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INSIDE

Lottery results 2
Lifestyles 3
Spirit pages 5-6
Sports 7
What's Up 12

WT-Int. Crude - $26.98
WTIC Posted - $23.75
Natural Gas - $2.420

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

Sept. 6, 2001
Vol. 53 No. 110
12 Pages 50¢

Home of Horace Bostick



DIRT WORK — TxDOT workers were busy this morning filling in gaps around the new sidewalks alongside recently finished East 37th Street. Orange cones and highway workers have become familiar sights along the roadway, but work is expected to be completed soon. (SDN Staff Photo)

Bush, Perry met to discuss Senate position

HOUSTON (AP) — President Bush has reportedly met with Gov. Rick Perry on a possible deal to set up a Texas Republican as successor to Sen. Phil Gramm, who says he won't seek a fourth term.

Four sources close to Bush and Perry told the Houston Chronicle in today's editions that the private discussion included possible inducements to get Gramm to resign now so Perry could appoint U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla in an effort to avoid a bloody Republican nominating contest for Gramm's seat.

The three-term senator said Tuesday he would not seek another term, meaning that his service in Washington ends in January 2003.

But the sources told the newspaper that Gramm did not want to quit his seat without some assurance that a good job was awaiting him. He also reportedly wanted a say in naming his successor. Texas A&M University, where Gramm spent 13 years teaching economics, is looking for a replacement for its president, who is leaving in June. A search committee is not scheduled to finish examining candidates until next year.

Gramm's wife, Wendy Lee Gramm, is on the A&M board of regents. His announcement set off a scramble among possible successors. But if Gramm resigned now, Perry would appoint an interim replacement and call a special election that would be open to all candidates without a party primary.

Republican leaders are worried a divisive GOP primary fight could improve the chances for a Democrat to win the Texas seat and tip the balance of power in the Senate farther away from the Republican majority that Bush needs to pursue his agenda. Democrats now control the Senate 50-49.

A presidential spokesman confirmed the meeting between Bush and Perry at the White House, just before Bush's first state dinner hosting Mexican President Vicente Fox. But the spokesman contended it was a social meeting with no agenda.

Kathy Walt, a Perry spokesman, also confirmed the meeting but said she did not know the topic discussed and that the two speak frequently by phone.

"I know the governor was scheduled to meet very briefly with the president," Walt said. "That was set up before the Gramm announcement."

Larry Neal, a Gramm spokesman, said the senator was unaware of any meetings to discuss his possible early resignation and that Gramm would not get involved in the Republican primary to pick his successor.

Gramm would have agreed to resign two weeks ago if he and Perry could have agreed on his successor's name, according to the four sources.

The sources said Gramm favored Bonilla, R-San Antonio, R-San Antonio, while Perry favored Texas Railroad Commissioner Tony Garza.

"So far, he (Gramm) is still saying no," a source said.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "The best way to enjoy a garden is to live next door to a good one and cultivate your neighbor."

Snyder's Bunk Casey tells about having met Paul Harvey — twice.

Bunk was attending a cotton ginners' convention and was standing near the doorway when the popular radio commentator entered the room.

Paul Harvey gave Bunk a warm greeting and then was rushed to the head table.

When the banquet was finished, Harvey again gave Casey a firm handshake as he exited the meeting hall.

Bunk said everybody at the meeting thought he and Harvey were old friends.

Folks who have listened to Harvey over the years do feel a closeness. We were offered a copy of a recent commentary about what he — and most grandparents — would wish for those grandkids:

"I'd really like for them to know about hand me down clothes and homemade ice cream and leftover meat loaf sandwiches.

"I hope you learn humility by being humiliated, and that you learn honesty by being cheated.

"I hope you learn to make your own bed and mow the lawn and wash the car. And I really hope that nobody gives you a brand new car when you're 16.

"It will be good if at least one time you can see puppies born and your old dog put to sleep.

"I hope you get a black eye fighting for something you believe in. I hope you have to share a bedroom with your younger brother. And it's all right to draw a line down the middle of the room, but when he wants to crawl under the covers with you because he's scared, I hope you let him.

"I hope you have to walk to school and that you live in a town where you can do it safely. On rainy days when you have to catch a ride, I hope you don't ask your driver to drop you two blocks away so you won't be seen riding with someone as uncool as your Mom.

"If you want a slingshot, I hope your Dad teaches you how to make one instead of buying one.

"I hope you dig in the dirt and read books. When you learn to use computers, I hope you also learn to add and subtract in your head.

"I hope you get teased by your friends and have your first crush on a girl, and when you talk back to your mother that you learn what soap tastes like.

"May you skin your knee climbing a mountain, burn your hand on a stove and stick your tongue to a flagpole.

"I don't care if you try a beer once, but I hope you don't like it.

"And if a friend offers you dope or a joint, I hope you realize he is not your friend...

"These things I wish for you – tough times and disappointment, hard work and happiness. To me, it's the only way to appreciate life.

"Written with a pen. Sealed with a kiss...And if I die before you do, I'll go to Heaven and wait for you."

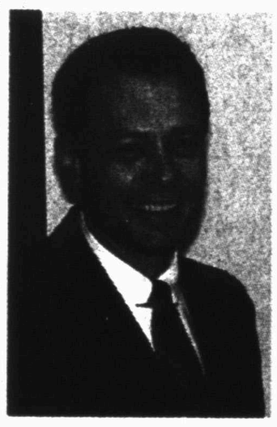
For fundraising...

WTC names Noblett development officer

Western Texas College's plan to seek outside funding took a step forward Tuesday with the naming of a development officer.

Dennis Noblett of Canyon will begin duties Oct. 1.

WTC president Dr. Greg Williams said that Noblett will be recommended to the board of trustees at its Monday meeting. Salary for the newly-created position is $40,000.



Dennis Noblett

Noblett, 44, currently is minister of the Calvary Baptist Church in Canyon.

Nobblet said of his job change, "the direction has changed, but the calling has not.

"I have discovered that I can be more effective in ministry in some ways without having reverend in front of my name. "My calling is to have positive impact on peoples' lives and I saw development work as that avenue."

Noblett said two points led him to accept the post at WTC.

"First, there is a new president and a new chapter is going to be written for the school's history. I want to be part of the team that helps write that chapter," he said. "Secondly, WTC is in a small city full of friendly people. I'm excited because things are going to happen here and I'm going to be a direct part of that."

Noblett is a native of West Texas. He graduated from Plainview High School and Wayland Baptist University.

Noblett and his wife, Susan, have three children. Their son, Tyler, is 10 and will be a fifth grader at Northeast Elementary.

The couple also have 5-year old twin daughters, Abby and Jessie.

Noblett said he looks forward to moving to Snyder.

"Everyone I've talked to, both on campus and off, has two things in common," he said. "There is a great group of people here that welcome newcomers with open arms and a willingness to help facilitate their feeling at home. Also Snyder is an excellent community to rear and educate your children."

Noblett said he is looking forward to meeting and becoming acquainted with the people in Snyder and building relationships. "And I'm being genuine about that."

The employment of Noblett is a step towards fund-raising goals put forth by Williams when he took over as president in July.

"I think Dennis is energetic and has a solid background," Williams said. "He is a good person and he wants to come here and have a positive impact on WTC and on Snyder."

Williams said 16 applicants vied for the new position and three interviews were granted.

"He's going to lead our efforts in seeking funds to support our school," Williams said. "He will also do a lot of grant writing and coordinating our efforts in that area."

Turnrow meeting set

Scurry County's Texas Cooperative Extension Service will hold a cotton-sorghum turnrow meeting at 8:30 a.m. Friday at the Keith Clements farm northeast of Ira.

Growers can observe a cotton-sorghum rotation demonstration as well as discuss wheat stubble management and bindweed control.

Stephen Biles, Scurry County IPM agent, and Calvin Trostle, extension agronomist from Lubbock, will discuss the demonstration and other current crop management issues.

CEUs will be given and additional information can be obtained from the extension office at 573-5423.

Executive privilege to be evoked over Justice documents

WASHINGTON (AP) — Prepared to invoke executive privilege for the first time, President Bush is moving toward a showdown with a GOP-led House panel over whether lawmakers are entitled to see documents about prosecutors' decision making.

Senior administration officials told The Associated Press that Bush has accepted the advice of White House counsel Alberto Gonzales and is ready to make an executive privilege claim to keep the House Government Reform Committee from seeing memos involving three Clinton-era criminal cases.

The committee planned to up the ante today by serving Attorney General John Ashcroft with a subpoena demanding access to the documents and expanding its request to cover even more cases.

Ironically, the battle against the Bush administration is being waged by a fellow Republican, Rep. Dan Burton of Indiana. He argues the administration's stance is a threat to Congress' oversight responsibility.

"If this unprecedented policy is permitted to stand, Congress will not be able to exercise meaningful oversight of the executive branch," Burton said.

Executive privilege is a doctrine recognized by the courts that ensures presidents may get candid advice in private without fear of it becoming public.

The privilege, however, is best known for the unsuccessful attempts by former Presidents Nixon and Clinton to keep evidence secret during impeachment investigations.

Gonzales has recommended that Bush make the privilege claim if Burton's committee subpoenas the memos or seeks to question Ashcroft about them, administration officials said.

The Bush administration knows of at least four other instances in which executive privilege was cited involving similar documents, the officials said.

A senior administration official said that while the memos involve cases during Clinton's presidency, Bush was prepared to invoke the privilege and create a clear policy that prosecutors' discussions should be off-limits from congressional scrutiny.

White House lawyers and the president concluded that "the fair administration of justice requires complete deliberations."

ASK US

Q—Can the county judge or a county commissioner be impeached?

A—No. According to the Texas Secretary of State's office, there is no election recall procedure for elected county positions.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Wednesday, 82 degrees; low, 67; 7 a.m. Thursday, 67; no precipitation; total for 2001, 11.14 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, clear, low around 70, S winds 10-20 mph. Friday, mostly sunny, breezy, high in mid 90s, SW winds 15-25 mph, becoming N late.



Taran Clemmons
Sunny

Sunset:
8:01 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:24 a.m.

Of 248 days in 2001, the sun has shone 236 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Unhappiness is in not knowing what we want and killing ourselves to get it.
—Don Herold

SEP 06 2001

Spy software used to track activities of estranged wife

LIVONIA, Mich. (AP) — When Steven Paul Brown and his wife separated, authorities say he installed spy software on her computer that would allow him to track her every keystroke and read every file and message.

Buying the software is perfectly legal, but if a court determines Brown used it the way Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm thinks he did, it could land him in prison for up to five years, Granholm said Wednesday.

"Just like breaking into someone's home, breaking into a person's computer is a crime," Granholm said. "These are crimes that hurt people because they make them feel vulnerable."

Brown, 41, was charged with installing an eavesdropping device, eavesdropping, using a computer to commit a crime and having unauthorized computer access. He could not be reached for comment Wednesday.

Granholm said Brown used a commercially available program called eBlaster to hack into his estranged wife's computer at her home in Warren this spring. The program caused all her Web surfing and Internet communication to be e-mailed to Brown as frequently as every 30 minutes without her knowledge, Granholm said.

When Brown allegedly shared some of that information with his estranged wife's friend, the Michigan Attorney General's High Tech Crime Unit was alerted and investigators seized Brown's computer equipment.

Wall Street does not approve of merger of HP and Compaq

SAN JOSE, Calif. (AP) — Investors pounded the stocks of Hewlett-Packard Co. and Compaq Computer Corp. to 52-week lows Wednesday, showing that Wall Street has yet to be convinced HP's acquisition of Compaq is a good idea.

HP shares lost 4 percent, or 79 cents, to $18.21 on the New York Stock Exchange. The price has fallen 22 percent since HP's stock swap with Houston-based Compaq was announced late Monday, dropping the value of the deal from $25 billion to $19.5 billion now.

Compaq's stock, down 16 percent since the deal was announced, fell 67 cents Wednesday to $10.41.

The acquisition still must be approved by regulators, and shareholders of both companies.

But analysts said Wall Street's initial reaction to the deal in no way means shareholders are likely to shoot it down.

"I would say the chance of Compaq shareholders vetoing this is low," said Andrew Neff of Bear Stearns. "They needed to do something." But he added that HP and Compaq still need to "go out and try and sell this."

Some analysts have suggested Compaq shareholders aren't getting a great deal — since HP is not paying a premium for Compaq, and their agreement does not contain a "collar" that would set a minimum price.

"We consider it unfortunate that at the end of the day Compaq shareholders effectively are getting a bigger, but less well-managed version of the original company while at the same time having to deal with all of the execution issues around the proposed integration," Merrill Lynch analyst Steve Fortuna wrote in a research report.

