INSIDE

WT-Int. Crude - $28.50
WTIC Posted - $25.25
Natural Gas - $5.915

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

WEDNESDAY

May 14, 2003

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THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Jo Ann Nunley

We've read over and again how gardening is good for the soul.

The love for gardening runs in our veins and is backed up by the mounds of magazines, clippings, hard back and soft back books featuring information on how to have the "Garden of Your Dreams."

We keep borrowing and buying periodicals such as Martha Stewart, Southern Living, Bird & Blooms.

All have expert advice and pictures on exceptional, easy-to-grow plants, vines, and shrubbery with lush colorful foliage and prolific blooming specimens.

After years of purchasing, planting and working to have such garden plants we would like to challenge the botanist to find suitable plants for West Texas where the average rainfall is only a few inches during the growing season.

We are blessed with good water, but let's face it, a plant will survive and produce few blooms from the water hose, but from the same amount of rainfall it would flourish into a jungle-like setting.

To add to the labor and lack of time needed for our hobby, we thought we just had to have a water garden. Last summer, the husband who hates (for the lack of a better word) yard work, our son, our grandson and several robust friends dug a plot to place a fiberglass pond — a labor of love.

We knew from this point we would fly solo on this project.

After much, much work we find caring for the water plants and fish enjoyable — even therapeutic.

We think the "tranquil" and "peaceful" stage is not too far in the future.

A few days after our recent replacement of two pumps and rearranging the rocks surrounding the pond, we discovered the grand finale while feeding the fish — finally a small, we stress small, white water lily bloom.

Now, hindsight is 20-20 vision. We might could have been just as happy with a 100 percent recycled plastic whiskey barrel fitted onto a wooden wheelbase for easy movement anywhere in the yard.

Or that just may be our next project.

In all fairness, we must set the record straight. The husband does get excited about his vegetable garden, mainly consisting of tomatos, peppers and cucumbers.

He'll gladly till the soil, purchase the plants, carefully set them out and water them faithfully.

But after gathering and enjoying the fruits of his labor for awhile, the grass and weeds begin to win the race.

He yields to the invading dominant weeds. The gardening experience is over and that allows him extra time for playing nine more holes of golf without feeling guilty.

City, county in line for grants

Both the city of Snyder and Scurry County have been recommended for $250,000 matching grants to improve water quality and delivery for the respective entities.

The funding recommendations from the regional committee of the Texas Community Development Program will be presented in Austin May 23.

City Utility Director Carolyn House said the city's matching funds total $83,365. The funds will be used for water line replacement in the north and northeast sections of Snyder.

Precinct 4 Commissioner Chloanne Lindsey said the grant funds would be used to construct a new stand pipe for storing water in Hermleigh.

Matching funds for the Hermleigh grant are $63,000.

"This money will come from the Hermleigh Water Works reserves, and not from the Scurry County reserves," said Lindsey.

While the state review committee still has to review the regional committee's recommendations, it normally follows their recommendations, said House.

Money for both the Snyder and Hermleigh project would be disbursed in next spring.

Dacus elected head of Hermleigh board

Tim Dacus was elected president of the Hermleigh ISD board of trustees Tuesday evening, and Alan Culp was named vice president. David Higgins will serve the board as its secretary.

The action came during the Hermleigh board's regular monthly meeting.

In other action, trustees approved 34 student transfers into the district, and agreed on a contract for the Scurry County tax office to begin collecting school taxes. Trustees also okayed a new contract with the district's delinquent tax attorney to increase the fees charged for collecting past due taxes.

The board also approved appointing April and Eddie McClure and Adelpha and Benny Sauceda as sponsors of the senior class trip.

Trustees also heard a report from interim Supt. James Bible on ongoing school repairs, and costs of the annual school audit.

An executive session was held to discuss personnel, but no action was taken following the session, according to Principal Clarence Spieker.

Thornton retires from WTC

Longtime Western Texas College employee Mike Thornton surprised colleagues this week with the announcement of his retirement — but don't expect to see him loafing anytime soon.

Thornton, dean of continuing education and a WTC mainstay for 31 years, will remain at the college in much the same capacity.

"I'll be working in some what the same fashion I am now," he said. "I'll be able to work at WTC part time, but we haven't worked out how many hours I'll be putting in yet."

Thornton said he is vested with more than three decades service and this is a good opportunity, but added "I'm not ready to fully retire yet."

Dr. Greg Williams, WTC president, at Monday night's board of trustees meeting, said Thornton is "one of the best" at the college.

"I'm pleased that Mike is able to take advantage of this opportunity and also that we will still be able to utilize his talents at WTC," Dr. Williams said. "We're not ready to let him to go yet."

Thornton, a 1966 graduate of Rotan High School, received his bachelor degree in 1970 from East Texas State University and his master's in 1972 from Texas Tech.

He was hired as art instructor at WTC in July, 1972.

Thornton is married to Rebekah, a teacher at Northeast Elementary.

A former member of the Snyder city council, Thornton presently is president of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce. He also has been active in the restoration of the Ritz Theatre where he has served as board president.

Ira trustees approve 73 transfers to district

Ira school trustees approved some 73 transfers into the district during their regular board meeting Tuesday night.

The list of transfers must now be sent to the Texas Education Agency for approval.

In other business, trustees elected the same slate of officers who served this year — Dirk Dunn as president, Keith Clements as vice president and Fran Farmer as secretary.

In action items, trustees approved a summer migrant program for the second summer in a row.

Trustees also approved a new sick leave policy, plus amended the fee charged by delinquent tax attorneys for collecting past due taxes.

Also approved was an agreement for Scurry County to begin collecting past due taxes.

Bids were accepted on surplus vehicles, and the board held an executive session to discuss personnel, but no action was taken.

