylor said Marines provide security for the Bangor Strategic Weapons Facility, the most secure area of the base, which is on the Kitsap Peninsula 15 miles west of Seattle.

JUL 08 2001

U.S. to reject $1 million spy plane invoice

WASHINGTON (AP) — The United States has no intention of paying a $1 million bill China has submitted for the three months a Navy reconnaissance plane spent on Chinese soil, a State Department official said Friday.

The plane made an emergency landing on the Chinese island of Hainan on April 1 after colliding with a Chinese military aircraft. It was disassembled and returned to U.S. custody this week.

A State Department official, asking not to be identified, said the expenses were exaggerated.

This came a day after Rear Adm. Craig Quigley, a Pentagon spokesman, said the administration was prepared to reimburse China for reasonable costs.

The costs were related mostly to support provided by the Chinese government and local businesses while a Lockheed Martin recovery crew was on Hainan.

The disassembled plane was flown to Dobbins Air Reserve Base on Thursday.

Zhang Yuan Yuan, the spokesman at the Chinese Embassy, said he had no idea where the $1 million figure came from. He said the two sides will hold talks to decide on an appropriate compensation figure.

In response, a senior State Department official said the figure was based on a fax sent by Chinese officials to the U.S. embassy in Beijing. The fax was several pages and contained an itemized list of the charges, he said.

The downing of the plane caused acrimony between the two countries initially but both have seemed eager in recent days for a more productive relationship.

Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage noted Friday that China has been more accommodating lately partly because it is interested in successful trips to China by Secretary of State Colin Powell later this month and by President Bush in October.

Referring to Bush's planned visit to Shanghai to attend an Asia-Pacific summit, Armitage told reporters that the Chinese "don't want to do anything to disrupt the atmosphere."

As an example of Chinese cooperation, he noted that Beijing has moved closer to the administration's position on a new system of "smart sanctions" for Iraq that would allow greater flow of civilian goods while tightening up military-related imports and smuggling.

Earlier, China had been aligning itself with Russia's opposition to the administration plan.

The Washington Post reported Friday that China softened its position after the United States dropped its objections to more than $80 million in frozen Chinese business deals with Iraq.

"I don't think the Chinese are swayed by $80 million," Armitage said, suggesting that China has higher priorities on its agenda.

In New York, China's U.N. Ambassador Wang Yingfan was asked about the newspaper's report.

"I don't think that that's a kind of trading off like that," he said. "We have our principles, and we have discussed with U.S., and on the basic items we finally agreed. Certainly, I think they have tried to meet with our concern about this."

Armitage said the State Department was mistaken when it reported Thursday that trials had begun in China for an American citizen and a U.S. permanent resident on charges they spied for Taiwan.

The American citizen is Li Shaomin, who was formally charged in May. He is a business professor at City University of Hong Kong who was taken into custody on Feb. 25 after walking across the border into China to visit a friend.

The permanent U.S. resident is Gao Zhan, an American University professor who was detained on Feb. 11.

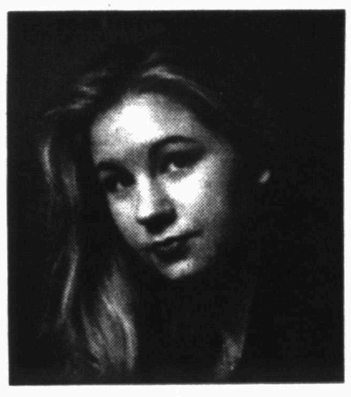
State Department spokesman Richard Boucher attributed the mistake to a mistranslation of what a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

He said Li's trial will begin on July 14. He had no information on when Gao will be tried.

There has been official speculation that the trials will produce early convictions followed by deportations.

Armitage said the detentions of Li and Gao along with a number of other U.S. passport holders appear to be hurting China internationally.

He said the administration is hopeful that China wants to resolve these cases "quickly and favorably."



Haley Elkins

Elkins gets second Who's Who nod

Haley Elkins, Snyder High School student, will receive *Who's Who Among American High School Students* recognition for the second year in a row.

Only one-half of one percent of all high school students are recognized for consecutive years.

Elkins is the daughter of Mike and Phyllis Elkins of Snyder. Her grandparents are Burman Elkins of Midland and the late Christine Elkins and Lou and Doc Glover of Rockport.

All kittens are returned

LANCASTER (AP) — All six kittens being sought by authorities in Lancaster for rabies testing have now been found, police said Friday.

The kittens were given away at the Super Wal-Mart parking lot in Lancaster on Monday. The family who gave the kittens away kept one that was sick, and that kitten tested positive for rabies on Wednesday.

As of Friday afternoon, one of the six kittens had tested negative for rabies. The rest should be tested by Monday.

Rabies can be transmitted by bites or when saliva from an infected animal enters a person's body. A series of extensive post-exposure shots can prevent rabies from developing. But once symptoms develop, the disease is usually fatal.

New York mayor target diplomats

NEW YORK (AP) — Four years ago, Mayor Rudolph Giuliani caused an international incident when he threatened to suspend the driving privileges of foreign diplomats who didn't pay their parking tickets.

He backed down after the United Nations intervened. But this week, with just six months left in his term, the mayor was back at it with a new policy intended to force diplomats with overdue parking tickets to pay up or lose their vehicles.

This time, the city is targeting only diplomats representing foreign consulates rather than those who work for missions attached to the United Nations, Giuliani said. Consular officials have a lower degree of diplomatic immunity than their counterparts at foreign missions.

Barring any last-minute diplomacy, officials who owe more than $230 in outstanding citations since July 1999 will have their vehicles seized, towed, and if they still don't pay, sold.

That this is the same procedure the city uses with the vehicles of drunken drivers doesn't sit well with the State Department or the thousands of foreign diplomats who work in the city's 289 missions and consulates.

Many are quietly seething and wondering what will happen next.

State Department officials say that if the city goes through with its plan to seize and auction the cars, U.S. diplomats could face retribution abroad. They also caution that Giuliani's policy could violate the Vienna Convention, which guarantees "full faculties" to foreign consulates.

"We have expressed our concerns to the city of New York ... and have offered to meet with the city to discuss these concerns and develop a mutually beneficial program," State Department spokesman Andy Laine said.

Giuliani, a former U.S. attorney, says the law applies to everyone and unpaid tickets end up shorting city taxpayers.

Of the $21.3 million the city says is owed in unpaid parking tickets, Egypt leads the list with $1.63 million from 15,924 tickets accumulated between 1997 and

Depressed woman is given probation

LAGUNA NIGUEL, Calif. (AP) — A woman accused of trying to drown her twin babies pleaded guilty to child endangerment Friday and was given probation by a judge who called it a case of postpartum depression.

Paula Thompson, 46, entered the plea under a deal that will keep her out of prison.

Superior Court Judge Pamela Iles placed the woman on probation for five years. She said Thompson would be allowed supervised visits with the twins and her third child, a 3-year-old boy.

"This is not a child abuse case. This is a postpartum depression case," the judge told Thompson. "We want to walk you through this nightmare you've been through."

Thompson appeared composed in court. In her purse was a magazine carrying the headline "I Killed My Children," a reference to Andrea Yates, a Houston mother charged with drowning her five children last month. Yates' husband said she was suffering from postpartum depression.

"I pray for her every night. I know how she felt," Thompson said. "It's an illness."

Thompson was arrested Dec. 12 after her mother-in-law found her in a bathroom with the twins, who were wet, fully clothed and crying. The twins, a boy and a girl, were 4 months old at the time.

Authorities said Thompson told sheriff's deputies she wanted to kill the children. She was sent to the University of California, Los Angeles, Neuropsychiatric Institute and Hospital for evaluation.

Thompson was also ordered to perform 160 hours of community service, submit to psychiatric care and notify the court if she changes her physician.

"I would like nothing more than to get in my car, drive home and see my children," Thompson said outside court.

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1998 Chevy S10 Reg. Cab .....NOW $10,500
Tan, Automatic, A/C, Custom Wheels, 28K Miles, #A6681

1999 Chevy 1500 ExCab .....NOW $16,900
Silverado, One Owner, White & Pewter, 59K Miles, #C2731A

1998 Chevy S10 Reg. Cab .....NOW $8,000
Automatic, Great Transportation, #C2724

2000 Chevy Blazer .....NOW $18,500
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Snyder's first woman mayor reflects on post

Being active is Francene Noah's number one hobby. She also has the tendency to get excited about anything she does and that includes being Snyder's mayor.

Though voter turnout was light, she was elected by a wide margin on May 5, the first woman to hold the office of mayor in Snyder.

Mayor Noah attended her first official city council meeting a few weeks ago. Asked how it went, she said she felt comfortable, adding that there were no "major surprises."

Deciding to run for mayor wasn't an unusual decision for the local woman, who said she has always "been interested in politics and has always had the desire to get into the political arena."

She noted that she always enjoyed committee work and has always believed that both the male and female perspectives should be represented in any group or committee.

As for her political persuasion, she said she is an Independent with a Republican philosophy."

"I love a challenge. I guess I ran for office because I always think I can fix anything. I don't always fix everything the way I would like for it to be fixed, but I'm willing to give it a try. I'm willing to listen and learn."

Noah ran a low-key campaign from the third week in February until the election. Encouraged by many women and a few men, she said she told the public that she was "willing to serve" but had no "agenda or axe to grind." She pledged "to work for what's good for Snyder." She had even considered adopting "Tiger Pride/Snyder Pride" as her motto.

She hopes she can be a positive ambassador for Snyder and help make the city inviting for industry and to people who are retiring. She said Snyder is also a great place to rear children.

As for long-range goals, Noah said she hopes "everyone can work together and make Snyder 'sparkle' again. She noted that the city's facilities, landfill and police and fire departments are all outstanding.

"We are so blessed because our facilities are second to none," she said. "I would like for Snyder to maintain that excellence."

She also hopes the city will be able to "bring the pay scale for city employees into balance." In a recent comparison study of Snyder and 10 cities with similar population and economic backgrounds, Mayor Noah said that Snyder is "weaker in some areas and stronger in others."

Before being elected mayor, she taught in Scurry County Schools for 30 years, including fourth and fifth grades and resource. She retired in 1992.

During her teaching career, she was also active in the Texas Classroom Teachers Association (TCTA), serving several terms as the local president.

She also served two terms as the District 14 director and one term as a state executive officer. Through her TCTA work, Noah said that's where she learned that "compromise is part of politics."

Noah became involved in TCTA because the organization is committed to "making things better for teachers and the classroom environment." During her tenure, the local chapter worked toward three primary goals: to improve salary benefits, establish a more versatile dress code, and implement the career ladder to benefit all teachers who qualified.

At the state level, she noted that TCTA helped secure a pay raise for teachers, the largest in history at the time; a smaller student-teacher ratio in the classroom; guaranteed five days from the state for personal sick leave; improve the benefits for retirees, including health insurance; and worked to improve school finance formulas.

Noah received her bachelor in education degree from Texas Tech University and her master of education from Hardin-Simmons University.

She moved to Snyder in 1954. She arrived months after her first husband, Matt Allen, did because during the oil boom there were few places to stay. He moved to Snyder in 1953, an employee of Halliburton's.

Their first home was in the Waymar Apartments, now called the Coleman Apartments.

He died in 1987. She married Stanley Noah in 1990. He died in 1999. Noah had served on the city council and he encouraged Francene to become involved in public service.

"I appreciate the confidence the voters had in electing a woman mayor. It's a compliment and a challenge. I will strive to fulfill that role as best I can," she said.

She has two children and four grandchildren. A son, Dr. Larry Allen and his wife, Lori, live in Shreveport, La. A daughter, LeaAnn, and her husband, Ronnie Shields, live in Snyder. She works for Kinder-Morgan and he works for Patterson Energy.

Three of her grandchildren attend college and one is just entering high school.

Scurry County Folks

By Shirley A. Gorman

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS



NEW MAYOR — In May, Snyder elected its first woman mayor. Francene Noah is a retired teacher who taught 30 years at Snyder schools. (SDN Staff Photo By Shirley A. Gorman)

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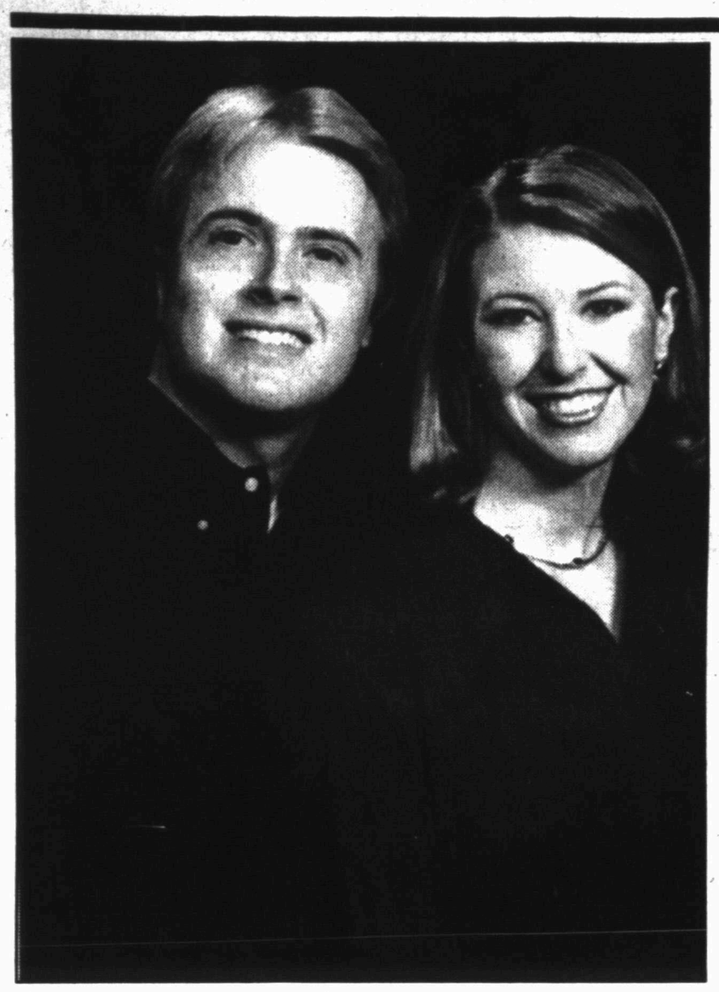
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ENGAGED — Grandson of Sam and Kathy Stephens of Snyder, Matthew Charles Genuchi, is engaged to Meredith Mays Sharp, daughter of Randy and Stacy Sharp of Amarillo. Matthew is the son of David and Anne Creswell of Amarillo and Larry and Pat Genuchi of Brownsville. A 7 p.m. wedding ceremony is set for Aug. 11 in Amarillo's First Baptist Church. (Contributed Photo)

SC Library New & Views

Scurry County Library staff reminds parents that the library will continue to have Storytime for 4- and-year-olds at 10 a.m. on Mondays. Storytime is a year-round program.

On Wednesday, the awards presentation for the Summer Reading Program will be held and drawings will be held for special prizes, given by local businesses.

NEW NON-FICTION

"Boys and Girls Learn Differently!" a guide for teachers and parents, by Michael Gurian.

"Fingerprints," the origins of crime detection and the murder that launched forensic science, by Colin Beavan.

"Weber's Big Book of Grilling," by Jamie Purviance.

"The American Dream," stories from the heart of our nation," by Dan Rather.

NEW FICTION

"A Purple Thread for Sky," a novel of intertwined lives, by Carol Bruneau.

"Whatever Doesn't Kill You," an Emma Howe and Billie August mystery, by Gillian Roberts.

"Gunman's Rhapsody," by Robert B. Parker.

"Bitterroot," by James Lee Burke.

LIBRARY HOURS

10 a.m. to 6 p.m.: Mon., Wed. & Fri.

10 a.m. to 9 p.m.: Tues. & Thurs.

10 a.m. to 5 p.m.: Sat.

Bridal Registry

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LATRISHA LEE AND CARL SPAIN
SARAH LILLY AND CHRIS POST
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AMBER RICH AND CODY STEWART
CHRISTINA GONZALES AND TRACY CHAVEZ
JENNIFER JONES AND JOHN SMITH
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FRANCES BAVOUSETT AND LUCUS BURRIS
KELLI LACIK AND JIM GRIFFIN
KRISTI SORRELLS AND BRAD CLYBURN
REBECCA CLARK AND MATTHEW CAVE
MARIA GUZMAN AND SEAN DUNCAN
ANALISA ENRIQUEZ AND JAIME JUAREZ
MELANIE BOWIE AND LEONARD TOVAR
KASEY NEILL AND BRAD REEDY
SHEA HENDERSON AND BRIAN SPENCE
APRIL SANDERS AND JEREMY HOUSE
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Mayor abandons desk for pigeon

PORTLAND, Maine (AP) — A pigeon that made its home under the mayor's desk at City Hall has laid two tiny eggs — and unseated the city's leader.