The companies together would become the world's leading personal-computer maker and extend the lead Houston-based Compaq already has in sales of computer servers. The companies also hope to broaden their high-tech consulting and support services, a strategy that has proven lucrative for rival IBM Corp.

But even analysts who believe the deal makes sense say combining the companies' massive organizations while staying focused on consumers will be extremely difficult.

"If they can make this work, this will be one of THE deals ever in the electronics space, because they will have created one of the only companies out there that can challenge IBM," said Lehman Bros. analyst Daniel Niles. But he added: "This is going to be the biggest integration challenge anyone's ever faced."

That could end up helping the current leader in the PC business, Round Rock, Texas-based Dell Computer Corp.

"We've found that when there's turmoil and confusion around us, that generally increased opportunities for us," its founder and chief executive, Michael Dell, said Wednesday in Nashville, Tenn. "I don't see any reason we can't continue to grow our market share quite dramatically."

Appeal turned down

NEW YORK (AP) — A federal judge has rejected an appeal by a police officer who was convicted of helping torture a Haitian immigrant in a precinct bathroom.

Judge Eugene Nickerson said Wednesday there was no proof that prosecutors suppressed evidence that would have cleared Charles Schwarz, 36, in the jailhouse beating of immigrant Abner Louima.

The Second Circuit Court of Appeals had asked Nickerson to review evidence not heard by the jury to determine whether it might undermine Schwarz's conviction. The court still must make a final ruling on his bid for a new trial.

Schwarz is serving 15 years for holding down Louima while another officer, Justin Volpe, assaulted him with a broomstick in a Brooklyn stationhouse in 1997. Volpe was sentenced to 30 years.

In August, former police investigator Patrick Walsh testified that he tried to warn superiors that a key eyewitness who implicated Schwarz in the attack was unreliable.

Walsh said patrolman Eric Turetzky couldn't make a positive identification of the officer who led Louima to a police station bathroom where the attack took place.

Several ranking investigators testified Walsh never told them about Turetzky's confusion. Turetzky also said he was certain Schwarz was the patrolman who took Louima toward the bathroom.

Nickerson, in his 34-page ruling, called Turetzky "manifestly credible." In contrast, he said he "did not find Walsh very credible."

Walsh surfaced with his allegations only this year. The judge questioned why it took Walsh so long to come forward, and agreed with government arguments that the witness's memory of what Turetzky had said was faulty and fogged by alcohol abuse.

events

Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) No tickets correctly matched all six numbers drawn Wednesday night for the twice-weekly Lotto Texas game, state lottery officials said.

The ticket was worth an estimated $6 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 1-9-10-14-15-18

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $9 million.

Pick 3

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

2-0-4

(two, zero, four)

Too much rain hurts Ft. Bend cotton crops

HOUSTON (AP) — Daily storms that have amounted to about 20 inches of rain in Fort Bend County have destroyed about half the county's cotton crop, soaking opened bolls, staining the lint and causing seeds to sprout.

Gary Smith of the Smith Farmers Gin in Needville said the rain has been "a real disaster for farmers and ginners." Smith expected to gin about 20,000 bales of cotton this year. So far, he has ginned 8,000 with the equivalent of 3,000 bales waiting at the gin to be processed.

Smith said in a story in today's Houston Chronicle that about half the 60,000 acres planted with cotton this year in the county were still in the fields when the rain began and are lost.

Richard Zwahr, who farms with his son Jason near Needville, estimates the rain has cost him $125,000. His father, Lloyd, hasn't seen anything as bad in his 52 years of growing cotton.

Smith said the seed that sprouted is worthless. It would normally have been sold for its oil and protein. The stained and discolored fibers may bring less than 12 cents a pound, a fraction of the depressed market price for quality fibers.

Smith said it would be 10 days to two weeks before the soil dries enough to support machines designed to pick the cotton.

The damage wasn't limited to Fort Bend County. Cotton economist Carl Anderson of Texas A&M University said damage was reported in Central Texas all the way up to Waco.

"There could be several hundred thousand bales in jeopardy," he said.

Berry's World



Date Book

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2001

Today is the 249th day of 2001 and the 78th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1869, a coal-mine accident in Avondale, Pa., claimed the lives of 110 people.

On this day in 1930, "Blondie," a comic strip created by Chic Young, appeared in newspapers for the first time.

On this day in 1975, Czech tennis player Martina Navratilova requested political asylum in the United States.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Marquis de Lafayette (1757-1834), Revolutionary War hero; Jane Addams (1860-1935), social reformer; Joseph P. Kennedy (1888-1969), financier-diplomat; Billy Rose (1899-1966), theatrical producer; Swoosie Kurtz (1944-), actress, is 57; Jane Curtin (1947-), actress, is 54.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1943, Woody Williams of the Cincinnati Reds hit his 10th consecutive base hit, tying a National League record.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Social advance depends as much upon the process through which it is secured as upon the result itself." — Jane Addams

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (Sept. 2) and last quarter (Sept. 10).

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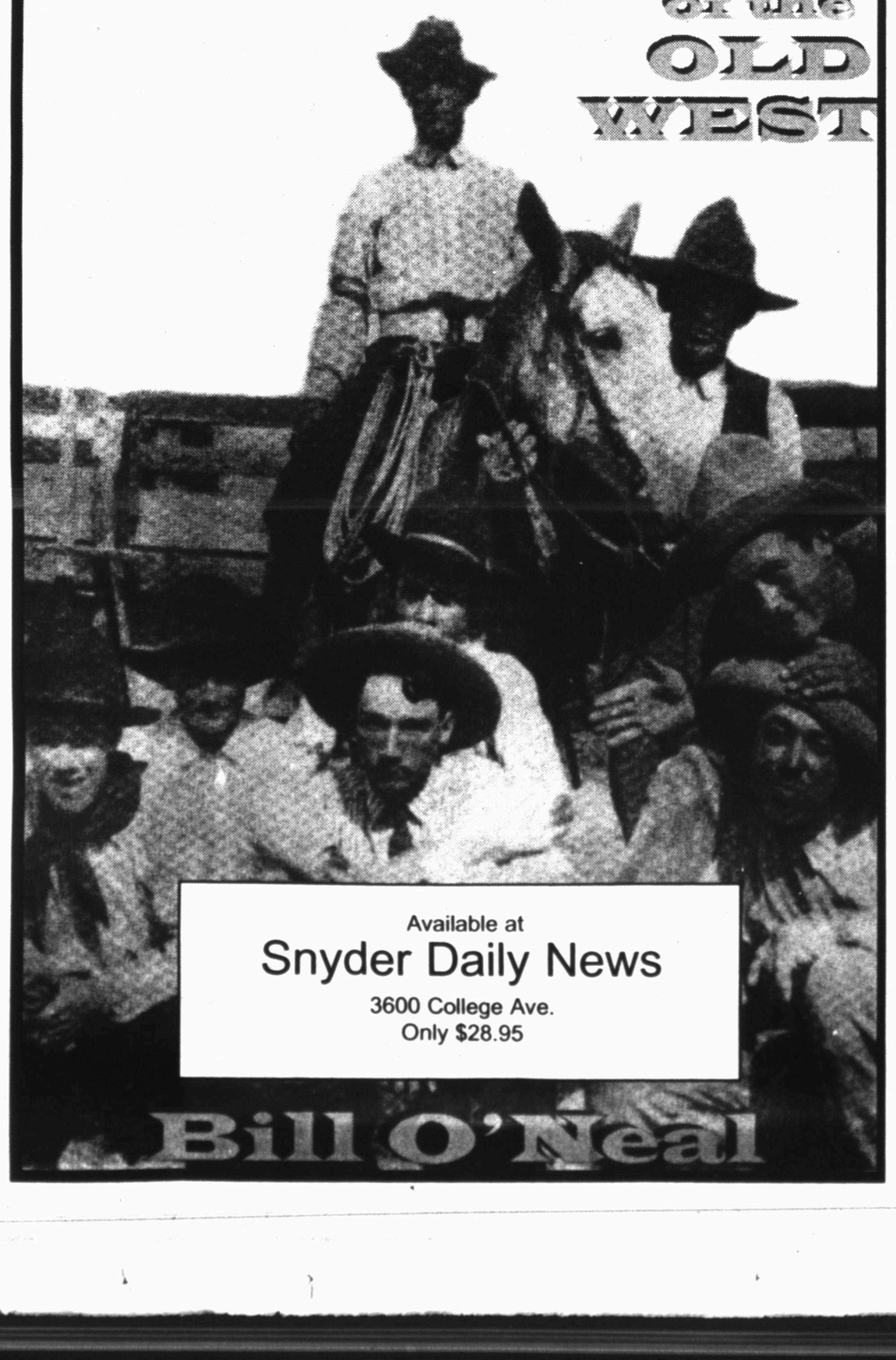
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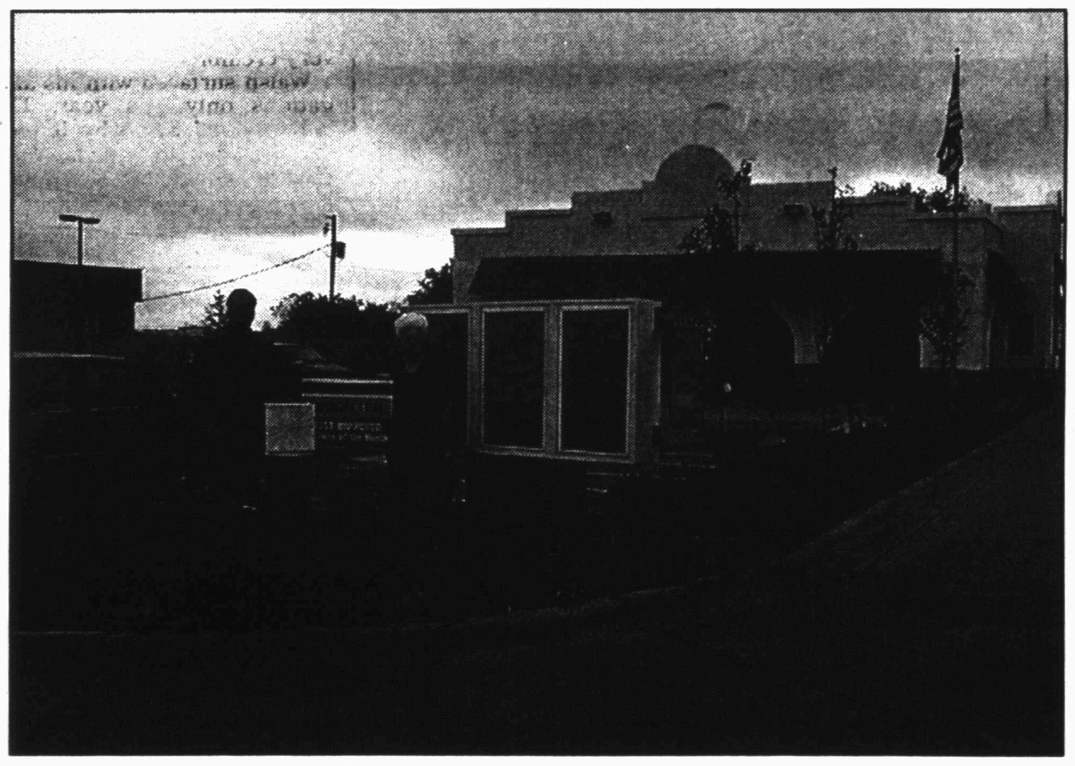


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Rock and Roll C
evening meeting
Community Cent
information call 8
p.m.
Deep Creek C
son; American Le
8 p.m.
New Horizons
meeting; for info
573-4048, 573-82
1141; 8 p.m.
Nuestra Nueva
AA; Park Club; for
call 573-8494 or
p.m.
FRID
Free blood pres
Senior Citizens Ce
11 a.m.
Blood pressur
taken at Cogde
Home Health Se
Cogdell Blvd., Suit







YARDS OF THE MONTH — Gussie Gray, Pam Jones and Sandra Browning, members of the Snyder Garden Club, chose the yards of the month for September. In the top photo Browning is shown with winner of the small yard of the month, Lola Byrd of 3000 38th Street. In the middle picture Browning is shown with the large yard of the month winner, Dr. Jay Kidd at 3311 48th Street. In the bottom photo is winner of the most improved business, Taco John's. Browning presents the sign to Jim Downs, general manager. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	09-06-01
	♠ 7 4 2	
	♥ 5 3 2	
	♦ K Q 5	
	♣ K 9 7 6	
West		**East**
♠ A 9 8 5		♠ 3
♥ K J 9 6		♥ A 10 8 7
♦ 9 4		♦ 8 6 3 2
♣ 5 3 2		♣ Q J 8 4
	South	
	♠ K Q J 10 6	
	♥ Q 4	
	♦ A J 10 7	
	♣ A 10	

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	2 ♠	Pass
3 ♦	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ??