RETIRING — Longtime Western Texas College educator Robert Adams, left, accepts a token of appreciation from WTC board of trustees president Lee Presswood Tuesday night at the annual faculty awards banquet. (SDN Staff Photo)

WTC honors faculty, staff at awards fete

Western Texas College honored tenured members of its faculty and staff Tuesday night at the school's annual service awards dinner.

Employees recognized include one faculty member with three decades at the college.

Joe Carter, professor of science, has worked at the college 30 years and was presented an etched-glass desk plaque in appreciation.

Robert Adams, associate professor, who is retiring this year for health reasons, was honored with a watch.

Mr. Adams addressed the audience about his years at WTC. He asked his colleagues not to put a price on the service they provide and thanked them for more than 20 years of memories.

"I feel as though I am one of the lucky people who knew early on what I was put here to do," he said. "And that is to teach."

Gail Snider, maintenance secretary, was honored for 25 years service.

Three staffers — Sue Freemyer, Dale Smith and Vickie Smith — were recognized for 15 years.

Honored for 10 years of service were Marvin Bentle, Linda Englert, Lester McClain and Linda Wright.

Five-year pins were presented to Jennifer Beard, Jim Clifton, Sherrye Cooper, Sandra Hall, Dave Hanes, Marjann Morrow, Kyle Smith and Sam Fare.

An engraved brick was presented on behalf of the WTC board of trustees in honor of Fred Bullard, who died earlier this year. He was the father of WTC trustee Drew Bullard.

New faculty and staff recognized include Billy Hefflinger, Manuel Galindo, Julia Lewis, Chris Barrera, J.R. Torrez, Debra Brown, Michael Pauchet, Rome McNary, Mike Eggleston, Donna Ervin and Robin Smauley.

Eighteen found dead in trailer near Victoria

VICTORIA (AP) — Eighteen people — possibly illegal immigrants — were found dead early today in and around the trailer of an 18-wheeler stopped at a truck stop near this South Texas city, officials said.

Sheriff's deputies found the bodies about 2 a.m. today when they answered a reported disturbance inside a trailer at the Speedy Stop truck stop, six miles south of Victoria, said Stuart Posey, an investigator with the Victoria County Sheriff's Department.

"Right now we have 18 bodies," said Justice of the Peace Jack Milam. The majority of the victims were inside the trailer. Some of the survivors fled the scene.

Authorities told the Victoria Advocate they are looking for the driver of the truck. He unhitched the tractor trailer and fled the area.

Carol Bludau, chief of staff for the Victoria County Sheriff's office, said investigators suspected the victims were illegal immigrants.

Law enforcement officers from several departments converged at the scene, said Tamara Sparkman, 33, who drove by the scene today morning on her way to work at the U.S. Post Office in Tivoli, about 20 miles away.

"When I got around the bend, I saw the sheriff's department and it had yellow tape around one of the side roads to access the building," Sparkman said.

"You knew something major had happened," she said. "It's sort of out in the middle of nowhere. It's like you're last stop out of town."

Victoria radio station KTXN reported that 12 people were hospitalized, two under intensive care.

The station reported that about 50 suspected illegal immigrants were crammed inside the trailer.

SHS band concert is Thursday

Snyder ISD's spring concert — featuring the high school, junior high and sixth grade bands — is set for 7 p.m. Thursday in Worsham Auditorium.

Admission is free and the public is invited.

The sixth grade will perform the *Kitty Hawk March*, *Atlantis* and *Prometheus Overture*.

The junior high band's selections include the theme from *Jag*, *In the Mood*, *Upon These Grounds*, *Tribute to the U.S. Armed Forces* and *God Bless the USA*.

The high school band will perform *Call of the Champions*, *The Lord of the Rings*, *The Fellowship of the Ring*, *Pop and Rock Legends: Chicago* and *America the Beautiful*.

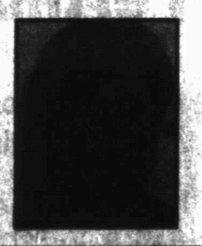
Band directors are Donnie Reston and Kay Kennedy.

ASK US

Q—What happens to the drug money confiscated by DPS or other law agencies?

A—It's divided among the participating agencies for law enforcement use.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Charlotte Barrett...

...works for United Supermarkets and has spent almost her entire life in Snyder. The daughter of Ann and Windel Barrett, Charlotte has a seven-year-old daughter, Walker, who she loves spending time with. Aside from spending time with her family, Charlotte enjoys reading and working on the computer.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Miserable are the persons who do not have something beyond themselves to search for.

—Charles L. Allen

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

FBC services televised

First Baptist Church services are televised on channel 2 at 3 p.m. each Thursday.

Central seminars

Central Elementary will conclude its series of afternoon seminars at 3 p.m. Thursday. Bully Proofing Your Child will be the topic presented by school counselor Debbie Shaw. Child care will be provided.

Home school field trip

There will be a field trip for home schooled students from 8:45-11:45 a.m. Friday at Joyland Amusement Park in Lubbock. Cost is $8 per child. Contact Malinda McClung at 574-1133.

Ira kindergarten registration

Registration for kindergarten at Ira is underway from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily until Friday. If these times are not convenient, call 573-2628 to make other arrangements. Shot records, birth certificate and child's social security card should be brought.

Girls Little Dribblers fundraiser

The Scurry County Girls Little Dribblers junior division all-stars will be selling Krispie Kream donuts starting at 8 a.m. Saturday in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

Job fair

Ceilo Wind Power will conduct a job fair starting at 10 a.m. Saturday at the Scurry County Coliseum. Individuals as well as contractors are invited to make application. Some of the jobs could become permanent. The company will have a similar job fair Saturday afternoon in Borden County.

End-of-school party

An end-of-school party for SJHS 8th graders only will be held from 7 to 11 p.m. Saturday in the WTC Student Center. Admission is $5.

