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WT-Int. Crude - $30.38
WTIC Posted - $27.25
Natural Gas - $6.019

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY
Feb. 14, 2001
Vol. 52 No. 247
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Valery Knipe



MR. AND MISS SHS — Jamaal Wofford and Brooke Williams were crowned Mr. and Miss SHS as the highlight of Snyder High School's coronation this morning. Jamaal is the son of Tony and Kathy Wofford while Brooke is the daughter of Terry and Michelle Williams. (SDN Staff Photo)

Mr. and Miss SHS named this morning

Jamaal Wofford and Brooke Williams

Jamaal Wofford and Brooke Williams were crowned Mr. and Miss SHS at Snyder High School's annual coronation ceremony this morning.

Both seniors, Brooke is the daughter of Terry and Michelle Williams and Jamaal is the son of Tony and Kathy Wofford.

As a freshman, Brooke was involved in the Fellowship of Christian Students. She was a member of the volleyball team her freshman and sophomore years. This year she was a volleyball manager.

Brooke was also active in the student council her freshman through junior years and served as freshman class treasurer.

She was homecoming queen this year and class favorite her freshman, sophomore and senior years.

Jamaal was in choir his freshman year and involved in the French club his junior year. He is currently active in student council and serves as senior class president.

Jamaal has been a member of the basketball team since his freshman year and was named to the basketball all-district team last year.

He was also chosen as class favorite his freshman through junior years and was a class favorite nominee this year.

Other nominees for Miss SHS were Claire Cotton, Whitney Graham, Jordan Hardin and Tara Price.

Other Mr. SHS nominees were Matthew Grimmett, Heath Pinkerton, Ralph Ramon and Jared Thornhill.

The coronation also honored club and activity sweethearts.

Sweethearts include:

Melina Campos, band, escorted by Ryan Burk; Kristin York, baseball, escorted by Jesse Haines; Miranda Eckert, boys' basketball, escorted by Jammall Pruitt; and Zach Allred, cheerleaders, escorted by Cary Brown and Leslie English.

Choir sweethearts are Jessica Dea and Mateo Coronado; drama sweethearts are Valery Haines and Brandon McCraw; cross country sweethearts are Monique Salinas and Charles Kerry; and Fellowship of Christian Students sweethearts are Amber Alexander and Landon Day.

Others are Kara Herrley, DECA, escorted by Jason French; Brian Castillo, Future Community and Career Leaders of America, escorted by Jennifer Lara; Dana Stribling, FFA, escorted by Will Henderson.

Foreign exchange student Vitor Zanatta will be escorted by Natalie Alexander while Jaci Smith and Will Davis are forensics sweethearts.

Other sweethearts and their escorts include Marvin Butler, girls' basketball, escorted by Kristen Murray; Kara Harrison and Levi Mandrell, golf; and Kate Wright, KTXS Quiz Team, escorted by Kyle McClendon.

Photojournalism sweethearts are Bernice Ornelas and Devin Williams; powerlifting sweetheart is Loryn Brown, escorted by Edwin James; softball sweetheart is Patrick McKamie, escorted by Whitney Webb; Student Council sweethearts are T'Leah Eicke and Ryan Gibson.

In addition, Melinda Langham, TSA, escorted by Jeremy Miller; Cozy Jones and Allen Smith, tennis; Kasey Crill, Tiger's Lair, escorted by Logan Hill; Ralph Ramon, Tiger's Lair; Kelli Henderson and Eric DeLeon, Tiger's Tale; Callie Bane and Josh Arizmendi, track; Jeff Neal, volleyball, escorted by Cameron Mackey.

WTC surveying continues

Western Texas College continues to conduct community surveys to gather input on how the institution is meeting local needs.

The 12-question surveys are available for citizens to pick up in the district clerk's office on the fourth floor of the Scurry County Courthouse in addition to American State Bank's lobby and the IGA customer service center.

There will also be college representatives set up in front of Wal-Mart and United with surveys at various times during this week.

The Strategic Enrollment Management initiative established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) requires the college to submit a progress report this fall.

The community survey is just a portion of information that will be included in that report.

A nine-member steering committee consisting of WTC staff, faculty and administration will administer the surveys in the areas of cultural, environmental, structural and technical assessment; personal assessment of the college environment; student assessment of the college environment; and community assessment of public service.

"These surveys seek information ranging from marketing strategy to financial aid, living environment to classroom conditions and about 20 other indices of satisfaction related to the WTC mission," said Jim Clifton, dean of student services.

Civilians could have distracted sub's crew

WASHINGTON (AP) — Navy officials Wednesday acknowledged the possibility that 15 civilians aboard the U.S. attack submarine that sank a Japanese fishing vessel could have distracted the crew, but said there is not yet any evidence of that.

The officials also said that in seeking to determine how the accident happened, the Navy is considering an inquiry along criminal lines that could result in charges against the captain of the submarine or members of its crew.

Nine Japanese from the fishing vessel are still missing and hopes for their rescue have faded since the collision Friday off Hawaii.

A decision on how to proceed with the investigation is being weighed by Rear Adm. Charles Griffiths Jr., who as commander of Submarine Group Nine based at Bangor, Wash., is in charge of all ballistic missile submarines assigned to the Pacific Fleet. He was dispatched to Hawaii shortly after the accident.

The captain of the submarine has been relieved of duty pending the outcome of the investigation.

Regardless of the format of Griffiths' investigation, his findings will be forwarded to the Navy chain of command for a decision on what, if any, charges to pursue against the sub's captain or crew members.

The Navy might choose to use a more formal approach to its inquiry because of the likelihood that civilian deaths may have resulted from the collision, officials said. Although the nine Japanese are still listed as missing, Navy officials believe it is likely they were either trapped inside the ship or otherwise drowned.

The ship is lying at the bottom of the sea at a depth of 1,800 feet.

In addition to the Navy inquiry, the National Transportation Safety Board is doing its own investigation.

The Navy acknowledged Tuesday that two civilians were at key control stations of the USS Greeneville when it practiced an emergency surfacing maneuver and rammed the Ehime Maru, sinking it.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY — Three-year-old Hannah Camp, daughter of Gery and Janice Camp, smells the carnations presented to her by Tyler Mitchell, 3, son of Amy Smith and Jeff Mitchell. (SDN Staff Photo by Joyce May)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "A confirmed bachelor is a chap with no wife expectancy."

Somebody e-mailed us this Redneck Valentine Poem. In spite of it being a little mushy, we liked it:

"Kudzu is green, my dog's name Blue. And I'm so lucky to have a sweet thang like you.

"Your hair is like cornsilk, a-flapping in the breeze. Softer than Blue's and without all them fleas.

"You move like the bass, which excite me in May. You ain't got no scales, but I luv you, anyway.

"You're as graceful as okry, jist a-dancin' in the pan. Yo're as fragrant as SunDrop right out of the can.

"You have all yore teeth, for which I am proud; I hold my head high when we're in a crowd.

"On special occasions, when you shave yore armpits, well, I'm in hawg heaven, I'm plum outta my wits.

"And speakin' of wits, you've got plenty fer shore. 'cuz you married me back in '74.

"Still them fellers at work, they all want to know, what did I do to deserve such a purty, young doe.

"Like a good roll of duct tape, yo're there fer yore man, to patch up life's troubles and stick 'em in the can.

"Yo're as strong as a four-wheeler racin' through the mud. Yet fragile as that sanger named Naomi Judd.

"Yo're as cute as a junebug a-buzzing' overhead. You ain't mean like no far ant upon which I oft' tread.

"Cut from the best pattern like a flannel shirt of plaid, you sparked up my life like a Rattletrap shad.

"When you hold me real tight like a padded gun rack, my life is complete. Ain't nothing I lack.

"Yore complexion, it's perfection, like the best vinly sidin'. Despite all the years, your age, it keeps hidin'.

"And when you get old like a '57 Chevy, won't put you on blocks and let grass grow up heavy.

"Me 'n' you's like a Moon Pie, with a RC cold drank. We go together like a skunk goes with stank.

"Some men, they buy chocolate for Valentine's Day. They git it at Wal-mart. It's romantic that way.

"Some men git roses on that special day, from the cooler at United. That's impressive, they say.

"Some men buy fine diamonds from a flea market booth. Diamonds are forever, they explain, sauve and couth.

"But for this man, honey, these will not do. For you are too special, you sweet thang you.

"I got you a gift, without taste nor odor. Better than diamonds, it's a new trollin' motor."

ASK US

Q—Is there a web site to compare Snyder or any other school district's TAAS scores with other schools?

A—Go to www.texastests.org.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Tuesday, 74 degrees; low, 53; 7 a.m. Wednesday, 55; trace precipitation; total for 2001, 1.90 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, mostly cloudy, 60% rain chance, low mid 40s, variable wind 5-10 mph. Thursday, mostly cloudy, 50% rain chance, high upper 50s.,

Humberto Juarez
Rainy

Sunset:
6:31 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:25 a.m.

Of 44 days in 2001, the sun has shone 38 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

The best years of your life are the ones in which you decide your problems are your own. You don't blame them on your mother, the ecology or the president. You realize you control your own destiny.

—Albert Ellis

FEB 14 2001

Cole attack prompts U.S. Navy precautions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Navy ships have been ordered to maintain buffer zones to ward off potential threats in U.S. and foreign ports, a precaution prompted by the terrorist attack on the USS Cole.

Adm. Robert Natter, commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet based at Norfolk, Va., said that in addition to strengthening ship security, the United States should "go on the offensive" against the shadowy figures and transnational organizations which financially support terrorist operations.

"If we are going to try to combat terrorism and the terrorists who declare war on us, we're going to have to expand our horizons and say, all right, we've got to go after the planners of this, we have to go after the people who are backing it financially," he said Tuesday.

Natter's command is responsible for 186 ships and 1,300 Navy and Marine Corps aircraft based on the East Coast.

He said he was meeting with FBI director Louis Freeh to discuss progress in identifying the perpetrators of the Cole attack. No one claimed responsibility for the bombing, but U.S. officials have said Muslim extremist Osama bin Laden is suspected of being behind the operation.

In an interview with a group of defense reporters, Natter said the Oct. 12 attack on the Cole showed that the Navy's anti-terrorism focus had been mainly on threats to ships at sea and to shore installations, at the expense of attention to the possibility of being attacked while in port. The Cole was refueling in Aden harbor in Yemen when a small boat sidled up to the destroyer and detonated a bomb.

"We are going to rectify that in a big way," Natter said.

Ships of the Atlantic fleet are now making it standard practice to place buoys and other barriers around them while in ports along the Eastern Seaboard, and also are placing patrol boats in the water. No such precautions were taken in the case of the Cole, which lost 17 sailors in the attack.

"That will separate the tourists and the inebriated from somebody else" who may pose a real danger, he said. "If the 'somebody else' continues on, then we hope to be able to stop them with a patrol boat, but if not," stronger action would be taken "if they exhibit a threat" to the ship.

Also, sailors on watch duty aboard ships in port will start carrying loaded 9mm weapons, he said. Up to now they have been required to carry the guns but not keep ammunition in the chamber.

The Pentagon also is reviewing specific protective measures that are required of ships under various threat conditions.

Natter said he is concerned that this tighter security could lead to unintended consequences if protest groups like Greenpeace continue to ignore Navy warnings to not approach their ships.

"I really worry about hurting innocent people, but I also worry about protecting our ships," he said.

Greenpeace officials were not immediately available to respond to Natter's comment.

Southern Methodist to rename law school

DALLAS (AP) — The law school at Southern Methodist University, which has received more than $77 million in donations from a North Texas couple, will be renamed in honor of the benefactors.

Administrators at SMU planned a noon announcement Wednesday for the Dedman School of Law, with the name change to be effective immediately afterward.

Law school alumnus Robert H. Dedman Sr., the billionaire founder and chairman of ClubCorp, has made cumulative gifts and pledges to the university with his wife Nancy and family.

The move to rename the law school, SMU administrators said, followed the Dedmans' decision to dedicate $15 million to the law school from a $30 million pledge the family made in April 1997.

The Dedmans' pledge, the largest single gift in school history, launched a fund-raising effort called the Campaign for SMU, which has already surpassed $450 million.

The Dedman family on Wednesday was expected to add $5 million to the $15 million for the law school as a challenge grant. The current total earmarked for the Dedman School of Law is $20 million, with the challenge grant expected to increase that total to $25 million in three years.

Dedman said Dallas needs a top-tier law school.

"Robert and Nancy Dedman's commitment to SMU through the years has been truly extraordinary," said SMU president R. Gerald Turner.

Two of the university's six degree-granting schools now bear the Dedman name.

More people are using seat belts

WASHINGTON (AP) — More Americans are wearing seat belts than ever before, but usage can vary greatly depending on vehicle type, region and state seat belt laws, the government said Wednesday.

Seat belt use nationwide reached 71.3 percent in 2000, up 4 percentage points from 1999 and continuing a trend of steady increases since 1995, when the rate was 58 percent. Government experts say the hike is due to public safety campaigns, stricter seat belt laws and police enforcement.

People in the West wore their belts the most, 80 percent of the time, followed by the South, 69 percent; Midwest, 68 percent; and Northeast, 67 percent.

The study, done for the Transportation Department, did not offer speculation about the regional discrepancy.

"I think that when you look at the West, there is no question that California is driving that high average," said Rae Tyson, spokesman for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. "But to explain why the other regions are lower certainly defies me."

California has some of the strictest seat belt standards and stiffest enforcement and often is cited by safety advocates as a model state.

U2 singer to speak

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP) — U2 lead singer Bono will speak to Harvard University seniors in June as part of the school's "Class Day" festivities.

Harvard officials denied earlier reports that Bono would be the class of 2001's graduation speaker and an honorary member of the graduating class.

Bono will also perform four concerts at the FleetCenter that week.

Bono called Harvard economic professor Jeffrey D. Sachs in the spring of 1999 to talk about debt relief for Third World countries, according to the university.

events

Cash Five

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

9-12-15-24-35

Pick 3

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

3-2-5

Berry's World



THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Published each Sunday morning and each evening, except Saturday, by Snyder Publishing Co., Inc., 3600 College Ave., Snyder, Texas 79549.

Periodicals postage paid at the post office at Snyder, Texas, Publication Number USPS611-520.

POSTMASTER send change of address to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas, 79550.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: By carrier in Snyder, $9.25 per month.

By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $88.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.

Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor
MEMBER OF THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Associated Press is exclusively entitled to use for republication all news dispatches in this newspaper and also local news published for republication of special dispatches.

Happy Valentine's Day
Courtney Renee Chaidez
Love Mommy & Daddy

Happy Valentine's Day Kendall.
To one sweetheart from another.
Love you bunches, Ashley

Katelyn Leigh Clifton
Happy Valentine's Day to our little angel.
Love, Your Family

Little Heffer,
Life has been a bed of ROSES. May it stay this way!
Happy Anniversary
Forever Love
MMA

Happy Valentine's Day

Happy Valentine's Day
From
Jaden & Jordan Hood
From Conroe

Happy Valentine's Day
Heather
From All Your Family

Deb, Four (4) wonderful children and a special grandson! God truely blessed me with My One True Valentine!!
Love, Gaylon

Our Little Sweethearts
Chelsea, Danielle, Mallory
Love, Mommy, Daddy, Papoo & Granny and Nana & Pops

To my loving Husband
Happy Valentine's Day
From your loving Wife
Lucy Ojeda

Sweetheart,
Only 23 more —and you're back where you belong!!
We miss you soo much!!!
Love, LeeAnn, Krista & Brittni

Islanders began to search after airplane disappeared

CHARLEVOIX, Mich. (AP) — As word spread across fog-shrouded Beaver Island that a plane carrying a mother and her three children had disappeared, residents fanned out on snowmobiles and on foot in a determined search.