"People are always accusing me of hatching something," said Mayor Cheryl A. Leeman, who has abandoned her desk for the moment to avoid spooking the bird.

The pigeon, one of many that clutter City Hall's granite sills and make a mess of the building's giant clock tower, entered the mayor's office last weekend through an open window.

The bird flew away when custodian Orrin Bimpson showed up Monday to clean the second-floor office. Bimpson spotted a nest of twigs with a single white egg beneath the mayor's desk. He informed Leeman, who asked that the office window be kept open to let the pigeon return to the nest.

On Tuesday, Bimpson discovered the pigeon was back, and a second egg was in the nest.

"No one knows quite what to do," Bimpson said. "I've been told just to leave her alone."

Many New Gift Items Just Arrived From Market

COME SEE!

McWilliams Pharmacy
3706 College Avenue 573-7582

Arma Watlington was honored with luncheon on 98th birthday

Arma Watlington of Snyder was honored on her 98th birthday with a family luncheon at the home of her son and daughter-in-law, Bob and Marida Watlington.

Born on June 19, 1903 near Pagosa Springs, Colo., to Ira and Etta Brasuell, she was born in a log cabin near where her father worked in a logging camp. The family moved back to Eastland County when she was 11. They lived there until her late teens, then the family moved to Mitchell County.

She married Onnie Watlington in 1922. They had three sons, one is deceased. Her husband died in 1966 and she continued to live on the family farm until 1997 when health problems necessitated her moving the Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Also attending the celebration were her other son and daughter-in-law, Raymond and Joan Watlington; two of her sisters, Maxine Shelley and her husband, Hugh, of College Station, and Jo Buchanan of Graham; and a niece, Judy Wallin of Houston.

In reflecting over her many years of life, Arma's deep faith in God and her ability to "live one day at a time" have carried her through many hardships and losses. She has been a faithful member of the Church of Christ since her early teens and attends the 37th Street Church of Christ regularly with her son and daughter-in-law.

Community Calendar

MONDAY

Rock and Roll Quilting Club; Hermleigh Community Center; everyone is invited for free quilting lessons, and special projects are to help someone in need; call 863-2426 for more information; 8 a.m. to noon.

Al-Anon Brown Bag Open Meeting, Snyder Park Club in Winston Park; noon.

Weight Watchers meeting; Trinity United Methodist Church; for more information call Nathalie at 573-1868 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5 p.m.

Defensive Driving Course, Monday and Tuesday 6 to 9 p.m.; Texas Savings Bank, 27th and College Ave. No reservations necessary, for more information call 573-2850.

Scurry County Museum's hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Manic Depression (Bipolar) support group; Family Life Community Church, 904 26th Street; 7 p.m.

American Legion Layne Kite Post 181 and Auxiliary; 7:30 p.m.

Scurry County AA; closed meeting; Park Club; for more information, call 573-9458, 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; 8 p.m.

TUESDAY

Snyder Shrine Club; call 863-2702 for meeting place; 6 p.m.

Overeaters Anonymous, Park Club in Winston Park, 37th & Ave. M; for more information call 574-1254, 573-8322 or 573-3733; 6:30 p.m.

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

AA Beginner's Meeting-Open; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 7 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-4048,; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-4203, 573-8626, 573-2101 or 573-0695; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5 to 6 p.m.; 2501 35th. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

Storytime at the Scurry County Library for 4- and 5-year-olds; 10 a.m.

Spiritual Solutions for Living Problems Book Study; Snyder Park Club; 6 p.m.

Just For Today NA, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-8018; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

LLL Club; fellowship hall of First Baptist Church; 9:30 a.m.

Al-Anon brown bag; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-2101 or 573-0695; noon to 1 p.m.

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

Rock and Roll Quilting Club evening meeting; Hermleigh Community Center; for more information call 863-2426; 6:30 p.m.

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; American Legion; 6:30 to 8 p.m.

Canyon Gun Club; 1910-25th; 7:30 p.m.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-4048; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8626; 8 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club in Winston Park; for information call 573-9458; 8 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club; 8 p.m.

SATURDAY

Defensive Driving Course; no reservations necessary, cost is $30; for more information, call 573-2850; 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Just For Today NA open meeting; Park Club; for information call 573-0949 or 573-8018; 7 p.m.

SUNDAY

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

Student carves statue

CHADRON, Neb. (AP) — Dawes County Courthouse employees loved the new sculpture of the Blind Lady of Justice outside the building. But it took them a while to identify the artist.

An old tree outside the courthouse was taken down and Lady Justice was carved into the stump, said Deputy Clerk Cheryl Feist.

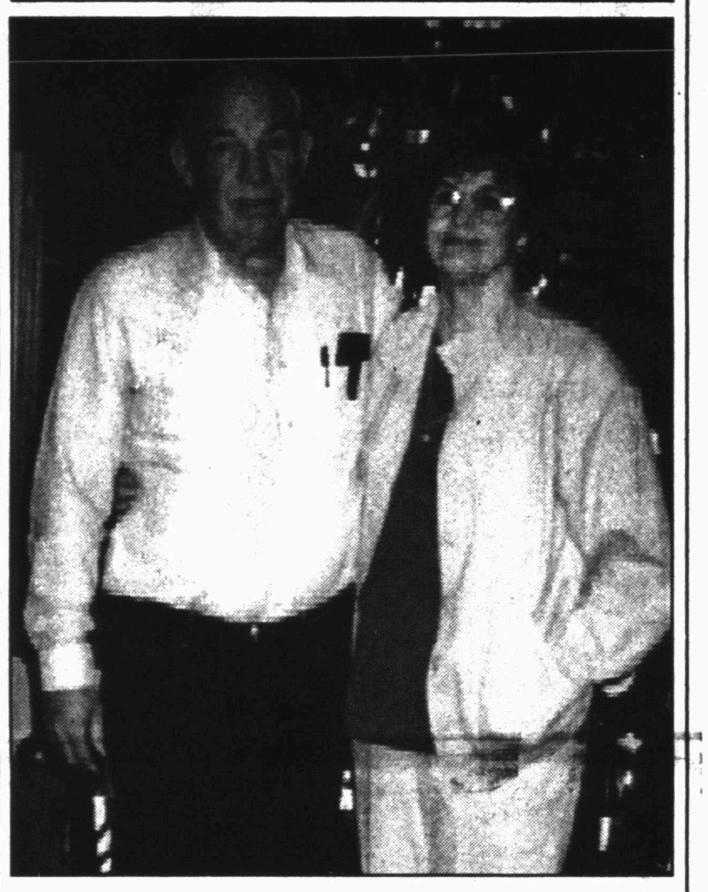
"Whoever did this did a really good job. They put a finish over it, too," Feist said.

The staff loved the work, but wondered who was responsible. So they ran a thank-you letter in the Chadron Record last week.

Mystery solved.

Chadron State College student Christine Osterman called to confess that she used a chain saw to create Lady Justice.





Ted and Fretta Billingsley
(Contributed Photos)

Billingsleys will celebrate 50th wedding anniversary on July 14 at Lake LBJ

Ted and Fretta Billingsley will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on July 14. They married July 14, 1951 at the Methodist Church in Sweetwater.

Fretta Harmon was born in Abilene and reared in Colorado City. She worked for the late Dr. David Hensley, was personnel manager at Northern Electric, and was manager of the Green Stamp Store.

Ted was born at Dunn as was his father, the late Hack Billingsley. His son Rickey Don and his grandson Kraig were born while the family was living on the family farm settled by his late grandfather, J.P. Billingsley. His youngest son, Kim and his family reside there now.

Ted farmed and was Scurry County Commissioner of Precinct 4 from 1979 to 1991.

The Billingsleys have four children and 10 grandchildren.

—Rickey Don and Brenda Billingsley of Snyder and their children, Kraig Allen Billingsley of Snyder and Karrie Anne Kratzer of Seattle, Wash.

—Randy Hugh and Judy Billingsley of Midland and their children, Rachel Lynn Calley of Midland, Jason Hugh Billingsley of Texas Tech in Lubbock.

—Kim Ted and Donna Billingsley of Dunn and their children, Zachery Kim, Kaden Zane and Kyler Zant Billingsley.

—Janeann and John Berta of Lubbock and their children, Jacy Ann Berta. And Johathon Andrew Berta.

Honoring their parents, the children have planned a three-day celebration at Lake LBJ.

Purse snatcher catches ride with trooper

DUNEDIN, Fla. (AP) — A teen snatched the purse of a 79-year-old nun wearing her habit, and then flagged down a car to hitch a ride, police said.

Unlucky for him, an ex-trooper stopped to give him a lift.

The 17-year-old has been charged with petty theft following Friday's purse-snatching.

The juvenile asked retired New York State trooper John Coyne for a ride to a motel. Coyne had seen deputies pull up to the shopping center where he stopped for the youth and became suspicious.

The 56-year-old retired trooper took the teen-ager to the motel, then went back to the scene and told deputies.

"It's just one of those cop things," said Pinellas County Sheriff's spokesman Cal Dennie. "This guy wanted to get out of the area fast."

Dennie said the nun was not injured. Deputies recovered the purse, but not the money inside.

"Anybody that steals from a nun needs to be caught," Dennie said. "It was a blessed ending."

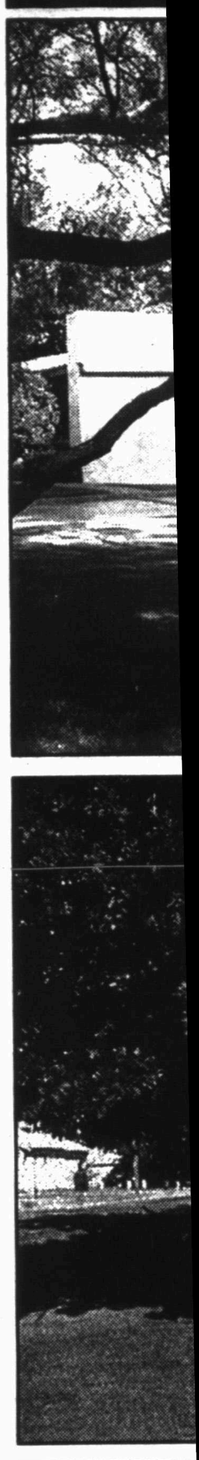
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The basic monetary unit of Swaziland is the lilangeni, and its chief fractional unit is the cent.

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Mr. Willis is likely to associate with other attorneys in the handing of this matter

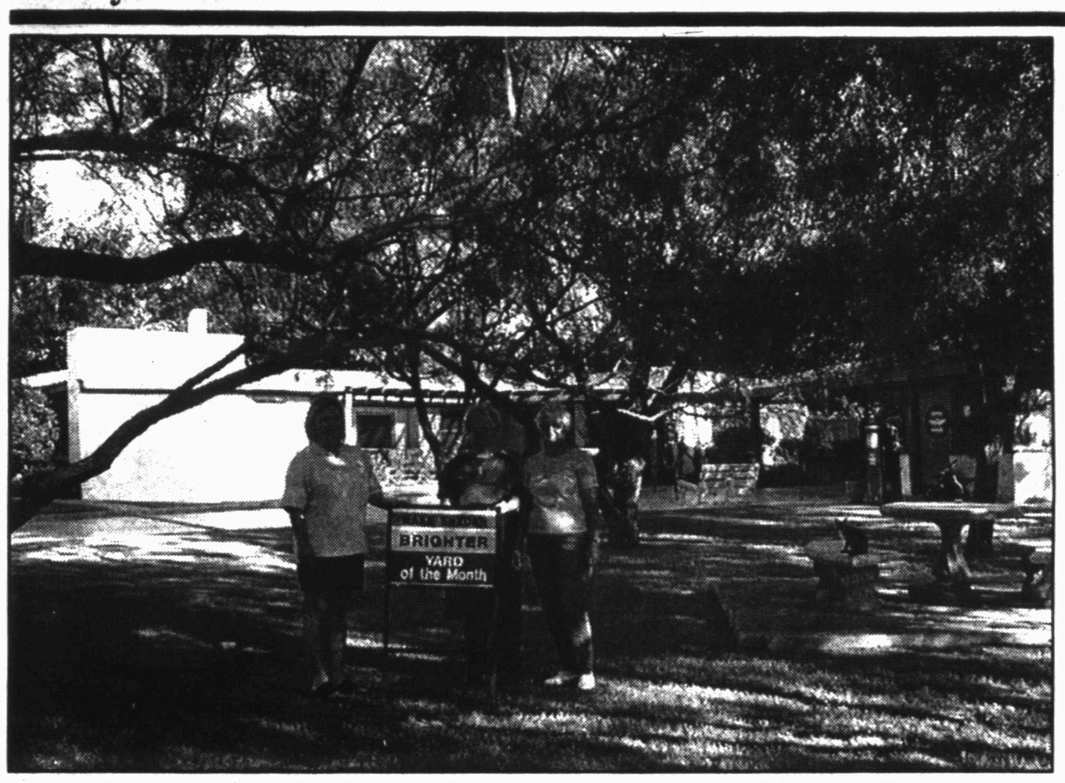


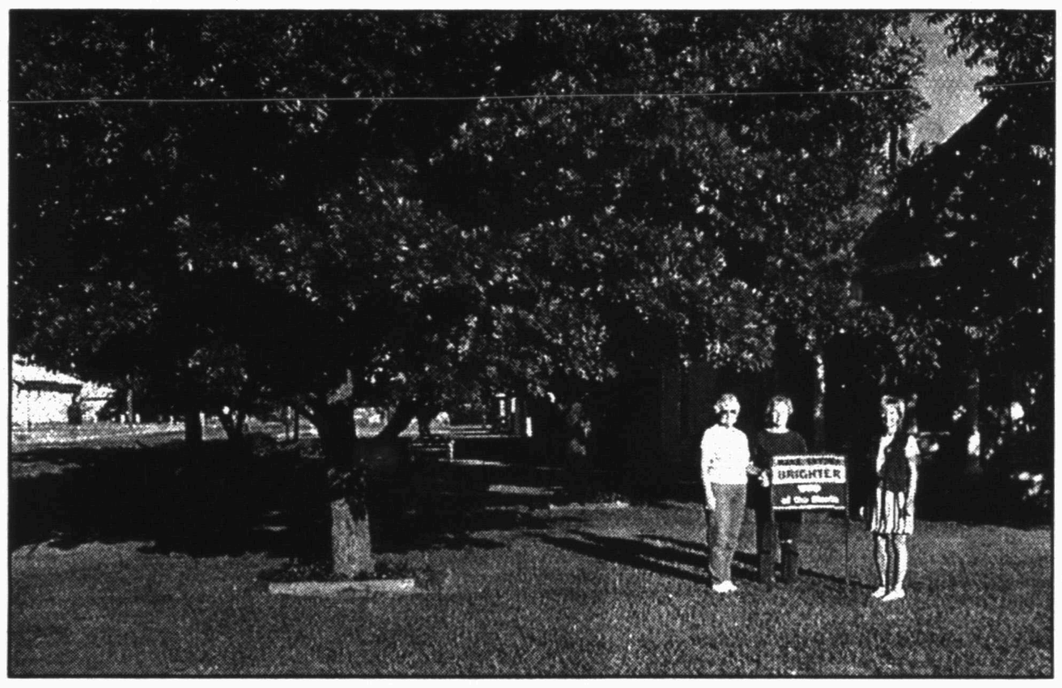


OUTSTANDING — Snyder Gar chosen three yards to honor month for July Albert and Darla 37th (top photo Joan Bunch, (middle photo); of the month Cypert-Seale F (bottom photo). Sears and Bebe tured with Darl Bunch, and Do Jack Cypert. (S Jo Ann Nunley)

Bridge

Bridge was pla der Country Club Friday, June 29 Jane Hinton di A group
1. Mary Bas Dever.
2. Louise Tho Yorgesen.
3. ElWanda Presswood.
B group
1. ElWanda Presswood.
2. Dora Blake son.
3. Pat Floyd, M Sunday, July Monte West di
1. Jane Hinton sen.
2. Linda West,
3. Margaret B Stuart.
Tuesday, July No games prio







OUTSTANDING CITY YARDS — Snyder Garden Club has chosen three outstanding yards to honor as yard of the month for July — the home of Albert and Darla Delora, 2503 37th (top photo); Travis and Joan Bunch, 2711 Ave W (middle photo); and business of the month went to Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home (bottom photo). Judges Anna Sears and Bebe Boren are pictured with Darla Delora, Joan Bunch, and Don Farmer and Jack Cypert. (Staff Photos by Jo Ann Nunley)

Bridge Scores

Bridge was played at the Snyder Country Club.