Hobbs Baptist Church revival

Hobbs Baptist Church will have a revival beginning at 11 a.m. Sunday and continuing with 7 p.m. services through Wednesday. Dinner will be served after the Sunday morning service. Evangelist is Jerry Vinson and the music is by Lonnie Hines, both from Roby.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "The Prophet Joel," followed by "What Make You and me Human."

Retirement reception

A farewell reception will be held from 3 to 4:30 p.m. Thursday, May 22, in the East Elementary library for Bobbie Anderson and Betty Richardson, retiring teachers at East.

Parenting With Love & Logic

SISD will present Parenting With Love & Logic from 7-8:30 p.m. Thursday, May 22, at the junior high auditorium. Brenda Bird will be the parent trainer. Child care and interpreter will be available.

Memorial Day events

The VFW will conduct a flag ceremony at 9 a.m. Monday, May 26, at the VFW and then American Legion and then go to the Snyder Cemeteries. A dinner featuring a brisket with all the trimmings will be served at 6 p.m. at the post home. Auxiliary ladies need to bring a dessert. Cost is by donation.

WIN Women's Conference

WIN Women's Conference, sponsored by His Joy Ministries, is set for May 30-31 at Thee Place, 904 26th St. Music will be by Mercy & Truth, Dance Troupe Doorkeepers of His Glory. Speakers are Barbara Murrell of Forney and Jay Hawkins of Toccoa, Ga. Call 573-9799 for more information.

Red Cross fundraiser

The American Red Cross has opened an office at 1800 26th. As a fundraiser, "I love my troops" dog tags are available for a minimum donation of $5. Call 573-1419.

Joy School fall registration

Fall registration for Joy School, 201 31st St., is from 7:30 a.m. until 5:30 p.m. weekdays for birth to pre-K children. For more information call 573-3554.

Gateway Family Services raffle

Gateway Family Services is raffling a 2003 anniversary edition Harley Davidson Road King motorcycle. Only 2,500 tickets will be sold. The raffle will be held July 4th in Towle Park. Tickets may be purchased at D&D Auto, Purple Sage Motel, Ira Pump & Supply and by calling Gateway's administrative office at 573-4351.

Class of 1993 reunion

The SHS class of 1993 is planning a 10-year reunion in July. Classmate names are needed. Contact Catalina Jones at 573-5045, or e-mail classof 93shs@yahoo.com.

SHS 1967-68 reunion

Snyder High School classes of 1967 and 1968 will have a class reunion July 5 at Jack Greene's park starting at 7 p.m. Barbecue and music will be provided. Cost is $15 per person and those attending are asked to bring lawn chairs or blankets. RSVP by June 25. Contact Gina Rhodes at 573-2400, or Janet Lay at Janetlay@remax.net.

Senior water aerobics

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

WTC adult basic education classes

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

Cancer treatment transportation

Transportation for cancer patients to Lubbock, Abilene or Midland is available free of charge. Call Sammie Jarrell at 573-5993 or Blakey Fargason at 574-8041. If not home, leave message on answering machine.

Malvo's lawyers try to bar prosecution

FAIRFAX, Va. (AP) — Now-dismissed federal charges against sniper suspect Lee Boyd Malvo should prohibit Virginia prosecutors from putting him on trial, the teen's lawyers argued today.

A defense motion filed today in Fairfax County Circuit Court cites a Virginia law that prevents state prosecutions when federal authorities initiate a prosecution for the same acts. The law is designed to bolster a defendant's double-jeopardy rights, which bar multiple prosecutions for the same crime.

The lawyers, Michael Arif and Craig Cooley, point to an Oct. 24 letter written by Virginia Attorney General Jerry Kilgore to U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft, asking that the federal government allow Virginia and Maryland to prosecute Malvo and fellow suspect John Allen Muhammad.

Malvo, 18, and Muhammad, 42, have been linked to 20 shootings, including 13 deaths, in Virginia, Maryland, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and Washington, D.C. Both could face the death penalty.

In the letter, Kilgore writes that "Virginia's laws have a provision that would preclude a state-based prosecution if these suspects are prosecuted under federal law, including the return of an indictment or a filing of an information."

Despite Kilgore's plea, Maryland U.S. Attorney Thomas DiBiagio on Oct. 29 filed a criminal information against Malvo.

The federal charges do not specifically mention the Oct. 14 shooting of FBI analyst Linda Franklin, which is the primary charge against Malvo in Fairfax County.

But the federal charges include the accusation that on Oct. 9, Malvo and Muhammad traveled to Virginia "with intent to commit crimes of violence, to wit, murders ... and thereafter committed crimes of violence to further the unlawful activity."

The federal charges also accuse Malvo and Muhammad of conspiring "in Maryland and elsewhere" to commit physical violence during a time span ranging from Oct. 2 to Oct. 24, which would include the Franklin shooting.

Those federal charges were dropped Nov. 7, when Malvo and Muhammad were transferred to Virginia for prosecution. But Virginia law explicitly states that merely filing formal federal charges is sufficient to bar a state prosecution.

Ashcroft sent the pair to Virginia for prosecution in part because of the state's tough death-penalty laws.

Prosecutor Robert F. Horan Jr. was not available for comment Tuesday evening. But, in the days after Muhammad and Malvo were arrested, Horan expressed confidence that any federal charges would be drafted in a manner that would not preclude Virginia from prosecuting. Also, on other pretrial issues, Horan has successfully argued that the state and federal charges are unrelated.

Timothy Murtaugh, a spokesman for Kilgore, said he would not comment on Kilgore's letter or anything related to the prosecution.

"The local prosecutors know exactly what they're doing, and we have full faith in them," he said.

A hearing on the motion is scheduled for June 2.

Scientist proposes to send probe to the center of the earth

By The Associated Press

Actress Hilary Swank isn't the only one who wants to ride a terra-ship to Earth's molten center.