"We knew it could have happened to any of our families," the search's leader, Deputy Sheriff Mike Russell, said Tuesday. "We'd hope they would look for us as well as we looked for them."

Fifteen hours after the plane was reported lost, Beaver Island volunteers spotted its wreckage and a Coast Guard helicopter pulled the four survivors to safety. The pilot and co-pilot were killed.

Mirth Gault and her children had left their suburban Chicago home Thursday afternoon for a vacation home on the northern Lake Michigan island. Her husband, Robert Gault, a broker on the Chicago Mercantile Exchange, was already at the island airport waiting for them.

He saw the small plane fly over and assumed it was headed to the mainland because it was too foggy to land, Russell said. Then came word from air traffic controllers that the crew hadn't been heard from since reporting a final approach to Beaver Island, a 53-square-mile, thickly wooded island 30 miles west of Charlevoix.

"I didn't have a sense that they were OK, given the sequence of events," Gault said.

While Coast Guard helicopters searched the water and volunteers spread out along the shore through the darkness and fog, the mother and children huddled together inside the plane wreckage, talking and singing to stay awake in the cold.

Adam, 13, said he remembered the plane going by the airport, then the lights going out and everyone screaming as the plane hit a tree before crashing to the ground.

It was clear the two pilots hadn't survived, he said. "There was no front of the plane, it was all crumbled up like a ball," he said.

The family waited in the cold for 15 hours until they heard a plane overhead Friday morning.

Paul Welke, operations director for Island Airways, a charter flight service between the island and Charlevoix, spotted the wreckage about two miles from the airport.

"Our immediate thought was that nobody would have survived this," Welke said. But he stared in amazement as Mirth Gault climbed onto the fuselage and waved a life preserver.

About a mile away, Mike Green, a lifelong island resident who had been searching by snowmobile, noticed Welke's plane circling and roared toward the spot. When the trees and underbrush got too thick, he continued on foot, reaching the wreckage as a Coast Guard helicopter was lifting the family to safety.

"The mother and one of the children were still on the ground," Green said. "She was about frozen. I gave her some hand warmers, and another guy threw a coat over her until she could get in the basket."

Mirth Gault, 42, Adam and Alec, 5, have been released from Charlevoix Area Hospital. Emma, 9, was in good condition Tuesday with a broken pelvis. Pilot Curtis Logan, 51, of Little Falls, Minn., and co-pilot Steve Ehrhart, 23, of Elgin, Ill., died in the crash.

"It's just unbelievable that anyone made it through alive," Green said. "We all felt like we'd seen a miracle."

Between 400 and 500 people live year-round on Beaver Island, a popular tourist destination connected to Charlevoix by a summer ferry. In the winter, the airport is the only way to and from the island.



EASTERN STAR OFFICERS — Officers for Snyder Chapter 450 Order of the Eastern Star are, front row (from left), Blanche Lane, protem; Shirley Jones, chaplain; Sharon Bruns, worthy matron; Roland Bruns, worthy patron; Jessie Scarborough, conductress; Dena Faye Sterling, organist; second row, Dorris Martin, associate matron; Yelita Freeman, Electa; Jack Martin, marshall; Jo Terrell, Martha; Laura Hall, associate conductress; Mildred Baze, secretary; back row, Pauline Boyd, Adah; Anne Sims, Ruth; Marlin Terrell, associate patron; David Hayes, warder; and Don Keller, sentinel. The chapter meets on the third Thursday of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Scurry Masonic Lodge Hall on 35th Street. (Contributed Photo)

Freshman arrested in killings

WASHINGTON (AP) — A freshman at Gallaudet University, the nation's only liberal arts university for the deaf, was charged Tuesday with killing two fellow students over the past five months.

Police Chief Charles Ramsey said robbery was the motive in both killings.

He said Joseph M. Mesa Jr., 20, of Barrigada, Guam, was expected to be arraigned today on two counts of felony murder in the deaths of Benjamin Varner of San Antonio and Eric F. Plunkett of Burnsville, Minn.

The students were killed in the dormitory next to the one where Mesa lived. Police searched Mesa's dorm room earlier in the day, but Ramsey would not say whether any evidence was recovered.

"A lot of what we'd like to say we can't say because of the pending trial, but this was one of the more complicated investigations I've seen in my 30 years," Ramsey said at a news conference at the university Tuesday night.

Police revealed earlier in the investigation that they had recovered a bloodstained jacket and a knife in a trash bin behind a dormitory.

Ramsey said Mesa had visible injuries and that will be used against him in court. Investigators felt that Varner's attacker had been injured during the slaying.

"There's a sense of relief in knowing someone's been arrested and charged with these terrible crimes," said I. King Jordan, the university's president. "At the same time, there's a real sense of sadness that the individual that is said to be responsible is from our community."

Varner, 19, was found dead of multiple stab wounds Feb. 3 in a fourth-floor dorm room of Cogswell Hall. Plunkett, also 19 and a freshman, was found beaten to death in a first-floor room of the same dorm on Sept. 28.

The killings shocked the close-knit community of 2,000 students at Gallaudet, which was established by Congress in 1864 as the country's only four-year liberal arts university for the deaf and hearing impaired.

Security has been tight at the campus since Varner's death. University police had been checking student IDs and writing down the license plates of vehicles entering the campus.

After Varner's death, university officials decided to close Cogswell Hall for the rest of the semester.

Police and university officials briefed students before telling reporters about the arrest.

Ramsey said another Gallaudet student, Thomas Minch, 18 of Greenland, N.H., who was arrested five days after Plunkett's death but later released, has been cleared of suspicion.

Varner was buried last Friday in San Antonio.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Real sweethearts spread valentine cheer all year

DEAR READERS: A Happy Valentine's Day to one and all! There may be snowdrifts on the ground or rain clouds in the forecast, but regardless of what the weatherman says, there's sunshine and springtime in our hearts.

So, be a sweetheart: Call someone who's alone to say, "I'm thinking about you." If you know someone who's in a nursing home, take some flowers. Put your discarded belongings in a box and call Goodwill. Donate some blood. Listen to your teen-ager. Tell your parents you think they're great. Tape a love note to his (or her) mirror. Forgive an enemy. Send a donation to Meals on Wheels or the Salvation Army.

And, if you love someone — tell him (or her) now; please don't wait until next Valentine's Day to be a sweetheart again. — **LOVE, ABBY**

**

DEAR ABBY: I'm a 27-year-old woman with a master's degree. I have a great job at an Internet company. Last summer, my closest friends and I traveled to three foreign countries, saw four plays, three baseball games, one soccer match and seven concerts. So what could possibly be the problem?

My family is concerned that I do not have a boyfriend. They can't understand how I can be 27 and unmarried, let alone without a "significant other." My father is worried that my "eggs will dry up"; my mother "only wants me to be happy." Mother calls only to ask if I am dating anyone, and when I tell her about my adventures, she always says it would be so much nicer with a boyfriend.

I know people have more serious problems, but this is something many single people deal with, and quite frankly, it is very frustrating. There are many more facets to my life than husband-hunting, but my parents aren't interested in anything else.

Abby, please tell your readers who are parents that a constant barrage of relationship questions every time they talk to their child is not going to make it happen any faster. When it does happen, we will joyfully tell them all about it. — **SINGLE AND PSYCHED IN HOBOKEN, N.J.**

DEAR SINGLE AND PSYCHED: I'll go even further than you're asking me to. Parents who constantly harp on the "have you found a boyfriend (or girlfriend)" question subtly undermine their children's self-esteem, force them into a defensive posture, and reduce their likelihood of finding someone. People who are happy with their lives and proud of their accomplishments are far more attractive candidates for a meaningful relationship than those who are made to feel their achievements and interests are not important.

**

DEAR ABBY: I'm a single dad. My daughter just started pre-kindergarten this year. Here's my problem: My daughter's teacher is very attractive. She doesn't wear a wedding ring, seems to be very caring and has a great sense of humor. I would really like to take her out if she's available.

I can't seem to come up with any ideas on how to approach her without making us both uncomfortable. If she says no or that she's spoken for, seeing as how we'll be seeing each other every day, this could be awkward.

I haven't had these feelings for anyone in more than five years. Please help. — **STUCK IN NEW YORK**

DEAR STUCK: If you've been out of circulation so long that you no longer know how to ask someone out, try this: Mention a play or sporting event and ask if she'd like to go. Nothing ventured, nothing gained. Attraction is usually a two-way street.

If you're concerned about possible embarrassment, wait until closer to the end of the school session.

**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $3.95 ($4.50 in Canada) to: Dear Abby, Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder



Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2001

The delicious decoy duck

By Phillip Alder

C. Wright Mills, an American sociologist, claimed, "The nearest the modern general or admiral comes to a small-arms encounter of any sort is at a duck hunt in the company of corporation executives at the retreat of Continental Motors, Inc."

There was a small-arms encounter following a bridge deal, when Myrtle Hoffman killed her husband John in Kansas City in 1931. (She was found not guilty of murder and walked free from the court.) However, another of those words is critical in today's deal.

	North 02-14-01 ♠ A K J ♥ 7 6 4 3 ♦ 6 5 ♣ 8 6 4 3	
West ♠ Q 8 3 ♥ 10 5 2 ♦ Q J 10 8 2 ♣ Q 2		East ♠ 10 7 4 ♥ Q 9 8 ♦ 9 7 4 3 ♣ A 7 5
	South ♠ 9 6 5 2 ♥ A K J ♦ A K ♣ K J 10 9	

Vulnerable: East-West
Dealer: South

South	West	North	East
1 ♣	Pass	1 ♥	Pass
2 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ Q

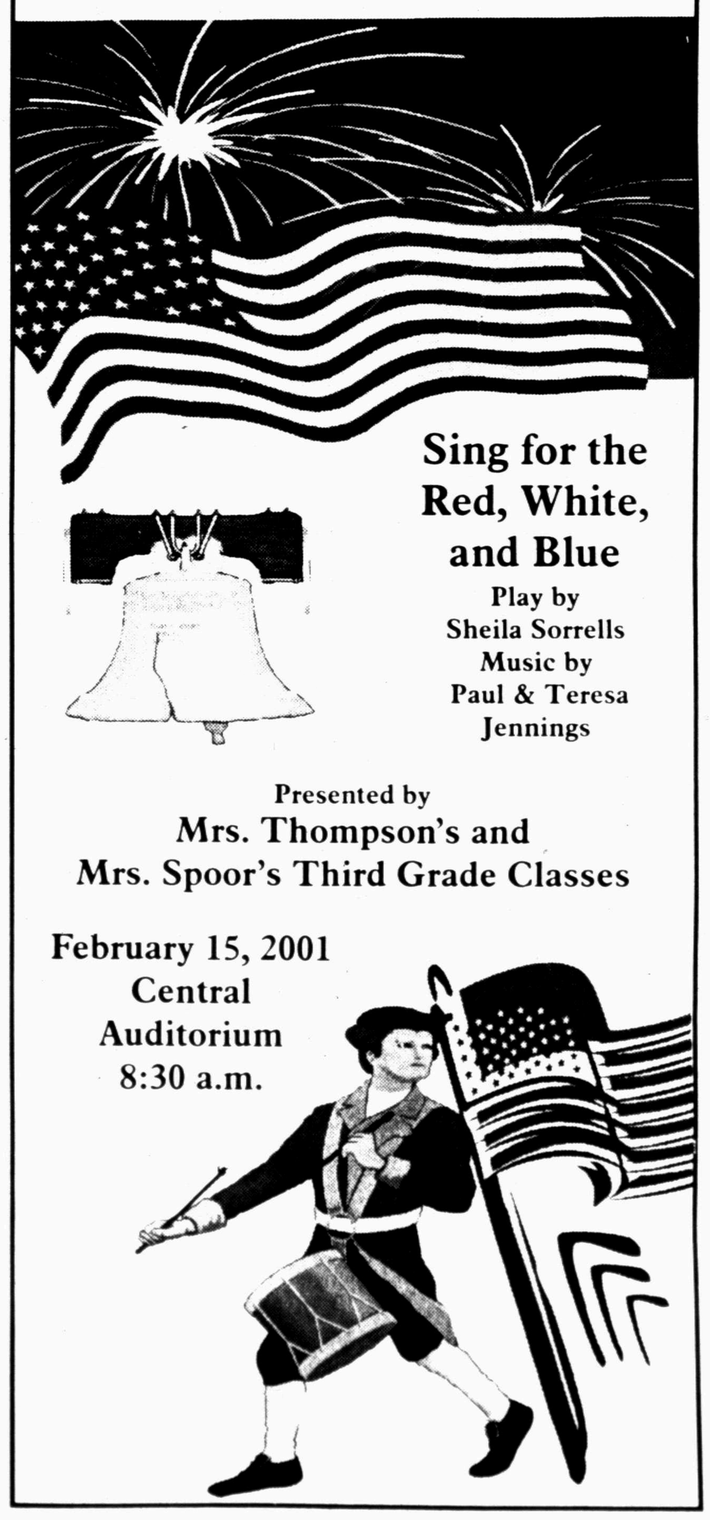
In three no-trump, South could see six top tricks: two spades, two hearts and two diamonds. To get up to nine, he reasonably decided to work on clubs. So, after winning with the diamond king, declarer crossed to dummy with a spade to the king, and played a club to his nine.

Somehow, West realized what was happening. If he had won the trick and plowed on with diamonds, declarer would have had no option but to go for broke in the majors. (If instead South drives out the club ace, he can expect to lose at least three diamond and two club tricks.) And note that declarer was about to get lucky. With both major-suit queens onside and the spades splitting 3-3, he was going to get nine tricks via four spades, three hearts and two diamonds.

Yet at trick three, West ducked smoothly! Suitably duped, declarer went back to dummy with a spade to the ace and finessed his club jack. He was hoping to get nine tricks from two spades, two hearts, two diamonds and three clubs. But when West produced the club queen, the contract was beyond resuscitation.

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A Special Invitation To All Veterans



Sing for the Red, White, and Blue

Play by Sheila Sorrells
Music by Paul & Teresa Jennings

Presented by
Mrs. Thompson's and Mrs. Spoor's Third Grade Classes

February 15, 2001
Central Auditorium
8:30 a.m.

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NOTICE

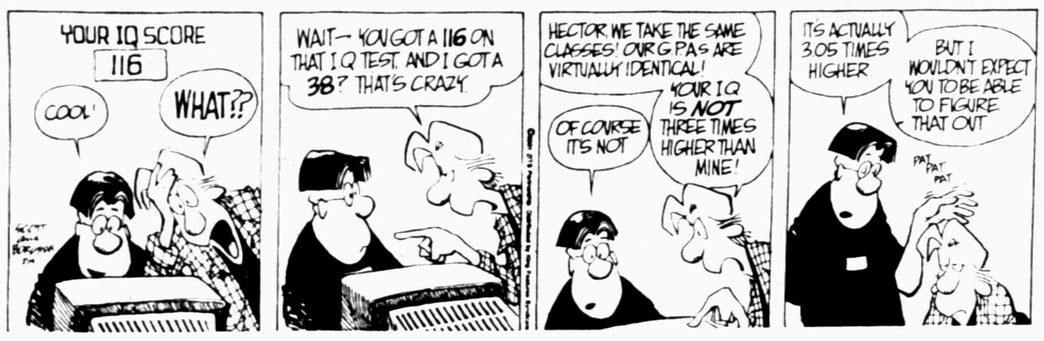
The City of Snyder has passed an ordinance (#887) regulating the use of right-of-ways. All construction in a public right-of-way must be permitted through the Planning and Zoning Office prior to digging, ditching, boring or setting of poles. All users of the public right-of-way must register with the City. Registration forms can also be obtained from the Planning and Zoning Office.