Thursday, Sept. 6, 2001

Constant in nothing but inconstancy.

The last three deals of the week contain a constant spade situation, but feature an inconstancy of possibilities.

First, you are sitting West. What would you lead against four spades?

South might jump straight to game, but his chosen three-diamond rebid is called a help-suit game-try. North, with good help in diamonds and a maximum, has an automatic jump to game.

With four trumps, your initial thought should be to try to tap declarer — to make him ruff in hand. So, the heart-six lead stands out.

Partner wins with the ace and returns the seven, his original fourth-highest. After you capture South's queen with your king, where do you turn?

You can see three tricks: the spade ace and two hearts. But from where is number four coming? Given the auction, South presumably has the club and diamond aces. (And if he is lacking one of those, there is no hurry to cash partner's winner.) Also, surely South can play the diamond suit without loss. The right approach is to aim for a second trump trick. Continue with a third heart.

Declarer ruffs, then attacks trumps. You must duck until the third round, when dummy is playing its final spade. Then a fourth heart forces out declarer's last spade. Your fourth trump is the setting trick.

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The variety of bridge situations

By Phillip Alder

Richard Barnfield, who died in 1627, wrote:

Nothing more certain than uncertainties;
Fortune is full of fresh variety:

Constitution week will be observed

"We the People of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, ensure domestic tranquillity, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." Celebrate the Preamble to our Constitution – whose well-known words written over 200 years ago – by learning more about the grand document they precede during Constitution Week, Sept. 17-23. You'll discover a deeper appreciation for its simple yet prudent statements of law.

This announcement was provided by the National Society, Daughters of the American Revolution, Martin Preuitt Chapter.



BABY SHOWER HELD — Joshua Deacon Lehrer, newborn son of Robert and Liesel Lehrer of Snyder was honoree at a shower. Joshua has a two-year-old brother, Jake. Pictured from left are Erma Daniel, maternal grandmother from Rotan; Joshua; and Joshua's and Jake's mother, Liesel. (Contributed Photo)

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-4048, 573-8268 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

Nuestra Nueva Esperanza AA; Park Club; for information call 573-8494 or 573-1141; 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 574-1292 or 573-9458; 8 p.m.

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

Graffiti artists got carried away with paint

ST. LOUIS (AP) — An annual event in which top graffiti artists get the green light to decorate a flood wall has been canned after allegations that the artists haven't been staying within the lines.

Last year over Labor Day weekend, about 200 artists in town for "Paint Louis" spent the holiday painting a mile-long stretch of Mississippi River flood wall. But police believe that a few of the artists got carried away, vandalizing public property.

Organizer Elani Meyers didn't apply for a permit to hold the event this year.

St. Louis police reported that vandals spray-painted some railway cars last year, and Paint Louis organizers said vandals also struck downtown businesses. In nearby Bridgeton, two businesses were damaged, one of them a restaurant chain whose four trucks were spray-painted.

"I went down there, and some of the stuff I saw was amazing, but once you do it without permission, then you're talking property damage," Bridgeton Detective Lance Harris told the St. Louis Post-Dispatch last year.

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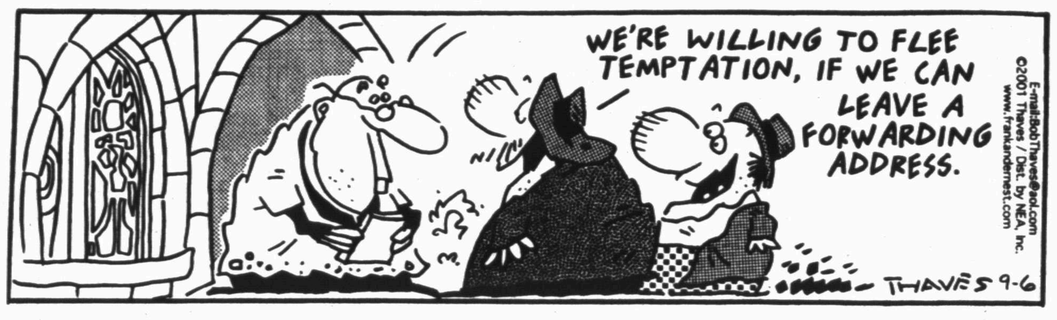
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



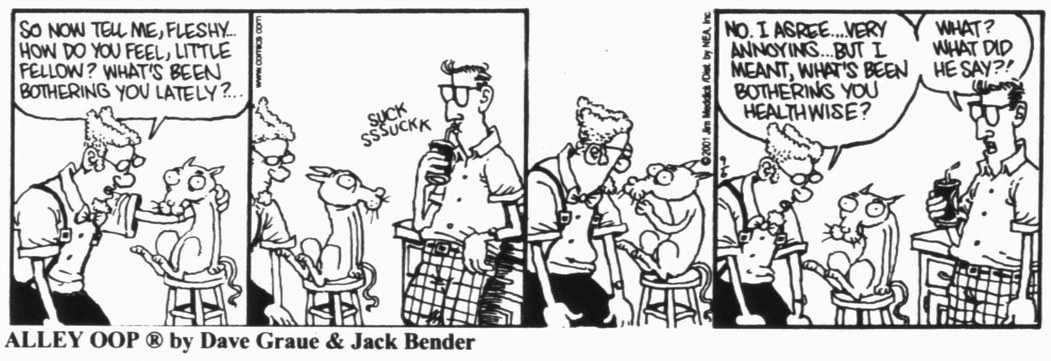
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



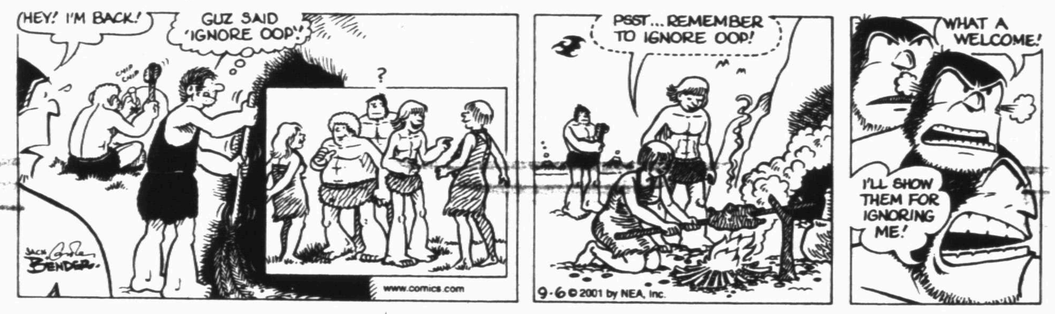
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THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Halloween figures
7 See 1 Across
13 Media mogul Murdoch
14 Small wave
15 Mar
16 Refrigerator
17 Comic Philips
18 Limb
20 Hurricane center
21 Tale of adventure
23 Edible seed
24 Scoundrels
25 Covered with moisture
27 Talent seekers
29 Greek island
31 Sixth sense (abbr.)
32 Deli bread
33 Unclaimed mail dept.
34 In abundance
37 Highly seasoned dish
40 Telephone svce.
41 "Gram" start
43 Close relative
45 Timetable abbr.
46 A Bobbsey twin
47 Wildebeest
48 Conceive
51 Economical
54 Boat, e.g.
55 Market again
56 A thing unto itself
57 Reluctant

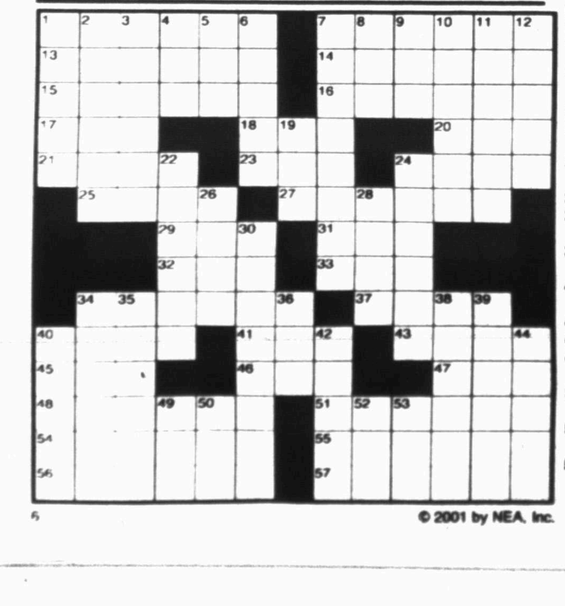
DOWN

1 "Peer Gynt" composer
2 Sang without moving the lips
3 Be against
4 Adriatic, e.g.
5 "Cycle" start
6 Purse part
7 Winced
8 Sot's word
9 Unlock (poet.)
10 Cheerful
11 Bentsen and Bridges
12 Male and female
19 Phone-book abbr.
22 Rotates
24 Dome
26 Toy on a string
28 European capital
30 Calmly
34 Homeowner's pride
35 Not moving (2 wds.)
36 Clean-air org.
38 Small sailing vessel
39 Historical records
40 Relinquish (rights)
42 — -red
44 Veil material
49 "Do — — say"
50 Southeast Asian holiday
52 Clergyman's title
53 Put into practice

Answer to Previous Puzzle

E	T	Y	M	O	N		E	T	C	H	E D
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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"SOMEHOW, I KNEW IT WAS FROM YOU, DENNIS."

"I told your boss you'll be out sick for ten years."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright





GO TIGERS!



1002 60 PES

STAN

Floyd
Cypert
Rodriguez
Drennan

Littlefield at Snyd
Trent at Borden
Verbeet at Ira
Hermleigh at Ira
Hermleigh at Bo
Lake View at Ro
Plainview at Ro
Pampa at Estac
Frenship at Can
Palo Duro at Le
New Mexico at T
TCU at SMU
Kansas State at
Notre Dame at
Michigan at Was
Tampa Bay at D
Indianapolis at
Miami at Tennes
St. Louis at Phil
Oakland at Kans

Leaf

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Sammy Baug

The 10th annua
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Entry deadline
WTC pro shop.

Western Tex

The Men's Golf
ly event at 6 p.m.
shop by 5:30.

Tuesday scra

The Men's Golf
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Also, an all-day

WGA play da

The Women's
weekly play day a

Sampras edg

NEW YORK (A
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ARLINGTON
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65 RBIs in 111 ga

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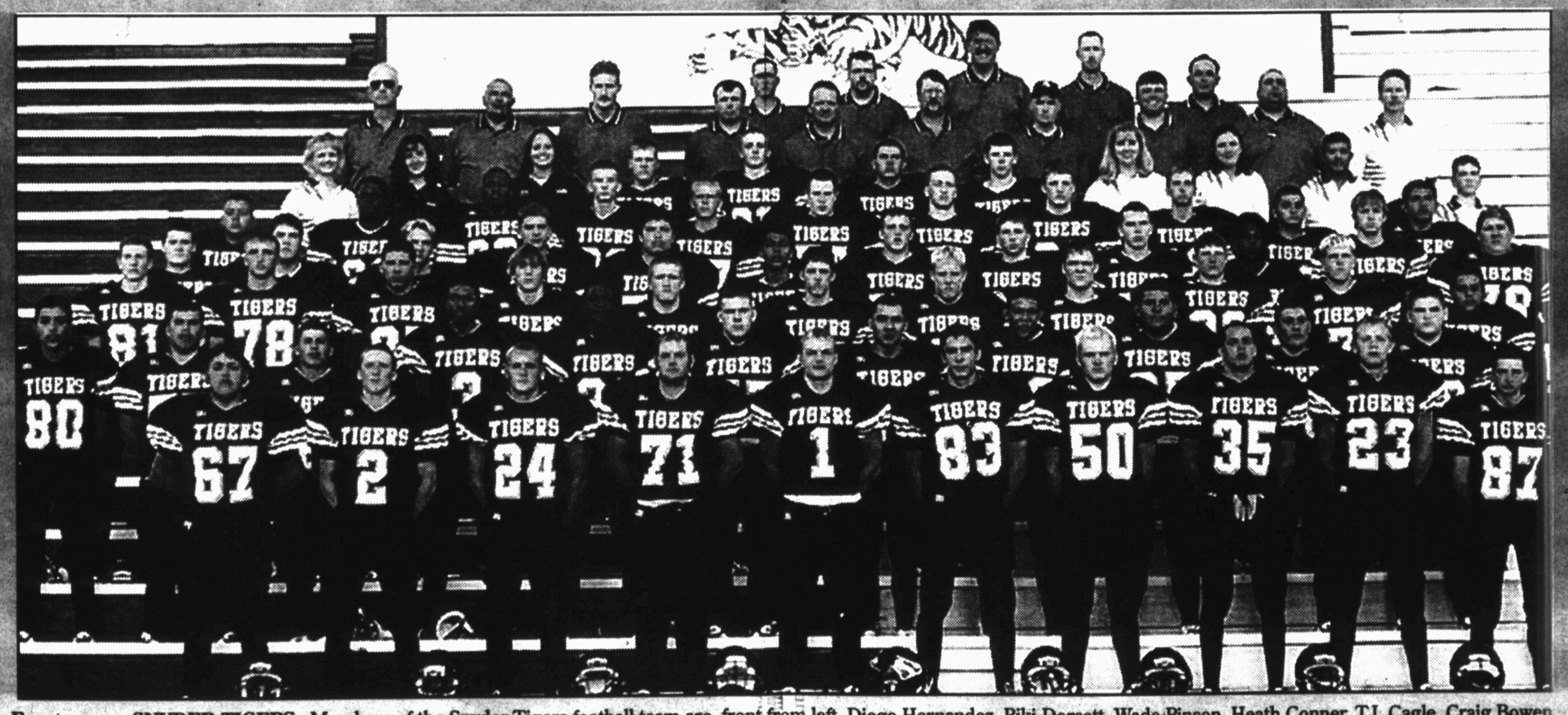
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9:30 am
Evening Worship
6:00 pm