On the heels of Swank's Hollywood thriller, "The Core," a California researcher is proposing to send a probe that would surf a wave of molten iron on a week-long journey to the center of the Earth.

CalTech geophysicist David Stevenson knows his proposal is far-fetched. But billions of dollars are spent exploring space every year, he says, and the planet's interior is equally mysterious and deserves similar study.

The Earth's core, after all, creates the magnetic field that keeps compasses pointing north and deadly radiation in space from reaching the planet's surface. Scientists know from seismic data that the core is solid, and the outer core is molten, but many questions remain.

"We will learn about the Earth, the planet we live on, the composition of the Earth's core, the temperature of the Earth's core ... These are among the most exciting questions," said Stevenson, whose proposal appears in Thursday's issue of the journal Nature.

"They have implications for why we have a magnetic field, why the magnetic field has existed for so long."

The process of getting the probe to the center of the earth would resemble a volcano in reverse, Davidson said.

The grapefruit-sized probe would have to be made of a special alloy that could withstand the molten iron as well as the intense pressure and heat at the center of the Earth. The iron — enough to fill an office building — would find its way 1,800 miles to the outer edge of the molten core through a gravity-driven crack, started by a nuclear bomb or other force equaling an earthquake of 7.0 on the Richter scale, the CalTech researcher said.

The center of the planet is about 3,950 miles from the surface.

The probe would send information back to the surface by emitting high-frequency seismic waves, Davidson said.

Developing a probe would take an effort similar to the Manhattan Project that built the first atomic bomb during World War II, said Stevenson. While that may not happen, the researcher said he hopes the proposal makes people think of new and better ways to study the Earth's core.

Other earth scientists say Stevenson's plan is impractical, but intriguing.

University of Connecticut geophysicist Vernon Cormier said intense heat and pressure makes it impossible to drill down to the core. Stevenson's proposal "allows the hole to keep open because it is not really an open hole or an open crack — it is a crack filled by a fluid that is denser than its surroundings."

That density difference would allow the crack to continue to sink while sealing above itself, Cormier said.

However, the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty bans all underground nuclear tests, he said.

The United States has not ratified the treaty, but the Threshold Test Ban Treaty with the former Soviet Union and other nuclear powers limits tests to below 150 kilotons, or about a 5.5-to-6.0 earthquake, Cormier said.

A more achievable goal would be adding deep-sea seismic stations to fill in holes in the current global network, Cormier said.

"If we had the same kind of coverage of the ocean ... we could learn quite a bit. It would still be very expensive, but a fraction of the cost," Cormier said.

Current top-down methods of studying the Earth's core don't have the resolution needed to obtain basic information about its composition, temperature, and flow, said Raymond Jeanloz, a geology professor at the University of California at Berkeley.

While there are many unanswered questions, "I can think of current high-profile government research programs that have little more substance motivating them," Jeanloz said.

Stevenson recognizes that elements of his proposal are futuristic.

"I'll be happy even if people just think it's funny," he said, "but I'll be happier still if some people take it somewhat seriously."

Today's chuckle

SARS threat won't keep couple apart

IOWA CITY, Iowa (AP) — Lin Wang's face is covered by a white rounded mask to protect him from the deadly respiratory disease SARS — but he's happily thinking about his bride-to-be waiting for him in southwest China.

Wang was testing the mask, which he's prepared to don when he boards a flight May 18 to Shanghai, on his way to Leshan to get married. His friends and family think he's crazy, but he's still going.

"My friends, they say, 'Don't come back now; just wait for a couple of months,'" said Wang, a University of Iowa graduate research assistant from Wenling in southeast China.

"I don't want to wait any longer," said Wang, 25, a biomedical engineer.

Wang's trip will be rare among Iowa City's more than 550 Chinese students and scholars.

In his apartment, Wang has seven antibacterial lotion bottles and a box full of SARS masks.

SARS was on his mind two weeks ago, when he sent his fiancee a care package of masks.

"She said, 'Oh, no need,' but I think she was happy," Wang said.

In what is to be only his second face-to-face encounter with fiancee Lei Lingyan later this month, Wang envisions a classic lovers hello, modified slightly by SARS. He'll don his mask and say hello to Lei and her family when they pick him up at the airport.

Dropping his bags, Wang will warn her to stay back until he sanitizes his hands. Then he'll give her a big hug and tell her she'll be his bride in three days.

"Then," he said, "I will take the mask off."

Date Book

Wednesday, May 14, 2003

Today is the 134th day of 2003 and the 56th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1607, Jamestown, Virginia, the first permanent English settlement in what is now the United States, was founded.

On this day in 1796, Edward Jenner administered the first inoculation for the fatal disease smallpox.

On this day in 1804, Capt. Meriwether Lewis and William Clark departed from St. Louis on an expedition to find a land route to the Pacific Ocean.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Gabriel Daniel Fahrenheit (1686-1736), physicist; Thomas Gainsborough (1727-1788), painter; Robert Owen (1771-1858), Utopian socialist; David Byrne (1952-), singer, is 51; Cate Blanchett (1969-), actress, is 34.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1981, the Boston Celtics defeated the Houston Rockets to win the NBA championship.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "If you know you are going to fail, then fail gloriously!" — Cate Blanchett

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (May 9) and full moon (May 15).

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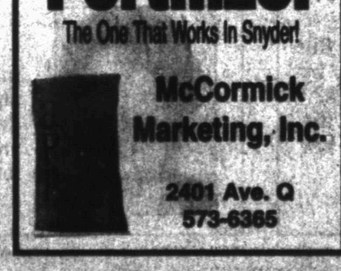

LOTTO TEXAS — TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

Tuesday's Lottery Numbers
Texas Two Step

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

4-13-21-22
Bonus number 31
Estimated jackpot: $200,000
Pick 3
(Day) 2-8-0
(Night) 5-3-0
Cash Five
9-13-21-23-24

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Roy McQueen, Publisher
Wade Warren, Managing Editor

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DEAR DR. G

What happened to bipartisanship in Legislature?