Copies of Ordinance #887 can be obtained through the records office.

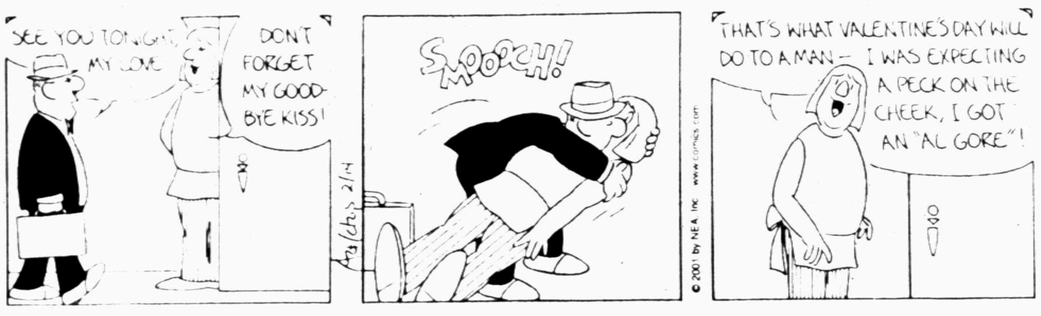
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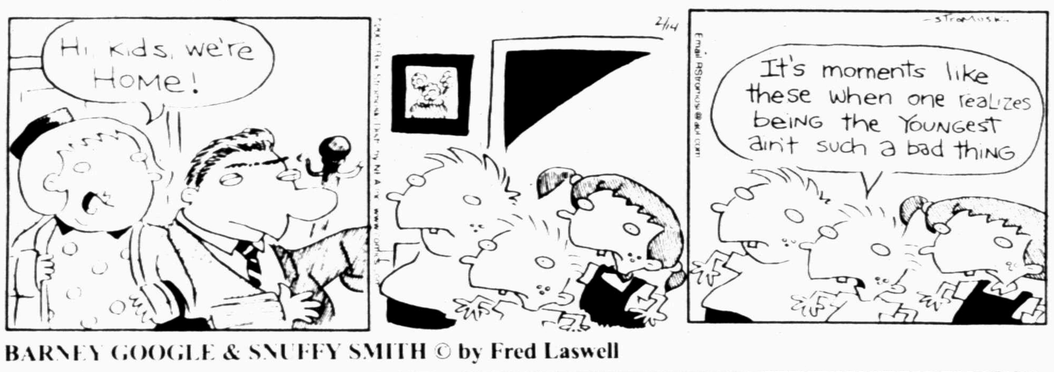
ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



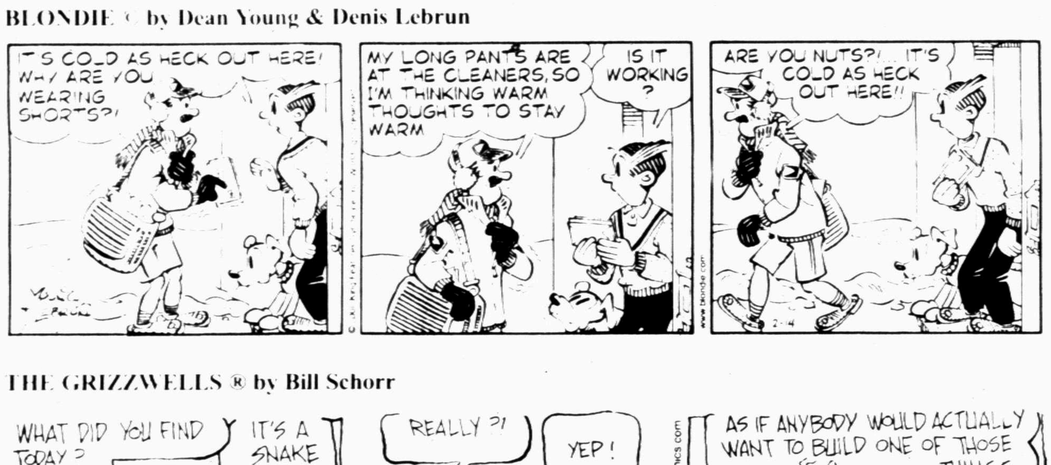
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



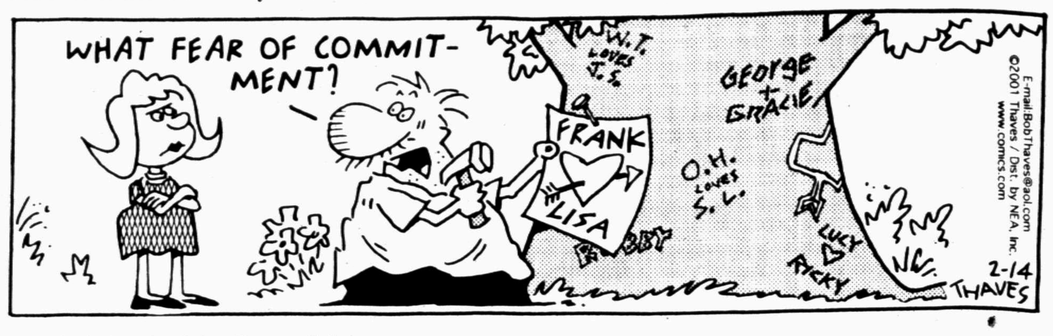
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FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



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ROBOTMAN ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



"Sandra, bring me a paper towel."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Tool with jaws
7 Chief artery
12 Type of technician
13 Auto tags
14 So far (2 wds.)
15 Tranquil
16 Director Spike
17 Hesitation sounds
18 Flying saucer (abbr.)
21 Teapot part
23 Nonprofit TV
26 Makes lace
28 Faction
29 Motorists' org.
30 Small group
31 Housing
33 Tending to wear away
36 Actress Archer
37 Ethiopian title
38 Actor Robert De —
40 Buzzing insects
41 The girl
42 Puccini opera
44 Insecticide inits.
45 Barbara — Geddes
46 Psychic Geller
48 South Dakota capital
51 Balm
55 Create
56 Impose a fine on
57 Does a slow boil
58 Least cooked, like a steak

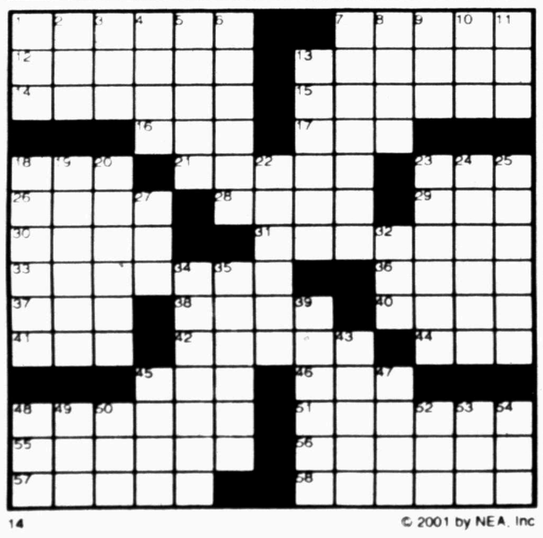
DOWN

1 Calif. summer time
2 Author Tolstoy
3 Neither Rep. nor Dem.
4 List-ending abbr. (2 wds.)
5 Evaluates
6 Naps
7 Put on guard
8 Rowers' tools
9 Map abbr.
10 Half a score
11 Enzyme (suff.)
13 False
18 Declares
19 Actress Fawcett
20 Ineffective
22 Fuel carriers
23 Injured
24 Prohibited
25 Wisest
27 "Mayday!"
32 Yak
34 Some unpaid workers
35 Purple shade
39 Of the eyes
43 Scent
45 Steep (tea)
47 Roman road
48 Greek letters
49 Bank-statement abbr.
50 12/31, e.g.
52 Indignation
53 Mil. school
54 Snare

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



"THAT'S THE WAY WOMEN ARE. I ONLY GAVE HER A CANDY BAR. **HE** GAVE HER A WHOLE BOX OF CHOCOLATES!"

Tigers Chiefs third p

It was obvious Snyder Tigers district finale. Th that remained Tigers would fit i ture.

The Plainvi answered that on

Snyder rolled 79-44, Tuesday n view edged Fre give the Tigers th trict 4-4A.

Snyder (20-10) District 3 runner- bi-district playoff at Lubbock High. are ranked ninth a record of 27-4.

"Hereford has said Snyder coa "They're a phy plays solid man- and they have point guard and

Against the Cl took control in th ter, then stretch the game went o

Snyder built a the first period, the lead to 37- behind six secon from junior Chr five from senior

Senior Heath up in the third qu points that inclu from beyond the

Snyder scored second half to s district victory.

"I think we'l again," Birks sta Levelland was a it was on the roa ty opponent. To ragged at times, to play hard, that's what we're do in the playoffs

Senior Jared the Tigers with Pinkerton finishe

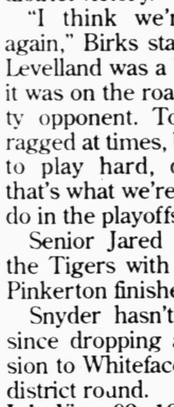
Snyder hasn't since dropping sion to Whiteface district round.

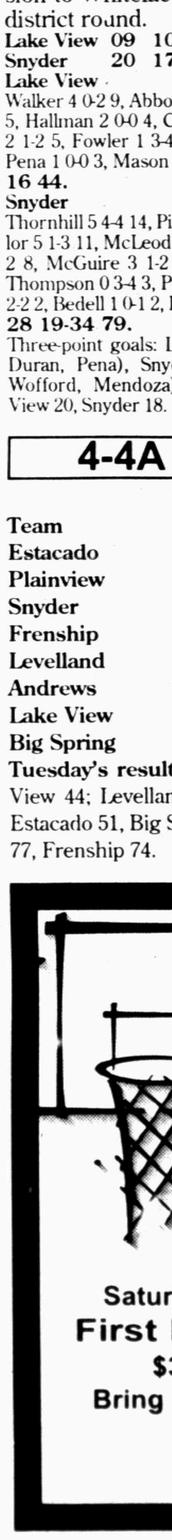
Lake View 09 10
Snyder 20 17
Lake View
Walker 4 0-2 9, Abbo 5, Hallman 2 0-0 4, C 2 1-2 5, Fowler 1 3-4 Pena 1 0-0 3, Mason **16 44.**
Snyder
Thornhill 5 4-4 14, Pi lor 5 1-3 11, McLeod 2 8, McGuire 3 1-2 Thompson 0 3-4 3, P 2-2 2, Bedell 1 0-1 2, **28 19-34 79.**
Three-point goals: D Duran, Pena), Sny Wofford, Mendoza View 20, Snyder 18.

4-4A

Team	
Estacado	
Plainview	
Snyder	
Frenship	
Levelland	
Andrews	
Lake View	
Big Spring	
Tuesday's result	

View 44; Levellan Estacado 51, Big S 77, Frenship 74.





SPORTS

Tigers top Chiefs, nab third place

It was obvious early on that the Snyder Tigers would win their district finale. The only question that remained was where the Tigers would fit in the playoff picture.

The Plainview Bulldogs answered that one.

Snyder rolled over Lake View, 79-44, Tuesday night, and Plainview edged Frenship, 77-74, to give the Tigers third place in District 4-4A.

Snyder (20-10) advances to face District 3 runner-up Hereford in a bi-district playoff at 7:30 Tuesday at Lubbock High. The Whitefaces are ranked ninth in the state with a record of 27-4.

"Hereford has a good team," said Snyder coach Bud Birks. "They're a physical team that plays solid man-to-man defense, and they have good players at point guard and on the wing."

Against the Chiefs, the Tigers took control in the opening quarter, then stretched their lead as the game went on.

Snyder built a 20-9 advantage in the first period, before running the lead to 37-19 at halftime, behind six second-quarter points from junior Chris McLeod and five from senior Shante Taylor.

Senior Heath Pinkerton heated up in the third quarter with eight points that included two buckets from beyond the arc.

Snyder scored 42 points in the second half to secure their 10th district victory.

"I think we're playing well again," Birks stated. "The win at Levelland was a big one, because it was on the road against a quality opponent. Tonight, we were ragged at times, but we continued to play hard, defensively, and that's what we're going to have to do in the playoffs."

Senior Jared Thornhill paced the Tigers with 14 points, while Pinkerton finished with 13.

Snyder hasn't faced Hereford since dropping a one-point decision to Whitefaces in the 1998 bi-district round.

Lake View	**09**	**10**	**10**	**15**	**— 44**
Snyder	**20**	**17**	**23**	**19**	**— 79**

Lake View
Walker 4 0-2 9, Abbott 2 2-4 6, Duran 2 0-0 5, Hallman 2 0-0 4, Cortez 0 1-2 1, Wilcox 2 1-2 5, Fowler 1 3-4 5, Robinson 2 0-0 4, Pena 1 0-0 3, Mason 0 2-2 2. **Totals 16 9-16 44.**

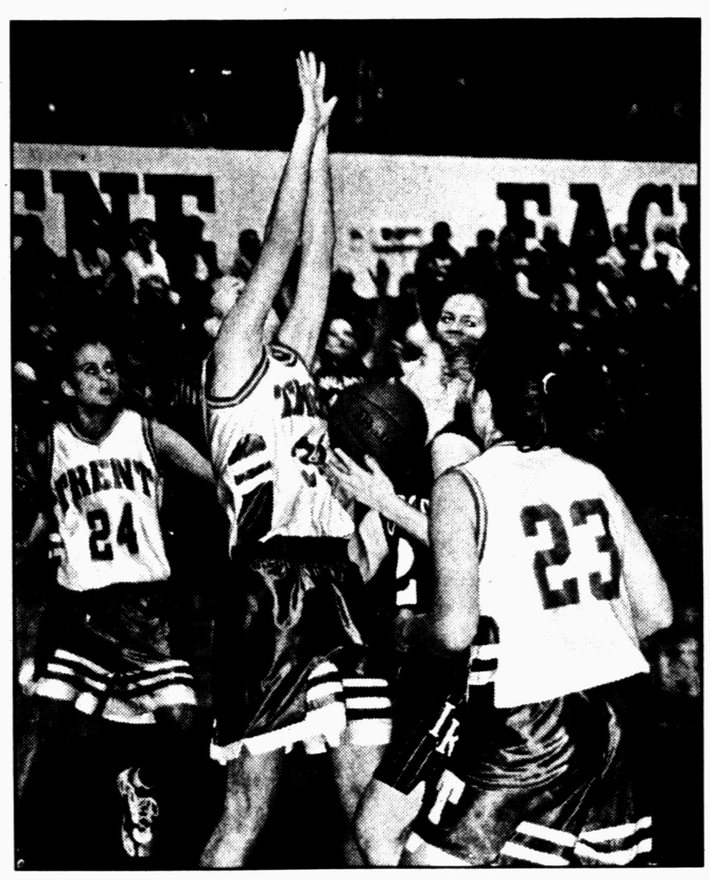
Snyder
Thornhill 5 4-4 14, Pinkerton 4 3-4 13, Taylor 5 1-3 11, McLeod 5 0-0 10, Wofford 3 1-2 8, McGuire 3 1-2 7, Mendoza 1 3-4 6, Thompson 0 3-4 3, Pruitt 1 0-4 2, Landes 0 2-2 2, Bedell 1 0-1 2, Dorsett 0 1-4 1. **Totals 28 19-34 79.**

Three-point goals: Lake View 3 (Walker, Duran, Pena), Snyder 4 (Pinkerton 2, Wofford, Mendoza). Total fouls: Lake View 20, Snyder 18. Fouled out — Abbott.