2001 SNYDER TIGERS!!!



Front row — SNYDER TIGERS - Members of the Snyder Tigers football team are, front from left, Diego Hernandez, Riki Dorsett, Wade Pinson, Heath Conner, T.J. Cagle, Craig Bowen, Adam Owen, Justin Pechacek, Shay Franks and Jeffrey Proctor. On the second row are Jonathan Garza, Adrian Perez, Billy Pena, Bradley Spells, Jammall Pruitt, Monty Smith, Samuel Arizmendi, Corey Clay, Stephen Ortegon, Josh Montoya and Josh Knox. On the third row are Jason Guynes, Michael Murphrey, Josh Mendoza, Tyler Pollard, Danny Hoyle, Tyler Kerr, Randal Rich, Colby Driggers, Chance Greenwood, Clay Williams and Daniel Gutierrez. On the fourth row are Barrett Munson, Trey Jenkins, Andrew Bane, Brock Tyrrell, Isidro Gutierrez, Boicy Martinez, Kendall Tidwell, Brad English, T. J. Jones, Josh McGaha, Logan Hill and Patrick Alderete. On the fifth row are Ruben Deloera, Demetris Brandon, Malcom Wells, Justin Boyd, Cody Wall, Clayton Floyd, Jon Thomas, Josh Kemp, Blake Grimmett, Isaac Ramon and Eric Gonzales. On the sixth row are Ashley Jenkins, J.J. Mandrell, Lacy Hackfeld, Cody Appleton, Tucker Early, Jacob Rodriguez, Zack Cain, Lilli Valdez, Sara Boley, Tim Gutierrez and Jeff Neal. On the back row are Tommy Doyle, Roland Herrera, Kyle Freeman, Buster Mabrey, Waymond Holland, Chad Rogers, Derrick Price, Roger White, Bud Birks, Zack Williams, Bill Bell, Charlie Bollinger, Ralph Ramon, Armando Martinez and Steve Krueger. Not pictured are Brooks Nunley and Stacy Bunch.

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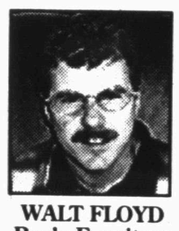
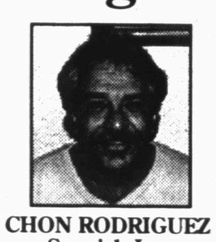
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Snyder's Pigskin Prognosticators

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Veribest at Ira	Ira	Ira	Ira	Ira
Hermleigh at Borden County JV	Hermleigh	Hermleigh	Hermleigh	Hermleigh
Andrews vs. Borger	Andrews	Andrews	Andrews	Andrews
Lake View at Kerrville Tivy	Kerrville Tivy	Kerrville Tivy	Kerrville Tivy	Kerrville Tivy
Plainview at Amarillo High	Plainview	Plainview	Plainview	Plainview
Pampa at Estacado	Pampa	Estacado	Estacado	Estacado
Frenship at Canyon	Frenship	Frenship	Frenship	Frenship
Palo Duro at Levelland	Levelland	Levelland	Levelland	Palo Duro
New Mexico at Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech
TCU at SMU	TCU	TCU	TCU	TCU
Kansas State at Southern Cal	Kansas State	Kansas State	Southern Cal	Kansas State
Notre Dame at Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska
Michigan at Washington	Michigan	Washington	Michigan	Michigan
Tampa Bay at Dallas	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay	Tampa Bay
Indianapolis at NY Jets	Indianapolis	Indianapolis	NY Jets	Indianapolis
Miami at Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee	Tennessee
St. Louis at Philadelphia	St. Louis	St. Louis	Philadelphia	Philadelphia
Oakland at Kansas City	Kansas City	Kansas City	Oakland	Oakland

Leaf's future with Cowboys uncertain

IRVING (AP) — As if his career didn't have enough problems, Ryan Leaf is in jeopardy of being knocked out of a second season in three years because of an injury.

Leaf, the second pick in the 1998 draft, thought he was going to join his third team in six months on Wednesday until a wrist problem caused him to fail a physical with the Dallas Cowboys.

"It was an injury that concerned us enough that we couldn't make a decision to put him on the roster," Cowboys owner Jerry Jones said. "I know he was disappointed. I don't know that he was surprised. There's no question he was surprised it would impact our decision as much as it did."

The injury bothered Leaf during his brief stay with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, causing him occasional pain and forcing him to miss two practices, coach Tony Dungy said. Dungy said finances were the reason the Bucs released him Monday.

Leaf missed the 1999 season because of a shoulder injury. It was one of many, many things that went wrong during a three-year stay in San Diego that ended when he was waived in March.

Personality clashes with teammates, team officials and fans left Leaf with a bad-boy image. On the field, he was 4-14 as a starter and threw far more interceptions (33) than touchdowns (13).

The Cowboys were interested in signing Leaf when the Chargers dumped him, but couldn't afford him. The dollars would've worked this time, but the wrist didn't.

Leaf's agent David Dunn said that once his client heals, there could be a third attempt to strike a deal with Dallas.

"I think Ryan thinks the world of Jerry and the Cowboys organization. My feeling is Jerry feels the same way about Ryan," Dunn said.

Dallas had a two-year contract ready for Leaf and had already prepared a locker for him. His name and number, 16, were written in black on a white strip of tape at the first cubicle inside the locker room. Three pairs of shoes with his number printed on the heel, a white practice jersey and a helmet also were awaiting him.

Leaf never even saw it. Around 3 p.m. Wednesday he was driven away from the team's headquarters. He ducked in the front seat to avoid being seen by photographers.

"Ryan was excited with the Cowboys opportunity and he couldn't be more disappointed about how it turned out," Dunn said.

The Cowboys were interested in Leaf as their third stringer behind rookie starter Quincy Carter and second year backup Anthony Wright.

"We felt we wanted to get a first-hand look at what we'd studied in the offseason," coach Dave Campo said. "It's a shame he didn't pass the physical, but there's nothing you can do about that."

Sports Briefs

Raffle for $10,000

A raffle for a one-year West Texas State Bank CD worth $10,000 will be held during halftime of Friday's football game between Snyder and Littlefield. Kickoff is 8 p.m.

Tickets can be purchased from any member of the Snyder Tiger Football Booster Club. Cost is $50. The winner does not have to be present to win.

Hunter education class

A course in hunter education will be held Sept 15 and 16. All hunters born on or after Sept. 2, 1971 must complete the course.

Students 12 years of age or older will receive a hunter education certificate. Students under 12 receive a certificate of attendance, but must take the course again for proper certification.

Cost of the course is $10 and class size is limited. For more information, or to pre-register call Gene or Nancy Bowlin at 573-2323.

Volleyball tourney

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Youth Ministry will host a co-ed volleyball tournament Sept. 16. For more information, call Luis Alaniz at 573-7321.

Sammy Baugh tournament

The 10th annual "Slingin" Sammy Baugh Snyder Golf Tournament will be held Saturday at Western Texas College. Proceeds benefit Snyder ISD golf programs.

Format is four-person scramble and cost is $140 per team. Shotgun starts are scheduled for 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded with $600 going to the winning team.

Entry deadline is Friday. Registration forms can be picked up at the WTC pro shop.

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.

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 8:30 a.m. Tuesday. Format is best poker hand.

Sampras edges Agassi

NEW YORK (AP) — Pete Sampras, taking another huge step in his remarkable resurgence, edged longtime rival Andre Agassi 6-7 (7), 7-6 (2), 7-6 (2), 7-6 (5) in a quarterfinal thriller.

On Friday, Sampras plays No. 3-seeded Marat Safin. Safin advanced earlier by defeating Mariano Zabaleta 6-4, 6-4, 6-2.

Pudge opts for surgery

ARLINGTON (AP) — For the second straight year, the Texas Rangers will be forced to finish the season without catcher Ivan Rodriguez.

The 10-time All-Star decided to have surgery on his aching left knee after traveling to Los Angeles for an examination by orthopedist Dr. Lewis Yocum, the Anaheim Angels' doctor.

Rodriguez's other option was rest and medication with hope that the patella tendon inflammation would subside.

Rodriguez finished the season with a .308 average, 25 homers and 65 RBIs in 111 games.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	75	64	.540	—
Philadelphia	72	67	.518	3
New York	68	72	.486	7½
Florida	65	74	.468	10
Montreal	60	79	.432	15

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	82	57	.590	—
Chicago	77	62	.554	5
St. Louis	76	63	.547	6
Milwaukee	61	78	.439	21
Cincinnati	56	83	.403	26
Pittsburgh	53	86	.381	29

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Arizona	79	60	.568	—
San Francisco	77	63	.550	2½
Los Angeles	76	63	.547	3
San Diego	69	71	.493	10½
Colorado	61	77	.442	17½

Wednesday's Games

Montreal 10, Atlanta 4
Houston 10, Cincinnati 3
Florida 7, Chicago Cubs 6
Pittsburgh 5, Milwaukee 1
N.Y. Mets 7, Philadelphia 4
Los Angeles 7, Colorado 2
St. Louis 2, San Diego 0
Arizona 7, San Francisco 2

Thursday's Games

Arizona (Lopez 3-4) at San Francisco (Jensen 1-2), 3:35 p.m.
Philadelphia (Person 13-6) at Montreal (Pavano 0-3), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Acevedo 4-6) at Pittsburgh (D.Williams 2-6), 7:05 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Appier 7-10) at Florida (Penny 7-8), 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Coppinger 1-0) at Houston (Reynolds 11-10), 8:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Adams 11-6) at Colorado (Hampton 13-10), 9:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

Atlanta (Maddux 17-8) at Chicago Cubs (Wood 10-6), 3:20 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Rusch 6-10) at Florida (Burnett 9-10), 7:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Davis 6-2) at Pittsburgh (McKnight 2-3), 7:05 p.m.
Philadelphia (Duckworth 2-0) at Montreal (Vazquez 15-11), 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee (Suzuki 3-5) at Houston (Miller 15-7), 8:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Brown 9-4) at St. Louis (Hermanson 12-11), 8:10 p.m.
San Francisco (L.Hernandez 12-13) at Colorado (Chacon 6-9), 9:05 p.m.
San Diego (Tollberg 7-4) at Arizona (Johnson 18-6), 10:05 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	83	57	.593	—
Boston	72	65	.525	9½
Toronto	68	72	.486	15
Baltimore	55	84	.396	27½
Tampa Bay	50	90	.357	33

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	79	60	.568	—
Minnesota	73	66	.525	6
Chicago	72	67	.518	7
Kansas City	56	83	.403	23
Detroit	55	83	.399	23½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Seattle	100	40	.714	—
Oakland	83	57	.593	17
Anaheim	71	68	.511	28½
Texas	63	76	.453	36½

x-clinched playoff spot

Wednesday's Games

Oakland 12, Baltimore 6
N.Y. Yankees 4, Toronto 3
Boston 10, Cleveland 7
Minnesota 12, Texas 2
Chicago White Sox 5, Detroit 3
Seattle 12, Tampa Bay 6
Anaheim 4, Kansas City 1

Thursday's Games

Detroit (Weaver 10-14) at Chicago White Sox (Garland 6-5), 2:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Finley 5-6) at Boston (F.Castillo 8-7), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Radke 12-8) at Texas (Helling 10-9), 8:05 p.m.
Kansas City (Byrd 6-6) at Anaheim (Schoeneweis 10-9), 10:05 p.m.