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas Democrats' dash for the Oklahoma state line to halt business in the GOP-controlled House of Representatives has left a crucial question circulating in Austin: What happened to bipartisanship?

Republican George W. Bush in his presidential victory speech of December 2000 extolled the bipartisanship of the state House and said he wanted that spirit in Washington. To underscore his point, he had then-House Speaker Pete Laney, a Democrat, introduce him.

"Here, in a place where Democrats have the majority, Republicans and Democrats have worked together to do what is right with the people we respect," Bush said then.

Today, Republicans have the majority in the Texas House. But Republican Speaker Tom Craddick's first term as leader after 130 years of Democratic rule isn't exactly the model of bipartisanship.

A rancorous legislative session filled with tense debate over a state budget and a lawsuit limitation bill gave way to a wild scenario Sunday night in which more than 50 Democrats secretly fled Texas to prevent a quorum in the House and stop legislative business.

The move was intended to thwart debate planned Monday on a Republican-backed congressional redistricting bill.

Democrats claimed legislators have more pressing matters to tend to, including balancing the state budget, and that court-drawn districts that gave the Democrats a 17-15 advantage in the congressional delegation should remain in place.

Fifty-one Democrats who were staying at an Ardmore, Okla., Holiday Inn to escape the legal reach of the Texas state troopers sent to find them held a news conference Tuesday and blamed Republican U.S. House Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Texas for pushing a congressional map that would favor Republicans.

"It naturally divides Republicans from Democrats," said Rep. Steve Wolens, D-Dallas. "We need to get beyond this partisan issue of redistricting and we need to get to the business of major issues that affect all Texans and not just a narrow number of folks in Washington, D.C."

DeLay chided the Democrats for fleeing and said they tried to grab power in the previous round of redistricting. Now, he said, more Republican congressional seats are needed to reflect the state's increasingly Republican electorate.

Insistent that he doesn't want to negotiate with the Democrats, Craddick says he will not back off on redistricting.

"The majority thought we ought to do that and that's what we're going to do," he said.

Craddick, a 35-year veteran lawmaker from Midland who for years toiled as one of only a handful of Republicans in the Texas House, said his first term as speaker won't be scarred by the rebel Democrats.

"I think we'll get things productive done. We've passed a large majority of the major bills already out of the House and in the Senate," he said.

But once the stalemate ends and legislators go back to work, it's unknown whether the working relationship between Democrats and Republicans will suffer long-term damage.

"I don't have any ill feelings on this deal at all," Craddick said. When he became speaker this year, Craddick named several Democrats to key committee posts.

In a letter to Craddick on Tuesday, House Democratic Caucus Chairman Jim Dunnam of Waco said the Democrats are proud of the House's bipartisan tradition and want to get back to work — but not on redistricting.

At the Democrats' Oklahoma news conference, Dunnam said if Craddick makes "the right decision" by putting off redistricting until after the 2010 census, "We would get on the bus and we'd go home."

Sen. John Whitmire, D-Houston, the longest-serving member of the Texas Senate, said someone has to get both sides to start talking.

"The thing that concerns me the most is where do they go from here?" Whitmire said. "I can see some real lines being drawn."

Laney, the former Democratic House speaker, offered his take on the stalemate. Referring to Craddick, Laney said: "I guess he, in his leadership style, was able to do one of the things I didn't in 10 years: organize the Democrats."

Republican political consultant Reggie Bashur described Craddick as a strong and principled leader. He predicted legislators from both sides ultimately will come together and address important issues such as education and economic development.

"The process compels members, I think, to work together and to work towards a common goal because the public agenda is out there and needs to be fulfilled," Bashur said.

President Bush, in a question-and-answer session in Pierce City, Mo., was asked Tuesday whether he had followed the partisan clash in Texas.

"I haven't," Bush said, "but I'm confident my friend the governor, Perry, will be able to deal with it."

Republican Gov. Rick Perry has condemned the Democrats for their walkout and said they are endangering important legislation.

Happy 10th Birthday
Emma Nunley

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Man jailed with buddy's killer is trying to forgive

DEAR ABBY: I am a 22-year-old inmate. Two years ago, one of my best friends was killed by a drunk driver. When I was sentenced for theft and incarcerated here, I learned that the guy who killed my buddy is also doing time in this correction center.

For the longest time, I hated the guy who killed my pal. But after a while I started feeling bad for him. He has to live for the rest of his life with the fact that he killed someone because he got behind the wheel when he was wasted.

At first, all I wanted to know was what happened that night. But after time went by, I ended up wanting to forgive him. When I told my friend's wife, "Trisha," that I was getting to know this guy, she got really angry.

I understand how Trisha feels, but she's not the only one whose life was wrecked that night. I lost a good buddy and I'm trying to forgive the man who's responsible. Am I on the right track here, Abby? — ONE-DAY-AT-A-TIMER IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR ONE-DAY-AT-A-TIMER: I think you are. However, to forgive — or not to forgive — is a personal decision. I understand the widow's pain and anger, but she should not judge you for choosing to divest yourself of the burden of hate. Hate corrodes the vessel that carries it.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a 32-year-old single female whose past has been filled with physical, emotional and sexual abuse that began when I was 5.

Even though my past was horrendous, I've always felt that my life would get better. Well, two marriages and several long-term relationships later, I am STILL being abused. It seems I attract only men who are physically abusive, emotionally unavailable — or both.

Do you think there is something in my character that tells abusive men I am an easy target? I am so sad and lonely that I've found myself thinking more and more about killing myself. I know I have something to live for — I just don't know what it is. — LOST AND UNLOVED IN THE MIDWEST

DEAR LOST AND UNLOVED: If you have a plan to kill yourself, I urge you to pick up the phone, speak to the operator and ask to be connected to the suicide hotline. Please get the help you deserve so you can lead the happy, healthy life you want. That road begins with counseling to rid yourself of the baggage from your childhood. With professional help, you'll learn to break unhealthy and unhappy patterns and "reprogram" your expectations about what is normal and acceptable in relationships. Please don't wait.