4-4A Boys

	District W	L	Season W	L
Estacado	13	1	22	10
Plainview	11	3	20	12
Snyder	10	4	20	10
Frenship	9	5	19	14
Levelland	7	7	21	12
Andrews	3	11	16	16
Lake View	2	12	10	22
Big Spring	1	13	6	25

Tuesday's results: Snyder 79, Lake View 44; Levelland 88, Andrews 69; Estacado 51, Big Spring 33; Plainview 77, Frenship 74.



TRAFFIC JAM — Ira's Celeigh Sterling gets trapped between two Trent players Tuesday night during the Lady Bulldogs' 35-31 bi-district victory in Abilene.

Lady Tigers drop opener to Lee, 3-0

MIDLAND — Heading into their season opener, the Snyder Lady Tigers had confidence in their fielding and bats, but were unsure of their young pitching staff.

As it turns out, it should have been the other way around.

Snyder struggled to drive in runs, and were victimized by errors Tuesday in a 3-0 setback to Midland Lee.

The Lady Tigers got seven solid innings from sophomore pitcher Jacque Alvarez, but couldn't produce timely hits at the plate.

Snyder had runners on base throughout the game, but couldn't drive them in.

"I was pleased with a lot of the things we did," said first-year Snyder coach Shelly Hayes. "We just didn't get the hits when we needed them, and we made a few errors. But all of our mistakes are correctable. It's only the first game, and we're going to work hard in practice so that hopefully we'll be better each time we step on the field."

The Lady Tigers will be in action again Friday at the Brenham tournament.

National Basketball Association

All Times EST

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Philadelphia	37	14	.725	—
Miami	31	20	.608	6
New York	29	19	.604	6½
Orlando	25	23	.521	10½
Boston	22	28	.440	14½
New Jersey	17	35	.327	20½
Washington	12	38	.240	24½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Milwaukee	29	19	.604	—
Toronto	27	23	.540	3
Charlotte	27	25	.519	4
Indiana	21	28	.429	8½
Cleveland	20	28	.417	9
Detroit	19	31	.380	11
Atlanta	16	34	.320	14
Chicago	7	42	.143	22½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	32	16	.667	—
Utah	32	16	.667	—
Minnesota	32	19	.627	1½
Dallas	31	20	.608	2½
Denver	28	24	.538	6
Houston	26	25	.510	7½
Vancouver	14	36	.280	19

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Portland	36	15	.706	—
Sacramento	32	15	.681	2
L.A. Lakers	32	16	.667	2½
Phoenix	29	20	.592	6
Seattle	28	24	.538	8½
L.A. Clippers	16	35	.314	20
Golden State	15	34	.306	20

Tuesday's Games
Charlotte 77, Indiana 66
Toronto 120, Cleveland 105
Miami 101, L.A. Clippers 99, OT
L.A. Lakers 113, New Jersey 110, OT
Sacramento 97, Utah 94, OT
Philadelphia 107, Milwaukee 104
Chicago 96, Atlanta 92
San Antonio 104, Dallas 92
Houston 99, Washington 89
Denver 96, New York 77
Vancouver 99, Boston 98
Portland 109, Minnesota 88
Phoenix 93, Golden State 83

Wednesday's Games
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
New Jersey at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Orlando, 7:30 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.
New York at Utah, 9 p.m.
Minnesota at Phoenix, 9 p.m.

Thursday's Games
Detroit at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Miami at Toronto, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Washington at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Boston at Seattle, 10 p.m.
Sacramento at Portland, 10 p.m.
Golden State at Vancouver, 10 p.m.

Lady Bulldogs rescue bi-district win in OT

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

ABILENE — On a night when neither team could deliver the knockout punch, the Ira Lady Bulldogs simply wore down the Trent Lady Gorillas.

Ira rallied in the final seconds of the fourth quarter Tuesday night, then blanked Trent in overtime to register a 35-31 victory in a girls' Class A-Division II bi-district tilt at Eagle Gym.

Ira led by as many as nine points in the first half, but couldn't put Trent away. The Lady Gorillas also had their chance with a four-point lead inside of 20 seconds left in the fourth quarter, but couldn't seal the deal.

"Trent is a tough ballclub. They're extremely athletic," said Ira coach Mike Duke. "We jumped out to a lead on them, and then they came back and grabbed a lead on us. But I'm extremely proud of our girls. They gave a tremendous effort tonight."

Ira's season looked to be over in the final minute of regulation, after Trent drained one of two free throws to grab a 31-27 advantage with 29 seconds left on the clock.

The Lady Bulldogs stayed alive when senior Tara Allen scored with 19 seconds left to cut the gap to two-points.

Trent then broke Ira's full-court pressure, but turned the ball over on an errant pass with 12 seconds to go.

The Lady Bulldogs worked the ball around, looking for leading-scorer Morgan Clements. With the Lady Gorillas swarming Clements, sophomore Michelle Nettles ducked under two Trent defenders and hit a leaning 15-footer as time expired to send the game into overtime.

"Michelle did a great job of keeping her balance," said Duke. "That was a tough shot, but time was winding down and she had to take it. We usually rely on Michelle for her defense and her rebounding, but she stepped up with a big shot when we needed it tonight."

It was all Ira from there on out.

Senior Kristen Harless nailed a short-range jumper 45 seconds into the extra session, and the Lady Bulldogs never trailed again.

Ira held Trent scoreless in the four-minute overtime period, and Harless and Nettles each added a free throw down the stretch for the 35-31 final tally.

The victory propels the Lady Bulldogs (14-11) into the sectional tournament, while the Lady Gorillas end their season with a mark of 18-6.

Ira squares off with Balmorhea in the sectional semifinals Friday at Abilene High. The winner moves on to the sectional finals on Saturday.

"I told the girls before the game that this was a big moment for Ira girls' basketball," Duke remarked. "We needed to win this game to bring some credibility to the program. Now the girls know they can win in the playoffs. No matter what happens from here on out, they can look back and call this season a success."

Ira controlled the first half, with Clements posting 11 of the team's 19 first-half points.

The Lady Bulldogs led by nine with less than two minutes left in the second quarter, before Trent closed out the half with four consecutive points to cut the margin to 19-14 at the break.

Trent owned most of the second half. Ashley Brown, who finished with a game-high 19 points, continued to fuel the Lady Gorillas with five points in the opening minutes of the third quarter.

A three-pointer from Allen was all the offense Ira could muster in the third period, as Trent built a four-point lead.

The Lady Gorillas stretched the lead to as many as six points in the fourth quarter, and shut down Clements for the entire second half. The senior was 0-for-5 from the floor and 0-for-4 from the line over the final 20 minutes of the game.

But buckets from Celeigh Sterling and April Lollar kept Ira within striking distance, before Allen and Nettles scored to send the game into overtime.

The winner of this weekend's sectional tourney will advance to the semi-state tournament Feb. 23-24 in Wichita Falls.

Ira	**12**	**07**	**03**	**09**	**04**	**— 35**
Trent	**06**	**08**	**12**	**05**	**00**	**— 31**

Ira
M.Clements 5-16 1-6 11, Allen 3-5 1-2 8, Sterling 2-5 2-4 6, Nettles 2-3 1-2 5, Harless 1-5 1-3 3, Lollar 1-1 0-0 2, Wilson 0-0 0-1 0. **Totals 14-35 6-18 35.**

Trent
Brown 8-23 2-2 19, T.Smith 4-7 0-0 9, E.Smith 1-7 0-0 2, Bradford 0-2 0-0 0, Gibson 0-5 0-0 0, Copeland 0-2 1-2 1. **Totals 13-46 3-4 31.**

Three-point goals: Ira 1 (Allen), Trent 2 (Brown, T.Smith). Rebounds: Ira 28 (Clements 7), Trent 25 (Copeland 8). Total fouls: Ira 12, Trent 18. Fouled out — Sterling; Brown, Gibson.

JV boys end season with 42-38 victory

Snyder's junior varsity boys closed the season on a winning note Tuesday, with a 42-38 victory over Lake View.

The Tigers raced to a six-point lead in the opening quarter, then hung on down the stretch.

Colby Driggers drained nine points to pace Snyder, while Corey Clay added eight.

T.J. Jones dropped in seven points. Brady Reed tallied five, and Brad Spells posted four. Jay Scott netted three points, and Josh McGaha, Clay Williams and Tanner Beard chipped in two apiece.

The JV Tigers finished their season with a record of 16-15.

Lady Coyotes trounce Blackwell in bi-district

MERKEL — The Borden County Lady Coyotes wanted to defend their bi-district title, and they used their defense to do it.

Borden County tallied 25 steals Tuesday night en route to a 66-28 victory over Blackwell in a girls' Class A-Division II bi-district playoff at Badger Gym.

The Lady Coyotes advance to the sectional tournament Friday at McMurry University in Abilene.

Against the Lady Hornets, Borden County blew the game open with a 14-0 run in the second quarter.

The Lady Coyotes continued to roll in the second half. Borden County opened the third period with a 12-0 stretch that put the game out of reach.

The Lady Coyotes' largest lead of the night came midway through the final frame when they built a 62-21 advantage.

Bobbie Kempf poured in 15 points to pace Borden County, while Kylia Culp and Bekah Hensley added 12 apiece.

Rika Copeland finished with 11 points. Micah Hensley netted 10, and Dalene Kempf chipped in six.

The Lady Coyotes improved to 17-13 on the year. Another victory on Friday would propel them into the sectional finals on Saturday.

Sports Briefs

Ground Hog golf tourney

The Ground Hog Open will be held Feb. 24-25 at Snyder Country Club. Format is a two-man scramble, and entry fee is $80 per team.

The field will be pre-flighted by total handicap, with a five-shot maximum differential between players. Play will begin at 1 p.m. both days. To enter, call the SCC pro shop at 573-7101.

Junior golf applications

Junior golfers interested in the NTPGA Junior Golf Foundation can pick up membership applications at the Snyder Country Club pro shop.

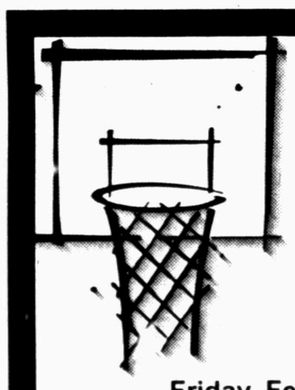
Bass club meeting

Snyder Bass Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday at Scifres Tire. The meetin is open to the public. On the agenda are election of new officers and this year's tournament schedule. For more information, call 573-4031.

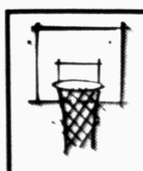
Girls Little Dribblers

Registration for girls Little Dribblers basketball will be held at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Players can sign up from 6-8 p.m. Thursday and Friday, and from 9 a.m. until noon Saturday.

Ages 8-12 are eligible to play, and entry fee is $30. Players must be accompanied by a guardian, and bring a copy of their birth certificate.



Scurry County
Girls Little Dribbler
Basketball Sign-Ups
Thursday, February 15
6-8 p.m.
Friday, February 16, 6-8 p.m.
Saturday, February 17, 9 a.m. - 12 noon
First Baptist Family Life Center
$30 first child, $15 second child
Bring Birth Certificate & Parent/Guardian
Girls 8-12
8 by September 1, 2001



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will telecast the
Boys Basketball Final District Game
Snyder Tigers vs San Angelo Lake View
Wednesday, February 14, 7:00 p.m. on Channel 2
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$16.95 for 5 days, get 6th day FREE! 15 words or less

Employment

Full time Plant Office Manager needed at manufacturing facility. Paid vacation, holiday and hospitalization. Computer experience required. Fax resume to 214-747-2639.

Full-time Assistant for Optometrist office. Apply in person at 5305 Trinity Blvd. Suite D (Cogdell Center)

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

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Employment

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
The Board of Directors of Gateway Family Services, Inc., a family violence and sexual assault agency in Snyder, Texas, is seeking a creative, energetic, and self-motivated leader for the position of Executive Director. A bachelor's degree or equivalent experience with social service organizations required. Skills in victim advocacy, administration and financial development are essential. Minimum salary 28K. **ALL REPLIES ARE CONFIDENTIAL AND REQUEST MUST BE POST MARKED NO LATER THAN FEBRUARY 21, 2001**. No phone calls, please. Send your resume and request for an application packet to:
PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
GATEWAY FAMILY SERVICES, INC.
P.O. BOX 425
SNYDER, TEXAS 79550

NEW DIET 2001
I Lost 11-lbs. in 10-Days
100% Guaranteed Results.
Call Kim 1-888-999-1860 Ext.600

Employment

Immediate opening for full-time secretary with clerical duties. Computer experience helpful, but not necessary. Will train. Send resume to:
P.O. Box 1222
Snyder, TX 79550

Transport Driver Opening: Must have CDL–Hazmat endorsements, clean driving record and pass drug test. Contact National Fuel at 2208 Ave. R.

Waitress/Cook for Snack Bar. Able to work days or nights. Must be 18yrs. old. Apply in person, Snyder Lanes & Grill, 1910 35th.

WORK AT HOME
FT/PT
FREE INFO
877-967-5781

Employment

West Texas Centers for MHMR now hiring full-time and part-time Direct Care Staff in Snyder. High School Diploma/GED required. Salary $6.47 per hour ($13,464 annually) plus benefits for full time, $7.28 per hour for part time. Applications may be obtained by calling JOBLINE 800-687-2769. **EOE**

WSI Cased Hole Specialist
Now Taking Applications
Requirements:
21 years of age and older
CDL desired but not required
Benefits:
100% Employee Health & Dental Ins.
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CALL FOR RESULTS!
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CLASSIFIEDS

JOB VACANCY
WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE
SNYDER, TEXAS 79549

POSITION: Rodeo-College Farm Maintenance **SALARY:** College Scale **REQUIRED SKILLS:** Welding, operation of farm equipment, repair and maintenance of equipment, feeding, maintenance and health care of livestock. Hours will vary, some weekend work required. **GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS:** High school diploma or GED, CDL license preferred. **DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS:** Position opened till filled. Review of applications will begin on February 21, 2001. **SEND APPLICATIONS TO:** Human Resources, Western Texas College, 6200 College Avenue, Snyder, TX 79549 **DATE OF EMPLOYMENT: ASAP**

WESTERN TEXAS COLLEGE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY INSTITUTION AND IS IN COMPLIANCE WITH THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT. APPLICATIONS ARE ACCEPTED AND CONSIDERED WITHOUT REGARD TO RACE, COLOR, CREED, SEX, AGE, NATIONAL ORIGIN, VETERANS STATUS, OR DISABILITY.

RIP GRIFFIN TRAVEL SERVICE CENTER
1 – Full-time Cashier.
Honest, Friendly, Cheerful. Available to work 24-7
1 – Full-time Housekeeper.
Honest, Friendly, Cheerful. Available to work 24-7
Benefit: Paid Vacation, Health, Vision, Dental, 401K, Life Insurance
Apply in Person

Financial

1000 New Customers Needed No Credit! No Problems!! Loans $100 to $467. Apply by phone at **573-1761** or come by **SECURITY FINANCE**, **511 Coliseum Drive**, Snyder, TX

Recreational Vehicles

Good used American Clipper mini-motor home. Well taken care of! $7,500 Call 573-5773 for appointment.

Merchandise

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

Pallets for sale, $1.00. Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News.