Friday, June 29

Jane Hinton directed.

A group

1. Mary Bast, Johnye Van Dever.
2. Louise Thompson, Barbara Yorgesen.
3. ElWanda Nall, Margaret Presswood.

B group

1. ElWanda Nall, Margaret Presswood.
2. Dora Blakey, Nona Morrison.
3. Pat Floyd, Margaret Dillaha.

Sunday, July 1

Monte West directed.

1. Jane Hinton, Barbara Yorgesen.
2. Linda West, Monte West.
3. Margaret Birdwell, Billisue Stuart.

Tuesday, July 3

No games prior to holiday.



WEDDING SHOWER — A wedding shower was held Saturday at the East Side Church of Christ for Rebecca Clark, bride-elect of Matthew Cave. They plan to marry on July 28 at the Westmont Christian Church in Lubbock. Pictured from left are Lois Cave, mother of the prospective groom; Eilene Cave, his grandmother, the honored couple; Faye Hodge, the future bride's grandmother; and Jane Clark, her mother. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North 07-05-01 ♠ K Q 7 6 ♥ K Q 5 ♦ A 7 2 ♣ Q 5 3	
West ♠ 10 2 ♥ 10 9 8 ♦ J 9 5 4 ♣ J 9 8 4		East ♠ J 9 8 4 ♥ 7 6 4 3 ♦ 10 8 ♣ 10 7 6
	South ♠ A 5 3 ♥ A J 2 ♦ K Q 6 3 ♣ A K 2	

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	4 ♣	Pass
4 NT	Pass	5 ♣	Pass
5 ♠	Pass	7 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♥ 10

To the English from America

Many players are afraid to try duplicate in a bridge club. Part of that problem is the lack of sympathy from more experienced opponents, who never seem to remember that they were beginners once. Back in 1986, Americans Kitty and Henry Bethe (she is now Kitty Cooper) were living in England and had the idea for No Fear duplicates. Everyone would be new to this form of the game, and only a very simple bidding system would be permitted. They were quickly successful. There was one No Fear event in '86, seven in '87, and more than 70 in '88.

One unnamed No Fear declarer played cleverly in this deal from 1988. How would you have tried to make seven no-trump after West leads the heart 10?

North used two doses of Gerber, learning his partner had three aces and two kings, before plunging into seven no-trump.

South had 12 winners, three in each suit. If either spades or diamonds were splitting 3-3, that suit would supply the 13th trick. And perhaps one opponent would have four spades and four diamonds, making him a squeeze victim — but that might be too advanced for a No Fear competitor.

Would an opponent throw a spade from four? No fear! So, after winning the first trick, South cashed three spades. Unlucky — West released a heart. Now, though, declarer took her remaining heart tricks. West had to discard from one of those minors. With nothing to go on, he selected a diamond, so the grand slam made.

If you are nervous about playing in your local club's regular game, suggest a No Fear event.

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A baby's length increases about 50 percent in its first year. During that time, its weight usually triples.

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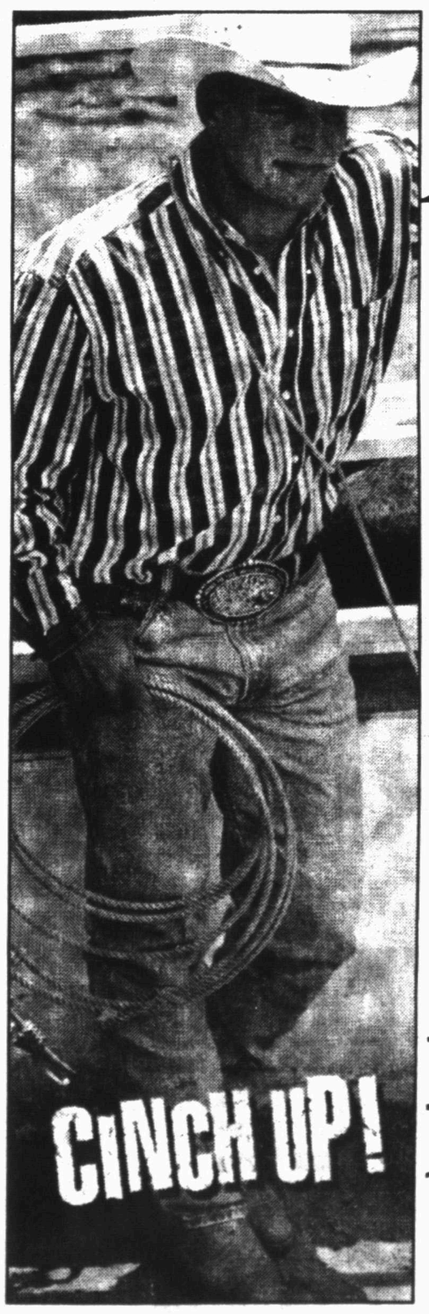
Bridal Registry
Michelle Lewallen & Steve Wiseman
Audra Oliver & Justin Herrington
Lori Tate & Larry Comunale
Jamee Goolsby & Michael Moreno
Amber Rich & Cody Stewart
Amanda Huff & Greg Berglund
Alicia Kubena & Shane Guldbransen
Frances Bavousett & Lucus Burris
Becky Clark & Matthew Cave
Maria Guzman & Sean Duncan
Kristi Sorrells & Brad Clyburn
Darcee Purcell & Lonnie Jones
Vanessa Williams & Banyan Winkler
Darcee Purcell & Lonnie Jones
Michelle Levens & Jon Herring
April Sanders & Jeremy House
Shea Henderson & Brian Spence
Kelly Beck & Neil Jouett
Shana Parkerson & Shannon Robbins
Amber Harbin & Daniel Guynes
Amanda Compton & Bryan Sparks
Veronica Williams & Tommy Harris
Kelli Lacik & Jim Griffin
Tessa Hildebrand & Page Patterson
Amy Harless & Kyle Vickers
Melanie Bowie & Leonard Tovar

Infant Registry
Kyle & Stacy Haley
Jeff & Susie Pierce

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JUL 08 2001

Navy, Marine Corps to train in various sites

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Navy is sizing up sites from Nevada to North Carolina for places to send warplanes bombing and strafing, Marines storming the beaches and ships firing live bombardments ashore.

The idea is to stitch together a patchwork of training areas to replace a joint Navy-Marine combat range on the Puerto Rican island of Vieques if the military is ordered out as expected.

Each possible site seems to have its own limitations. One is too boggy, another too busy. A third has too many people close by; a fourth raises concerns about fire dangers.

Most all of them don't want live bombs falling in their back yards.

Pentagon officials say no satisfactory solution has been found to the almost certain loss of the range on the hilly, 18-mile-long island southeast of Puerto Rico.

"There have been numerous attempts made to try to find an alternative training site, and so far, we've been unable to do that," Rep. Bob Stump, R-Ariz., said on Capitol Hill after the administration announced the military would quit bombing on Vieques by May 2003.

Rep. James Hansen, R-Utah, worried that few other nations will continue to accept U.S. military training if Americans won't. "What do we tell them?" he asked. "We won't bomb on ours, but we'll bomb on yours?"

Navy Secretary Gordon England has defended the decision to look beyond Vieques. He says alternatives must be found in case the Navy loses a previously scheduled Nov. 6 referendum in which the island's 9,500 residents will vote on whether the Navy should remain or leave in 2003.

England asked Congress to cancel the referendum, which the former Clinton administration negotiated with officials of the U.S. commonwealth. But lawmakers who want training to continue on Vieques are determined that the vote will be held as scheduled.

At a recent Pentagon briefing, England said a combination of sites are used to train Marines and Navy units on the West Coast. On the East Coast last year, some Navy ships were forced to piece together training when Vieques was closed by protests.

That forced warplanes from the carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower to conduct bombing runs at the Pinecastle range south of Jacksonville, Fla., and at Eglin Air Force Base in the Florida panhandle. Later, live-fire ship-to-shore gunnery practice was done at Cape Wrath in Scotland.

Without Vieques, the Navy and Marine Corps would be forced to use a hodgepodge of existing ranges and would find it quite difficult to build new ones in an age of military economizing and ecological sensitivities.

In 1999, the Navy and Marine Corps looked at training ranges in a variety of locations in the United States. Officials in several locations cited environmental considerations to keep out the military: critical wetlands, endangered species, noise problems for nearby residents.

None of the sites offered aircraft carrier battle groups and Marine amphibious units conditions for conducting varied training functions at the same time. Such practice is considered essential before ships sail into potential combat situations in the Mediterranean Sea or Persian Gulf areas.

The Navy considers Vieques the only place along the East Coast where gunners can practice "live-fire" targeting. With little interference from commercial air traffic, military pilots can practice high-altitude bombing runs similar to what would be necessary for places such as Iraq.

Waters around Vieques allow for all sorts of ship maneuvers. Its beaches are used for practicing amphibious landings as well anti-mining procedures. Special ranges provide practice for "electronic warfare," the jamming of radars and intercepting communications.

Also, it has a full-service naval base and naval air station close by in Puerto Rico. The combination has provided an arena for the armed forces to mount the nearest thing possible to a full-scale combat action in peacetime.

Protesters on Vieques say years of live-fire bombing have destroyed their health and their island's environment. The Navy stopped using live bombs months after two stray ones killed a civilian security guard on the range in 1999 and masses of islanders protested continued exercises. Since then, protesters have taken to invading Navy land to prevent planes from dropping inert bombs of up to 1,000 pounds.

Despite the problems associated with combat training, some areas are amenable to attracting the military — and jobs that would come with it — to their regions.

Rep. Solomon Ortiz, D-Texas, told England at a recent House Armed Services Committee hearing that some in his Gulf of Mexico district are eager to host a new Navy range along a secluded area in Kenedy County, Padre Island.

He admitted, however, that others strongly oppose it. For instance, the Kenedy County commissioners voted unanimously to oppose the idea.

On the Net: Navy's Vieques Web site: http://www.navyvieques.navy.mil/

Texas electric-deregulation hits snags

FORT WORTH (AP) — The Texas experiment in electric deregulation continues to suffer glitches that have twice delayed the program, but the director of the state's power grid says the problems can be solved.

"There are no deal-stoppers in the situation at this point," said Tom Noel. "Behind every problem solved there is another problem to be solved. That is why we have these testing periods."

Under deregulation, many Texas electric customers will be free to choose their power company beginning Jan. 1. The Legislature approved a limited pilot program to run several months to give power companies a chance to test their systems before deregulation.

That trial was supposed to begin in June, then was delayed until early July and now the earliest date customers will be switched is July 20, according to the Electric Reliability Council of Texas, known as ERCOT, which manages the state's main power grid.

Electric companies are disappointed in the delay but say they support taking more time to make sure the system works.

"We're all in this together," said Rand LaVonn, a spokesman for Dallas-based TXU Corp. "We support ERCOT's decision. They are in the best position to know when we can move forward economically and reliably."

Noel, ERCOT's chief executive and president, said about 10 glitches remain before customers can be switched to new electricity providers. If all goes well, residential and business customers who signed up for the pilot program will get their first bills from their new power company in September.

ERCOT manages computers that coordinate movement of electricity in 10 areas of the state. Noel said that one of his group's challenges has been getting computers in separate control areas to communicate with a new, central facility in Austin.

"I don't want to suggest that it is fixed entirely," Noel told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram. "We're dealing with a manual workaround on a process that we had hoped would be automatic."

Technicians are also experiencing problems related to security: Noel said they had not expected certain passwords in the computer system to be case-sensitive.

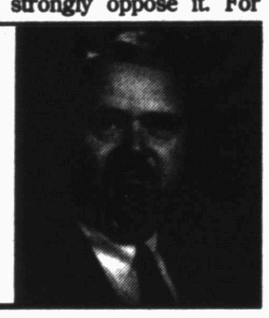
Consumer advocate Carol Biedrzycki, who sits on a panel helping oversee the deregulation experiment, said some systems might not be tested at all during the pilot program. She said the electric-reliability council should consider delaying full-blown deregulation beyond Jan. 1.

"We don't know what's going to happen, or if we will even be ready to open in January 2002. That's a big concern of mine," said Biedrzycki, who heads the Texas Ratepayers Organization to Save Money.

Noel said the errors met by technicians would not cause power outages but could lead to billing errors. He said he was confident all the glitches will be corrected in time for the new July 20 start-up date for the pilot program and the Jan. 1 start of full deregulation.

Minding Your Own Business

By Don Taylor



Confessions of Shameless Self Promoters: A New Book

A few months ago a respected colleague of mine invited me to participate in a new book project. The book would be titled, *Confessions of Shameless Self Promoters.*

At first I thought a book by this title would be a wild idea. However, since this colleague was Debbie Allen, a successful business owner and widely known professional speaker and author, I decided to take the bait and ask to hear the rest of the story.

Debbie's concept was to invite 60 or so successful people from around the world to write their thoughts on shameless self-promotion. The result would be a collection of marketing concepts, best ideas and success strategies of well-known authors, speakers and entrepreneurs.

Upon reflection, I decided that maybe the concept wasn't so wild after all. In fact, I liked the idea. However, when she suggested I was a shameless self-promoter, I was just a little offended. I thought, "What would a nice guy like me be doing in a book like that?"

Then after more thought, I changed my mind. As I considered the lives and careers of people I respect and admire, I realized they all had a common thread. They have confidence in their skills and abilities, and they have become more successful by sharing their strengths with others consistently, subtly and professionally. They are self promoters.

Then I considered my own career. Conceiving and co-authoring the business bestseller, Up Against the Wal-Marts gave me both confidence and a national platform for promotion. Because that promotion was done professionally and ethically, I'm not ashamed of it. I guess that makes me a shameless self-promoter.

Since four years and a little battle with cancer occurred since I last worked on a book, I decided to become a part of this one. The result is some of the best secrets and strategies of 67 genuine marketing pros...and me. My segment is titled, "Ten Power Principles of Shameless Self Promotion." You'll find it in the first chapter.

The entire book makes me think of the Chicken Soup series. It's a fun, easy read with many personal stories and even a few cartoons. It's a business and career-building book you can enjoy reading.

However, because it's an easy read, doesn't mean there isn't any solid and useful information. It's chock full of "news you can use." In fact Jay Conrad Levinson - author of the Guerrilla Marketing series - said the name of the book should be Confessions of Shameless, Sensible, Successful and Solid Self Promoters.

Some of the other contributors to "Confessions" include: Mark Victor Hansen (co-creator of Chicken Soup for the Soul(tm)), Rick Segel (entrepreneur and author of Laugh and Grow Rich), Don Cooper (partner in the Guerrilla Group, Inc) and the creator of this book Debbie Allen, (author of Trade Secrets of Retail Stars and the 1997 Blue Chip Entrepreneur Award winner.)

What I like about this book is that it explains the science of effective self promotion and why it works. You'll get tips on branding your identity, creating a strong referral base and building your business.

Who should read this book? Anyone who wants to increase his or her earning power, grow their businesses, get better jobs and become more successful. And, those who are willing to work for those things.

If you would like more information about this new book, send a self-addressed, stamped (no postage meters) envelope to Don Taylor, PO Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105. I'll see that you get the whole story complete with autograph at a very reasonable price. Or, you can call me at 806-374-9777, come by my office and save the postage.

Don Taylor is the co-author of Up Against the Wal-Marts. You may write to him in care of Minding Your Own Business, PO Box 67, Amarillo, TX 79105.

Public Records

Marriage License

Gabriel Sifuentes Castillo and Victoria Lynn Vargas, both of Snyder.

Jerry Dean Holloway and Elta Laverne Kitchens, both of Snyder.

James Dale Slater and Pamela Kohl Murray, both of Snyder.

Filed in District Court

WFS Financial Inc. vs. Oliver E. Groce, suit on debt.

Action in District Court

Lydick Hooks Roofing Company of Abilene vs. Jackson and Cindy Brewster, notice of nonsuit.

Deed Records

Courtney and Elaine Price King to James and Keitha Brown, Lot 4 of the Replat of Block C of the Westridge Addition.

Arthur F. Feinsod to Albert DeLoera, 1.197 acres in the southeast one-quarter of Section 123, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Joe Robert Galyean, Richard Mack Galyean and Tommy Wayne Galyean to Toribio Torres, Lots 8 and 9 and the east one-half of Lot 10 in Block 16 of the Wilmeth Addition.

Retha Jean Richardson to Billy Joe Rawlings, the south 100 feet of the west 67 feet of Lot 4 in Block 34 of the Blankenship Addition.

Homer L. and Elna Maxine Anderson to Gary L. and Vikki Shifflet, Lot 8 in Block 6 of the Warren Crest Addition.