**

DEAR ABBY: About eight years ago, I ordered your two cookbooklets and I loved the recipes, especially the Spicy Shrimp or Lobster Appetizer and the Gourmet Rice Pudding you offered. I loaned one booklet out — and never got it back — and misplaced the other. Are they still available? If so, how can I get copies of them? — J.P. IN ALBANY, N.Y.

DEAR J.P.: My cookbooklet set is frequently requested and it's still available. It contains some wonderful family favorite recipes and can be ordered by sending a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $10 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Cookbooklets, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 05-14-03
♠ 6 3
♥ A 10 9
♦ A 6 2
♣ A Q 5 4 2

West
♠ J 9 8 7 4
♥ 7
♦ Q 10 9
♣ J 10 9 8

East
♠ K 5 2
♥ Q J 8 5 4 2
♦ 8 7 4
♣ K

South
♠ A Q 10
♥ K 6 3
♦ K J 5 3
♣ 7 6 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1 NT	Pass	3 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ 7

Be flexible in your thinking

By Phillip Alder

At the bridge table, it pays to be flexible of thought. Do not always do the obvious; stop to consider alternative approaches. For example, how would you play the North-South club suit for three tricks?

The contract of three no-trump was declared by Count Claude de Hemricourt, a former Belgian international. (His opening one no-trump was weak, promising 12-14 points.)

Declarer, after a spade lead to East's king and his ace, saw six top tricks outside clubs, so realized that three club tricks would be sufficient. An inexperienced player would immediately finesse dummy's queen, but that is wrong. Hemricourt did better, playing a club to dummy's ace. When the king dropped, declarer continued with a low club. West led the spade jack, hoping his partner had the 10. But declarer won with his queen, played two more rounds of clubs, and ended with 10 tricks: three spades, two hearts, two diamonds and three clubs.

If the club king had not dropped at trick two, declarer would have crossed to his hand with a heart and played a club toward dummy's queen, ducking if West produced the jack, otherwise rising with the queen.

If, at trick two, you would have led a diamond to dummy's ace and called for a low club, that is a sensible line. It works particularly well when East has king-doubleton or -tripleton. Even with this layout, where East wins with his king and returns a spade, establishing West's suit while he has a club trick to come, you are still alive. If you read the position correctly, you can get home by endplaying West.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Headaches and the sinuses

DEAR DR. GOTT: I suffer from chronic headaches. A recent CT scan revealed tissue thickening in the ethmoid sinuses, which my doctor believes may be the cause of my problem. He suggests sinus surgery. Is there another option?

DEAR READER: Chronic sinus infection is a common cause of headaches. Thickening of the lining of the ethmoid sinuses, behind the eyes next to the nose, indicates a source of chronic irritation that could be due to allergies or infection. I don't know whether an operation to clean out your ethmoid sinuses would alleviate your headaches.

I suggest that you seek an opinion from an ear-nose-and-throat specialist. If the specialist agrees with your doctor, he or she can present you with a detailed analysis of the problem, the risks of surgery and the chances for success.

At this point, I believe that you need the expert advice of a specialist. Perhaps medicine, such as antibiotics or decongestants, might enable you to avoid an operation. Possibly, an allergist could advise you on ways to cure the ethmoid inflammation without surgery. And, of course, your headaches may not be related to your sinus problem at all. This further complicates a condition for which you need input from competent specialists.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: Because of recurring abdominal pain for 22 years, I've been to 15 different doctors. Two weeks ago, a gastroenterologist performed tests that were normal. One interesting feature is that after a good night's sleep, I don't have pain until two or three hours after I get up. I don't drink coffee, carbonated beverages or alcohol, and I avoid fried or spicy foods. Needless to say, I am at my wits' end.

DEAR READER: Cyclic abdominal pain can be a real challenge to diagnose, because so many things can go wrong in the belly, which contains many of the body's most complex organs. It would be only natural for you and your doctors to be frustrated that modern science has yet to identify the cause of your elusive symptom.

Without trying to second-guess your corps of doctors, I suggest you request a referral to the gastroenterology clinic at a teaching hospital. You may have intestinal angina, something as common as irritable bowel syndrome or a disorder of intestinal motility (causing cyclic attacks of gas pockets) that can be diagnosed only by special testing. In a teaching center, the super-specialists can put their heads and their skills together to solve your problem. For instance, new methods of CT and MRI scanning are extremely useful in diagnosing obscure disorders.

As a last resort, the doctors may recommend an exploratory laparoscopy, a technique of examining the abdominal cavity using a fiberoptic tube.

In any case, I believe that a university hospital is your best bet.

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During Big Country's May **Sell**abration

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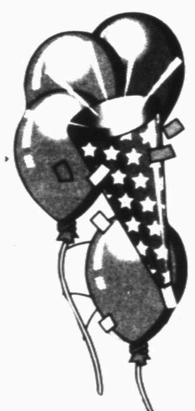

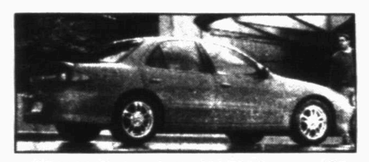

#CP5482 Cruise, Auto, AM/FM Stereo w/CD
4 Door Sedan
2003 Cavalier
$235.90 Mo.
Cash price $18,420.00, $0 Down, 1.9% APR, 72 Mo. Rebate assigned to dealer. WAC

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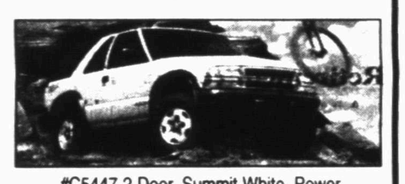