Randall RG80 guitar amp., Randall 150 watt head, Ludwig snare. 573-0902 or 338-3685 after 3:00p.m.

Dogs, Pets, Etc.

BEWARE! If you have bought a Chihuahua from a local Snyder lady & had any type of problems call Elizabeth, **915-672-8656.**

For Sale: Full blood Rottweiler puppies, 6 weeks old. At 900 N. Ave. P, Snyder.

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE
Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8 a.m.-3:30p.m., 2504 Ave. W. Good used Children's clothes. Donations of Useable & Sellable items accepted. For local pickup on items, call 573-4186, 573-5374 or 573-3729.

Apartments For Rent

2 bedroom apartment available in clean, quiet 16-unit complex. Locally owned 573-0340, days. 573-7959, nights.

Remodeled small, furnished, efficiency apartment. Bills paid plus cable. $350/mo., $200/dep. 573-2843, leave message.

Houses For Rent

2 bedroom brick duplex. Appliances, CH/A. 573-1012

3-1-2cp, kitchen/dining combination, 4 acres, water well. Ira $425/mo., $100/dep. Call 573-2531/721-0252/573-6668.

4002 EASTRIDGE - AVAILABLE MARCH 1ST. 3 bedroom 1 bath, 2 car garage, fenced yard, fireplace, new paint. $400/mo., $200/dep. References. Dupree Rentals. 573-9001, Mon.–Fri. 8a.m.–6p.m.

For Rent: 3 bedroom house, $325/mo. 3011 39th St. Call 338-2780.

Rent or Lease
3-2-1-2cp, CH/A, fenced.
Call 574-1744 after 5p.m.

Rent To Own
3-bedroom, CH/A, washer/dryer connections, storage, fenced yard. References required.
2106 40th 573-9068

Classified
The link between buyer and seller
573-5486

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

Mobile Homes For Rent

2 Mobil Homes for rent, 1 person each. (1) $275/mo., (1) $200/mo. Both furnished and bills paid. Located 2709 Ave. O. 573-2101

3 Bedroom Mobile Homes for rent. $250/month. 573-1711.

Mobile Homes

WANTED
Individual wanting to buy small mobile home or travel trailer. Call **863-2700**. Must be reasonably priced.

Commercial Buildings for Sale or Lease

For Sale, lease, or rent: Small shop with 10'x10' roll-up door, heat & AC with bathroom. Solid metal fenced in yard, 50'x 50' with 16' sliding gate. 2507 Ave. U. Suitable for auto repair, craft shop etc. Will owner finance. $9,000 Call 915-573-4364.

For Sale, Lease or Rent: Large showroom, 4500 sq.ft. building. New roof & ceiling, (2) bathrooms. Good location, 2 blocks west of square. 2503 Ave. U. Will owner finance. $20,000 Call 573-4364.

Real Estate

For Sale By Owner
Brick, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, new carpet. 1804-38th. Call Carie, 915-573-4382 or Kenneth, 806-856-5212.

FOR SALE BY OWNER
Owner Financing Provided
Will work with your tax refund on down payment. Low monthly. 3-1 brick home, 2811 Ave. X Call Kelly, 915-425-9994.

FOR SALE BY OWNER
Owner Financing Provided
Low down payment. Will work with your tax refund on down payment. Low monthly. 3-1, 3201 42nd. Call Kelly, 915-425-9994.

There's A Deal Waiting For You
IN THE CLASSIFIEDS
573-5486

Real Estate

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

3505 40th Large, Lovely Den $48.9T
3726 Highland Dr. 2-1-1, fenced.....$26T
Bargain Buy 2-1-1 2218 Sunset.....$20T
Eastridge-4104, Nice 2-1-1+ Office....$29T
IRA BULLDOG CORNER STORE HWY. 350
Today's Bargain 3-1 3/4-1 2205 44th ..$42.5T
Starter Home 2-1-1 707 27th.....$19.5T
Wonderful Game Rm-4-1 3/4-4 2208 45th $58T
Good Size Home 2805 Ave. V 3-1 3/4-1cp $46.5T
Lrg. 2505 Sq. Ft. 4-1 3/4-2 2800 35th St
Price Lowered Country Dream Home 4 1/2 Wonderful Storage, 20 A's, Pool, Outbuildings....$175T
14.49 Acres 3-2 Hot Tub, Sprinkler System...$95T
3774 Dalton Drive Lg. Home 3-1 3/4-1cp $37.5T
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

Owner Financed Homes
*$1,000 down, $325/mo. 2-1, fenced, remodeled kitchen and bath. $25,000, 15-years. **218 29th St.**
*$1,500 down, $375/mo. 2-1, fenced, storage shed, large garden. $28,000, 20-years. **134 20th Place**
*$1500 down, $350/mo., 3-1, fenced, laundry room. Under repair. $28,000, 20 years. **126 20th Place**
*$6,000 down, $790/mo., 3-2 attached garage, CH/A, FP, brick. $65,000, 20 years. Will lower down payment to $2,500 if you do cleaning and repairs. **4011 Houston**
CALL DAN
1-888-525-3667
Toll Free

DON'T HAVE TO HUNT VERY FAR TO BAG A BUY!



READ AND USE THE CLASSIFIEDS FOR ON-TARGET BARGAINS THAT ARE RIGHT IN SIGHT.

Snyder Daily News Classified Ads 573-5486

AUCTION

LARGE ANTIQUE ESTATES AUCTION
Saturday February 17, 11 A.M.
Dawson County Community Building
910 S. Houston Ave. - Lamesa, TX
Viewing 1 Hour Before Sale

This will be a Fantastic Auction of Fine Antique Furniture, Collectibles and High Quality Reproductions from various Estates and Consignments! 1880's figural caved oak hall tree - attributed to "R.J. Horner"; 1870's Victorian walnut bedroom suite; Rare authentic 1873 "Winchester" 38-40 Cal. hex barrel rifle; German musical, automated 2 singing birds in a cage; Antique American Grandfather clock; Western bronze statues; Cut crystal, Roseville, Limoges, Flow Blue and much more!

Auctioneer - Michael Miears TX Lic #12703
For Reserved Seating Call 405-381-3732

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Your Snyder Daily News should be delivered to you by 6:00 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Your Carrier strives to give you prompt service, but should your paper be missing ...

Please Call 573-5486
Before 6:30 p.m.
Monday through Saturday

Better election coverage promised

WASHINGTON (AP) — Television's chief executives are going before Congress to explain how they plan to fix the vote-counting system that led to their embarrassing miscalls in the Florida presidential election. They also are expected to ask Congress to establish a uniform poll-closing time for the nation.

The heads of five networks — ABC, CBS, NBC, CNN and Fox — and The Associated Press and Voter News Service are testifying today before the House Energy and Commerce Committee on why they all proclaimed Al Gore the winner in Florida, then hours later the networks prematurely gave Florida and the nation to George W. Bush.

Committee Chairman Billy Tauzin, R-La., says the networks used "clearly flawed data models and clearly biased statistical results" and, by awarding Florida's key 25 electoral votes to Gore early in the evening of Nov. 7, may have influenced voter turnout in Western states where polls were still open.

Tauzin has also praised the networks for individually commissioning reports on what led to what analysts for CNN called an election coverage "debacle."

Those reports reached similar conclusions that the early error in declaring Gore the winner stemmed from vote tabulating problems by Voter News Service, the consortium formed in 1993 by the networks and AP to conduct exit polling and count actual votes.

VNS, by its own admissions, underestimated the number of absentee votes, had trouble reconciling discrepancies between exit polls and actual votes and used inappropriate past models in analyzing voter trends.

They found that the decision by the networks, but not the AP, to declare Bush the winner of Florida and the president-elect early in the morning of Nov. 8 in part came from a computer problem in Volusia County that mistakenly subtracted thousands of votes from Gore.

"This election exposed flaws in the American voting system, imperfections mirrored in television's coverage of the election results," CBS News said in its report.

CNN's analysts, in a highly critical report, said television interfered with the electoral process. "In our opinion, that constitutes an abuse of power, if unintentionally so, by CNN and by all the mainstream television news operations," their analysis said.

'Facemail' company looks to expand with Kodak deal

NEWTON, Mass. (AP) — A wink, a nod, a grimace — all can turn the meaning of a conversation on its head. And all could add a lot to an e-mail.

A Massachusetts company is bringing faces to life on the screen, using generic models who gesture and move in at least semi-realistic form as they read e-mails.

Other companies are working on similar technology, but Newton-based LifeFX got a big boost in bringing the product to the mass market this week when it announced a deal with Kodak that could let people convert their own photographs into talking, reusable Internet "stand-ins" within a year.

"The Internet was supposed to be an interactive visual medium," says Lucille Salhany, who founded LifeFX in 1999. "It turned out to be a text medium up till now."

LifeFX's free Facemail program already has become a popular download since debuting in December. The company says it is compatible with leading e-mail programs such as Microsoft Outlook, Hotmail and AOL.

Recipients who do not have Facemail installed on their machine can either read the messages as regular text e-mail or click a link to the LifeFX site to download the program.

In the future, when a friend opens an e-mail, the sender's face would read out the text. Further down the line, the computer could learn to imitate voices.

Imagine not only talking Christmas cards and yearbooks, but professors giving lectures and doctors offering advice.

Unlike streaming video, which has to be recorded, a "stand-in" can be reused infinitely, does not require a high-speed Internet connection, and it takes no more energy than writing an e-mail. The only added work is a few typed commands known as emoticons — such as :) for a smile — that activate different facial expressions on the "stand-in" on the recipient's computer to bring the faces to life.

Currently, seven expressions are offered: smile, wink, kiss, frown, angry, disgusted and surprised.

Big companies such as Microsoft and Apple are also working to bring faces to life on computer screens, as are smaller companies such as bioVirtual and Digimask.

LifeFX insists its models look far more realistic because of a patented technology that uses mathematical equations to mimic facial movements.

David Smith, an analyst with the Gartner Group, says photo-attachments to instant messages are already popular, and talking, moving pictures is the next logical step.



On Nutrition
By Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Are scallops deadly?

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I have a deadly allergy to crab and lobster because of the iodine. Shrimp doesn't bother me at all, but my big question is whether scallops fall into the crab/lobster category or into the shrimp area. I have wanted to enjoy these morsels for a long time, but I am cautious because of the heart-stopping effects of iodine. I would appreciate your input. **— J.B., Seattle, Wash.**

Dear J.B.: The typical shellfish allergy is not caused by iodine. Some people react to iodine, but it is usually a reaction to large amounts, such as disinfectant used in surgery or other medical procedures. Iodine is an essential mineral the body uses to make thyroid hormones. This mineral is found in most seafood, but it is also present in foods made with iodized salt — including restaurant food.

When there is insufficient iodine, the thyroid gland, which is located in the throat, becomes enlarged, and the condition referred to as "goiter" results. Goiter used to be common in the Great Lakes region of the United States, but the condition was virtually eliminated following the addition of iodine to table salt in 1924.

Shellfish allergies tend to be caused by sensitivity to the protein found in shellfish. The shellfish family includes clams, crabs, lobster, oyster, shrimp and scallops. It is odd that you can tolerate shrimp when crab and lobster set you off. Because scallops are in the shellfish group, I suggest you refrain from any experimentation — especially considering that you experience a "heart-stopping" reaction.

A safe approach would be to undergo a standard allergy test (from an allergy specialist), who will expose you to dilute extracts of the suspect fish in a controlled and safe setting. Stay well.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am seeing a holistic medical doctor who uses a technique called "muscle testing" to determine which nutritional supplements I should take. He places the supplement under my tongue. Then, while I am on my back, he has me raise my right leg about 10 inches — while the pill is under my tongue. If he can press my leg down, he recommends that supplement be taken. If he cannot force my leg back down on the table, he says I don't need the supplement. What is your opinion of this technique? **— J.K., Somerset, N.J.**

Dear J.K.: In my opinion, this test is questionable, to say the least. I haven't found any evidence to support this technique's reliability. I would find myself another doctor.

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I would like to know what you think of green-tea capsules (500 milligrams). Will these cause any damage to my internal organs? As of next month, I will have been taking one per day for a year. Are they addictive? They make me feel very young, alive and full of life. I will be 61 in May. I am sending you the bottle's label. It's as if I must take one. Also, I think they are good for depression. Your opinion is welcomed. **— K.M., Waukomis, Okla.**

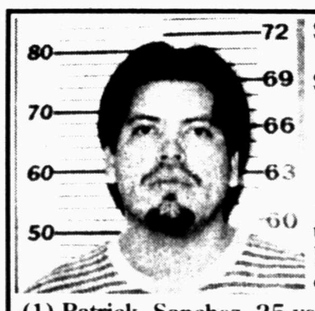
Dear K.M.: I am glad that you sent in the bottle's label. From the way you described this product, it seemed likely that it contained a stimulant — one you could grow dependent upon. There is research evidence that green tea is a source of antioxidants and other healthful factors, but I cannot confirm that taking these capsules is responsible for your youthful energy. Green tea does contain caffeine, which could explain some of your experiences. But you are only 61, so there is no reason why you shouldn't feel young, alive and full of life. I know of no evidence to support the notion that taking one of these capsules every day would damage any of your internal organs, or that the green-tea extract could be addictive.

Send questions to "On Nutrition," Ed Blonz, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York NY 10016. Address e-mail inquiries to ed@blonz.com. Because of the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Ed Blonz, Ph.D., is a nutrition scientist and the author of "Power Nutrition" (Signet, 1998) and the "Your Personal Nutritionist" book series (Signet, 1996).