Marie Houk, attorney-in-fact for Walter Vernon Stipe, to Wanda Stipe and David W. Davis, 2.0 acres in the southwest one-quarter of Section 294, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Wanda Stipe and David W. Davis to Cory John Trujillo, 2.0 acres in the southwest one-quarter of Section 294, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Sylvester Spells, Ruby Spells Torrence, Paula Bond and Vanessa Sterling to R.J. Nelson, the east 65 feet of Lot 3 in Block 7 of the T.N. Nunn's Addition.

Stephen R. and Barbara J. Messenger to Michael S. and Shery Jean Wilkes, the west 30 feet of Lot 15 and all of Lot 14 and the east 10 feet of Lot 13, in the replat of the south one-half of Block 1, Section 1, Martin Addition.

Harold and Irene Lacik to Barbara Gray, 18.85 acres in the Grimes Ranch Lands, Section 38, Kirkland and Fields survey.

Northwest Texas People's Center Inc. to Tri-County Warehouse, part of Block 33 and all of Block 34, Nunn Addition, also known as the Lincoln Community Center.

Northwest Texas Peoples Center Inc. to Lincoln Community Center, part of Lot 1 and the east 50 feet of Lot 1 and parts of Lots 3 and 4, Nunn Addition, also known as the Lincoln Community Center.

Original Beach Boy band member files suit for $4 million

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Original Beach Boys member Al Jardine has sued his former bandmates for about $4 million, claiming they excluded him from recent concerts, his attorney said.

Jardine, 58, filed the lawsuit against Mike Love and Brian Wilson in Superior Court on Friday. Other defendants include the Carl Wilson Trust and Brother Records Inc., the corporate entity of the Beach Boys. Carl Wilson died of lung cancer in 1998 at the age of 51.

"Jardine claims he has been frozen out of the Beach Boys," attorney Jeffrey Benice said Tuesday.

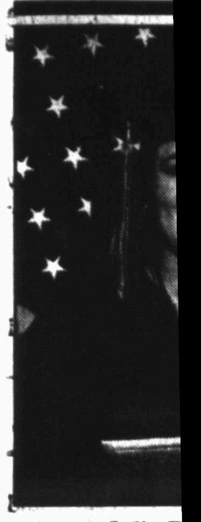
The defendants could not be reached for comment. The offices of Brother Records and the Carl Wilson Trust were closed due to the Fourth of July holiday.

Jardine also claims that Love promoted the current Beach Boys lineup as the "real" and "genuine" group. He says Love is the only original member.

Jardine says he has had problems booking shows for his "Beach Boys Family and Friends" group.

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Julie D

Doolitt degree psycho

Julie Doolittle, Snyder High Sc from the Unive Hardin-Baylor in bachelor of scie majored in ps minored in sociol Doolittle was n President's Hono fall and spring se She is the daug Suzanne Doolittle grandparents are mas of Snyder a tle of Springfield,



Joseph

Benz re recogni Maranth

Joseph Benz, s Anita Benz of Sn home schooled th tha Baptist Aca Spring.

The eighth gra the 2000-2001 sch perfect attendance named to Maranth for the fourth st His average for th was 98.03 percent.

Buildin donated ex-resid

Coke County o new building, cour mer residents, Phi Ratliff, who move to Bronte in 1993.

The Ratliffs ow Ranchero Resta burned last August they donated the b County. The coun to renovate the 1, building.

The newly ren was dedicated Th ribbon cutting. Th door reads: "The donated by Marth Ratliff, December

The Justice of Precinct 2 will r Ratliff Building. O also be available f department, Depa lic Safety and the er machine.

The building wil place for local mee ing and an office tax assessor-collec

The Ratliffs' daug ritt, lives in Snyde

James Garfield president to campa language. He mad campaign speeche

In 1874, Mar Charles Colton we balloon more tha Cincinnati, Ohio.



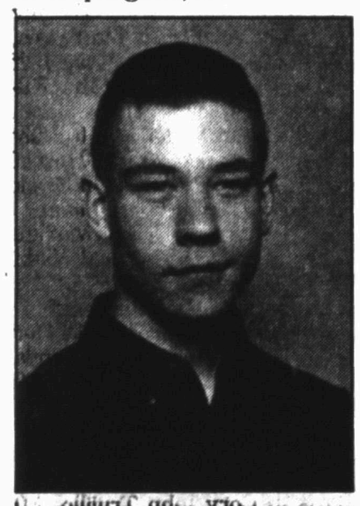
Julie Doolittle

Doolittle gets degree in psychology

Julie Doolittle, 1997 graduate of Snyder High School, graduated from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in May, earning a bachelor of science degree. She majored in psychology and minored in sociology.

Doolittle was named to the Vice President's Honor Roll during the fall and spring semesters.

She is the daughter of Bob and Suzanne Doolittle of Snyder. Her grandparents are Jean McCommas of Snyder and Marie Doolittle of Springfield, Mo.



Joseph Benz

Benz receives recognition at Marantha BA

Joseph Benz, son of Roy and Anita Benz of Snyder, is being home schooled through Marantha Baptist Academy in Big Spring.

The eighth grader completed the 2000-2001 school year with perfect attendance. He was also named to Marantha's Honor Roll for the fourth straight quarter. His average for the school year was 98.03 percent.

Building gets donated by ex-residents

Coke County officials have a new building, courtesy of two former residents, Phillip and Martha Ratliff, who moved from Snyder to Bronte in 1993.

The Ratliffs owned the Old El Ranchero Restaurant, which burned last August. In December, they donated the building to Coke County. The county paid $15,000 to renovate the 1,700 square-foot building.

The newly renovated building was dedicated Thursday with a ribbon cutting. The plaque by the door reads: "The Ratliff Building donated by Martha and Phillips Ratliff, December 2000.

The Justice of the Peace for Precinct 2 will relocate to the Ratliff Building. Office space will also be available for the, sheriff's department, Department of Public Safety and the DPS breathalizer machine.

The building will also serve as a place for local meetings, early voting and an office for the county tax assessor-collector.

The Ratiffs' daughter, Kim Merritt, lives in Snyder.

—

James Garfield was the first president to campaign in a foreign language. He made a number of campaign speeches in German.

—

In 1874, Mary Walsh and Charles Colton were married in a balloon more than a mile above Cincinnati, Ohio.

Mueller must move quickly to quell criticism

WASHINGTON (AP) — The career prosecutor President Bush chose to head the FBI must move quickly to quell criticism that the agency covers up mistakes, won't cooperate with outside investigators and bungles high-profile cases, FBI watchers say.

Robert Mueller, a Justice Department veteran and former federal prosecutor who has served under both Republican and Democrat administrations, will inherit an FBI rocked by recent revelations that it failed to hand over Oklahoma City bombing documents to defense attorneys and that veteran agent Robert Hanssen allegedly spied for Moscow.

Lawmakers are calling for more oversight of the FBI, while polls show that more Americans have an unfavorable opinion of the nation's premier crimefighting agency.

"The FBI is going through one of the worst periods in recent history," said Michael Bromwich, a former Justice Department Inspector General. "Repairing morale and restoring a general positive outlook for the agency is key."

Bush said the new FBI director must be ready to fight new types of criminals who use technology and beef up its counterterrorism capabilities. But critics say Mueller's first order of business, if he's confirmed, is to change the bureau's cover-up-the-mistakes culture and open the FBI up to outside scrutiny.

"There's a management culture with an air about it that the FBI can do no wrong. That attitude is the root of the problems we've seen in high-profile cases," said Sen. Chuck Grassley, R-Iowa. "I want to make sure he's equipped to take on the serious problems facing new leadership at the FBI."

Getting the agency to change won't be easy, critics say, but Mueller's strong management experience, reputation for honesty and his firm, no-nonsense approach to fixing problems are major assets.

"He won't be political," said Kris Kolesnik, director of the National Whistleblower Center and a former congressional investigator for the Senate Judiciary committee, which oversees the FBI.

Steve Colgate, a former Justice Department official, said Mueller has a history of turning around troubled organizations. He cited Mueller's work as chief of the homicide division at the U.S. Attorney's office in Washington and as U.S. Attorney in San Francisco, where he replaced a number of prosecutors and reorganized the office.

"You have someone who has a clear record of moving into an organization that is troubled and analyze the situation, make recommendations and carry them out," said Colgate.

Former Attorney General Janet Reno said Friday that Mueller will be a perfect person to lead the agency.

"I think he will be able to chart his own course just fine, because I think he will set out to do the right thing," Reno said on NBC's Today. She also appeared on ABC's Good Morning America.

Unlike his predecessor, Louis Freeh, who retired two years short of his 10-year term, Mueller has never been an FBI agent. But his Marine Corps background — he received the Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his service in Vietnam — will enhance his image among agents, many of whom are former Marines, FBI officials said.

Observers expect Mueller to bring in a number of his own deputies from outside the bureau. At the same time, Mueller will have to reach out to senior FBI officials, whose cooperation is essential to changing the culture.

"You have to make it clear that it is not going to be business as usual, but in a way that is not hostile," said Bromwich.

Mueller will also have to respond to congressional calls to give outside and internal watchdogs greater power to police the FBI.

Lawmakers have proposed giving the Justice Department's office of inspector general, an internal investigative division, more authority to look into problems at the FBI.

Mueller, a former acting deputy attorney general at Justice, won the support of Attorney General John Ashcroft by aiding in the transition from the Clinton administration from January until May, when he resumed his job as U.S. attorney in San Francisco — an appointment he was given by former President Clinton.

Under the first President Bush, Mueller served as assistant attorney general in charge of the Justice Department's criminal division, where he supervised the prosecutions of Panamanian leader Manuel Noriega and mobster John Gotti and headed the investigations of the BCCI banking scandal and the 1988 bombing of Pan Am 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

Some FBI critics were circumspect about Mueller's ability to change the bureau's culture, saying Freeh promised to do the same thing.

"Whatever reforms that Mueller is going to initiative will have huge opposition," said Roger Charles, an investigator for Timothy McVeigh's defense team. "He's in a tough position."

3 Snyderites on TSTC honor list

SWEETWATER — Three Snyder residents have been named to the President's Honor Roll at Texas State Technical College for the spring semester. Students must earn a 4.0 grade point average on a 4.0 scale to the recognized.

Those from Snyder include Christian Burt, Diana Burt and Cheri Williams.

New guidelines will boost financial aid

NEW YORK (AP) — A group of 28 top private colleges and universities announced Friday they will follow new guidelines to boost financial aid for needy students.

Yale, Stanford and Cornell were among the schools in a group chaired by Cornell President Hunter Rawlings, who released the plan. The guidelines could become a blueprint for any school, Rawlings said.

All 28 schools practice need-blind admissions, meaning students are admitted regardless of ability to afford tuition. What families can't pay themselves is made up in loans and grants.

In general, the guidelines will result in more aid to most families, especially the neediest, Rawlings said. It should also provide more clarity and consistency for families trying to work through schools' often complex financial aid policies.

Rawlings didn't want to pin a dollar amount on how much more money students might receive, because the figure could vary widely depending on each case. In rare instances, he said, some better-off families might receive less aid than they would have before.

For most, however, the guidelines will lower the contribution families will be expected to make toward their youngsters' college costs.

The guidelines direct schools to consider the cost of living for students in more expensive cities; reduce the amount families are expected to contribute to students' tuition; deal more reasonably and consistently with the financial resources of students whose parents are divorced or separated; and make allowances for parents lacking retirement accounts.

The new principles are being adopted at a time when states and colleges are increasingly directing aid toward merit-based scholarships, which are tied to student performance instead of family resources.

"It was getting harder for the neediest students to feel that their needs could be met," Rawlings said. "There's been an erosion over the past five years, especially a move toward more merit aid. This is an effort to assist the neediest families, and to create a more consistent set of policies across universities."

Most of the 28 colleges and universities should put the guidelines into practice in time for applicants from the high school class of 2002.

Two of the country's wealthiest universities, Harvard and Princeton, said they agree with the guidelines' need-blind approach, but did not sign on because it would reduce the aid they already provide.

Earlier this year, Princeton stopped requiring students to take loans as part of a financial aid package, and instead is giving them grants to make up the difference.

Q & A

Twelve steps to insanity

The Snyder Daily News, in cooperation with Al-Anon support groups and the Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, devotes this column to information and questions about substance abuse.

Twelve Steps to Insanity

Humor has a way of hitting home like no other form of communication can. Editorial cartoons are a prime example — a few witty strokes of the drawing pen and the cartoonist can convey a powerful message in an often light-hearted manner.

Recently an e-mail made its rounds in recovery circles entitled "The 12 Steps to Total and Complete Insanity." While humorous, especially to those involved in a 12-Step program, the revised list holds a certain amount of truth as to the mentality of some who resist the recovery basics presented in such programs as Alcoholics Anonymous.

There is more than one recovering alcoholic out there that will tell you that they believe everyone should work some kind of program. This is because those in recovery understand that the 12 Steps are more about changing your way of life — and learning to accept life on its own terms — than simply about stopping the drinking or drugging or gambling or overeating.

Here are the 12 Steps to Insanity:

1.) We admitted we were powerless over nothing. We could manage our lives perfectly and we could manage those of anyone else that would allow it.

2.) Came to believe that there was no power greater than ourselves, and the rest of the world was insane.

3.) Made a decision to have our loved ones and friends turn their wills and their lives over to our care.

4.) Made a searching and fearless moral inventory of everyone we knew.

5.) Admitted to the whole world at large the exact nature of their wrongs.

6.) Were entirely ready to make others straighten up and do right.

7.) Demanded others to either "shape up or ship out."

8.) Made a list of anyone who had ever harmed us and became willing to go to any lengths to get even with them all.

9.) Got direct revenge on such people whenever possible except when to do so would cost us our own lives, or at the very least, a jail sentence.

10.) Continued to take inventory of others, and when they were wrong promptly and repeatedly told them about it.

11.) Sought through nagging to improve our relations with others as we couldn't understand them at all, asking only that they knuckle under and do things our way.

12.) Having had a complete physical, emotional and spiritual breakdown as a result of these steps, we tried to blame it on others and to get sympathy and pity in all our affairs.

How can we protect our children?

Please send your questions on drugs or addiction to P.O. Box 695, Snyder, Texas 79550. All questions and personal inquires may be submitted anonymously. Twenty-four-hour confidential information is available by calling (915) 573-1141 or 1-800-658-6722. Information on help groups and individual's phone numbers may be found in the SDN Community Calendar.

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On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Does deep freeze hurt milk?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: In your column you wrote about milk pasteurization and how it does not have a negative effect on calcium absorption. I have another question about milk, specifically lactose-free milk. Can one freeze milk without harming its nutrients? Military families have been freezing milk for years, but I don't know if it is a good thing to do. - **V.M., San Diego, Calif.**

Dear V.M.: Freezing is a safe way to store milk, and the changes in nutritional value are negligible. This is the case for any type of milk, including lactose-free products. In some cases there will be a few minor changes in milk's appearance and taste. Freezing can cause a breakdown in homogenization — the process that distributes the milk fat evenly throughout milk. It isn't an issue with nonfat milks, but you might see drops of fat floating in low-fat or whole milk. The best advice is to shake the container before drinking.

Depending on how quickly the milk is frozen, slight changes in taste and some color loss are possible. In addition, a small amount of sediment could develop. These changes are negligible and do not reflect a change in the milk's wholesomeness. A good rule of thumb is the faster the freeze, the smaller the damage.

It is always best to put the milk in a well-sealed container. You can encourage a quicker freeze by placing the container next to a wall or on a metal shelf. Remember that because milk is a rich source of nutrients, it is an ideal food for bacteria and other microorganisms. Pasteurization helps destroy most, but not all, of the bacteria that are present at bottling. Freezing does not destroy microorganisms; it just suspends or slows their growth. Defrosted milk's quality will be no better than that of the milk at the time it was frozen.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am a 70-year-old woman, and my doctor has told me that my body does not absorb vitamin B-12. He said that I need to get a monthly B-12 shot. Recently, I have come across an advertisement for sublingual vitamin B-12. It is called Trivita Sublingual B-12 with B-6 and folic acid. How effective is this product, and would I be able to discontinue my monthly shots? — **G.S., Nashua, N.H.**

Dear G.S.: I cannot comment on this particular brand, but research evidence suggests that sublingual (drops under the tongue) vitamin B-12 can be effective. Nasal sprays can also work. They are not as efficient as injections and are not appropriate for every case of vitamin B-12 deficiency. I encourage you to discuss the matter with your physician. You can tell him to refer to a study in the Aug. 28, 1999 issue of the journal Lancet. It has an article titled "Sublingual therapy for cobalamin deficiency as an alternative to oral and parenteral cobalamin supplementation."