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2003 Blazer
$371.31 Mo.
Cash price $21,624.00, $0 Down, 4.9% APR, 60 Mo.. Rebate assigned to dealer. WAC

Excellent Selection
2003 1500 1/2 Ton Crew, HD Short
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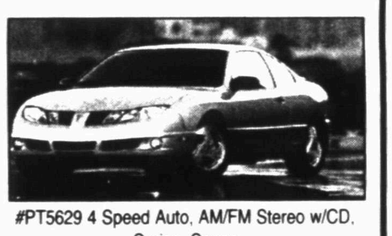
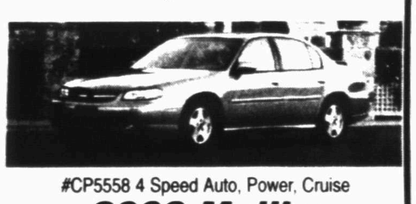
or $3000 Rebate



#PT5629 4 Speed Auto, AM/FM Stereo w/CD, Cruise, Coupe
2003 Sunfire
$248.87 Mo.
Cash price $16,249.36, $0 Down, 1.9% APR, 72 Mo. Rebate assigned to dealer. WAC

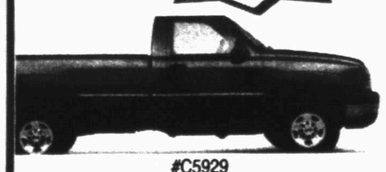
#C5991, Power Windows, LS, Auto Trans
1/2 Ton Ext. Cab
2003 Chevy
Sale Price $20,864[1]



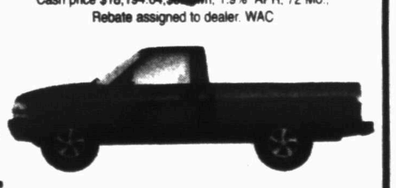
#CP5558 4 Speed Auto, Power, Cruise
2003 Malibu
$299 Mo.
Cash price $17,969.65, $ 0 Down, 3.9% APR, 60 Mo.. Rebate assigned to dealer. WAC

#C5975, 4 Door, Hard Top, Auto Trans
2003 Tracker
Sale Price[2] $16,995

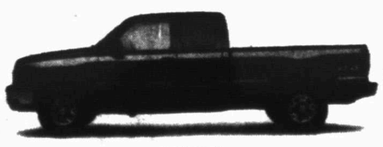
#C5680 Summit White, LS, Tilt/Cruise
2003 S10 Ext.Cab
$279.17 Mo.
Cash price $18,194.64, $0 Down, 1.9% APR, 72 Mo.. Rebate assigned to dealer. WAC



#C5929
Regular Cab Short Bed
2003 Chevy
Sale Price[3] $14,657



#C5207 Yellow, LS, 4 Speed Auto
2003 S10
Reg. Cab
$247.36 Mo.
Cash price $16,[illegible], $0 Down, 1.9% APR, 72 Mo.. Rebate assigned to dealer. WAC



#TC5570
Ext. Cab 4x4
2003 Chevy
Sale Price[4] $24,998

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HERMAN ® by Jim Unger

"My wife bought this and I want to return it."

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Face card
6 Squeezed
12 Walks
14 Salad green
15 Motto
16 Heaters
17 Barely manage
18 Our sun
19 Freeway clogger
21 Paris summer
23 High dudgeon
26 Duck's foot
27 Good buddy
28 Sky color
30 Dixie st.
31 Consume
32 Yells insults
33 Travel papers
35 Wyo. neighbor
37 Vain male
38 Ally opposite
39 Veto
40 Footed vase
41 Ancient Tokyo
42 Quiche need
43 Unser and Gore
44 — — tree
46 Lodge member
48 Black eye
51 Fishing nets
55 "Emma" novelist
56 Wrecks
57 Fathoms
58 Soft fabric

DOWN

1 Milk qtys.
2 Internet addr.
3 Want-ad letters
4 Gung-ho
5 Mont. neighbor
6 Sen. — Helms
7 Till
8 Adore
9 104, to Livy
10 Day before
11 — Moines
13 Nasty laughs
19 Singer — Dion
20 Put to shame
22 Nailing at an angle
24 Sorry
25 Blunders
26 Ripple
27 Occupied
28 Trojan War hero
29 Sports network
34 Sums
36 Assimilate food
42 Gets paid
43 Curly-tailed dog
45 Quick look
47 Tolstoy et al.
48 Decline
49 "Ben- —"
50 OT book
52 "Mona Lisa" singer
53 Yale grad
54 FICA ID

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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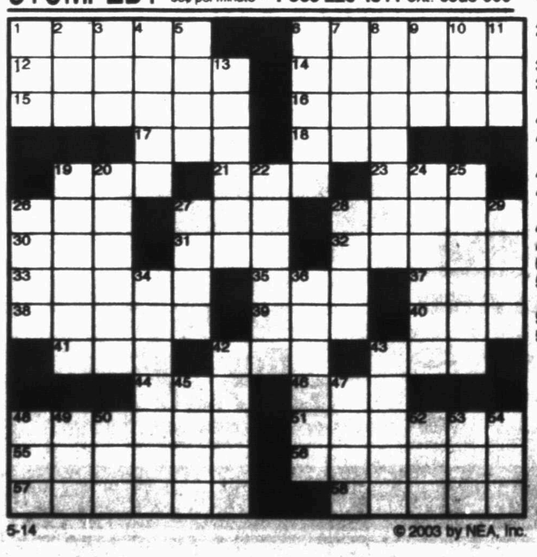

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

SPORTS

ATHLETES OF THE YEAR — Celeigh Sterling, left, and Lindsey Wilson were honored as the top female athletes at the Ira sports banquet. Eric Dickerhoff, center, was named male athlete of the year. (Contributed Photo by Becky Hudgins)

Dallas defense the difference

DALLAS (AP) — The Dallas Mavericks got even early in their series against the Sacramento Kings with a record-setting offensive performance in Game 2.