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LEGAL NOTICE



SNYDER POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION
February 13, 2001

NOTICE

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

(1) Patrick Sanchez, 25 years of age, male, 800 28th Street Snyder, Texas 79549, convicted of "Indecency With A Child, By Exposure". Victim was a female child 10 years old.
(2) Risk Level - (2)

NOTIFICATION

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

(1) Patrick Sanchez, Un hombre, 25 anos de edad, 800 28th Street, Snyder, Texas 79549, convicto de "Indecencia Con Un Menor Por Descubrir". La victima era nina, diez anos de edad.
(2) Riesgo 2.
(s) Stephen W. Warren
Chief of Police

Markets
Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP) -

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp s	33.75	33.50	33.51	— .29
AOL TimeWrn	48.00	46.23	46.86	— 1.23
AT&T Corp	22.20	21.45	21.49	— .99
Albertsons	28.60	27.83	27.83	— .90
Alltel	54.01	53.28	53.54	— .17
AmEl Pw	45.43	44.90	45.23	— .26
AndarkPtr	68.40	67.75	68.14	+ .11
ATMOS Egy	24.35	23.85	23.88	— .47
Aviall	8.05	7.85	7.87	— .13
BP Amoco	51.43	50.58	51.34	+ .34
BakerHughes	43.95	42.72	42.78	— .59
Bank of Amer	51.13	50.21	50.83	+ .59
BellSouth	42.95	42.03	42.20	— .74
Beth Steel	3-48	2.40	2.47	+ .02
BurlNoSFe	30.65	30.05	30.42	
Caterpillar	44.50	43.80	44.10	+ .84
Chevron	86.70	85.34	86.20	+ .85
Citigroup s	54.84	54.07	54.39	— .20
CocaCola	59.70	59.13	59.55	— .41
ColgatePal	58.00	56.39	56.99	— 1.01
ComclMetals	24.50	24.50	24.50	
Cooperin	46.90	46.22	46.29	— .18
DaimlrChry	51.05	50.61	50.97	+ .90
DallSemicn s	36.27	35.00	35.75	— .10
DeltaAirl	43.45	42.90	42.95	— .63
Dillards Inc	18.95	18.62	18.81	+ .16
DowChem s	31.80	31.30	31.70	+ .26
DuPont	42.99	42.25	42.82	— .02
EastmanChem	50.33	49.75	50.23	— .27
EstKodak	46.35	45.50	45.81	+ .13
EDS Corp	65.50	63.63	64.80	+ .64
Entergy	37.00	36.60	36.89	+ .10
ExxonMobil	84.37	83.50	84.37	— .42
Flowers	17.30	17.16	17.21	— .05
GenDynam	69.29	68.45	69.25	+ 1.00
GenlElec s	47.19	46.26	46.53	— .63
GenMills	43.93	43.41	43.69	— .62
GenMotors	55.18	53.79	54.37	— .71
GaPacGP	30.34	30.10	30.19	— .68
GlobalMar	31.24	30.49	30.72	+ .08
Goodrich	38.95	38.35	38.90	+ .27
Goodyear s	24.55	23.49	23.55	— .43
GtAtlPac	11.31	10.80	10.85	— .56
Halliburtn	43.75	42.90	43.15	— .10
Hanson ADS	32.18	31.95	32.18	+ .18
HarteHanks	23.52	23.30	23.35	+ .05
HomeDepot	46.87	45.85	45.89	— .42
Honeywellintl	48.69	47.80	48.00	— .70
IBM	114.91	112.50	112.80	— .95
IntlPaper	37.11	36.30	36.71	— .40
JohnsonJn	96.95	96.00	96.19	— .71
K mart	9.01	8.85	8.88	— .12
Kroger Co	24.00	23.52	23.72	— .27
Litton	79.11	78.95	78.95	— .15
LockheedM	37.65	36.50	37.06	+ .15
Lowes Cos	57.40	56.08	56.78	+ .53
Lubys	7.59	7.41	7.59	+ .17
LucentTech	13.60	12.80	12.86	— .68
MayDeptStr	38.37	38.00	38.11	+ .10
Medtronic	52.60	52.01	52.16	— .24
Motorola s	19.70	18.95	19.00	— .75
NCR Corp	48.30	47.30	48.16	— .19
Navistar	26.50	25.80	26.38	+ .01
Penney JC	14.48	14.19	14.39	+ .10
PepBoys	6.33	6.26	6.27	
PepsiCo	47.35	46.70	46.76	— .39
Pharmacia	52.50	51.21	51.58	— .05
PhelpDodge	44.45	43.70	44.18	+ .49
PhilipPet	57.15	56.80	56.98	— .18
PilgrmPrd B	10.50	10.42	10.43	— .10
Polaroid	6.42	6.15	6.21	— .17
Praxair	45.20	44.53	45.18	+ .18
ProctGamb	74.50	73.95	74.31	— .24
PubS NwMx	25.40	24.70	24.84	— .58
RadioShack	48.60	47.80	48.25	+ .45
ReliantEngy	40.75	40.11	40.35	+ .02
RoyalDut	61.60	60.97	61.55	+ .34
SBC Comm	48.50	47.34	47.40	— 1.06
SaraLee	21.00	20.49	20.77	— .33
Scripps EW	65.25	63.95	64.01	— 1.24
SearsRoeb	38.84	38.63	38.65	+ .26
SherwinW	26.95	26.45	26.46	— .29
SouthernCo	30.64	29.93	30.10	— .35
SwstAirl	32.38	31.60	31.69	— .50
SwstAirl wi	21.45	21.45	21.45	— .05
SprintFON	24.10	22.30	22.90	— 1.04
SprintPCS	26.19	25.12	25.34	— .81
Sunoco Inc	35.44	35.10	35.29	— .25
TXU Corp	40.90	40.24	40.38	— .42
TempleInland	49.25	48.51	49.10	— .16
Texaco	64.63	63.93	64.53	+ .63
TexInd	29.10	29.00	29.03	+ .02
TexasInst s	38.40	37.01	37.03	— .38
Textron	52.63	52.21	52.21	— .36
TriconGlbR	35.90	35.20	35.45	— .57
TrinityInds	22.73	22.55	22.62	+ .07
TritonEngy	26.44	26.10	26.15	— .31
TylerTech	1.82	1.66	1.66	— .04
USX-Marathn	28.90	28.48	28.80	+ .30
USX-USS	15.80	15.60	15.73	+ .01
UnionPacif	54.68	54.08	54.08	— .64
UnitedTech	78.30	76.55	77.73	+ .56
Unocal	36.28	35.50	36.15	+ .33
Venator Grp	12.19	11.89	12.13	+ .14
VerizonComm	53.80	53.54	53.55	— .65
WalMart	54.35	53.00	53.11	— .99
WellsFargo	50.70	49.95	50.42	+ .43
WstnGasRs	28.20	27.65	27.90	+ .25
WinnDixie	24.41	23.84	24.05	— .36
Xerox Cp	7.11	6.85	7.11	+ .24



Happy 13th Birthday
to our Valentine
Valerie Knipe
from all of us

FEB 14 2001

Scurry County Country

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Nature's way is simple, native pecan seeds fall to the ground, overwinter in litter, soil covers them, etc. and they germinate in the spring.

One million acres in Texas have been planted by this method, but no one is depending on this system for growing nursery trees. When nursery trees are grown, the system can go in as many different directions as there are nurseries.

J.W. Worthington in the Texas Pecan Handbook discusses pecan seed germination. The process in a "nut shell" is simple. The seeds are taken from dry storage placed in moist soil, absorbs water through the shell for about 2 weeks, enzymes stimulate growth, the kernels swell, the shell splits, the young root emerges and grows ½ inch per day, extending a foot on more into the soil before the shoot emerges through 2 or 3 inches of soil. Germination is staggered for each individual seedling and 4 to 8 weeks is required for all seed to come up.

Dry storage is required for the nuts as soon as they are harvested. Kernel percent moisture needs to be reduced from 20 at harvest to 6, 5 or 4 before going into storage. The drying needs to be as fast as possible without using heat.

Stratification is the period of time from drying to planting. For pecans, they can be stratified with moist chilling or dry chilling. The ideal temperature is 45 degrees F and in a polyethylene bag to allow oxygen and carbon dioxide movement through the bag, but no loss of moisture. Some stratify pecan seeds in poly bags with both pecans and a very slightly moist packing medicine such as sand, peat moss, or vermiculite. Some stratify as nuts only with no medium. Stratification should be from as soon as the nuts are until they are presoaked for planting in late February. Most people are now using dry stratification.

Presoaking is used to stimulate germination. The nuts are placed in a mesh bag, submerged in a water bath, and soaked in running water for one to four days. Barrels, irrigation canals or rivers have been used, just so that the water is not standing still. Top quality seed will swell and split in only one day. These seeds should be checked at least twice daily, handled carefully and planted immediately without allowing them to dry.

Seedbed should be ready so that the swollen nuts can be planted immediately.

Variety seedstock for pecan rootstock is discussed by L.J. Gauke in the Texas Pecan Handbook and is summarized but not limited to the following: Giles in north, Riverside in the west and central, Apache in the southwest and Elliott in east and southeast Texas. Outstanding native trees in the area can also be used for seedstock. High quality kernels which are well filled should be used.

Sprouting on the tree or premature germination while the nuts are on the tree has been a major problem in the year 2000. Why does this happen? The pecan, like all deciduous trees, has a rest period, which controls seed germination and spring bud breaks. Surprisingly, the two systems are very similar. In general, the seed goes through three stages of rest: pre-rest, mid-rest and post rest. The rest is controlled in part by an inhibitor hormone called abscisic acid (ABA). This hormone is produced in healthy leaves from bud break to leaf fall. In late August and September if a heavy loaded pecan tree is stressed, its leaves will stop producing ABA and consequently the mature seeds in he shucks on the tree have no inhibitor, thus sprouting can occur when rain and warm weather occur together. Once pecans are harvested and dried they are in mid rest and will not germinate. Once stratified for 30 to 90 days, the seeds enter post rest and will germinate when soaked or planted.

Markets

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 408 head of cattle for the Saturday, Feb. 10, sale. Compared to last week: Feeder steers and heifers under 600 lbs., were $1 to $5 higher, over 600 lbs. steady. Slaughter cows were steady in a light test, bulls were $2 lower. Bred cows were $20/higher, pairs were firm. Trading was active and demand good.

Feeder steers:
200-300: 125-130
300-400: 119-125
400-500: 108-112
500-600: 96-100
600-700: 88-25-89

Feeder heifers:
200-300: 116-121
300-400: 104-112
400-500: 102-106
500-600: 87.93.50

Replacement cows:
Young bred cows: 630-710
Aged cows: 510-620
Pairs: 760-850
Aged pairs: 620-755
Slaughter cows:
Boners: 1000-1250 Lbs.: 37.50
Lean: 1000-1200 Lbs.: 41.50-43.50
Boners high yielding, 1150-1350 Lbs.: 44-46.50
Lean: 900-1200 Lbs.: 40
Lean 800-1000 Lbs.: 35-38
Slaughter bulls:
Yielding Grade 1-2 1300-2100 Lbs.: 48-54
High Dressing 1500-2100 Lbs.: 55-56
Low Dressing 1000-1300 Lbs.: 43-48

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards Inc. had a run of 977 head of cattle for the Thursday, Feb. 8, sale. Cows were steady. Yearlings and calves were steady. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 40-46
Canner and low cutters: 30-40
Slaughter bulls: 48-56
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 100-125
400-500: 100-110
500-600: 90-105
600-700: 85-92
700-800: 82-88
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 100-108
400-500: 90-105
500-600: 85-92.50
600-700: 80-86
700-800: 72-82
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 86-100
700-800: 77.50-84
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 650-900
Grade: 550-675
Springers: 400-700
Baby calves: 100-150
Doodlers: 150-250

Congress warned about 20% decrease in income on farms

WASHINGTON (AP) — As if low crop prices weren't tough enough, the nation's farm economy is now being battered by soaring costs for energy and fertilizer, Congress was told Tuesday.

Net farm income is likely to drop 20 percent, or $9 billion, over the next two years unless there is a fresh outpouring of federal aid, according to the congressionally funded Food and Agricultural Policy Research Institute, based at the University of Missouri.

The cost of fuel that farmers need for tractors, combines and irrigation equipment jumped 31 percent last year. Prices may drop slightly in coming months, but growers are expected to be hit this year with a 33 percent increase in fertilizer costs, the report said. Nitrogen fertilizer is made from natural gas.

"It's not only low prices, it's high production costs that are squeezing farmers," said Bruce Babcock, an Iowa State University economist.

Nebraska farmer Keith Dittrich said he expects to pay about $67 an acre to irrigate his corn this year, compared to $37 an acre in 2000. Fertilizer costs are running $40 an acre, up from $25 last year.

Meanwhile, the price of corn has averaged under $2 a bushel without a significant increase for several years.

"You keep looking for ways to find better efficiencies in your operation, but there's a limit to that," Dittrich said. "It's to the point where there is no place to cut."

The financial squeeze isn't just in the Midwest. Cotton farms in California and Texas that rely heavily on irrigation are likely to be among the hardest hit over the next few years, according to an analysis by Texas A&M University. Rice farms of all sizes are likely to lose money, too. Wheat and soybean farmers, whose fertilizer and fuel costs are generally lower, would do a little better.

A 2,000-acre cotton farm in California is expected to have $1.05 in costs for every $1 in income over the next five years.

Cattle producers are in the best shape, in part because of rising beef consumption and the low grain prices, which result in lower feed costs.

Crop prices plummeted in the late 1990s because of lagging exports and heavy worldwide production, and Congress responded by passing multibillion-dollar packages of supplemental assistance in each of the past three years. Last year, farmers received $8 billion in emergency aid.

Lawmakers are virtually certain to pass another large bailout this year, and they're starting hearings this month on a long-term overhaul of farm policy that includes proposals for a new system for subsidizing growers when crop income is down.

Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., warned recently that farmers faced a "economic and energy powder keg" because of the rising production costs. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman has endorsed the idea of another emergency aid package this year but hasn't said how much money will be needed.

The report released Tuesday estimates net farm income will drop from $45.4 billion last year to $39.6 billion in 2001 and $36.3 billion in 2002 before starting to turn around in the following years as commodity prices rise.

Farm income peaked at $55 billion in 1996.

Beekeepers bitter over ant inspections at state borders

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — Add commercial beekeepers and California almond growers to the list of victims stung by the red imported fire ant.

With the state's almond bloom in full swing, farmers are desperate to deliver the bee colonies to their orchards, but inspectors in California and Arizona have been stopping truckloads of beehives said to be infested with the dreaded fire ant.

Without the bees to pollinate this year's bloom, the trees won't produce any nuts.

"I'm sleepless over this. Water problems, power problems and now this," said Cort Blackburn, who grows 2,700 acres of almonds in arid Western Fresno County.

Blackburn and dozens of sleep-deprived farmers like him are worrying over the hours and days that pass as thousands of hives are held up or turned away from California and Arizona. Agricultural inspectors in both states have been finding the aggressive, stinging red ants stowed away on shipments from the Southeastern United States and Texas — areas that account for about a quarter of the bee deliveries to Central Valley farms.

"My farm needs 4,000 hives and I've only got 1,500. I need them today," Blackburn said.

If the delays continue at the Southwest border crossings for much longer, growers say they won't have enough bee colonies to produce what's otherwise expected to be a large almond crop. Last year's 900 million pound harvest came in at a record $500 million. The state's closest competitor, Spain, grew about 175 million pounds.

California farmers use about 1 million bee colonies to pollinate 500,000 acres of almond trees, and half of those colonies are imported from other states. Since just before the almond bloom began in January, about 35 truckloads carrying roughly 20,000 hives have been held up by inspectors in either Arizona or California — and agricultural officials say eight trucks turned back to Texas, Mississippi or Louisiana.

One truck made it through both states to an orchard in Stanislaus County, where local inspectors found fire ants and ordered the entire shipment burned.

But farmers and beekeepers say the delays, more than the rejected loads, have them worried. Each hour a shipment is delayed, the chances of hot temperatures killing off thousands of bees grows. Also, growers have just a few weeks of bloom to get the bees into orchards and some beekeepers are sending their insects to other states.