Friday's Games

Toronto (Lyon 4-2) at Detroit (Lima 4-6), 7:05 p.m.
Boston (Martinez 7-2) at N.Y. Yankees (O.Hernandez 1-6), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Biddle 6-8) at Cleveland (Burba 10-9), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (K.Wilson 6-4) at Texas (Davis 8-8), 8:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Lohse 4-6) at Anaheim (Ortiz 11-8), 10:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Mercedes 7-16) at Seattle (Abbott 14-3), 10:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Rekar 1-12) at Oakland (Hiljus 2-0), 10:05 p.m.

Sunday, Sept. 9
American Legion kicks off
regular season of
DALLAS FOOTBALL
w/HAMBURGERS, FRIES
& CHERRY PIE
Donations appreciated.
Game time 12 noon
American Legion
1800 Ave. R
Members & Guests

In area six-man action...

Cards looking for positives in opener

If any team desperately needs something good to happen, it's the Hermleigh Cardinals.

After a winless, injury-riddled campaign last season, and only four victories the year before that, the Cardinals are hoping to gain some confidence Friday night.

"These kids need something, anything good to happen to them," said second-year coach Harley Ethridge. "They have been working hard for two years without much luck. They need to play well and be rewarded for their work."

Hermleigh opens the six-man football season at 5:30 Friday evening at Gail against Borden County junior varsity.

San Antonio Sunny Brook cancelled its scheduled season-opener with the Cardinals, leaving Ethridge to scramble for a game.

"When Sunny Brook cancelled, it was almost impossible for us to find a game," the Hermleigh coach stated. "Luckily, Borden's JV needed one, and we only have one senior on our team so both teams are about the same age."

In Friday's other area six-man action, Borden County varsity hosts Trent, and Ira welcomes Veribest to Bulldog Stadium. Both games get underway at 7:30.

Two Cardinals are questionable for Friday's contest, after missing workouts this week with illness. Senior starting center Jeremy Roemisch and freshman starting end Blaine Minton will be game-time decisions.

Roemisch's presence is vital to the Cardinals' new "Jaybird" offense. The scheme, named for perennial six-man power Jayton High School, overloads one side of the line, leaving the center as the end on the other side.

"When you install the Jaybird, it can take four to five weeks to start clicking," said Ethridge. "We realize that. The guys have been working hard in practice to learn it, and it's looked a lot better this week."

If Roemisch and Minton are unable to play, freshman Justin Kelly will start at center, while sophomore Dustin Williamson fills in at end.

Twins pound Rangers

ARLINGTON (AP) — At long last, Joe Mays got support from his Minnesota teammates.

David Ortiz homered twice and Cristian Guzman got four of Minnesota's 20 hits as the Twins trounced the Texas Rangers 12-2 Wednesday night.

Mays (14-13), who lost six of his previous seven decisions, gave up two runs and seven hits in seven innings. He received two runs or less in four of his previous five starts.

All four resulted in defeats.

"It was nice to see all those runs," said Mays, who took over the team lead in victories. "It's not a familiar sight. I just went out there and tried to get the ball over the plate. In a game like this, you really have to stay focused because we were on cruise control pretty much all game. I mixed it up and tried to keep them off balance because against this team, one bad pitch and they can crush it."

Astros stretch NL Central lead

CINCINNATI (AP) — Jeff Bagwell and Moises Alou watched from the bench as the Houston Astros emerged from an offensive slump and came away with their biggest lead of the season.

Imagine what they could do if their top hitters got in the swing, too.

Vinny Castilla drove in six runs in a revamped lineup Wednesday night, leading the Astros to a 10-3 victory over Cincinnati that put them in control of the NL Central.

The Astros opened a five-game lead on the Cubs, who blew a ninth-inning lead and lost to Florida 7-6. The division's top two teams play seven times in the last two weeks to decide the title.

"Going into it, we're right where we want to be — everybody's got to catch us," said Dave Mlicki (5-1), who pitched seven innings and had a hit.

The Astros have made a remarkable turnaround from June 17, when they trailed by eight games and had only a .500 record. They whittled away at the deficit, then surged to the lead by winning 15 of 19 games.

The spurt has come with misgivings. The Astros have depended too much lately on their impeccable pitching to make up for their undependable hitting.

Local Schedule

TODAY

Football: Snyder JV at Littlefield, 6:30
Football: Littlefield at Snyder freshmen, at Travis Field, 6 p.m.

FRIDAY

Football: Littlefield at Snyder, 8 p.m.
Football: Hermleigh at Borden County JV, 5:30
Football: Trent at Borden County, 7:30
Football: Veribest at Ira, 7:30

SATURDAY

Volleyball: Levelland at Snyder freshmen and varsity, 2 & 3 p.m.
Volleyball: Snyder JV at Lamesa tourney

Women's Golf Association

August Play Day Results

Fairway everywhere (front 9): Anita Talbott and Penny Perry, low gross, 38; Juanita Hester, low net, 28.5; Anita Talbott, low putter, 12; Jo Sterling, chip-in.

Play against reigning club champ Penny Perry (79 net): Jo Sterling, 79; Suzy Reed, 78; Donna Stehley, 76; Esther Guelker, 75; Peggy Hardin, 74; Becky Knipe, 72; Becky Knipe, low putter, 28.

Queen of the hill: Anita Talbott, low gross, 91; Juanita Hester, low net, 69; Peggy Hardin, low putter, 27; Peggy Hardin, chip-in.

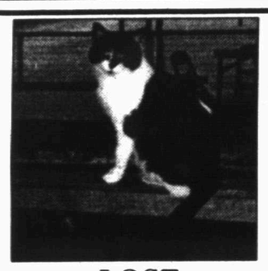
Flag tournament: Donna Stehley, first place; Juanita Hester, second place; Suzy Reed, third place; Juanita Hester, low putter; Martha Fagin, Anita Talbott and Juanita Hester, chip-in.

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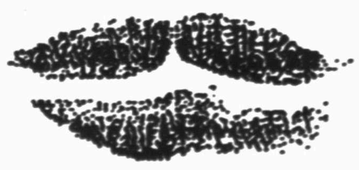
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New DA to prosecute Terry Nichols

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — The city's new district attorney is pressing ahead with state murder charges against bombing conspirator Terry Nichols — and is seeking the death penalty — despite Nichols' federal conviction and the high cost of prosecuting him.

District Attorney Wes Lane said Wednesday he would pursue 160 first-degree murder charges and other counts against Nichols, Timothy McVeigh's co-conspirator in the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

"I simply do not know what might loom out there on the legal horizon which would place Terry Nichols' federal conviction in jeopardy," Lane said. "The interests of the people of the state of Oklahoma cannot be vindicated by the blind reliance upon the federal government or Terry Lynn Nichols."

Nichols, 46, was convicted in federal court of conspiracy and involuntary manslaughter and is serving a life sentence for his role in the blast, which killed 168 people and injured more than 500 others.

The deaths of eight federal law enforcement officers were the focus of the federal trial. The state charges, which involve the other 160 victims, were filed in 1999 by Lane's predecessor, Bob Macy, who retired in June.

Since then, Lane has been re-evaluating the case. He said he questioned whether the office's limited resources should be devoted to a case already tried in federal court and determined that he could prosecute Nichols with his existing budget.

Nichols' defense costs — already about $1.6 million — are to be covered by a court fund financed primarily by fines and court costs, and no tax revenues will be necessary, he said.

In a letter to the Tulsa World, Nichols' attorney, Brian Hermanson, said Tuesday that Nichols was willing to end his appeals and accept his federal life sentence in order to avoid the state trial. Lane said a court order prevented him from commenting on the offer.

"This community has been deeply and sharply divided on the appropriate course of action to take in this case," Lane said.

"Accountability to the laws of the state of Oklahoma demands we stay the course," he said. "I will not roll the dice on this issue. There is simply too much at stake."

Nichols was transferred to Oklahoma City from a federal prison in Colorado in January 2000 to face the state charges filed by Macy. But legal issues have caused Nichols' preliminary hearing to be postponed four times and have prevented a trial from being scheduled.

The Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals ruled in July that trying Nichols on state charges would not violate his right against being tried twice for the same offense.

Jim Denny, whose two young children were severely injured in the bombing, said he doubted Nichols could get a fair trial in Oklahoma.

"I can't really see a presumption of innocence," he said. "I believe we should end it and we should end it now."

Gov. Frank Keating has questioned whether Lane's office will be successful in getting the death penalty if Nichols is convicted.

"If the evidence is that he didn't light the fuse, it will be very difficult to get a punishment greater than life in prison," Keating said.

Evidence at Nichols' federal trial indicated he was at his home in Kansas when the bomb he had helped McVeigh build exploded on April 19, 1995. McVeigh was convicted of federal murder charges and executed in June.

Lane said he believes the state's prosecution will be successful even if Nichols is sentenced to life in prison a second time "because accountability and responsibility had still been embraced."

Documents reveal details in slayings

ARLINGTON (AP) — The suspect in the slayings of his estranged wife and her two children reportedly has told police he used the same handgun to kill his father in Arlington last year that he used to his family in Mansfield last week.

According to court documents obtained by the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, Terry Lee Hankins also said he struck his half-sister several times in the head with a jack stand, killing her in Arlington last year.

Hankins has been arraigned and charged with capital murder in the deaths of his wife, Tammy Hankins, 34, and two of her children, Kevin Galley, 12, and Ashley Mason, 11. Their bodies were found Aug. 29 in Tammy Hankins' mobile home in Mansfield.

Police obtained arrest warrants Tuesday, accusing the man of killing his father, Earnie Lee Hankins, 55, and his half-sister, Pearl "Sissy" Sevenstar, 20. Police have said they believe bodies found Friday in Arlington are those of the father and half sister.

During an interview with the Star-Telegram, Hankins said he killed the five victims while intoxicated. He said earlier he expected to be given the death penalty.

The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office, however, has not positively identified those decomposed remains. The two are believed to have been killed last October, according to the warrants.

Terry Lee Hankins remained in the Tarrant County Jail in Fort Worth on today, with bail set at $1 million. He was arrested Aug. 30 after a five-hour standoff at a west Arlington apartment.

Officer Kirk Grable, a Mansfield police spokesman, declined to comment on whether Hankins used the same gun to kill his father, his wife and two of her children. Mansfield police recovered that gun, Arlington police Sgt. Mark Simpson said, but ballistics testing is incomplete.

According to the Arlington warrants, Hankins told police he killed his half sister around Oct. 1, about a week before he has said he killed his father.

"He said he killed his dad a couple of days before his dad's birthday, and his dad's birthday is Oct. 10," Simpson said.

Hankins told police that he and his father were arguing when he shot him in the face with a .45 caliber semiautomatic handgun, the warrant said.

Employees likely to pay more for health care

NEW YORK (AP) — Premiums for employer-sponsored health insurance plans rose 11 percent this year — the biggest jump since 1992 — pushing companies to consider making workers pay more out of their own pockets.

From spring 2000 to spring 2001, annual premiums for employer-sponsored plans grew to $2,650 for single coverage and to $7,053 for family coverage, according to a study of 2,734 companies released today by the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation and the Health Research & Educational Trust.

The previous year, premiums increased an average of 8.3 percent, while in 1999, they rose 4.8 percent.

This year's increase has employers thinking about shifting more of the cost to employees — a prospect more palatable since the job market has cooled, making it more difficult for workers to quit should they be upset by changes in benefits.

According to the study, 44 percent of companies were either "very likely" or "somewhat likely" to increase employee premium costs in the next year. Workers pay an average of $30 a month for single coverage and $150 a month for family coverage.

"It is interesting to see how quickly you can see the effect of rising premiums in a slowing economy," study co-author and foundation vice president Larry Levitt said. "The time of increases in health care costs being offset by employers has come to a screeching halt."

That's unlikely to change unless the economy drastically improves. Other organizations that track health care costs are forecasting double digit increases for 2002. Management consulting firm Towers Perrin predicts health care costs will rise nearly 11 percent next year.

The rising costs are causing fewer companies to offer health benefits. From 1998 to 2000, the percentage of companies offering the benefits grew from 55 percent to 67 percent, but this year it dropped to 65 percent, according to the Kaiser study.

Levitt said once companies start offering insurance, they rarely drop it. He fears that as small businesses that offer health insurance shut down because the economic slowdown, they will be replaced by other small companies that don't offer the benefits.

"There are just no new ideas for controlling costs. I think we are going to see a lot more bad news," Levitt said.

The trend of shifting the cost of health care to the worker has already taken root in some companies.

The average deductible for an employee choosing a doctor outside the network in a Preferred Provider Organization grew from $361 last year to $407 this year. Co-payments for prescription drugs increased to $20 this year from $16 last year.