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am on a low-carbohydrate diet, but I miss eating pasta. I have come across veggie pasta with semolina flour, but I don't see a nutrition index on the box. What is semolina flour, and is it OK for my diet? (I have lost almost 30 pounds so far.) Thank you. — **R.M.**

Dear R.M.: Semolina is coarse flour that is used in traditional pasta dough. It is made by milling whole kernels of durum wheat. Semolina flour is relatively high in protein, and it absorbs little water, giving pasta (and pizza dough) its chewy texture when cooked. The semolina flour from durum wheat is used in Italy to make commercial pasta. It is also used to make couscous. The carbohydrate content is in the same range as other wheat flours, which is around 100 grams per cup.

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

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

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Man drops suit against Ford

CAMDEN, N.J. (AP) — A dentist who claimed his wife was killed by a deploying air bag dropped his lawsuit against Ford Motor Co. on Friday. The company has suggested that the dentist himself is the killer.

Eric V. Thomas agreed not to bring any future claims against the automaker in the February 1997 death of his wife, Tracy. Ford agreed not to seek any damage costs.

Thomas' lawyer, Carl Poplar, said he urged his client to drop the case because it would cost him more to pursue it than a jury might award.

But Ford's lawyer, William J. Conroy, said U.S. Magistrate Joel Rosen was about to rule on whether Thomas should be sanctioned for lying under oath in denying that he and his current wife were having an affair at the time of his first wife's death.

"Let people who review the facts draw their own conclusions as to why this happened," Conroy said.

The Cape May County prosecutor's office reopened the investigation into the death last year after questions were raised by Ford. Prosecutor David E. Blaker did not immediately return phone calls Friday to comment on whether Thomas is considered a suspect in his wife's death.

Conroy said prosecutors recently subpoenaed all his records on the case, including depositions and information gleaned in Ford's own investigation.

Thomas declined to comment after the brief court hearing.

Thomas' lawsuit maintained his wife, six months pregnant at the time, was killed by an air bag when she drove their Ford Explorer into a pole on a snowy night.

When a passing motorist stopped nearly an hour later, she had no pulse, and she and the unborn child were pronounced dead at the scene. Eric Thomas was unconscious; their 18-month-old daughter was not seriously injured.

Cape May County's medical examiner said Tracy Thomas' death was caused by blunt force trauma consistent with a motor vehicle accident.

But forensic pathologist Dr. Michael M. Baden, one of several experts retained by Ford, said hemorrhages in her eyes and neck were inconsistent with air bag injuries, but consistent with the manual compression of the neck.

Urged by Tracy Thomas' family, prosecutors reopened the investigation in October, when phone records showed Thomas received more than 140 calls from his current wife, Stephanie, in the three months before the accident.

After 125 years, Mark Twain's writing challenge is accepted

BOSTON (AP) — Mark Twain made a deal with the editor of The Atlantic Monthly more than a century ago: He would write a story, then ask other well-known authors to compose their own versions from the same outline.

In return, editor William Dean Howells agreed to publish all of the stories in his literary magazine.

No one took up the challenge — until now.

Twain's novella, "A Murder, a Mystery, and a Marriage," has finally gone to print, 125 years after he wrote it. The story appears in the July/August issue of the Atlantic. And more than 700 people have accepted Twain's challenge and submitted their own versions as part of a contest run by the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library in New York.

The top three entries will be selected by a panel of novelists and announced in October. The Atlantic will not say whether it will publish the winners.

"If he were here today I think he'd be extremely pleased," said Patrick Martin, a Twain enthusiast and the attorney for the library, which owns a handwritten manuscript of "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." Twain could not find any takers back then, "and now he has people from around the world doing it. It's a great last laugh for him 125 years later."

Entrants were given the first part of the tale and invited to finish it. Apparently none of the contestants are major writers.

The 1876 story, which Twain wrote just after "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer" and just before "Huckleberry Finn," is the tale of a Missouri man who tries to marry off his daughter. The mystery begins when the father finds a strange man lying in the snow with no tracks around him. The man claims to be a French count and seeks the daughter's hand in marriage. By the end of the story, the mystery is solved, a murder committed and the daughter married off.

"I wouldn't call it a great story, and I don't think anyone else would either," said novelist Roy Blount, a contributing editor at the Atlantic. "Twain was a great user of language and wonderful writer and creator of characters, but when it came to plot structure he always was weak. He wanted to contribute the thing he was worst at to a bunch of writers, and that didn't make much sense."

All the writers Twain approached for the contest — including Henry James, Oliver Wendell Holmes and Bret Harte — turned him down.

"These were all writers who regarded themselves as superior to Twain," said Atlantic editor Michael Kelly. "And they probably realized that writing a version of a story that Twain had plotted to showcase his own strengths was not a good idea. You could lose in a competition like that."

When Twain died in 1910, the story was not in his papers, but it somehow turned up in the possession of a doctor. The story eventually found its way to author Frederick Dannay, who donated it in 1958 to the University of Texas at Austin. That is where Martin discovered it in 1995.

The Atlantic bought the rights to the story, and it will also come out in a hardback edition published by W.W. Norton in September.

Elvis Presley's cousin killed in shootout

TUPELO, Miss. (AP) — The Lee County sheriff, a cousin of Elvis Presley, was killed in a shootout with a suspect early Friday.

Sheriff Harold Ray Presley, 53, died at North Mississippi Medical Center. The suspect, who had fled from a roadblock hours earlier, also was killed and two people were injured, Highway Patrol spokesman Warren Strain said.

Presley had been sheriff since 1993. His father was the brother of Elvis Presley's grandfather, making them first cousins once removed. The late king of rock 'n' roll was born in Tupelo in 1935.

Strain identified the gunman as Billy Ray Stone, 53. A few hours before the fatal shootout, Strain said, Stone had fled after he was stopped at a routine roadblock.

"During the chase he went behind a church and gunfire was exchanged, Strain said. "The car chase continued until Mr. Stone wrecked the vehicle and a foot chase ensued."

The officers lost track of the suspect, but then about 5:15 a.m., a homeowner in northern Lee County called the sheriff's department because his dogs were barking.

Presley went to the scene and he and the homeowner went to a shed on the property.

"They opened the door and the suspect started shooting," Strain said. Presley was apparently struck several times but managed to return fire, killing Stone, Strain said.

The homeowner was also shot and underwent surgery at the Tupelo hospital. Strain said the man, hit in the arm, was in satisfactory condition.

Also injured was a woman who was thrown from Stone's vehicle during the chase. She was hospitalized in satisfactory condition.

It was not immediately known why Stone had fled the roadblock in the first place.

When he was first elected, Harold Presley said he received calls from Elvis fans who wanted to buy his campaign signs and added, "God has blessed the Presley family."

He had joined the department in 1988 as a narcotics officer.

—

Burt Reynolds once appeared as a bachelor on "The Dating Game," but he wasn't chosen.

—

Texas is also known as the Lone Star State.

Senior Center Menu

Monday

Sauerkraut and sausage, fried potato rounds, golden carrots, tropical fruit, sugar cookie

Tuesday

Chicken strips w/gravy, cottage fries, green beans, peaches and cottage cheese, apple cutie pie

Wednesday

Barbecue chicken, baked beans, potato salad, tomato wedges, apricot cobbler

Thursday

Country fried steak w/cream gravy, mashed potatoes, green beans, tossed salad, chocolate pudding

Friday

Fried fish, boiled okra, macaroni & tomatoes, creamy slaw, bread pudding

Senior Center News

Seniors are encouraged to come for the noon meal Monday through Friday. A suggested donation for senior citizens 60 and older is $2.50. Anyone under the age of 40 will be charged $4.

The center opens at 8:30 a.m. and closes at 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. During those hours, seniors may participate in pool, dominoes, bridge, "88", puzzles, quilting, and exercise equipment. Newcomers are encouraged to join the activities.

Seniors needing transportation during the weekday morning hours should call 573-4035.

Monday

Bridge play begins at 9:30 a.m. Seniors may participate in daily exercise at 11 a.m.

Tuesday

Eighty-eight play begins at 10 a.m. Swimnastics at Western Texas College's pool is from 11 a.m. to noon. The Golden K Kiwanis meets at noon in the conference room. Beginning at 1 p.m., there will be an eighty-eight tournament. Seniors should enter as a team of three. Each match is an hour and the team having the greatest number of marks continues to play. Social Security representatives will be at the center from 10 a.m. to noon and from 1-2 p.m.

Wednesday

Line dancers and cloggers may practice at 1 and 2 p.m. respectively.

Thursday

Exercise begins at 11 a.m. Swimnastics is set from 11a.m. to noon at WTC. The center opens at 6 p.m. for table games. Seniors may play "88", bridge, pool and dominoes.

Friday

The blood pressure clinic and bridge both begin at 9:30 a.m. Seniors may play eighty-eight at 11 a.m. and join in the sing-a-long at 11:30 a.m.

Saturday

The community sing begins at 6 p.m. Aubrey Wilson coordinates this activity, and with the help of numerous volunteers, entertainment is provided.

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Date Book

Saturday, July 7, 2001

Today is the 188th day of 2001 and the 17th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1838, Congress authorized the creation of a steamboat inspection service. The inspectors were appointed by federal district judges. Steamboats were required to be inspected once a year.

On this day in 1949, "Dragnet," starring Jack Webb and Barton Yarborough, premiered on the NBC radio network. It became a television series in 1951 and 1967.

On this day in 1980, the Solar Challenger, flown by Stephen Ptacek, became the first solar-powered flying machine to cross the English Channel.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Gustav Mahler (1860-1911), composer; Marc Chagall (1887-1985), artist; George Cukor (1899-1983), film director; Satchel Paige (1906-1982), baseball great; Doc Severinsen (1927-), musician, is 74; Dick Armey (1940-), U.S. congressman, is 61; Ringo Starr (1940-), musician, is 61; Shelley Duvall (1949-), actress, is 52.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1939, tennis player Bobby Riggs won the singles, doubles and mixed-doubles titles at Wimbledon.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "It is only with the heart that one can see rightly." — Antoine de Saint-Exupery

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (July 5) and last quarter (July 13).

Sunday, July 8, 2001

Today is the 189th day of 2001 and the 18th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1835, the Liberty Bell cracked for the third time while being rung to mark the death of Chief Justice John Marshall of the U.S. Supreme Court.

On this day in 1853, a squadron of U.S. naval vessels under the command of Commodore Matthew Perry sailed into Tokyo Bay.

On this day in 1957, the USS Gudgeon set out from Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on the first circumnavigation of the world by a submarine. The Gudgeon returned to Hawaii on Feb. 21, 1958, after a voyage of about 25,000 miles.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Jean de La Fontaine (1621-1695), poet; Nelson Rockefeller (1908-1979), U.S. politician; Roone Arledge (1931-), television executive, is 70; Steve Lawrence (1935-), singer, is 66; Cynthia Gregory (1946-), ballerina, is 55; Raffi Cavoukian (1948-), children's singer, is 53; Anjelica Huston (1951-), actress, is 50; Beck (1970-), singer, is 31.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1976, golfer "Fuzzy" Zoeller shot eight birdies in a row at the Quad City Open.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "To live lightheartedly but not recklessly; to be gay without being boisterous; to be courageous without being bold; to show trust and cheerful resignation without fatalism — this is the art of living." — Jean de La Fontaine

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (July 5) and last quarter (July 13).

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200 suspected 'witches' killed

KAMPALA, Uganda (AP) — Over 200 suspected witches were hacked to death in villages in rebel-held northeastern Congo in killings that began June 15, a senior army official said Thursday.

"Villagers were saying that some people had bewitched others, and they started lynching them. By the time we discovered this, 60 people had already been killed by early last week. About 200 people lost their lives," Brig. Henry Tumukunde said.

Tumukunde refused to say how many people had been injured or arrested in connection with the hacking deaths. The killings began in Aru, 50 miles south of Sudan on the Ugandan border, but spread deep inside northeastern Congo, he said.

—

People older than 65 use 43 percent of all donated blood. The demand for blood will increase as the population of the United States ages.

—

The state bird of Rhode Island is the Rhode Island Red.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Kids' discipline should be left to mom not her boyfriend

DEAR ABBY: I have been criticized because "Dennis," my live-in boyfriend, is strict with my two children, who are 8 and 9.

They are supposed to straighten the quilts on their beds before leaving for school. The other day, they forgot. So Dennis tore their beds apart. He dumped everything on the floor so they would have to totally remake their beds. My mother says this is cruelty. What do you think? — **DIVORCED MOM IN ILLINOIS**

DEAR DIVORCED MOM: I agree with your mother. It is your home. You should administer discipline to your children, not your current live-in boyfriend. If there's any more "dumping" to be done, consider dumping him to ensure there will be no more emotional abuse of your children.

**

DEAR ABBY: I recently got back together with my ex. We only broke up for a month. We had been dating for close to two years before the split. We're doing great now, but I'm starting to have some problems.

Whenever he wants to spend time with his friends, I freak out and start crying. I don't know why I do this. I know he needs some time with the guys, but I always seem to flip out over it. It's not like I think he's doing something he's not supposed to. I just want him around constantly, and it hurts my feelings when he takes off to be with the boys. I have always had a problem with this, and I don't know why. Other than that, we have a great relationship. Any ideas? — **NEEDY IN MILWAUKIE, ORE.**

DEAR NEEDY: Your boyfriend must care for you very much to tolerate your clinginess and crying jags as well as he has. Whatever the cause, you could benefit greatly from counseling to get to the root of them. I urge you to resolve this, because if you don't, your insecurity and neediness will drive your boyfriend — and any other man who replaces him — away.

**

DEAR ABBY: My husband and I have been invited to a formal, "white-tie" reception and sit-down dinner. I have finally found the perfect gown. I'm planning on wearing long, white gloves that I've had for many years, but never had occasion to wear.

What I'm unsure about is what to do with my gloves once I get there. Can I wear jewelry over my gloves? Should they be removed for dinner? Shall I leave them off for dancing? I'm looking forward to being dressed to the nines, but don't want to overdo it. Help! — **ALL DRESSED UP IN WILMINGTON, DEL.**

DEAR ALL DRESSED UP: A woman can wear a bracelet over long gloves, but rings should never be worn over gloved fingers. My fashion experts agree that gloves should be removed before sitting down at the dinner table. They can be put back on for dancing afterward.

One more tip: If a woman wearing gloves is part of a receiving line, it's proper for her to keep them on. However, any guest going down the line should have an ungloved hand to offer.

Here's hoping your formal affair is a night to remember!

**

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

**

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

DEAR ABBY: More than a year ago, my daughter's boyfriend was thrown out of his parents' house. My husband and I opened our home to him because we felt sorry for him. The deal was, he could stay with us until he got on his own feet.

The problem is, he's still here, and we now have a grandchild from him. He barely supports the baby, let alone himself, and I have reason to believe he is cheating on my daughter. He has even put the moves on me. (They were halted promptly.) We have kicked him out several times, but he keeps returning.

How can I open my daughter's eyes to this person? No matter what I or her friends say, she still loves him and believes in him. — **UPSET MOM IN MINNESOTA**

DEAR MOM: It's time for the gravy train to stop and your daughter's boyfriend to disembark until he can provide a home and support for your daughter and the baby. You are doing no one a favor by allowing him to continue to be a parasite.

Explain to your daughter that until this man gets settled, it would be better for the baby — and her — to remain with you. Common sense tells me that could be a long, long time. She should also prepare herself to support her child, because the father is showing all the signs of being a deadbeat dad. Then pray that while concentrating on the practicalities of life, she will grow up and realize that the responsibility for her and her child's future rests entirely on her shoulders.

As much as you love your daughter, you can protect her from reality no longer. I anticipate a bumpy ride ahead and wish you luck.

**

DEAR ABBY: In your reply to "Still Laughing in Short Hills, N.J.," you said, "Perhaps those who think of a wedding as a fund-raiser should consider charging admission. (Only kidding!)."

Well, that's exactly what my husband and I did. Our wedding took place at a historical ranch that was being restored. It was held in conjunction with an annual event hosted in part by our local historical society. While it was in the planning stages, it was suggested that we be married at the ranch in period clothing. The catch was that our wedding would be considered the "entertainment" for that day, and anyone who attended the event would be welcome to witness the marriage ceremony and have cake. The entrance fee/donation was $1.

We sent 50 invitations to family and friends, and everyone came. The event made money (some of our friends donated more than the $1 entrance fee), and our wedding was held in beautiful surroundings with loving friends. Everyone had a great time. It was a win-win situation. It's still the talk of the town five years later.

So, you see, you can have a tasteful wedding/fund-raiser — if it's done right. — **HAPPILY MARRIED, RIO LINDA, CALIF.**

DEAR HAPPILY MARRIED: So I see. However, if it's done "wrong," it can appear to be a fund-raiser for the bride and groom — who should be self-supporting — and not for such a worthy cause.