Apple growers are considering co-op

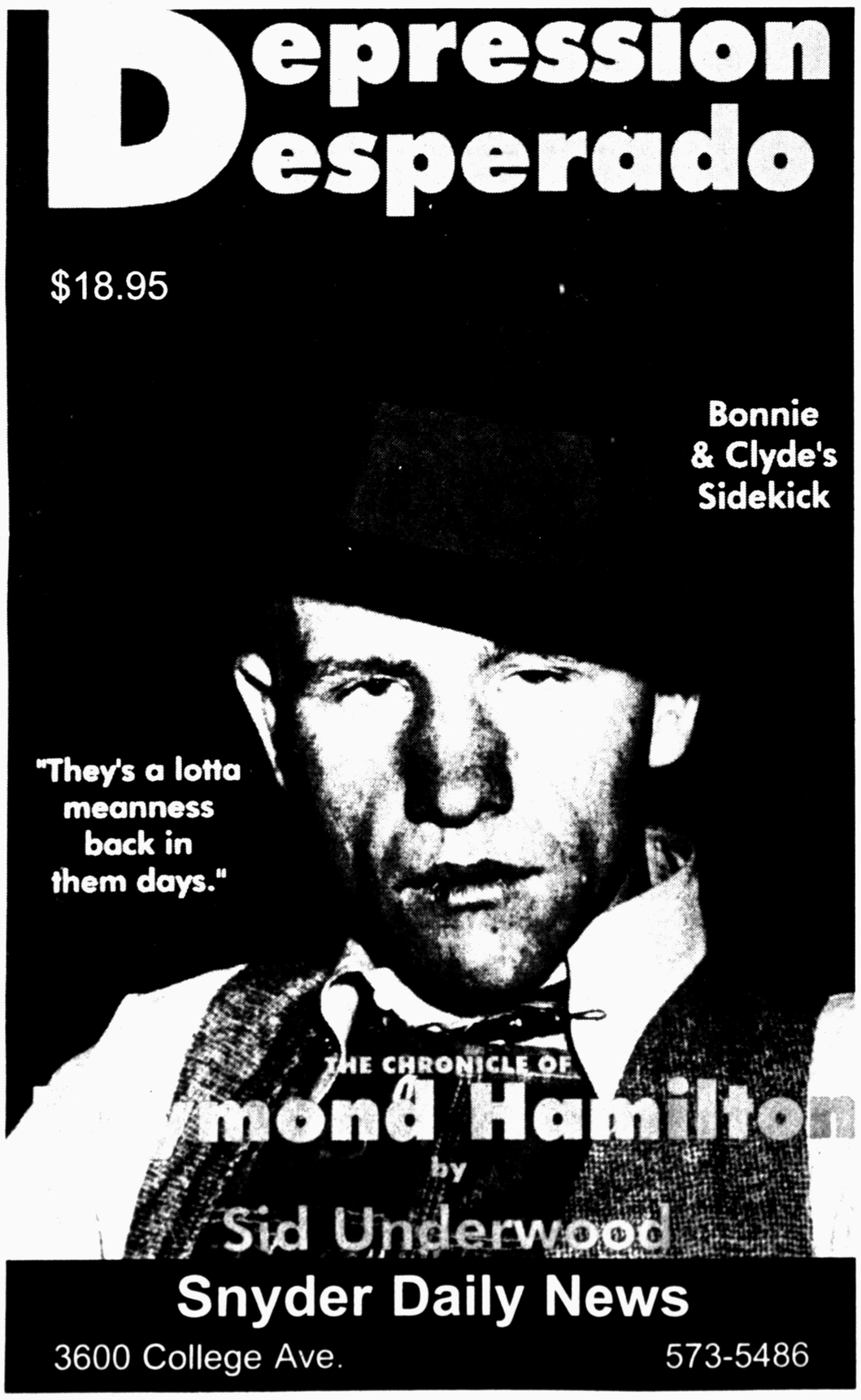
YAKIMA, Wash. (AP) — So desperate are things in the orchard this winter that Washington's notoriously independent and competitive apple farmers are starting to talk about forming a cooperative.

The idea of establishing a statewide marketing co-op to set minimum prices for Washington apples has some appeal for farmers unable to make a living, let alone turn a profit, on the state's No. 1 crop.

"I think the apple farmers in the state recognize that something dramatically different has got to occur," says Kent Mullinix, an associate professor at the Washington State University Learning Center in Wenatchee. "If that doesn't happen, they are done for."

Mark Tudor, an apple, pear and grape grower in Grandview, said he is ready to sign up. "The apple business has been horrible for the last four years," he said.

As prices plummet because of big crops, lost export markets, retail consolidation and increased competition from overseas, apple marketers often do one of two things to sell their product: cut prices or sell their higher-grade apples at lower-grade rates.



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Most nix launching retaliatory attacks

WASHINGTON (AP) — The American public usually rallies behind the government after military strikes retaliating for terrorism, but the picture is a bit different when they are asked about such an action beforehand.

More than half of Americans said they oppose launching retaliatory attacks against countries proven to have direct links to terrorist acts, says an Associated Press poll. Men were about evenly split on the question, women opposed by almost 2-to-1.

The United States launched missile attacks against sites in Sudan and Afghanistan in 1998 after two U.S. embassies in East Africa were attacked, and polls indicated the public backed the action by more than 4-to-1. Four men charged in the deadly bombings of the U.S. embassies are now on trial in New York.

An AP poll taken Feb. 7 through Feb. 11 suggests people are a bit more hesitant about a retaliatory strike that could take place in the future.

"I'm really against launching an attack," said Della Coe, a 55-year-old Republican from the Dallas area. "A terrorist act is more the act of a smaller group. The ones who suffer when we retaliate are generally not the ones who carried out the terrorism, but children and family members."

After the October attack on the USS Cole in the port of Aden, Yemen, many politicians called for a response. GOP vice presidential nominee Dick Cheney called for "swift retaliation" if the attackers could be identified. Presidential candidate George W. Bush said there should be "consequences."

Republicans were evenly split on the question of retaliation in the poll conducted for the AP by ICR of Media, Pa.

Democrats opposed retaliatory attacks by almost 2-to-1 and just over half of independents opposed launching an attack, while a third favored such an action.

Other findings in the poll:

—Almost three-fourths in the poll said they have at least some confidence in President Bush on the issue of national security.

—Americans by a 2-1 margin backed bringing U.S. troops home from Bosnia.

—More supported a proposed missile defense system than opposed it, by 48 percent to 38 percent. When asked whether they favored development of a system if it broke an existing treaty, backing for the plan dropped to three in 10 and opposition increased.

The poll of 1,015 adults has an error margin of 3 percentage points.

After facing questions during the campaign about his abilities to handle national security, Bush has won at least some confidence from a solid majority.

"I have a lot of confidence in him," said Kelly Sovine, a 29-year-old mother of two from Indian Mills, W. Va. "He's appointed very good people under him. He's doing a good job."

Bush chose Colin Powell, the popular former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff during the Persian Gulf War, to be secretary of state, and former defense secretary Donald Rumsfeld, a 68-year-old veteran of Republican administrations going back to the Nixon era, to reclaim his old job of defense secretary. Cheney, who headed the Defense Department during the Gulf War, is vice president.

A third said they have a lot of confidence in Bush on national security, and men were far more likely than women to feel that way, by 42 percent to 26 percent. Three-fourths of Republicans and a fourth of independents said they had a lot of confidence in Bush on that issue.

The public still has questions about some proposals by the Bush administration, including the suggested $60 billion that the missile defense system could cost.

"I'm not real sure I'm for the missile defense system," said Robert Williams, a 54-year-old foreman of a water company from Hartly, Del. "Things in the world are a bit calmer, the Cold War is over. ... To spend all the bucks on the missile defense system is not appropriate."

The administration's plans to build the system have raised concerns overseas, notably in Russia. A national missile defense is outlawed by a 1972 U.S.-Soviet treaty, which is based on the theory that being exposed to deadly retaliation deters an aggressor from launching an attack.

The administration wants the treaty, reached at the height of the Cold War, changed.

Two elephants get 'married'

AYUTHAYA, Thailand (AP) — With a little help from their handlers, they made it to the altar on time.

Two pairs of elephants wearing flowing gowns embroidered with red hearts got married in an elaborate ceremony in the ancient Thai capital of Ayuthaya.

Carrying their handlers, or mahouts, the brides walked to a makeshift altar in front of a local department store, trailing a colorful matrimonial procession watched by hundreds of onlookers.

Sporting a pretty pink bow, Oi Jan (Sweetheart), 24, married Plai Bua Ban (Blossoming Lotus), 24, whose trunk was brightly painted. The other couple were 18-year-olds, Nam Peung (Honey) and Plai Nga Thong (Golden Tusk).

The brides were chosen from among 20 females at the Ayuthaya Elephant Shelter, 45 miles north of Bangkok, which cares for about 80 elephants that put on shows and give rides to tourists. The grooms work at a Thai seaside resort.

Brian Clarke, an American volunteer at the shelter, said the wedding was a way of giving more prominence to Thailand's national animal — whose numbers have dropped sharply in recent decades as their use as beasts of burden has dwindled.

Two baby orphan elephants from neighboring Myanmar, also known as Burma, carried coin dowries of $238 in gold and silver bags, presented to the owners of the grooms.

Local officials checked the dowry, then helped the elephants put trunk prints on jumbo-sized marriage certificates, before presenting them with garlands of yellow flowers. The newlyweds then had their wedding photos taking at historic temple ruins nearby.

Original entries sought for spring poems publication

The Mesquite Country Writers Guild requests original poems for the spring issue of "Bards of a Feather." The theme is open and the limit is 20 lines. The deadline is March 1.

Submissions should be mailed to Mesquite Country Writers Guild, 9221 S. Hwy. 208, Hermleigh, 79526 or e-mailed to dade@bigcountry.net.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Thursday, Feb. 15, 2001

The year ahead might be far more active for you socially than you expected. If you're an unattached Aquarian, someone special could enter your life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Make it a point to spend your time today with cherry types, because the disposition of others can influence your outlook. Good company is an assurance of a pleasant day. Know where to look for romance and you'll find it.

The Astro-Graph Matchmaker instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) A benign, thoughtful gesture to the right person can do wonders for achieving your desires today. It's the old adage of casting a little bread upon the waters that works so well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Acknowledgment of another's assistance can go a long way toward building solid relationships. If someone recently provided you with needed information, let this person know how much it helped.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) There's an old saying that when one is lucky materially, she or he is usually unlucky in love. However, today you're apt to dispel that theory.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) A least-expected opening might pop up today that would provide you with the means to make contact with someone you really like but have thus far been unable to get close to.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You'll have a gift today for making the hard look easy. Situations your co-workers find intimidating shouldn't prove arduous for you at all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Sunshine follows you wherever you go today. This is because you won't need to be around certain people or have special things happen for you in order to enjoy yourself.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A window of opportunity to acquire something you've been wanting could open for you today. However, it may be of short duration, so be sure to act promptly when it occurs.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) What makes you so special today is that wherever you go, you'll do a little bit more for the other guy than is called for. This is a magic formula for popularity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Usually, doing the best you can is reward enough for you, but today those tasks you perform will reap bonuses you never sought. Continue to take pride in all your endeavors.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Others won't resent you taking control and issuing the directives today because they'll immediately recognize your natural leadership qualities and be grateful for them.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Your noble desire to make things easier for those you love will be in evidence today. However, make sure you do so without pointing out how they tripped up.

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'Jerry Springer Show' guest arrested

CHICAGO (AP) — A man was charged with criminal sexual abuse of a minor after authorities watched him appear on "The Jerry Springer Show" with his pregnant, 15-year-old girlfriend.

Brandon R. Parks, 19, was arrested last week at his trailer park residence on the misdemeanor charge after authorities interviewed the girl and reviewed a tape of the Oct. 2 show.

Parks was 18 when he appeared on an episode titled "Heartbreaking Betrayals." During the show Parks accused his girlfriend of sleeping with other people.

Date Book

Wednesday, Feb. 14, 2001

Today is the 45th day of 2001 and the 56th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1883, New Jersey became the first state to pass legislation making labor unions legal.

On this day in 1946, ENIAC, the first electronic computer, was demonstrated in public for the first time. It was designed by J. Presper Eckert Jr. and John W. Mauchly of the University of Pennsylvania.

On this day in 1962, first lady Jacqueline Kennedy appeared on a television program in which she gave a tour of the White House. Eighty million viewers watched the show.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Frank Harris (1856-1931), journalist; Jack Benny (1894-1974), comedian; Mel Allen (1913-1996), broadcaster; Hugh Downs (1921-), TV personality, is 80; Florence Henderson (1934-), actress, is 67; Donna Shalala (1941-), government official, is 60; Carl Bernstein (1944-), journalist, is 57; Gregory Hines (1946-), dancer-actor, is 55; Jim Kelly (1960-), football player, is 41; Molly Ringwald (1968-), actress, is 33.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1980, Leonhard Stock won a gold medal in the downhill skiing event at the Lake Placid Winter Olympics.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I don't deserve this award, but I have arthritis, and I don't deserve that, either." — Jack Benny

TODAY'S MOON: Last quarter.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Side effects of Plavix

DEAR DR. GOTT: Following a stroke, I was placed on Plavix to reduce the risk of blood clots. For the past two weeks, I have noted extensive bruising on my skin, blood in my urine and bleeding gums. My doctor says not to worry. Should I?

DEAR READER: You bet you should. Plavix, a new drug with a favorable safety profile, prevents blood clots by reducing the tendency of platelets to stick together. Platelet clumping is a fundamental part of clot formation. However, there is a serious but rare downside: Some patients taking Plavix experience a life-threatening medical condition called thrombotic thrombocytopenic purpura, in which the platelets are destroyed, leading to anemia, hemorrhage, fever and kidney abnormalities.

As reviewed in the journal Emergency Medicine (Dec. 2000), the cause of this unusual reaction is not known but may be an idiosyncratic response to the drug. The diagnosis is made by a platelet count. Treatment includes plasma exchange transfusions.

In my opinion, you should immediately stop the Plavix and insist that your physician order a platelet count. Don't delay. Your health is at stake. Because of the potential disaster in this situation, I am writing you personally, as well as answering your question in my column.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Can a physician tell whether a woman is a virgin by doing a Pap test?

DEAR READER: Sort of.

In the process of performing a Pap test, the doctor must insert an instrument called a speculum into the vaginal canal. Shaped like a duck's bill, the device enables the practitioner to open the birth canal so that he or she can see the cervix — the mouth of the uterus — from which a painless Pap smear can be obtained.

At the opening of the vagina, many virgins have a web of tissue (the hymen), which, for obvious reasons, is torn during first intercourse. I say "many" because in this age of sportswomen and physically energetic girls, the hymen is often disrupted by normal, non-sexual activity. Therefore, if a physician observes a hymen during the preliminary pelvic exam, one can safely assume that the woman is a virgin. However, a woman without a hymen may also be a virgin. Consequently, a doctor can make a judgment only if the hymen is intact.

The hymen itself bears no relation whatsoever to the Pap test; it is merely an additional finding at the time of the routine pelvic examination.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I am a 63-year-old male with rectal drainage. Hot soaks have released some of the fluid from a painful sac under the skin. Could this be a symptom of rectal cancer?

DEAR READER: Any lump under the skin could, until proven otherwise, be cancerous. However, in your case, this possibility seems unlikely, because solid cancerous lesions do not ordinarily drain or release fluid. You appear to have an anal cyst that periodically drains because of infection.

You should see a doctor. Under the circumstances, a surgeon would be appropriate. You will feel more comfortable knowing that the cyst is benign, and having it removed will prevent further nuisance.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Viruses and Cancer." Other readers who would like a copy should send $2 plus a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to P.O. Box 2017, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to mention the title.

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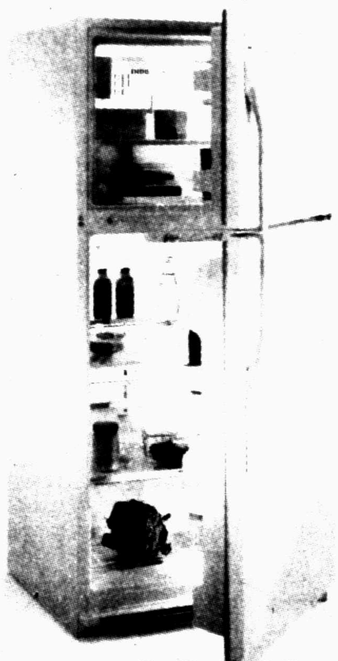
Sweetwater & Big Spring

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SEARS

Home appliances, electronics and hardware

Sale prices in effect February 16th through February 19th



closeout 488.88

KENMORE® 18.1-cu. ft. refrigerator, Save $111

With ice maker, adjustable glass SpillBlocker shelves. #70872. Was 599.99 While quantities last

ZERO% until July 2001 on all home appliances over $399 and all camcorders & TV's over $499 when you use your Sears card*



closeout 699.88

PANASONIC® 35-in. TV, Save $100

With picture-in-picture! #46510 (Mfr. #CT-35G25) Was 799.99 While quantities last. Stand not included

closeout 399.88

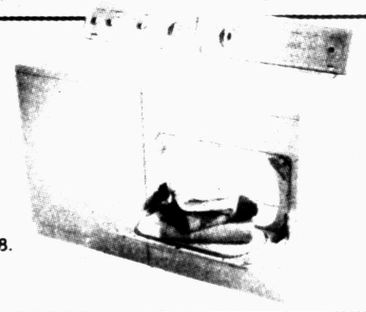
KENMORE Super Capacity Plus washer, Save $80

3-speed motor, 15 cycles. #20702. Was 479.99

Kenmore Super Capacity dryer. #60602. Was 339.99, closeout 299.88.