From 1996 to 2001, the percentage of the premium a single employee paid dropped to 14 percent in 2000 from 21 percent in 1996. It increased to 15 percent this year. However, the percentage paid for family coverage has been constant at 27 percent or 28 percent for the last five years.

Employee costs have increased slightly even as the percentage of the premium they pay has remained constant. This year, single coverage rose $2 to $30 a month; family coverage rose $12 to $150.

Lotto winner is happier now

AUSTIN (AP) — Andrew "Happy" Roberts became a little happier Wednesday.

The 47-year-old construction worker and his wife, Jeralyn Jackson-Robert, drove to Austin in a white stretch limousine to pick up their check after hitting the $20 million jackpot Aug. 18.

"I've always told people I was going to win," said Roberts, of Schertz. "I bought a paper the next morning and when I saw the numbers matched, I started shaking and kept shaking for three more hours."

The couple choose the Cash Value Option and took home a check for $11 million. Roberts, 47, said he plans to buy a Harley-Davidson motorcycle. Jackson-Robert, 39, wants a Harley special edition Ford F150 pickup truck. They also are looking for a ranch.

Accompanying the couple to pick up the ceremonial check was Roberts' longtime friend and business partner, Rick Davis. Roberts and Davis started a lawn-mowing service last year, but when Roberts told Davis he won, the two threw in the towel on their entrepreneurial venture.

"We had a small lawn business and it's going away," Davis said. "We're not mowing lawns anymore."

Instead, the two, who used to dream about winning the lottery as they sat under the stars on Roberts' land in Seguin, are going to run a ranch. Roberts put Davis in charge of finding one close to San Antonio.

Roberts said he earned the nickname "Happy" in 1989 when a former boss on a construction job told him to go home and change his attitude.

Roberts said he went home and wrote Happy on his hardhat. The name has stuck ever since.

Bright light likely a meteor

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — A flying "fireball" swept across the mid-Atlantic skies today burning north from Virginia to New York and leaving some residents along the coast slack-jawed. Officials say it was likely a meteor.

Television and radio stations received numerous calls about the object, which appeared near dawn for about 60 to 90 seconds as it crept northward.

Charles Tekula, 49, a commercial fisherman in Long Island, was with his son at about 5:30 a.m. when he saw the sky light up.

"At first thought it was a jetliner coming toward us, but then I saw a smoke trail," he said.

"My son said it looked like a big, slow-moving firework across the sky." Tekula said. "We were speechless, it was the most fantastic thing I'd ever seen."

Officials at the National Weather Service and the Naval Observatory said the object appeared to be a meteor.

The observatory's Jeff Chester said he believes it was a space rock that entered Earth's atmosphere and burned up. He said it was most likely a "fire ball," similar to one that was spotted along the East Coast in July.

On the Net:
American Meteor Society:
http://www.amsmeteors.org

Jones SBC Stadium will be smoke free

LUBBOCK (AP) — Jones SBC Stadium, home to the Texas Tech Red Raiders, will be a smoke-free venue beginning with the team's season opener Saturday against New Mexico.

Smoking areas have been designated outside the four stadium gates. A hand stamp will be required for re-entry.

The decision was made because of a lack of ventilation on concourses on the east and west sides of the stadium, according to a news release from the university.

Also, season ticket holders in the 100-level sections will have to use staircases under the west side stands this season. Once renovations at the stadium are completed, those seats will be accessible by elevators.

Markets

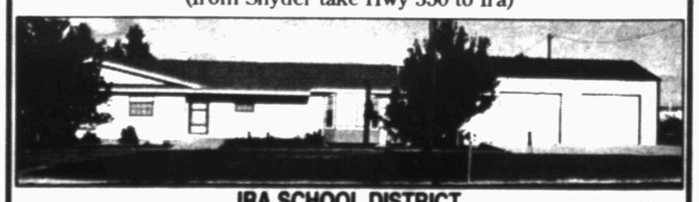
Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp		31.62	31.10	31.34—.65
AOL TimeWm		36.35	35.58	36.15—.60
AT&T Corp s		19.00	18.55	18.96—.24
Albertsons		34.45	33.91	34.40—.09
Alltel		57.54	56.67	57.51—.06
AmEl Pw		46.93	46.45	46.86 + .28
AndarkPtr		53.00	52.30	52.94—.07
ATMOS Egy		21.71	21.52	21.53—.28
Aviall		10.36	10.20	10.25—.11
BP PLC		50.95	50.44	50.92—.20
BakerHughes		34.53	33.65	34.53 + .57
Bank of Amer		61.15	60.29	60.51—.78
BellSouth		38.28	37.67	38.09—.15
Beth Steel		1.50	1.39	1.41—.07
BurlNoSFe		28.15	27.57	27.98 + .18
Caterpillar		51.25	50.54	51.15 + .85
Chevron		91.60	91.05	91.50 + .10
Citigroup		45.25	44.40	44.63—.95
CocaCola		50.36	49.51	49.86—.59
ColgatePal		56.15	55.51	56.12 + .39
ComclMetals		30.83	30.67	30.76—.01
CooperIn		56.36	56.01	56.21—.10
DaimlrChry		43.26	42.92	43.12 + .12
DeltaAirl		39.00	38.02	38.35—.60
Dillards Inc		17.83	17.49	17.54—.19
DowChem		35.18	34.78	35.04—.41
DuPont		40.95	40.29	40.70—.46
EastmanChem		39.70	39.18	39.43—.28
EstKodak		45.13	44.60	45.10—.10
EDS Corp		59.25	58.45	58.58—2.07
Entergy		39.72	39.08	39.61 + .36
ExxonMobil s		41.50	40.60	41.35 + .13
FstBksAm		27.60	27.35	27.60 + .29
GenDynam		78.15	77.30	77.62 + .02
GenElec		41.50	40.93	41.35—.35
GenMills		44.73	44.41	44.56—.35
GenMotors		54.05	52.96	53.31—1.09
GaPacGP		36.75	36.27	36.70 + .20
GlobalMar		15.18	14.90	15.16 + .16
Goodrich		32.19	31.79	32.02—.27
Goodyear s		24.80	24.57	24.77—.34
GtAtlPac		18.72	18.55	18.61 + .01
Halliburtn		29.40	28.67	29.40 + .39
Hanson ADS		37.38	37.20	37.23—1.08
HarteHanks		24.01	23.57	23.64—.40
HomeDepot		46.25	45.26	45.46—.53
Honeywellntl		37.45	36.72	37.36—.03
IBM		100.68	97.65	99.02—1.33
IntlPaper		41.05	40.50	40.87—.11
JohnsonJn s		56.94	56.15	56.84 + .60
K mart		9.90	9.65	9.67—.31
KinderMorg		55.63	54.98	55.51 + .33
Kroger Co		26.64	26.20	26.61 + .01
LockheedM		39.75	39.30	39.68—.02
Lowes Cos s		36.89	35.93	36.15—.53
Lubys		9.12	9.00	9.00—.12
LucentTech		6.24	6.03	6.12—.13
MayDeptStr		34.60	33.50	33.70—.41
Medtronic		43.49	42.40	42.76—2.19
Motorola		16.19	15.70	16.11—.29
NCR Corp		37.00	36.65	36.84—.45
Navistar		35.69	35.21	35.60 + .33
Penney JC		25.11	24.06	24.31 + .03
PepBoys		12.94	12.22	12.22—.43
PepsiCo		47.55	47.12	47.47—.33
Pharmacia		40.75	40.15	40.27—.53
PhelpDodge		39.67	39.30	39.50—.42
PhilipPet		59.85	59.10	59.80 + .61
PilgrmPrd B		14.90	14.70	14.75 + .01
Polaroid		1.38	1.28	1.28—.12
Praxair		48.78	48.20	48.68 + .10
ProctGamb		75.99	75.22	75.39—.49
PubS NwMx		28.68	28.40	28.64—.04
RadioShack		23.95	22.75	23.25
ReliantEngy		30.05	29.65	30.00 + .09
RoyalDut		55.87	55.31	55.71—.56
SBC Comm		42.00	41.50	41.81—.43
SaraLee		22.33	21.87	22.22—.08
Scripps EW		66.59	66.10	66.32—.17
SearsRoeb		43.11	41.80	42.06—.89
SherwinW		23.35	23.10	23.31 + .09
SouthernCo s		23.67	23.46	23.64 + .26
SwstAirl s		17.77	17.49	17.69—.09
SprintFON		22.55	22.11	22.30—.20
SprintPCS		23.93	23.20	23.41—.45
Sunoco Inc		38.34	37.85	38.24 + .14
TXU Corp		47.60	46.99	47.60 + .25
TempleInland		58.89	58.41	58.86 + .02
Texaco		70.10	69.20	69.88—.07
TexInd		41.80	41.41	41.60 + .09
TexasInst		30.50	29.76	30.01—.83
Textron		52.57	51.61	51.79—.59
TriconGlbR		42.00	41.75	41.87—.08
TrinityInds		25.30	25.05	25.21 + .10
TylerTech		3.70	3.60	3.60—.04
USX-Marathn		32.05	31.62	32.00 + .26
USX-USS		19.66	19.31	19.39—.32
UnionPacif		54.59	54.20	54.29 + .10
UnitedTech		68.40	67.26	68.36 + .41
Unocal		36.48	36.00	36.42 + .47
Venator Grp		17.95	17.54	17.55—.10
VerizonComm		49.95	49.15	49.47—.38
WalMart		49.66	47.85	48.25—.90
WellsFargo		46.27	45.77	45.78—.39
WstnGasRs		31.23	30.75	31.23 + .38
WinnDixie		23.15	22.85	23.09—.01
Xerox Cp		9.29	9.06	9.15—.14

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For Sale By Owners: A.C. & Shirley Carthel. 915-573-1468

SEP 06 2001

Census offers more proof of Internet's rapidly increasing presence in homes

WASHINGTON (AP) — America is seeing a dramatic increase in the number of homes wired to the Internet, Census figures show, as the demand grows for quicker communication — from shopping to e-mail to instant messaging.

About 42 percent of all U.S. households could log on to the Web in 2000, up from 18 percent three years earlier, according to the Census Bureau report released today.

People shop, check stock quotes and do research online. But it is the desire for fast communication that have made Internet access a "must-have" item for many people, said Susannah Fox, research director for the Pew Internet and American Life Project.

"E-mailing and instant messaging ... have been woven into Americans' social lives," said Fox, whose group tracks Internet usage and habits.

Nearly one-third of all adults 18 and older and one-fifth of all kids 3 to 17 use e-mail, the census survey found.

More children than ever before are growing up in homes with computers, the census report said. Nearly two-thirds of all kids between ages 3 and 17 lived in homes with computers, and nearly one-third of kids in that age range have gone online.

"Having a computer is no longer an oddity," said bureau analyst Eric Newburger.

Over half of the country's 105 million households had computers, the first time that percentage has been over 50 percent since the bureau started keeping track of such figures in 1984. Computers were in 8 percent of households that year.

Gaps still existed among different socioeconomic groups. Older Americans and families with smaller incomes were less likely to have computers.

Among children, however, discrepancies were erased by the availability of computers in most schools. Nearly 90 percent of all school-age kids — age 6 to 17 — had access to computers either at home or at school.

Many school districts are going further. At River Hill High School in Clarksville, Md., some ninth-graders were given handheld devices to use for schoolwork on a test basis.

Teachers use the devices to solicit responses from everyone in a classroom during discussion, instead of only the familiar few who raise their hands, River Hill principal Scott Pfeifer said.

"When every kid has access to a device and it is portable like this, then there is this every-pupil response that occurs," he said. "Then it truly become a tool that every kid has to learn."

Among those with Internet access at home, 73 percent of kids age 3 to 17, and 88 percent of adults 18 and older, used it for e-mail.

Among children, the next most popular use was for school research (68 percent), followed by more generic information searches (33 percent) and news, weather or sports (20 percent).

Among adults, 64 percent used the Internet for information searches, and 53 percent to get news, weather or sports updates. Forty percent used it to shop or pay bills.

According to the Consumer Electronics Association, the average retail price for a personal computer today is about $950, down from $1,450 in 1997.

The census figures are from a survey taken in August 2000 separate from last year's head count. The bureau began tracking households with computers in 1984, and started tracking Internet usage in 1997.

Shrinking surplus clouds the prospects for 2001 farm bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — The shrinking surplus has clouded prospects for passage of legislation this year that would provide tens of billions of dollars annually for crop subsidies and other farm programs.

"It's in serious trouble," said Sen. Kent Conrad, chairman of the Senate Budget Committee. The North Dakota Democrat wanted Congress to pass a bill this year to replace programs that expire in 2002.