**

DEAR ABBY: I read with interest the letters about pennies, but I have always wondered, if someone says, "A penny for your thoughts," and you put in your "2 cents worth," where does the other penny go? — **TOM W., MILWAUKEE**

DEAR TOM W: The other penny covers the rate of inflation since that saying was "coined."

**

Dear Abby is written by Pauline Phillips and daughter Jeanne Phillips.

**

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 $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Fire razes research equipment at severe storms lab warehouse

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — A fire at a National Severe Storms Laboratory warehouse destroyed about $1.8 million in equipment and has hindered research efforts, officials said Thursday.

"This fire is a major setback to our research and development efforts," said James F. Kimpel, director of the National Severe Storms Laboratory in Norman. "What we learn through our field campaigns — basic knowledge of storm structure, testing of new detection and measuring devices, and development of new forecasting techniques — will be significantly impacted."

Half the 4,000-square-foot structure leased by the storms lab was engulfed in flames when firefighters arrived shortly after 5 p.m. Tuesday. Exploding canisters of helium, oxygen and acetylene kept firefighters from getting inside to fight the blaze. It was finally contained several hours later.

The cause of the blaze is still under investigation, but fire investigators are focusing on a central part of the building where several vehicles were parked, Norman Fire Investigator Kevin Leach said.

"We haven't ruled out anything and will look at all possibilities," Leach said.

The last person to leave the facility did so more than an hour before the fire was reported, and the building had swipe-card security, officials said.

The equipment storage facility, known as the "Balloon Barn," housed a new mobile Doppler radar, called "SMART-Radar," officials said. The truck-mounted radar was nearly finished and was scheduled to be used to study tornadic thunderstorms, squall lines and hurricanes, officials said.

Another SMART-Radar not stored in the warehouse was not damaged. The radars were created by researchers from the storms lab, the University of Oklahoma, Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University.

Other destroyed equipment included a mobile laboratory; a mobile Mesonet instrumented vehicle; a sport utility vehicle; the entire tool and shop inventory; three atmospheric sounding systems and large inventory of balloons.

The replacement costs include $1 million for general and ballooning facilities, including $300,000 for a lightning mapping array that was scheduled to be installed in the next few weeks, officials added.

The mapping system created by engineers at New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology and OU researchers alone would cost about $300,000 to replace, officials said.

The equipment was insured.

It could take more than a year to rebuild much of what was lost, officials said.

Owns racing car

NEW YORK (AP) — Paul Walker plays an undercover detective posing as an import-car street racer in the new movie "The Fast and the Furious."

The 27-year-old, whose previous films include "Varsity Blues" and "The Skulls," now has an import car of his own.

"It's called a Nissan Skyline. It's my toy. The steering wheel is on the right-hand side, so it's really kind of bizarre and going through the drive-through is a problem," he told The Associated Press.

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JULY 08 2001

Letters to the editor

Thanks for the help

Dear Editor:

I would like to take this opportunity in the paper to thank some people there in Snyder.

Thursday, June 28, I got gas out at Skinny's on Coliseum Drive and locked my keys in my pickup. In a panic, I went into the store, Dora called the Snyder Police Department for me.

In a few minutes, Cpl. Dennis Young arrived to open my door - which was not easy.

In the meantime, Daniel Guynes came by to offer help. Mr. Valentine of Valentine's Pest Control was kind to offer help also. Everyone said Snyder is that kind of town with good people. Today I met four of them.

I want to thank them publicly for the help, especially Cpl. Young.

People like these make your town super.

Thank you all so much.

J. Miller
Cisco

Reconsider decision

Dear Editor:

As a Goldcoater and member of the chamber of commerce, I would like to encourage the commissioners' court to reconsider its decision regarding the coliseum. I know we have some good commissioners who try their best to think fairly and honorably.

A few years ago, the county hired someone to come in and manage the coliseum. This person did not have the expertise to manage such a large facility and the county was out a lot of money and almost had to shut down the coliseum. The coliseum is an asset to this community. Since Donna Fowler and the chamber have been in charge, many good things have happened.

Some things that need to be considered are the numbers of people that have come into Snyder just because of activities in the coliseum. In a town our size, we need to work hard to find activities that will encourage people to come to Snyder. Our motels, restaurants, service stations and other local businesses all stand to gain when we have visitors in our city. This should be one of our primary concerns. We need all the help we can get to keep our town viable.

Donna Fowler has done a marvelous job in this area. She is a lady who dedicates herself to the betterment of our community. She is interested in Snyder and the people. She knows so many people outside our community and can make connections to attract the right entertainment that will draw people to Snyder. She spends untold time and effort to get the best entertainment and programs for Scurry County. Donna is an asset to our town and community. She has capable people working for the chamber who go far beyond the call of duty to make everything work. Sandra Barboza works many hours and is Donna's right-hand person.

The coliseum is booked almost solid. I live near the coliseum and see so many activities going on and many of them draw people from outside Scurry County. Just this past weekend, the coliseum had a wonderful crowd to see Mercy Me Christian Concert backed up by Macy Hill and Jonathan Moore. We had people from all around Texas and some from New Mexico and Oklahoma. Many of them ate here and a few spent the night here and bought gas and some did some shopping. It was a wonderful Christian concert. The posting of the flags was presented by the Christian Motorcycle Club and was so impressive.

Western Swing brings people from all over the U.S. They stay here for almost a week and bring lots of money into Scurry County. There are too many other activities to mention each one, but this puts Snyder on the map. I have talked to people who said they have been here for these activities and now when they pass through, they like to stop and eat and visit with us because they love the way they have been treated here.

We are continually looking for ways to make Snyder known and this is one of the best ways that we could possibly have. I would like to encourage the Scurry County Commissioners' Court to keep the coliseum under the direction of the chamber of commerce for the betterment of Scurry County.

Elois Pruitt

Let chamber do its job

Dear Editor:

If the commissioners' court wanted to make some people angry, they have done a good job of it.

To take $30,000 away from the chamber of commerce and use it somewhere else does not make good sense. If Donna Fowler is doing something wrong, the public should know it, if she isn't, then she should be able to do her job without the criticism that we hear from a few people.

The business of our county needs to be discussed much of the time in open meetings, not just by the commissioners' court. They are not the only ones paying taxes.

Ralph Trevey is quoted as saying, "This battle doesn't need to be fought in public," in talking about the coliseum.

Why not fight it out in public? We are concerned about this matter too! We do not need for our commissioners to protect us from county problems, just let us help decide the answers for our problems.

If you do not remember to do this, some people may forget to vote for you the next election.

Betty Boyd

Chamber, staff lauded

Dear Editor:

The chamber of commerce and its staff are to be lauded for its management of the Scurry County Coliseum. The coliseum was underutilized and in a state of disrepair when they became managers. It now attracts many events each year and is a fully-functional building.

Someone or a small group of individuals is jealous of this success. They think they can duplicate this success for personal gain, it can't be done.

First of all, I don't think they are willing to commit the time that would be necessary. Promoters will be skeptical about working with new management. The chamber has spent years of developing relationships that are just now beginning to pay off. These folks who are causing trouble now are opportunists. Where were they when the commissioners' court first talked of leasing the coliseum to a management group? They are seeking personal gain from the labors of the chamber.

Commissioners' court is using voodoo economics in its theory to reduce the subsidy for operating the coliseum. It can't be done for $135,000. They are looking at this with tunnel vision. They are only thinking of the public relations of saying they cut $30,000 from the budget. There are sectors of the community that are prospering because of the success of the coliseum. More rooms are filled. Willow Park Inn and the Beacon Lodge are rebounding. A new Best Western has been built because of the demand for rooms. Rented motel rooms generate hotel-motel tax money that is used to attract other events to the city. Restaurants serve more meals and that adds to the sales tax revenue. Jobs are created. Placing the coliseum into a parks and recreation department with part-time, inexperienced staff will kill the goose that lays the golden eggs.

Economic development people say that each dollar spent in the community turns over seven times. A motel room that rents for $40 per night and the money turns over seven times equals $280. If 100 rooms are rented, that amounts to $28,000. That amount is about the annual salary for a county commissioner.

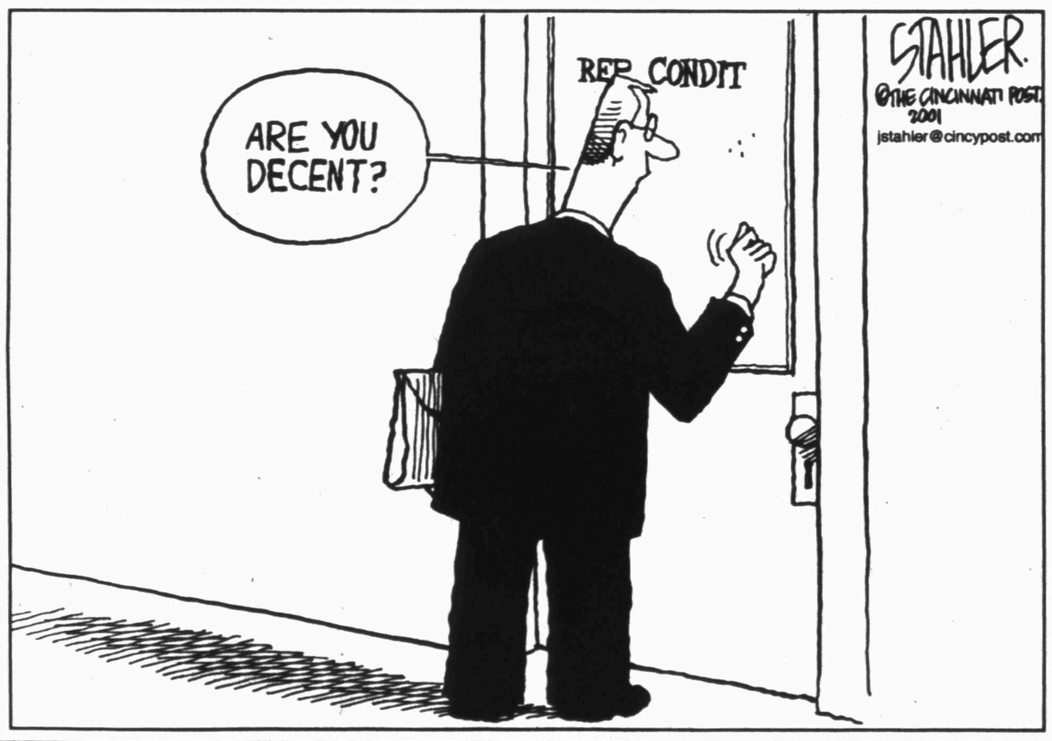
Operating a business in Scurry County is already a difficult task. People are moving out of Snyder everyday and there aren't many moving in. We will kill off our community if we don't protect and support our businesses.

The commissioners' court should renew the contract with the chamber at the current subsidy of $165,000. As a gesture of good will, they should pay the gas bill that was created by a leaking gas line that was leaking because of years of no preventative maintenance. They should replace the gas line to prevent this happening again.

We need commissioners' court that will operate within the law. We don't need them making decisions in "smoked filled rooms with the good ole boys."

If they persist in making decisions that are contrary to the best interest of ALL citizens, then we need to hold a recall election and elect a court that will represent all the people.

Ron Shaw



North of Forty by Red Green



The road to geezerdom

As we age, the line between a "with-it" middle-aged guy and an old geezer starts to blur. No way you're a geezer, but maybe some of your friends are showing the telltale signs. They've started to use phrases like, "I remember when they delivered that with a horse," or "I see bellbottoms are back in style," or "Computers make your brain go soft."

Computers do make your brain go soft, but it takes a geezer to notice. Not that there's anything wrong with being a geezer ... some of the best lawn ornaments and clothespin recipe cardholders are made by geezers. But you're not ready to join a club where the dues are paid in balls of old string ... at least, not yet. No, you've got lots of years on the fast track before you hit geezerdom. But what do you do if a few of your friends aren't so lucky? You have to make them feel they're still with it. If they're headed for the mall in their bedroom slippers, wear yours too, so they don't feel out of place. Admire their hotel soap collection ... show them yours. And never, ever let them know they've become geezers. They might do the same for you someday.

GOOD CHEMISTRY

When you were a teen-ager, boy, whenever you'd see a good-looking girl, your chemical system would go into toxic-dump mode, causing a brain core meltdown. You were the amorous equivalent of Chernobyl living in the middle of your own private Love Canal. Now that we're older, we realize it's a threat to our health to have a runaway chain reaction to somebody really attractive, especially if your wife's watching. No, we're smarter now. We've turned the Bunsen burner down low enough that we don't act like idiots all the time. Now, that's not to say we older guys don't ever get chemical or physical. It's just that we know if you're going to start a fire, all you need is a match, and there's a pretty good chance you found that match quite a while ago.

LIFE'S "BARGOONS"

Now that we have the benefit of experience, we realize that although a great many of life's baubles are overpriced, there have been some great bargains along the way. Here are a few that come to mind:

— Bus fare home.
— Life jackets.
— Birth control pills.
— Kaopectate.
— Voice mail.
— Sunscreen.

YOU AND YOUR TOOLS

I'd like to talk to all you middle-aged guys about the secret magazines you keep hidden in the bathroom or stuffed under your mattress. I'm talking about the specialty tool catalogues with their flex-neck screwdrivers, brass plumb bobs and right angle reamers. Is it possible that you put more time and effort into your handyman toolbox than you do with your emotional toolbox? If you've got state-of-the-art tools to work on your '74 Gremlin, but you're trying to keep your relationship in some kind of working order using the equivalent of a ball peen hammer and a bent nail, that's not good.

Think of your relationship as a physical structure in which you live. Maybe it's a lean-to or a semi-detached; might be a freehold; could even be a shack-up. But you have to ask yourself, "Am I heading for a bachelor apartment, or am I going to renovate?" You may actually have some tools that are holding you back. I'm talking about the hair-splitter, the heel-dragger and the oscillating truth-stretcher. The tools you need to make a relationship work aren't all that hard to come by. They just need to be flexible, and they need to last a long time. And when you order yours, ask for the high-sensitivity model with the conversation adapter.

QUOTE OF THE DAY: "I'm a lot smarter now than I was when I thought I was." — **Red Green**

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

Austin American-Statesman

Distracted drivers should hang up

Maybe it's nostalgia for the image of a lone rider galloping over the plains, unfettered by the banal rules of sheriff and schoolmarm.

Whatever the reason, Texans have always assumed an inalienable right to do whatever they please while driving their cars, trucks or sport-utility vehicles.

Seat-belt use took hold slowly here, and a few drivers are still willing to make a federal case out of their objections. The notion that drinking and driving don't mix is gaining ground only gradually. Many drivers wink at laws against speeding. Proposals to use photos to convict red-light runners arouse libertarian zeal.

It took well over a decade of effort to outlaw carrying children loose in pickup beds on highways. Driving with a beer in hand is still considered a sacred right in some quarters. And so, apparently, is driving while gabbing on a cell phone.

Driving with an open container of booze in the vehicle becomes illegal in Texas this fall under a new law. A ban on driving while using a hand-held phone should be the next project.

New York recently became the first state to ban talking into hand-held cellular telephones while driving. A bill setting fines for violations was sent to Gov. George Pataki, who favors it. Drivers will remain free to talk while in motion on speakerphone sets that leave both hands free. Hand-held sets may be used while a vehicle is parked, and a special exception for on-road use is made for drivers reporting emergencies.

Similar proposals have popped up in about 40 other states, and a handful of local governments have enacted local prohibitions. The Texas Legislature did not debate the issue in the 2001 session and will not meet again until January 2003 unless Gov. Rick Perry calls a special session.

The Texas Department of Public Safety, meanwhile, is collecting data on whether cell phone use has contributed to accidents. An updated accident form also has a spot for road rage as a contributor in accidents.

San Antonio Express-News

Navy bombing site bad for Texas coast

South Texas undoubtedly could use an economic development boost, but moving the Navy's bombing and training site from the Puerto Rican island of Vieques to the Texas Gulf Coast is not the answer.

The Navy is eyeing 200,000 acres of coastal ranchland south of Kingsville for use after it abandons the controversial range near Puerto Rico in 2003.

Among the supporters is Rep. Solomon Ortiz, D-Corpus Christi, a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

Proponents of the site claim the Navy facility would be an economic boon to South Texas and provide security for three Coastal Bend-area naval stations during the next round of military base closures.

That may be true. But what about the disruption of the ecosystem, the endangered Ridley turtles, noise pollution and the impact on hunting and fishing in the area?

The Corpus Christi Caller-Times reports that during World War II, the Navy used a portion of the South Texas coastline as a bombing range.

Two major distinctions need to be made between that use and the proposal now under consideration. First, no live bombs were used in the past.