Both available while quantities last. Gas dryer priced higher

All Home Appliances On Sale*



closeout 1099.87

CRAFTSMAN® 16-HP, 42-in. tractor, Save $150

Briggs & Stratton I/C Platinum OHV engine. EZ3 deck. #27067. Was 1249.99 While quantities last

Optional bumper. #24599. 39.99 Sears low price

All Craftsman Tractors On Sale*





sale 399.99

KENMORE Ultra Wash® dishwasher, Save $70 High temp scrub. Sani-rinse. #15739. Reg. 469.99



closeout 479.88

KENMORE electric range, Save $100 Self-cleaning oven. #95292. Was 579.99 While quantities last



sale 59.99

CRAFTSMAN 101-pc. mechanic's tool set, Save $20 93 sockets, 3 ratchets, more. #33101. Reg. 79.99



sale 399.99

ProForm® treadmill, Save $50 With protech cushioning. #29940. Reg. 449.99

SWEETWATER: 604 East Broadway, Sweetwater, TX., Phone: 915-235-8099, Owner: Marilyn K. Fattor, Mon. - Sat. 9-6, Sun. 12-5

BIG SPRING: 1801 East FM 700-C6, Big Spring TX., Phone: 915-267-1127, Owner: Jody & Terri Swinney, Mon. - Sat. 10-7, Sun. 1-6

DEWALT CRAFTSMAN Kenmore Whirlpool RCA MAYTAG GE

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

100th spacewalk underway

SPACE CENTER, Houston (AP) — Two astronauts floated outside space shuttle Atlantis today, making the 100th spacewalk in U.S. history as they worked on the international space station.

Thomas Jones and Robert Curbeam Jr. continued the string begun in 1965 by Edward H. White II. White's spacewalk on the Gemini 4 mission lasted just 21 minutes.

Jones and Curbeam were to put the finishing touches on the international space station's newly installed science laboratory, Destiny, and perform some final chores during their spacewalk — the third and last of their mission.

The bulk of their mission's objective — to mount and install the $1.4 billion Destiny on space station Alpha — was done on their previous spacewalks.

During today's scheduled five-hour excursion — which began about a half-hour ahead of schedule — Jones and Curbeam were to check cable connections between Destiny and a docking port that was attached to the lab during the second spacewalk. Also on their work list was attaching a spare communications antenna to Alpha.

They also planned to take photographs of latches which never fully locked into place on the base of the huge solar panels installed in December. Flight controllers will use the photographs to determine how they might fix the latches during a future mission.

If time permits, Jones and Curbeam will also practice for disaster.

They plan to practice emergency techniques that could be used in the future to assist an incapacitated spacewalker. Each astronaut will take a turn playing a limp crewman while the other pulls him back into the shuttle.

At the end of the spacewalk, the hatches between Atlantis and Alpha were to open so the five shuttle astronauts and three space station crewmembers could continue transferring water and other supplies between the two spacecraft.

On Tuesday, Alpha reached two milestones: Its attitude in orbit was controlled by solar-powered gyroscopes instead of small thruster rockets — and the station was controlled by Americans rather than Russians.

On Mission Control's cue, computers inside Destiny sent commands to four gyroscopes that were delivered by shuttle astronauts last fall. The gyroscopes, in turn, took over the steering of the space station from fuel-guzzling Russian thrusters.

Kidnappers in Ecuador agree to ransom offer for hostage

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Kidnappers holding seven foreign oil workers — including four Americans — have agreed to a ransom offer just ahead of their deadline to kill another captive, the head of Ecuador's armed forces said today.

"With relation to the deadline of today or tomorrow to execute a second captive, I have information that yesterday negotiations were restarted," said Vice Adm. Miguel Saona, head of Ecuador's military Joint Chiefs of Staff. "The criminal group said it would not execute anyone else and I understand they have reached some economic arrangement."

He said he did not know details of the ransom deal.

The body of kidnap victim Ronald Sander, 54, of Sunrise Beach, Mo., was found Jan. 31 shot five times in the back and covered with a sheet that said he had been killed because his employers refused to pay ransom, authorities said.

Unconfirmed media reports here had said that the kidnappers warned they would kill another of the hostages if ransom was not paid by Feb. 15.

"The information that we have about this is not very broad because all negotiations are being conducted between the criminal group and the embassies or companies that employee the captives," Saona said.

Officials at the U.S. Embassy in Quito were not immediately available for comment.

Sources close to the investigation said the kidnappers had been refusing to budge from an initial demand of $80 million.

Sander, a technician with Tulsa, Okla.-based Helmerich & Payne Inc., was seized in October in a jungle region that has grown increasingly lawless in recent years. Nine others were taken along with him from oil camps in the El Coca region, some 150 miles east of Quito.

His body was covered with a white sheet scrawled with the words in Spanish: "I am a gringo. For non-payment of ransom. HP company."

The other Americans have been identified as David Bradley, of Casper, Wyo., an oil field platform foreman for Helmerich & Payne; and Arnold Alford, Steve Derry and Jason Weber, all employees of the Oregon-based Erickson Air-Crane Co., and residents of Gold Hill, Ore.

Also among the kidnap victims are a Chilean, an Argentine and a New Zealander. Two others kidnapped, both French men, escaped shortly after they were seized.

Obituaries

Janie Graham

1905-2001

Funeral service for Janie Graham, a resident of Scurry County since 1908, is set for 10 a.m. Thursday in the First Baptist Church. The Rev. Miller Robinson, interim pastor, and Bill Looney, associate minister of the 37th Street Church of Christ, will officiate.



Janie Graham

Burial will follow in the Snyder Cemetery. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Mrs. Graham, 95, died Monday, Feb. 12, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital following a lengthy illness.

Born March 22, 1905 in Coryell County, she moved with her parents, W.F. and Ada Jane Martin, and her nine older siblings to Scurry County in a covered wagon.

The family settled near Dermott. Reared on a farm, she attended school in Bookout and later in Snyder. While attending high school in Snyder, she worked at Towle Jewelry on the north side of the square. She graduated in 1914. She attended Draughon's Business College and later worked as a secretary for Dr. H.G. Towle.

She married Joe Graham on April 6, 1926 in Snyder, and worked with her husband in Joe Graham Dry Cleaning plant for 35 years. They retired in 1960. Mr. Graham died April 24, 1979.

A member of First Baptist Church in Snyder since 1921, she taught Sunday School class for 53 years. Mrs. Graham was also a member of the Alpha Study Club and Snyder Garden Club.

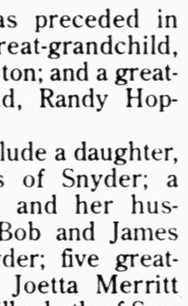
She also was preceded in death by a great-grandchild, Douglas Pinkerton; and a great-great-grandchild, Randy Hopper.

Survivors include a daughter, Helen Roberts of Snyder; a granddaughter and her husband, Sherry Bob and James Merritt of Snyder; five great-grandchildren, Joetta Merritt and Hope Carrillo, both of Snyder, Tara JoCarol Chambless of Abilene, Tracie Molina of Lubbock and Amy Hopper of San Angelo; 10 great-great-grandchildren, Adam Hopper and Johnathan Hopper, both of San Angelo, Brett Wriley of Snyder, Kyle Sanchez and Amanda Sanchez, both of Abilene, and Savanah Molina, Victoria Molina, Santanya Molina, all of Lubbock, and Dawn Carrillo and Steven Carrillo, both of Snyder.

Virgil Mott

1905-2001

The Rev. Robert Virgil Mott, a retired Baptist minister whose Sunday morning radio program spanned more than 30 years, died at 8:45 a.m. today in Snyder Healthcare Center after a lengthy illness.



Virgil Mott

Services for Rev. Mott, 95, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 31, 1905 in Rio, Miss., he married Barbara Chapman in 1931 in Fort Worth.

A resident of Snyder since 1958, Rev. Mott was well known for his deep singing and speaking voice and for playing the harmonica each Sunday morning on KSNY Radio.

Not only was his booming voice distinctive, but so was his trademark bow tie.

From 1958-64, Rev. Mott served as minister of music and education director for the First Baptist Church. From 1964-81, he was pastor of the Bethel Baptist Church. He also served as choir director of the Trinity United Methodist Church.

From 1981-83, he was minister of senior adults for Colonial Hill Baptist Church. In 1986, he became minister of music with Ave. D Baptist Church.

A member of the Colonial Hill Baptist Church, Rev. Mott was a member of the Snyder Ministerial Alliance and a former member of the Snyder Rotary Club.

Survivors include his wife, Barbara Mott of Snyder; a daughter, Barbara Kathleen Kaun of Houston; a son, Chapman Mott of Houston; a brother, Lonnie James Mott of Hattiesburg, Miss.; and a granddaughter, Arabella Kaun of Houston.

Contributions may be made to Snyder Community Music Scholarship Fund at Colonial Hill Baptist Church.

Autris Thompson

1934-2001

Autris Thompson, a resident of Snyder for the past 10 years, died Tuesday, Feb. 13, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mr. Thompson, 66, is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Stanley Peppers officiating. Burial will follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born June 6, 1934 in Georgetown, he was a longtime resident of Dallas and worked for a firm electroplating bumpers. He moved to Snyder in 1990 after he was paralyzed in a fall at his home in Dallas.

Survivors include two stepchildren, Ruby Potts of Duncanville and Robert Riley of Fort Worth; a sister, Ophelia Braziel of Snyder; two brothers, A.C. Thompson and Willie Thompson, both of Snyder; three step grandchildren and three step great-grandchildren.

Personal, Professional Service

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME

3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Woman arrested for shoplifting Valentine's items

• ***Valentine's theft***

A 32-year-old woman was arrested at United Tuesday night for shoplifting several Valentine's Day items. The woman had two boxes of Valentine's candy, two Valentine's bears and a key ring bear. She was charged with Class B theft.

• ***Criminal mischief***

At 1:36 p.m. Tuesday, Joyce McIntire notified officers that the window on her 1994 Chrysler van had been broken out. The incident occurred while the vehicle was parked in the Western Texas College parking lot.

• ***Gas drive-off***

An offense report for Class C theft was filed at 2:19 p.m. Tuesday in reference to a person leaving Rip Griffin's without paying for $22.31 worth of gasoline.

• ***Accident***

A mishap occurred at 12:32 p.m. Tuesday in the Lota Burger parking lot. Involved were a 2000 Chevrolet pickup driven by Wilbur Fry, 66, of 3309 48th Street and a parked, unoccupied 1997 Dodge Avenger owned by Ben Reed of 2800 42nd Street.

Births

A girl weighing 8 pounds one ounce was born at 4:06 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 13, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. The mother is Cheryl Davis of Snyder.

Hospital

ADMISSIONS: Robert Clements, Opal Denson, Judy Mackey, Crystal Rivera, Billy Robbins, Dorothy Peterson, Jordan Poe.

DISMISSALS: Arnold baby, Juanita Ford, Floydell Johnson, Claudia Thompson, Paul Wilson, Nicole Brown, Lara Harrington, Mozelle James, Barbara Jones, Neil Manlief, Jordan Poel, Valdez baby.

CENSUS: 47 (Long-term care 23, Medical 19, OB 3, nursery 2)

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Eastern Star reception

Snyder Chapter #450 Eastern Star will have a reception honoring Jo Terrell, Humanitarian District 2 chairman of the Grand Chapter of Texas, at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Masonic Hall. At 6:30 p.m., a meal will be served and all Master Masons and their wives are invited. At 7:30 p.m., a stated meeting will be held.

FBC worship service

The First Baptist Church worship service airs at 3 p.m. each Thursday on TV Channel 2.

West family reading night

West Elementary holds its family reading night from 6-7:30 p.m. every Thursday. New sessions have been added. Childcare and refreshments are provided.

Nursing graduation

WTC's school of vocational nursing will have its graduation and pinning ceremony at 7 p.m. Thursday at Trinity United Methodist Church.

West Elementary yearbooks

Orders for West Elementary annuals will be taken Monday through Friday, Feb. 23. Cost is $7 each and must be pre-paid. No extras will be ordered.

CPR heartsaver course

A CPR heartsaver course will be taught at Western Texas College next Wednesday. The course will be held from 6-10 p.m. and the cost is $35. Call 573-8511, ext. 350 for additional information.

GED testing dates

Testing dates this month for GED (high school equivalency) will be Friday, Feb. 23. For more information call Molly Kattes, 573-2919, or Emily Hataway, 574-2112 at home, or 573-8511, ext. 297 at WTC between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Enchilada dinner

The Knights of Columbus #8875 is hosting the second annual enchilada dinner from noon until 5 p.m. on Sunday, Feb. 25, at West Elementary. For tickets, call 573-9855 or 573-8164. Adult tickets are $5 and children's tickets are $2.50.

Shattered Dreams 2000 tapes

Videotapes of Shattered Dreams 2000 are available by calling Lori or Penny at Snyder EMS at 573-1912. Proceeds will go to scholarships for students who participated in the program last April.

Spare change roundup

The American Heart Association is sponsoring a Spare Change Roundup during February, National Heart Month. Deposit coins in collection canisters located around Snyder, or call 573-2913 for locations.

Income tax help

An IRS-approved program for elderly and low-income persons of any age is held from 9 a.m. until noon and from 1-3 p.m. every Wednesday at the Snyder Senior Citizens Center.

1986 class reunion

The SHS class of 1986 is seeking current addresses of class members for a reunion set for July 6-7. To submit names and addresses or for more information call Mike McWilliams, 573-6543 or Xalyn Harris Palacios, 574-3343 or 573-2148.

Earthquake relief

Our Lady of Guadalupe Catholic Church is pooling financial help to reach out to the needs of earthquake victims in Bhuj, India. To contribute, call 573-3866 or write to 1311 Ave. K in Snyder.

Medical fund

A medical fund has been established at West Texas State Bank for four-month premature Christa Lane Arnold. The baby is in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock. The account number at the bank is 3113906-01.

Adult basic education classes

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

Senior citizen swimnastics

Snyder Senior Citizen Center swimnastics is held from 1-2 p.m. on Thursdays, and from 10-11 a.m. on Mondays. For additional information, call 573-4035.

WTC swimming pool opens

The WTC swimming pool is now open for public use. Lap swimming: M-F 6:30-8 a.m., and 12-1 p.m. Open swimming: M-TH 7-9 p.m. Cost is $2 per person or $50 for a semester pass. The pool is also available for parties on Fridays and Saturdays. For more information, contact Lisa Christensen at 573-8511, ext. 290.

Glory Room open

The Glory Room, a Christian library located at Trinity United Methodist Church, is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mondays through Fridays, and from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays. Everyone is asked to return materials so that others may check them out. If other hours are needed, contact the church at 573-3988.

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Discovery School registration

Registration for summer Discovery School at First United Methodist Church is underway. The session is for June and July. Registration will continue until classes are filled. Summer hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for children ages six weeks through five years. For more information, call 573-4770.