Rep. Larry Combest, chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, said he still hopes to begin House debate next week on legislation approved by his panel in June. The Texas Republican acknowledged that the revised budget projections will make it more difficult to move the bill.

The House committee's senior Democrat, Charles Stenholm of Texas, said the farm bill is dead for the year.

The legislation would spend $168 billion over the next 10 years, including $73.5 billion of the surplus that was expected in the congressional budget agreement reached in the spring.

The nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office projected in August that Social Security surpluses would be drained by $9 billion in the fiscal year ending Sept. 30 and that lawmakers were within $2 billion of siphoning Social Security funds next year.

Over the next 10 years, the CBO is forecasting a $3.4 trillion surplus, including Social Security, down from $5.6 trillion in its May forecast.

Farm-state lawmakers worry that the smaller forecast will force agricultural programs to compete with other spending priorities of Congress and the White House, including education and defense, to avoid being seen as using Social Security funds.

The chairman of the House Budget Committee, Iowa Republican Jim Nussle, says there still should be plenty of money to go around.

The Senate is unlikely to move a bill of its own before next year, said Indiana Sen. Richard Lugar, senior Republican on the Senate Agriculture Committee.

"It doesn't seem to me to be there," Lugar said of the $168 billion needed for the House bill. "I'm not sure it was ever going to be there."

To Lugar, the tighter budget could be a good thing if it lowers farm spending, which he believes has stimulated excess production and distorted markets. "It may bring more of a sense of reason to what should be done," he said.

Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman would not discuss whether the House should delay or move forward with its bill.

"We're still trying to get it done," said John Feehery, a spokesman for House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill. "A lot of decisions haven't been made yet. This is one of them."

The legislation has been criticized by a major farm group, the National Corn Growers Association, which thinks the spending favors other crops. Environmentalists say it puts too much money into subsidizing crop production and not enough into conservation programs.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Sept. 7, 2001

In the year ahead you might find yourself moving in more prominent social circles than those to which you're accustomed. A number of these contacts could prove to be valuable.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Free time is too precious for you to squander today. You don't have to spend it with those who aren't your favorite people; find an excuse and join up with those you like. Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that'll govern you in the year ahead.

Send for your Astro-Graph predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Hopes and expectations are achievable today, so long as you go after your aspirations in a practical fashion. It's OK to be a bit of a dreamer, but be a pragmatic one.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — You're in a good cycle where your relationships are concerned, but the one thing that could usurp this is if you should get too "I"-oriented. Think in terms of "we."

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Associates usually have no doubt as to where you stand on issues, but today you'll need to take care not to put them down in the process of being candid. Be tactful about what you say.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — There's a possibility you could recoup an old obligation today if you approach the debtor in a way where he or she gets the message without resentment or embarrassment.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be careful not to side with an outsider today over family. It's fine to be tolerant of others' opinions, but not at the expense of those who love you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — This might be a good day to lay down your tools early and get a jump start on the weekend, but make sure your responsibilities are taken care of first.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — If you're smart today, you'll leave all emotion out of the tasks you need to accomplish. Regardless of how distasteful they may be or even if you're not in the mood, get crackin' on them.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) - A disingenuous acquaintance who considers you an easy mark could be in for a rude awakening today should she or he attempt to undermine your friendships with others.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) - Even though you may get a chance today to make a one-sided agreement favoring yourself, to your credit you'll take pains to do things fairly that'll benefit both parties.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) - Although conditions do not favor you being extravagant with your resources today, they are on your side moneywise when it comes to dealings and negotiations you have with others.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Keep everything above-board and unselfish when dealing with others and you'll easily achieve your aims today. People will admire your handling of issues and want to cooperate with you.

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Conductor awaiting kidney transplant

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — After two years on kidney dialysis, James DePreist, the charismatic conductor of the Oregon Symphony, is on 24-hour call for a kidney transplant.

DePreist informed the orchestra of his medical situation last week, leaving management scrambling to come up with plans to replace him while he's recovering.

"We're very quickly making plans," said Tony Woodcock, symphony president. The season opens Saturday. DePreist, 64, is scheduled to lead six of the 14 classical programs.

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Study shows HMOs making greater effort to control HBP

WASHINGTON (AP) — HMOs have made record gains in treating high blood pressure and trying to lower cholesterol levels, two easily neglected conditions that could lead to heart disease and other deadly ailments, an annual study of health insurance plans says.

In 2000, health plans reported increases in the percentage of heart attack sufferers who were screened and treated for high cholesterol, hypertension patients who were steadily treated for high blood pressure, and diabetes victims who received eye exams and other screenings that kept their conditions from worsening, said the National Committee for Quality Assurance, a Washington-based HMO accrediting group.

"Health plans that work with their physicians, hospitals and members can raise the bar dramatically on quality," said Dr. Sam Nussbaum, the chief medical officer of Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield.

The 372 health plans that voluntarily share patient data with the accrediting group cover 63 million Americans. While health plans are not performing the treatments, the group aims to rate the insurers on how well they offer, promote and pay for good health care. A dozen measures look at clinical progress such as the screenings, and 10 other measures cover patient satisfaction such as how soon a claim was paid or how quickly a treatment was provided.

Researchers caution that roughly 35 percent of HMOs do not participate in the program, but praised the progress of ones who do.

"For two years in a row, we've seen that participating health plans are getting better; the rest of health care is a real question mark," said Margaret E. O'Kane, president of the accrediting group.

This year, the study found:

—The average percentage of heart attack victims in a given plan who received cholesterol screenings rose to 74 percent in 2000, from 69 percent in 1999. Such screenings can reduce a second heart attack or stroke by as much as 40 percent.

—The average percentage of hypertension patients who were treated for high blood pressure jumped 13 percentage points in 2000, from 39 percent to 52 percent.

—The average percentage of diabetes sufferers getting eye exams rose to 48 percent in 2000, from 45 percent in 1999. These screenings help prevent blindness, a common complication of diabetes.

The NCQA said the reporting plans could do better on screening people for chlamydia, a common but highly treatable sexually transmitted disease, and following up on treatments for mental illnesses.

In the face of the ongoing debate in Congress on a patients' bill of rights, the health plans did see some increases in the satisfaction of their member patients, the study said.

In 2000, 66.6 percent of enrollees said customer service was "not a problem," up from the 64.5 percent who said so in 1999, and the 53.9 percent who reported such feelings in 1998.

The report said there was a large degree of variation among the plans in many preventive measures, including diabetic eye exams, cervical cancer screenings and rates for controlling high blood pressure.

The report was based on data compiled by NCQA and provided by the health plans.

Rate hike sought for hail and windstorm coverage

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A liability insurance trade group has urged Texas regulators to boost commercial premiums for hail and windstorm coverage, while state office staffers argued the rates should drop.

The Texas Windstorm Insurance Association, forecasting rising costs and future losses from mold claims, asked the state Department of Insurance on today for a 13.6 percent rate increase on hail/windstorm insurance premiums for commercial buildings.

But the state Office of Public Insurance Counsel contended the rates should drop by the maximum reduction allowed, or 15 percent, in light of low claims experience in catastrophic storms.

State Insurance Commissioner Jose Montemayor, at a public hearing on the issue today, said he would study the two disparate recommendations and make a decision later.

A "relatively mild" record of storms in the past 30 years in the TWIA's 15-county coastal region shows no rate increase is needed, said Rod Bordelon, head of the Office of Public Insurance Counsel.

Bordelon said rates could be reduced by as much as 27.2 percent.

But Jerry Johns, a spokesman for the Southwestern Insurance Information Service, said increases are needed because of the cost of reinsurance "to protect consumers along the Gulf Coast."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



How to approach neck pain

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 73 and have developed stiffness and pain in my neck. Should I see a neurologist or a bone doctor?

DEAR READER: Neither, at this point.

I believe you would be best served by seeing your family doctor. Neck pain in a 73-year-old is a common complaint, usually caused by muscle tension and/or arthritis of the cervical spine. Muscle spasm can be the result of normal, age-related muscle malfunction. You've probably discovered that other muscles tend to tire and become tender after exercise; neck muscles behave in the same way.

Of course, arthritis of the neck bones is also an age-related phenomenon. This gradual wearing down of the joint surfaces causes stiffness, limitation of motion and clicking sensations on head movement. It is frequently associated with muscle tension in the neck and shoulders, as the aging body attempts to protect itself from injury.

A general doctor can diagnose and treat your condition at far less cost than can a specialist. X-rays of your neck — or a CT or MRI scan — should tell the tale. Then the doctor can prescribe ibuprofen or one of the newer drugs, such as Vioxx or Celebrex, to control your discomfort.

However, your doctor may choose to refer you to a specialist if the cause of your ailment is unusual, severe or involves brittle bones or a pinched nerve.

When readers request guidance for the initial diagnosis of common complaints, I ordinarily recommend a primary care physician. Being one myself, I think we do our best work diagnosing complaints and referring patients to specialists when appropriate.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Understanding Osteoarthritis." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title.

DEAR DR. GOTT: A group of us at the senior center compared symptoms. We are all diabetic, have some sort of heart trouble, are over 70 and break out in hives whenever we exercise. We get so itchy we have to take cold showers for relief. Why does this happen?

DEAR READER: Diabetes and cardiac disorders frequently occur in the over-70 set, so I'm not surprised that you and your friends have these diseases in common.

I am surprised, however, that your senior citizens' group reports exercise-induced urticaria, the appearance of hives during physical activity. This is unusual in older patients.

Actually, the annoying condition is a form of allergy, in which exercise - for no known reason — triggers the release of histamine into the skin. Sometimes environmental substances, such as pollen, mold or dust, aggravate this itchy-hive disorder. I do not know why you and your friends experience this ailment.

However, since the problem is probably related to excess histamine, the use of an anti-histamine might help you. Benadryl, Chlortrimeton and similar over-the-counter drugs may provide relief. Or you may wish to try one of the prescription anti-histamines: Allegra, Claritin or Zyrtec.

All of these medicines are safe. Try this therapy and let me know if it is successful.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Pastor begins playing funeral role long befoe his speech

DEAR ABBY: I had to respond to the letter from the writer who didn't think a minister should receive compensation for "saying a few words" at the funeral of a parishioner he has known for 20 years.

If only it were a matter of "saying a few words." My pastor-husband spends many hours with sick and dying members of our congregation. He gets out of bed at any hour of the night to go to their bedsides. He prays with them, holds their hands and offers words of comfort. He is often the liaison between doctors and family. His presence calms heated situations when people are grieving and not at their best. He does all this gladly. This is his calling.

When someone dies, my husband meets with the family, talks with the funeral director, arranges music, organizes a luncheon, prepares a service, prints a funeral bulletin and handles many other details, which can often take two or three days. This frees the family to grieve.

Families may give a monetary gift to the pastor out of gratitude for his dedication to their loved one and appreciation for his time. But if the gift cannot be given with a grateful heart, please do not give. My husband's payment is reserved for him in heaven. — **PENNSYLVANIA PASTOR'S WIFE**

DEAR WIFE: When I said that clergypersons and musicians should be compensated for their professional services, I mixed apples and oranges. Many people (in and out of the clergy) wrote to point out that clergy are paid salaries and provided housing, etc., and funerals and weddings are considered part of their normal duties if they're for church members.

However, many grateful parishioners offer gratuities to the clergy in addition. These are gratefully accepted — and are often added to the church's general or building funds.

Read on:

DEAR ABBY: Unfortunately, I was not surprised at the content of the letter from "No Price on Friendship," concerning paying the singer at a funeral.

I am a professional musician with a master's degree in music. I'm paid to play for weddings, funerals, parties, grand openings, etc. My education, like any other, took a lot of time, effort and money, and I should be paid for my services. Fortunately, I don't have to earn a living at my profession because I'm married to a successful man. However, I have friends who have no other income than from professional appearances and private teaching.

My string quartet was once asked to play for three hours at a pig roast. The hostess offered us dinner as compensation. Needless to say, we declined the job. We do, however, frequently offer free performances at nursing homes and schools for children with disabilities.

Some people just don't "get it." Please, Abby, let your readers know that everyone — even musicians — needs to make a living and should be paid for his or her efforts. — **TIRED OF EXPLAINING IN MICHIGAN**

DEAR TIRED: You have stated it very well. They don't need another chorus from me.

**

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 $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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SEP 06 2001

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Bush won't seek breakup of Microsoft

WASHINGTON (AP) — Reversing a Clinton-era legal strategy, the Bush administration announced today it will no longer seek the breakup of Microsoft and wants to end the historic antitrust case against the software maker as quickly as possible.

The Justice Department, however, indicated it will seek penalties first suggested by a judge earlier in the case that could affect or delay the company's soon-to-be-released Windows XP operating system.