Second, that was before Padre Island became a national seashore designed to protect its environment.

Training of military personnel is vital, but maintaining quality of life is important as well.

Wichita Falls Times Record News

Veterans' benefits case

Still fighting Military retirees dealt blow, not entirely out of ammunition

Our nation's veterans may have lost the most recent battle, but the war over promised health benefits merely moves to a different battlefield.

Victory could still be attained.

Earlier this month, the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., dealt military retirees a stinging blow, setting aside a three-judge ruling that declared a promise made should be a promise kept.

The previous ruling, which upheld retired Col. Bud Day's "Class Act Group" lawsuit demanding compensation for out-of-pocket medical expenses, found that military personnel who entered the service before June 7, 1956, were promised free health benefits if they served for at least 20 years.

The U.S. Court of Appeals, in its June 13 ruling, also ordered a rehearing by the full 11-member Court of Appeals.

The promise, the government contends, primarily came from overzealous recruiters unauthorized to extend such an offer. Recruiting material touting lifetime benefits aren't contractual, it maintains. Surely, nearly a half-century later, the federal government should not be held responsible for recruiting tactics.

At every juncture of this ongoing battle, the military retirees have behaved as those bound by honor codes, loyal to their country and steadfast in their pursuit.

The U.S. government should be proud to have had warriors, such as Ward Coston of Wichita Falls, in uniform. If the U.S. government would only uphold the same code of conduct — honor, honesty, valor, loyalty — the military demands of its combatants, victory would come.

San Angelo Standard-Times

Milosevic trial

Slobodan Milosevic, the Butcher of the Balkans, is in the hands of an international court for trial on crimes against humanity, thus vindicating the U.N. crimes tribunal whose creation seemed an idealistic if futile gesture back in 1993.

Milosevic has much to answer for. His virulent and violent Serb nationalism launched four Balkan wars and Europe's worst carnage, over 200,000 dead, since World War II. The fighting tore apart a delicate web of ethnic harmony that may take generations to mend. But the crime he will be tried for was his bloody suppression of Kosovo that left 750,000 Albanians homeless and 10,000 dead. The "ethnic cleansing," a term Milosevic bequeathed to the world, ended only after a sustained NATO air campaign.

There is no question that Milosevic should stand trial, but this case will create significant and far-reaching precedents. Recently, the arrest of former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet in Britain at the behest of a Spanish prosecutor threatened to create a precedent for ad hoc, ideologically motivated prosecutions.

Pinochet had not been indicted by any international judicial panel, and he was long out of power. Milosevic was indicted by the U.N. tribunal in May 1999, when his crimes were clear for the world to see. He was actively and publicly sought and his extradition was a condition of bringing Yugoslavia back into the community of nations and of providing $1.28 billion in U.S. and European aid.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Low-cholesterol diets may not be the answer

DEAR DR. GOTT: After more than 30 years of trial-and-error eating habits, I found that I was allergic to beef, eggs, and poultry. The foods I can eat with impunity include pork, butter, cheese, ice cream and peanuts. I have low cholesterol, a blood pressure of 120/80 and A-1 health. What's all the hullabaloo over eating low-cholesterol foods?

DEAR READER: Each of us has a genetically determined method of metabolizing cholesterol, which may be extremely efficient (resulting in low blood-cholesterol) or dismally inefficient. Therefore, the level of blood cholesterol and the risk of developing arteriosclerotic heart disease from the fat is more a matter of inheritance than diet.

Some people can eat cholesterol-laden foods, such as animal fat and dairy products and live to ripe old ages. In contrast, other individuals, because of their genetic programming, are very sensitive to dietary cholesterol. Most normal adults lie between these two extremes. That is, the average adult can readily elevate his cholesterol level by "overloading" the system and eating imprudently. This is why nutrition experts recommend that most Americans reduce dietary cholesterol. Statistically, the more "normal" the blood cholesterol (200 milligrams per deciliter or below), the less the risk of heart disease. But the true picture is more complicated than this.

Medical studies have repeatedly shown that the components of the cholesterol are more important predictors of health problems than is the cholesterol level itself. High-density lipoproteins (HDLs) are the "good" cholesterol; when present in high concentrations, they protect the vascular system from damage. In contrast, low-density lipoproteins (LDLs) are "bad"; they are believed to increase the risk of arteriosclerotic plaque and heart disease. Thus, physicians now look closely at the HDL and LDL levels, as well as at the total cholesterol count. You don't supply this information, so I cannot comment on whether or not your dietary preferences may be unhealthful. Ask your doctor about this.

You may be one of the lucky few who can thank their parents for a low cholesterol level. On the other hand, if your LDLs are high (despite a normal total cholesterol level), you may have an unrecognized risk for vascular problems. Your doctor should be able to sort out this complex situation. In the meantime, don't be too smug about your diet. I suggest that you purchase lean cuts of pork, use margarine, go easy on cheese and consume low-fat ice cream and peanut butter.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Cholesterol." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I recently had an upper respiratory virus infection with nasal congestion. It left me with no sense of taste or smell. How long will it take for these senses to return?

DEAR READER: After an upper respiratory infection, the sense of smell should return within a couple weeks. As a consequence of the viral congestion, food may taste flat because much of what we ordinarily consider to be "taste" is actually smell. If your taste/smell-loss lasts more than a month, you should be examined by an ear-nose-and-throat specialist to make sure that something else, such as continuing infection or allergic congestion, is not the cause of your symptoms.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is it possible that alcoholism is inherited and is a genetic abnormality?

DEAR READER: It's not only possible, it's probable.

Despite the Supreme Court ruling that alcoholism is not a physical disease, many professionals working with alcoholics doubt this judicial dictate. Cynics have stated that - if it is a disease - it's the only illness successfully treated by not doing something.

Nonetheless, evidence continues to accumulate, indicating both a genetic predisposition and a probable biochemical abnormality in alcoholics.

Several years ago, Swedish studies ignited a resurgence of scientific interest in alcohol abuse. These studies revealed provocative patterns among men and women born out of wedlock, who were adopted in infancy by non-relatives.

First, adopted children of alcoholic parents showed a four-fold increased risk of alcohol abuse compared to adopted children of non-alcoholic parents, even when the adoptive parents were non-drinkers.

Second, children of non-alcoholic parents who were adopted by alcoholic adults did not show a higher risk.

Third, identical twins had more alcoholism than did fraternal twins, indicating a likely genetic variation.

Fourth, twins of alcoholic parents exhibited more alcohol abuse, even when they were separated and one was raised by an abstemious family. The researchers concluded that children of alcoholics had more risk of the disease than did children of non-alcoholics, regardless of whether the adoptive parents were or were not drinkers.

On a biochemical level, alcohol abusers seem to lack the regulatory mechanism for alcohol satiety. As yet, no conclusive abnormality has been identified, but much research is continuing. There are clues.

Acetaldehyde, an immediate break-down product of alcohol in the body, exerts a powerful influence on the brain. The compound combines with neurotransmitters (chemical messengers) to form tetra-hydro-isoquinolone, which generates metabolites that resemble naturally occurring narcotics (brain opioids). TIQ induces a craving for alcohol by causing anxiety and withdrawal symptoms. These are relieved by alcohol. Thus, the alcoholic is stimulated to drink more in order to block the effects of TIQ; at the same time, the additional alcohol enhances formation of TIQ. Indeed, this is a vicious cycle in which the alcoholic lacks the genetic equipment to neutralize the by-products of alcohol, without requiring alcohol itself for this purpose.

In addition, alcohol may - in susceptible individuals - create a deficiency in brain opioids. If certain people have the genetic inability to detoxify the metabolic products of alcohol, they are potential alcoholics from birth, even if they never drink.

In summary, the alcohol molecule is not the culprit. Rather, the chemical by-products of the substance appear to alter - inappropriately, in the case of alcoholics - the functioning of nerve cells and the compounds that keep our brains in biochemical balance.

This information is vital to alcoholics because it reinforces the adage, articulated by Alcoholics Anonymous, that the only successful therapy for the condition is abstinence. Having such an inheritance is unfortunate. However, knowing about it is a blessing. Such a revelation may enable the potential alcoholic to accept his or her genetic conformation and say "no" to alcohol before the substance alters brain chemistry and becomes an addiction.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Substance Abuse and Mental Health." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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Citing failed inspections, Coast Guard grounds ship

DETROIT (AP) — A Great Lakes cruise ship was ordered to stay docked in the Detroit River after it failed a series of health inspections and cruise operators ignored a recommendation not to sail.

The U.S. Coast Guard issued the rare no-sail order for the Greek-owned MTS Arcadia ship — touted as the first in 35 years to sail a full season of cruises in the Great Lakes.

The order was issued Wednesday after a series of failed health inspections by the U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, which inspects all cruise ships with that stop at U.S. ports.

Ralph Diehl, president of Great Lakes Cruises Inc. of Waukesha, Wis., which chartered the ship, said he was upset that the Arcadia's owner, Attika Shipping Co. of Athens, Greece, did not fix the problems earlier. CDC inspectors had visited the ship in Greece and found a long list of deficiencies.

In the Great Lakes, the Arcadia's troubles were first noted June 20 during a surprise inspection at Milwaukee. The ship, which can carry up to 224 passengers, scored 59 of 100 points; 86 are required for passing.

After it failed another inspection last Saturday in Detroit, the CDC recommended that the vessel not take on passengers or sail until the deficiencies were corrected. But within hours, the Arcadia sailed to Windsor, took on passengers and kept sailing in Canadian waters, officials said.

"I felt confident that we could sail without endangering the passengers," Diehl said. But the company did cancel a trip that would have begun Wednesday, telling passengers it was for "technical reasons," the Detroit Free Press reported.

When the ship returned to Detroit on Wednesday, Coast Guard officers and CDC inspectors conducted another inspection and issued the no-sail order. Ship officials would face a $25,000 fine if they violate it.

Diehl said they hoped to get the ship fixed up to past muster by a planned sailing this weekend.

Bridgestone/Firestone chief questioned in tire lawsuit

DALLAS (AP) — Bridgestone/Firestone Inc. chief executive John Lampe was questioned Thursday by lawyers suing the company over tire failures blamed for more than 200 vehicle-accident deaths.

Robert J. Patterson, a Corpus Christi lawyer who has filed several lawsuits against Bridgestone/Firestone, said the company ignored evidence from 2,500 customer claims that tread of some Firestone tires tended to separate in hot weather.

Patterson said the company should have notified federal safety officials after receiving claims from customers seeking new tires or repairs if tire failures caused damage to their vehicles.

"They don't see this as a safety issue. They didn't see it as a tire issue ... it was simply a financial issue to them," Patterson said.

Lampe declined to comment during breaks in his testimony, which was scheduled to conclude Friday morning.

In a statement issued Thursday evening, the Nashville, Tenn.-based company said it takes responsibility for its tires, "and when information became available we acted quickly and decisively to protect our customers."

Bridgestone/Firestone said most tire companies previously didn't use claims forms to track tire performance because the number of claims were usually too small. But, it said, "We now have in place an early warning system that takes into account a number of factors including claims data."

Bridgestone/Firestone has recalled 6.5 million tires due to high failure rates and said this month it would close the Decatur, Ill., plant where most of the tires were made.

The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration has said at least 203 deaths and more than 700 injuries may be tied to Firestone tire failures.

In many of the cases, the tires were mounted on Ford Explorer sport utility vehicles, and both the tire company and Ford Motor Co. face lawsuits. Ford blames the crashes on the tires and has begun replacing another 13 million Firestone tires on its vehicles.

Bridgestone/Firestone, a subsidiary of Japan's Bridgestone Corp., says faulty design of the Explorer contributed to the crashes, and it has asked for a federal safety investigation of the Explorer.

Patterson said Texas plaintiffs' lawyers are scheduled to question Ford chief executive Jacques Nasser in August in Dearborn, Mich.

About two dozen lawyers attended Lampe's deposition at a Dallas hotel, including attorneys for Ford and for several other plaintiffs. About 80 cases in Texas have been consolidated for pretrial matters such as taking depositions from witnesses.

Patterson said he would release portions of Lampe's testimony that dealt with public documents next week.

Confusion prevents warning signs replacement

GALVESTON (AP) — Miscommunication between local and federal officials resulted in the removal of signs warning of dangerous currents off a stretch of the Houston Ship Channel near the east end of Galveston Island, where four water-related deaths have occurred in the last week.

On June 21, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers took down signs it had placed on the beach area to in order to put them on metal posts. The signs warned that jetties placed by the corps of engineers off the shore were not intended for public access.

Signs warning of dangerous currents, which had been erected by the city of Galveston and were attached to the ones by the corps of engineers, were also taken down, Phyllis Bledsoe, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Galveston district office, said Thursday.

Bledsoe said someone in her office told Vic Maceo, director of the Galveston Beach Patrol, that his office needed to put its signs back up.

"We were under the impression they were going to put the signs back up," she said. "We are very sad that the signs weren't replaced and people have drowned. Our commander had really been pushing to get signs up there."

However, Maceo said when he was contacted by the corps, he was under the impression the signs it was talking about were ones erected by the beach patrol and not by the city. The beach patrol is run by both the city and county.

"I went to where our signs were. They were in place. I was unaware the city had taken it upon itself to place a sign at the ship channel. There's going to be a lot of fingerpointing here, a lot of blame," he said.

Maceo said he didn't know the city had placed signs, which were bilingual, out by the ship channel because it's not an area the beach patrol normally covers.

"The city felt it needed to be proactive and put the signs up. This area is basically the ship channel and is truly not a recreational area," Maceo said.

The scrutiny over the missing signs intensified after Wednesday's death of 8-year-old Christopher Zelaya from Houston, who drowned when he and his 11-year-old brother got caught in the strong current while chasing a pair of beach balls.

Zelaya's death followed three other deaths on Saturday in the same area.

Seven-year-old Cesar Barrios drowned as did Galdino Lucero, 36, who attempted to rescue the boy and his 11-year-old sister when they were swept away by the ship channel's fast-moving currents.

The girl was rescued by another man, Wayne Hix, 60. Hix made it back to shore but collapsed and died shortly thereafter, said U.S. Coast Guard.

There have been no drowning deaths in the last four years in areas with lifeguards and 41 such deaths, including nine this year, in unguarded areas, Maceo said.

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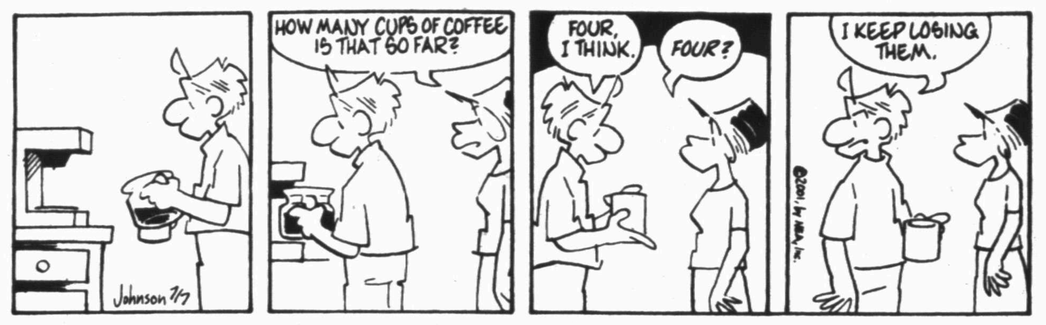
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Lives
7 Be frugal
12 Webster or Boone
13 Freshwater fish
14 Ancient Jewish ascetic
15 One-celled animal
16 Sault — Marie
17 Cape —
18 Mil. school
21 Egg producer
23 Wood sorrel
26 Bush's alma mater
28 Tropical tree
29 Queen of the fairies
30 Small piece
31 Actress Ursula —
33 Neatest
36 Tennis player Nastase
37 Compass pt.
38 Coral formation
40 Actor Sean —
41 Legal matter
42 VW Passat, e.g.
44 Small child
45 Enjoy Vail
46 French noble
48 Actor Hoffman
51 "Time" worker
55 Brave
56 Disregard
57 Took an oath
58 Had to have

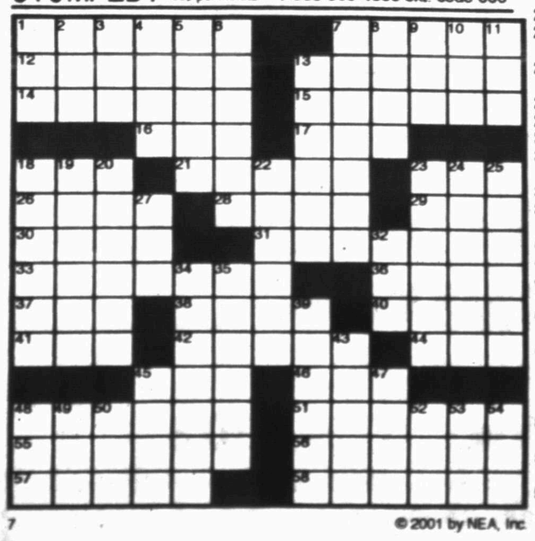
DOWN

1 HST follower
2 Used to be
3 Print measures
4 Fibs
5 Slow (mus.)
6 Sweater part
7 Breed of dog
8 Walked
9 "Graph" finish
10 Bird's beak
11 Singing syllable
13 Synthetic fabric
18 Seafood
19 Kennel dweller
20 Playground favorites
22 Lessened
23 Breakfast food
24 Atlantic City establishment
25 Out
27 "Gram" start
32 — van Winkle
34 Author Caldwell
35 Viewing
39 Radio technique
43 Push gently
45 Mix
47 Motion picture
48 Ortho-dontist's deg.
49 Car assem-blers' assn.
50 Sign at a full house (abbr.)
52 Bushy clump
53 Unrefined metal
54 Blushing

Answer to Previous Puzzle

R	O	O	M	E	R			O	P	T	E	D
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Texa of p

BROWNSVI 44-year-old ch Allen expected now — a big ho and a thriving p

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"I don't kno put me in jail," can they do, sho they can do is license."

In Texas, tha now.

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In Texas, i

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DALLAS (AP) a Hare Krishna ing a propose restaurant nea would foul the a of meat.

"We just reall that McDonald's come here. A big gion is vegetaria our main beliefs ber Mike Meyer Morning News. your-face type of

Temple membe restaurant woul trash and traffic neighborhood.

The owner of Karen Skinner, rant would benef

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Texas law to revoke licenses of people who owe money

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — As a 44-year-old chiropractor, Sam Allen expected to have it all by now — a big house, a luxury car, and a thriving personal practice.

Instead, he has debt that dates to his schooling 12 years ago and seems to multiply by the minute. What started as three sets of federal loans totaling about $85,000 is now more than $200,000. It's an albatross Allen has tried not to think about. He says he pays some $800 a month, and it's still not enough.

"I don't know, maybe they'll put me in jail," Allen said, "What can they do, shoot me? The worst they can do is take away my license."

In Texas, that is a possibility now.

Shocked that more than 153 Texans owe taxpayers more than $15 million on federal student loans, Rep. Roberto Gutierrez sponsored legislation to suspend the occupational licenses of chiropractors, dentists, podiatrists and medical doctors who are delinquent. Gov. Rick Perry signed the bill into law last month.

In Texas, individuals who default on state-sponsored professional or occupational school loans already risked losing their licenses. The new law broadens the program to include federal loans.

It's up to individual states to enact such measures, said Kay Garvey of the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, which administers the Health Education Assistance Loan loan guarantee program.

"As stewards of the taxpayers' money we are always in support of programs to get back dollars," she said. Texas, New York and Maryland have enacted such laws.

As of May, people across the nation owed HEAL $166 million. That's only one of the programs established by the federal government to help students pay for medical, dental, podiatry or chiropractic schooling and which is now owed money by those who took out the loans. Most of these loans have been in noncompliance for more than five years, and the average loan default is more than $100,000.

"This is simply not fair to an individual who has aspirations of attending medical school but cannot get an adequate government student loan because someone else has failed to meet their commitment," Gutierrez said.

Some of those owing money say they are doing the best they can and that threatening with license suspension can't make more money pop in their hands. If anything, they say it will cut off their livelihood and make certain they can't pay.

"They called me about a year ago ranting and raving and screaming and demanding full payment," Allen said. "I said, 'hey, I could pay you a couple hundred a month,' — the guy laughed and said that'll only pay about a day's interest."

Allen graduated from Palmer College, a chiropractic school in Davenport, Iowa, in 1989. At first he put the loan off as he and his first wife, also a chiropractor, tried to get established. When the deferment was up, he found he was never able to keep up, and the loan amount grew.

He was threatened by collection agencies and was sued. Lacking funds for an attorney, he went to court himself.

Hare Krishnas protest new McDonald's

DALLAS (AP) — Members of a Hare Krishna temple are fighting a proposed McDonald's restaurant nearby, saying it would foul the air with the smell of meat.

"We just really feel offended that McDonald's is planning to come here. A big part of our religion is vegetarianism; it's one of our main beliefs," temple-member Mike Meyer told The Dallas Morning News. "It's like an in-your-face type of thing."

Temple members also said the restaurant would bring noise, trash and traffic to their quiet neighborhood.

The owner of the franchise, Karen Skinner, said the restaurant would be beneficial to the east Dallas neighborhood.

"We're going to create jobs and beautify the area," she said.

Regional senior marketing manager, Zenola Worrill Campbell, said McDonald's "is committed to be a good neighbor."

The city's Plan Commission is scheduled to vote Thursday on whether to approve the restaurant. The City Council must make the final decision.

Hare Krishnas have met with elected officials and McDonald's representatives, but they don't see how to make the plans more acceptable, Meyer said.

"Philosophically, it flies in our face," said Nityananda Dasa, president of the temple, called Kalachandji's Palace. "This is a spiritual oasis. Anything that disturbs our spiritual development obviously bothers us."

More than 1,000 people attend services at the ornate sanctuary inside the temple, the newspaper said. Many more eat at the temple's vegetarian restaurant, Kalachandji's.

The religion, based on 5,000-year-old Hindu holy literature, teaches compassion and simplicity and uses chanting to connect with God.

On the Net:

Hare Krishna Temple of Dallas: http://www.iskcon.net/dallas/

McDonald's: http://www.mcdonalds.com/

Scurry County Service Men & Women

(Editor's Note: Citizens are invited to write their servicemen and servicewomen stationed stateside and overseas. Anyone having additions, changes or corrections to the list should submit them in writing to the Snyder Daily News, P.O. Box 949, Snyder, TX, 79550, or bring them by the office at 3600 College Ave. Sorry, no addresses will be accepted over the telephone.

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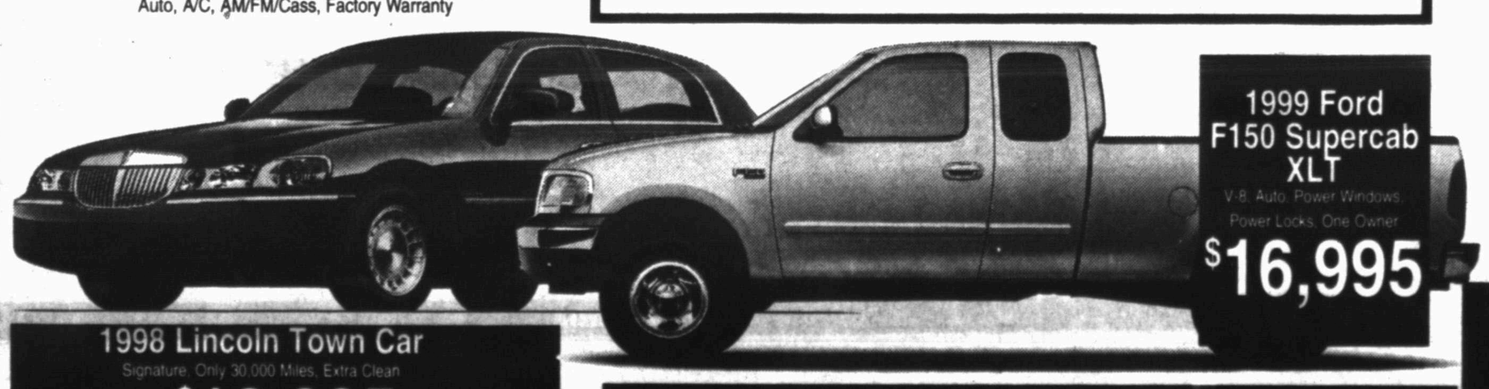


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Trials of alleged spies have not begun yet

WASHINGTON (AP) — The State Department was mistaken when it reported that trials had begun in China for an American citizen and a U.S. permanent resident on charges they spied for Taiwan, a top official said Friday.

Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage said the administration has been led to believe that the trials may start in a week.

Armitage, briefing reporters, said the Thursday report by the State Department spokesman was based on erroneous information.

The American citizen is Li Shaomin, who was formally charged in May. He is a business professor at City University of Hong Kong who was taken into custody on Feb. 25 after walking across the border into China to visit a friend.

The permanent U.S. resident is Gao Zhan, an American University professor who was detained on Feb. 11.

President Bush discussed the issue of American citizens and legal residents detained in China during a 20-minute telephone conversation Thursday with Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

A White House spokesman said the administration has been pressing at every opportunity for their fair treatment and release.

Thursday's disclosure by the State Department came hours after Bush discussed the two detentions by phone with Jiang.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the U.S. Embassy in Beijing asked that a consular officer be allowed to attend Li's trial.

An embassy spokesman said a consular officer visited Li in jail on June 3, but had no information about a trial. China informed the embassy on June 21 that Li would be allowed legal representation, said the spokesman, speaking on customary condition of anonymity.

A consular official was also allowed to visit another detained American scholar, Wu Jianmin, on June 26, said the spokesman. Wu, a writer and U.S. citizen from New York, was detained April 8, also on suspicion of spying for Taiwan.

The consular official said Wu appeared in good health. The embassy has not been informed of any formal charges filed against Wu, the spokesman said.

On Thursday, a Chinese Foreign Ministry spokeswoman reiterated China's claims that Li and Gao have confessed to the spying charges.

"There is ironclad evidence and they have admitted to their crimes," Zhang Qiyue told reporters.

Gao's husband, Xue Donghua, said Thursday from his home in Virginia that he has not been told whether her trial has started. Xue and their 5-year-old son, Andrew, are U.S. citizens.

The conflicting accounts of Li's and Gao's trials come three days after China and the United States removed another irritant to ties by flying out a U.S. Navy spy plane stranded in China since colliding April 1 with a Chinese fighter.

China is also keen to avoid raising international anger just a week before the July 13 vote in Moscow to pick the host for the 2008 Olympic Games. Beijing is widely seen as the top-runner.

China could release the U.S.-based scholars because it doesn't want their detentions overshadowing a state visit by Bush in October, said Zhang Yebai, a U.S. expert at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences.

"The possibility entirely exists because after half a year of turbulence, both sides now are prepared to come up with ways to improve relations," Zhang said.

But Mak Hoi-wah, a professor at Hong Kong's City University who has advocated the release of Li and other detained scholars, said freeing them as a political gesture would only underscore the arbitrariness of Chinese justice.

"We hope to see Li Shaomin receive a prompt and fair trial and to be released upon the charges being proven unfounded," said Mak.

Pittsburgh school district going into the gas business

PITTSBURGH (AP) — After suffering through a winter of sky-high natural gas prices, a school system near Pittsburgh has decided to drill its own.

The school board in Penn Hills, a community of 50,000 in the heart of Pennsylvania coal country, has struck a deal with Penneco Oil Co. to sink as many as 10 natural gas wells under the district's eight schools.

The school system would get 12.5 percent royalties plus a fixed share of the gas — not enough to supply all of its energy needs, but enough to cut its heating costs in half and delay a tax increase, officials said.

Last school year, it cost $450,000 to heat the schools, in part because of runaway natural gas prices almost six times higher than normal.

"We might as well tap our own gas and use the savings," said Barry Patterson, a school board member. "I'm not sure it will eliminate the need to buy any gas, but whatever the savings, we will gladly accept them, so will the taxpayers."

The gas wells still need city and state approval. Officials hope to have the first well producing as early as next month in Penn Hills, which is about 10 miles from downtown Pittsburgh.

Other schools around the country and in Pennsylvania have leased drilling rights over the years, but this could signal a resurgence in the practice.

"In view of the higher prices that we've seen, it kind of makes sense for them to do something. It could be a happy marriage," said Terry Jacobs, president of Penneco.

In oil patch states like Oklahoma and Texas, oil and gas wells dot the landscape.

"We have got oil wells and gas wells producing next to schools, churches, restaurants, you name it," said Mickey Thompson, executive vice president of the Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association.

And at least two other districts in western Pennsylvania have gas wells on school property.

About five miles from Penn Hills, the Plum Borough district has three wells — one about 500 feet from an elementary school — that have been producing gas since 1996.

Elderly woman held for smuggling

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — An elderly woman was charged Friday with attempting to smuggle heroin hidden in a container of spaghetti to her inmate grandson.

Anastasia Lefkari, 84, was arrested in Korydallos prison on Thursday after officials said she tried to slip her 24-year-old grandson 30 grams of heroin hidden in the pasta.

She was formally charged before a public prosecutor Friday.

Lefkari said her grandson's friend gave her the food and she had no idea it was being used to conceal drugs.

Lefkari was ordered held pending a hearing.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Sunday, July 8, 2001

Look for both your outlook and attitude to undergo constructive changes in the year ahead. You'll end up being more optimistic and enthusiastic, affecting your life in a most positive fashion.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Constructive changes have a way of turning around a dull situation and giving it new life. You're just the person to stimulate such a plan into action today. Cancer, treat yourself to a birthday gift.

Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — There's nothing better that you'll enjoy today than developments which test your mettle, because, deep down, you know you're more than up to the task.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — It isn't likely that neither large nor small events will disturb you one bit today. This is because you'll have the ability to keep everything in proper perspective at all times.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — You won't mind a bit managing things for others today rather than working on your own affairs. Deep down, you know that what you do for them will work out for your advantage as well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — There is one thing that is certain today, and that is that no one will be able to accuse you of being wishy-washy. Everyone will know exactly where you stand and on what.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Even though today may be a day off for you, chances are you'll still be productively inclined and won't be satisfied unless you do something worthwhile. Dig into a noble project.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Everyone is likely to turn to you for directions on what to do today. They sense you'll know instinctively what will please everyone. Your flair for organization is showing.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Outside influences aren't apt to dissuaded you one iota away from what you commit yourself to today. Consequently, you'll see your objectives through to the end.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — What would do you the most good today is to get out into nature where the scenery can put a new light on your outlook and attitude. Being at one with the elements puts things into perspective.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Because you should have it all together today when it comes to dollars and cents, this is an excellent day to lay plans for accumulating gains.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — It is essential that we allocate time to attend to our personal needs, and today could be just such a day for you. Spend it on whatever it is you need to do for yourself.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Although you usually enjoy being around a variety of people, today you'd be better off enjoying your own company. It'll do you good to hibernate a bit.

Monday, July 9, 2001

There's a chance that you might finally realize success in the year ahead with something at which you've failed over and over again. Keep the faith, keep plugging and good things can happen.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Don't let fear defeat you today. Tasks or responsibilities with which you may have to deal will not be half as tough as you'll make them out to be. Major changes are ahead for Cancer in the coming year.

Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Try not to let a friend of yours who is having a bad day take it out on you, especially in front of people, but if he or she does, the best way to handle it is simply to brush it off.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — It's good to be tenacious about going after an important goal, but be careful not to use this same attribute today trying to do something that would actually work against you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — If you need or are seeking an honest appraisal of your thinking, do not ask it of someone who seldom endorses anyone's ideas or concepts. Negativism is destructive, not constructive.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — It's wonderful to have nice things, but not if a purchase would blow a hole in your budget. Be sensible today regarding the management of your financial resources.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Those independent qualities you possess might desert you today and cause you to lean too heavily on others. Unfortunately, they're unlikely to be able to prop you up.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Although you're a trooper, it might be difficult enough for you to handle your own affairs today, let alone take on the responsibilities of another. Let everyone fend for him or herself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — A social demand taken too seriously could turn into something very burdensome today. Keep everything in perspective so that what should be fun can be enjoyable for you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Grin and bear it today if your personal ambitions need to be put on the back burner in order to take care of a situation not of your own making. It's just a momentary delay.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Self-imposed negative thinking could cause unnecessary complications in communications with others. Relax; believe in yourself and others will as well.

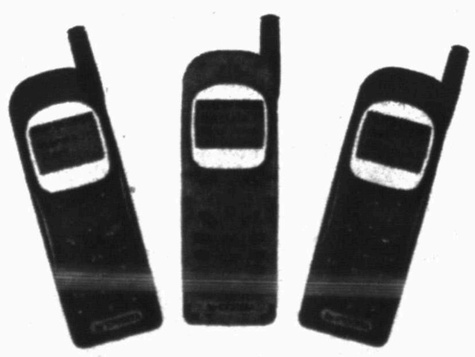
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Not everyone operates in accordance with high standards, and today you could run into just such a character while out shopping. Judge each transaction on its realistic merits.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Should you walk in with a negative view of someone, you can't expect to be successful in dealing with this person today. Prejudging is a behavior you need to lose.

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