"The department is seeking to streamline the case with the goal of securing an effective remedy as quickly as possible," Justice said.

That news sent Microsoft's stock dropping on Wall Street, where investors have been eagerly awaiting the release of the company's new operating system in hopes it would reinvigorate the stagnant technology sector. Microsoft's stock was down 62 cents to $57.12 late today morning.

Microsoft, which has long resisted a breakup, reacted cautiously to the Justice Department announcement. "We remain committed to resolving the remaining issues in the case," spokesman Vivek Varma said.

The Bush Justice Department said it was dropping two key elements of the Clinton-era case against Microsoft for fear they would lengthen court proceedings and hurt consumers. The department said it "is taking these steps in an effort to obtain prompt, effective and certain relief for consumers."

Justice said it would no longer seek to break Microsoft into two companies — one for its Windows operating system and the other for its other business and home software — as U.S. District Court Judge Thomas Penfield Jackson once ordered in the case. That order was eventually reversed by an appeals court, and a new judge was appointed to consider a new penalty.

The department also said it would not pursue allegations the company had illegally combined a previously separate product — a strategy known as tying or bundling — in an effort to hurt competitors.

Both decisions were victories for Microsoft, which has waged a costly four-year battle to dispute those allegations and has continued to build more features into its products.

The Justice Department said it would seek to stop Microsoft from making certain exclusive deals with partners, forcing computer manufacturers to keep specific icons and programs on the Windows desktop, and other requirements. Those restrictions were also imposed by Jackson, but immediately rescinded when Microsoft appealed the case.

Jackson's penalties also included a prohibition on tying, which would presumably not be included in the new penalties sought by the government.

Howard University law professor Andy Gavil said the restrictions could have a large impact on Windows XP, which has been completed by programmers but won't reach stores until October. Microsoft has given computer manufacturers more latitude in icon placement than in previous versions of Windows, but Microsoft still requires that certain Microsoft icons appear on users' screens.

Danforth to be special envoy to Sudan

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush named former Sen. John C. Danforth of Missouri today to be America's peace envoy to warring Sudan, charging him with the job of "bringing some sanity" to the war-ravaged African nation.

"The possibility of peace depends on the will of combatants, not on the intentions of outsiders," Danforth said during a Rose Garden ceremony. "Perhaps America can encourage peace. We cannot cause it."

Danforth, 65, will be expected to help broker peace between the mostly Arab and Muslim north and southern Sudan, where most of the people follow traditional African beliefs and about 5 percent are Christian. Since 1983 civil war has killed an estimated 2 million people.

"It's important to America, important to the world to bring some sanity to the Sudan," Bush said. "For nearly two decades, the government of Sudan has waged a brutal and shameful war against its own people; and this isn't right, this must stop.

"We're committed to bringing stability to Sudan so that many loving American non-governmental organizations will be able to perform their duties of love and compassion in that country without fear of reprisal," Bush said.

Danforth expects to visit Sudan by November and hopes to decide within six months whether detailed peace talks are called for.

"In appointing me special envoy, President Bush has asked me to determine if there is anything useful the United States can do to help end the suffering in the Sudan," Danforth said. "Even to ask that question is a powerful statement by the president of the values of our country."

Sen. Sam Brownback, a Foreign Relations Committee member and a leader on issues involving Sudan, said he has pressed the White House to find a high-profile nominee to serve as envoy. Danforth's stature makes him a perfect fit, Brownback said Wednesday.

"We've been caught in this policy where we do not like what's taking place by the government of the North — we do not agree with their terrorism, their slavery, their genocide, yet we're seemingly stuck," the Kansas Republican said. "I think he could move that forward for us."

Danforth, an ordained Episcopal priest, has been tapped more than once to tackle thorny issues since his 1995 retirement from the Senate.

Most recently, he conducted a 14-month inquiry into the deaths of about 80 Branch Davidians in Waco, Texas, in 1993, serving as special counsel appointed by then-Attorney General Janet Reno.

His investigation concluded the FBI did not start a fire that led to the deaths of those inside the religious sect's compound that FBI agents did not open fire.

Fox promotes immigration overhaul to U.S. Congress

WASHINGTON (AP) — Mexican President Vicente Fox pressed his case for immigration overhaul to Congress today, urging greater trust between neighbors as the basis for "a new partnership in North America."

Fox told a joint session of the Senate and House, "The time has come for Mexico and the United States to trust each other."

"Trust will be essential to achieve our goals," he said.

The charismatic former Coca-Cola executive, on the second day of a state visit, made his case for opening the way for many of the estimated 3 million Mexicans now in the United States illegally to gain legal status.

On Wednesday, Fox had surprised Bush administration officials suggesting that immigration overhaul be completed by the end of this year.

He did not mention such a timetable in his remarks.

Sentiment in Congress runs strong on both sides of the immigration issue. And administration officials have suggested it was unlikely that a formula could be worked out by the end of this year given divisions on the amnesty issue in Congress.

Fox believes those Mexicans in the United States are entitled to legalized status.

In his address, Fox switched back and forth between English and Spanish.

Fox said that he and President Bush in recent months "have already shown our willingness to trust each other by agreeing to discuss this most complex matter."

"As the history of this country shows, migration has always rendered more economic benefits to the United States than the cost it entails."

"Many among you have a parent or a grandparent who came into this country as an immigrant from another land," he said.

And, in remarks aimed at the Mexicans in the United States, Fox said: "Mexico needs you. We need your talent and entrepreneurship. We need you to come home one day and play a part in building a strong Mexico"

He said he recognized that many on both side of the 2,000-mile long border viewed closer ties "risky and perhaps even unwise."

But he said he didn't believe the old adage that "good fences make good neighbors."

"Circumstances have changed. We are now bound closer together... our links are countless and growing," he said.

Turning to the war on drugs, Fox said that "cooperation in the war against drugs "is not a nicety. It is a necessity"

He urged Congress to pass a pending law that would suspend for three years the U.S. law that requires Mexico to obtain an annual certification that it is cooperating on the war of drugs.

Saying the U.S.-Mexican partnership was "still incomplete," Fox said there were still unresolved issues. He noted U.S. restrictions on Mexican trucks.

"No two nations are more important to the immediate prosperity and well being of one another than Mexico and the United States," said.

His speech lasted about 30 minutes. In his address, Fox used the word "trust" at least 25 times.

"Simple trust — that is what has been sorely absent in our relationship in the past," he said.

Fox's speech was interrupted at least 11 times by applause. From the podium of the House of Representatives, Fox addressed a packed gathering of House and Senate members, the president's Cabinet and a delegation of diplomats.

Fox thanked his audience for the applause and said it was "heard by 100 million Mexicans."

Sanchez campaigning in Rio Grande Valley

PHARR (AP) — South Texas millionaire Tony Sanchez spent his third day on the gubernatorial campaign trail touring the heavily Hispanic Rio Grande Valley, with pledges to create better access to health care and improve the dismal college graduation rate of the state's Hispanics.

He says that 88 out of 100 students in Texas did not finish college, and that most of the students not completing their college education are Hispanic.

"If you look at it from a census standpoint, in a few very short years, we are going to be the majority in this state. Yet we're going to be the most undereducated majority in any state," Sanchez said.

"I have listened and I have seen, and what I have heard is that it is already time to bridge the difference between the way Texas is today and the way Texas can be," he told Democratic supporters gathered at a Mexican restaurant. Some supporters yelled "Viva Tony!" between the candidates sentences.

Sanchez launched his campaign amid cheers from residents of his home city of Laredo on Tuesday, then stumped in Dallas and other cities. On Wednesday, he appealed to a racially diverse crowd in Houston. Sanchez's itinerary today involved taking a chartered bus to appearances in San Juan, Harlingen and Brownsville.

Sanchez is the first well-funded Hispanic seeking the Texas governor's office, which makes the campaign historic. If elected in 2002, he would be the first Hispanic governor in Texas.

"It's obviously something that would be a watershed event.

2 men arrested locally for PI

Arrests

Officers arrested two men early today for public intoxication. Taken into custody were a 24-year-old man and a 32-year-old man.

A 17-year-old man was taken into custody Wednesday night on an outstanding warrant from Lubbock County for no liability insurance.

Hit and run

Doug Proffitt with Santa Fe Railroad requested an officer in reference to someone striking the signal light at the railroad crossing at 19th Street and Ave. I, then leaving the scene of the accident. Officers responded and advised an offense report for a hit and run accident with a fixed object would be filed.

Close patrol

Rumel Montgomery requested a close patrol of her residence at 504 34th Street Wednesday in reference to someone possibly going into her home when she is not there.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Scurry Lodge awards night

Scurry Lodge #706 will have an awards night beginning at 7 this evening. Awards for 50 and 60 years will be given by the Grand Lodge of Texas. The local lodge will present 25-year service awards. The community builders award will also be presented.

Mini cheerleader practice

Mini cheerleader practice will be at 6 p.m. today at the practice field. If it is raining, the practice will be in the gym. The cheerleaders will perform during the Littlefield game Friday.

Volunteer training

Gateway Family Services, a domestic violence and sexual assault crisis center, will offer a volunteer training class from 6 to 9 p.m. this evening at the shelter in Snyder. To RSVP, call 573-1822 and ask for Yvonne.

Junior high pictures

School pictures for Snyder Junior High will be Friday. Students have received the picture packets and the pictures must be paid for in advance.

SHS choir boosters fundraiser

SHS choir boosters will sponsor a fiesta stack-up dinner before the Littlefield home game Friday from 5-7:30 p.m. at the high school cafeteria. Tickets are $5 each and can be purchased from any choir student or at the door. Carry outs will be available. Call 573-1499.

Ira Baptist Church roundup

Ira Baptist Church will have a Sunday School roundup from 5-7 p.m. Saturday at the church. There will be panning for real gold, an air castle, face painting and much more.

Country and gospel music

There will be country and gospel music beginning at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Snyder Senior Center. Call 573-3996 for more information.

Enchilada dinner

Discovery School will have an enchilada dinner at First United Methodist Church from 11:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m. Sunday. Tickets are $5 for adults and $3 for children under 12. Take-outs will be available. Tickets will be available at the door or by calling 573-4770.

Headstart registration

Scurry County Head Start, 2800 2nd Street, will conduct registrations from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m. Monday for new classrooms that begin in October. To qualify, children must be three years old and family must meet income guidelines or child must have diagnosed disability. Space is limited. Please bring proof of income, letter from former employer, certified birth certificate, current shot record and child's social security card.

Blood drive

A blood drive in honor of Becky Stewart will be held from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday at Tiger Health and Fitness Center in Snyder Shopping Center. For an appointment, call Alene Martin at 573-2510. Bring picture ID and list of medications.

UW board meeting

Directors of the Scurry County United Way will meet at noon Monday at the United Way offices, 2311 Ave. T.

Gateway support group

Gateway Family Services will begin a support group for victims of family violence from 6:30-7:30 p.m. Monday at the facility. Call 573-1822 in advance to reserve a place.

Retired teachers association

All retired teachers and their spouses are invited to a homemade ice cream and cookie social at 7 p.m. Monday at First United Methodist Church. Leon Manley, District XIV president, will address the group.

Baseball booster meeting

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

Speech team boosters

There will be a Snyder High School Parent Speech Team Booster Club and team member meeting at 6 p.m. Monday in room 109 at the high school. Topics to be discussed will be upcoming tournaments, fundraising and orientation.

4-H horse club meeting

The first meeting of the year for the 4-H horse club will be at 7 p.m. Tuesday at the East Elementary cafeteria. All members and prospective members are invited.

Lions to meet with UW

The Snyder Lions Club will not meet Tuesday, but will attend the kickoff luncheon Thursday for the Scurry County United Way at Martha Ann Woman's Club.

St. Jude's bike-a-thon

The St. Jude Children's Research Hospital bike-a-thon will be from 10 a.m. until noon on Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Ira School's track. Come by 5722 FM 1606 to pick up your sponsor form. Contact Pam Mauldin at 574-1817 for more information.

Cosmorama Club

The Cosmorama Club will meet at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 15, at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. The Hawaiian Aloha Festival will feature foods, fads and fun.

Jamaica Festival

Our Lady of Guadalupe Church will host a Jamaica Festival from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16, at the church campus. Activities include a volleyball tournament, live music from a variety of bands, Folkloric dances, talent shows, games, raffle, and a variety of foods.

Cowboy camp meeting

The Bull Creek Cowboy camp meeting is set for Sept. 22-23 at the Doyle and Shirley Newton ranch - 573-0968. The chuckwagon supper is at 5 p.m. on Saturday with the worship service following. Breakfast will be at 8 a.m. Sunday followed by the service at 10 a.m. Lunch will follow the service.