They're now just one win away from the Western Conference finals after a dominant defensive effort in the second half of Game 5.

Raja Bell scored nine of his 13 points in the third quarter Tuesday night, and outshot the Kings in the game-turning period of Dallas' 112-93 win.

It was Sacramento's lowest-scoring game this postseason. The Mavericks have a 3-2 series lead, and Game 6 is Thursday night in Sacramento.

Sacramento shot just 3-of-25 while being outscored 29-10 in the third — the lowest-scoring quarter ever for a Dallas postseason opponent. Bell made 4-of-5 shots, including tying and go-ahead baskets.

"It was one of our best defensive games in the second half," Mavericks coach Don Nelson said. "We really knuckled down."

The Kings' 32-point second half was also a playoff record for the Mavs' defense, as were 11 blocked shots. Sacramento shot just 36 percent (33-for-92), the first time it's been under 42 percent this postseason.

Steve Nash, held to just six points two nights earlier, scored 25 points. He was just 5-of-12 from the field, but hit 15 of 16 free throws. All five Dallas starters, plus Nick Van Exel (18 points), scored in double figures.

"They have so many guys who can attack you," Kings coach Rick Adelman said. "It's like a wind tunnel when they come at you. They were coming at us in waves."

Dirk Nowitzki has 16 points, 15 rebounds and a career-high nine assists, falling just short of the first triple-double in Dallas postseason history. Michael Finley also had 16 points.

"Tonight was an absolute perfect picture of a team performance," Nash said. "It's a lot of fun when we play like that."

The Mavericks' job was made much easier with Sacramento center Vlade Divac on the bench most of the night because of fouls. He had three in the first half, and just 54 seconds into the second half was out again after his fourth.

Divac didn't play any more in that decisive third, and that hurt the Kings on both defense and offense. He played just 13 minutes, finishing with five points, two rebounds and five fouls.

"It's tough. Our strategy is to push the ball, but when we don't have it, we go inside to Vlade," said Doug Christie, who led the Kings with 21 points. "Not having him on the floor takes away a lot of our options."

The Mavericks, eliminated by Sacramento in five games of the second round last season, rebounded nicely from their 99-83 loss in Game 4.

In Sunday night's loss, Dallas matched its record first-half scoring output in the 132-110 win in Game 2 that tied the series. The Mavericks first went up in the series with a 141-137 double-overtime win Saturday.

BoSox rally past Rangers

BOSTON (AP) — The Boston Red Sox overcame a two-run deficit in the bottom of the eighth inning and beat the Texas Rangers 5-4 Tuesday night, two days after rallying from eight runs back but losing to Minnesota 9-8.

"I think that was our biggest game of the season. Everybody believes when that happens you can do it again," Todd Walker said. "So now two runs down doesn't seem that much."

The Red Sox got their eighth last at-bat win and improved to 24-14. They did it in the eighth with RBI singles by Johnny Damon and Walker and a game-winning double by Nomar Garciaparra.

With runners at first and third and the score tied, Garciaparra would have been satisfied with a long fly ball. He ended up hitting the left-field wall.

Since Boston obtained Walker, Kevin Millar, Bill Mueller, Jeremy Giambi, David Ortiz and Damian Jackson in the offseason, there have been few easy outs in the lineup.

So while the pitching has been mediocre, the Red Sox are second in the majors in runs, behind the New York Yankees, and first with a .285 batting average.

The Rangers have plenty of hitting, too. They lead the majors with 66 homers after Hank Blalock's solo shot and Juan Gonzalez's three-run homer in the sixth put them ahead 4-2.

But Francisco Cordero (1-4) gave up Boston's runs in the eighth, one of them unearned, after John Thomson allowed three hits in six innings. And the Rangers fell to 16-22, last in the AL West.

"I thought (Cordero) pitched pretty well," Texas manager Buck Showalter said.

But he couldn't help Thomson, who gave up just a single after allowing solo homers to Manny Ramirez in the second and Trot Nixon in the third.

Alan Embree (2-0) pitched a perfect eighth for Boston and Brandon Lyon got his fifth save in five chances despite putting runners at first and third in the ninth before Michael Young hit a game-ending grounder to Garciaparra.

Astros use big ninth inning to top Pirates

PITTSBURGH (AP) — The Houston Astros beat the Pittsburgh Pirates for the 10th straight time, 6-3 on Tuesday, the second consecutive night a big Houston ninth inning proved pivotal.

This time, Richard Hidalgo's three-run double with two outs off Pirates closer Mike Williams decided it.

Somehow, the Astros often get it done in the late innings, as evidenced by their 57-17 scoring edge in the eighth and ninth.

One of baseball's best bullpens has something to do with that. Houston relievers pitched three scoreless innings Tuesday and now have 14 of the Astros' 21 victories.

The Pirates lost their 10th in 11 games, including six straight to the Astros in the last nine days. They've nine of their last 10 at home, where Williams has allowed all 11 runs he has yielded this season.

Williams (0-2) got the first two batters in the ninth, but walked Jeff Bagwell on a full-count pitch the Pirates thought was strike three. Jeff Kent singled to the opposite field in right.

Williams walked Lance Berkman on four pitches before Hidalgo lofted a fly ball to deep right on a 2-2 pitch.

Major League Baseball

National League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	27	12	.692	—
Montreal	24	15	.615	3
Philadelphia	22	17	.564	5
Florida	18	23	.439	10
New York	17	22	.436	10

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	22	16	.579	—
Houston	21	18	.538	1½
Cincinnati	20	19	.513	2½
St. Louis	18	18	.500	3
Pittsburgh	15	24	.385	7½
Milwaukee	13	26	.333	9½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	25	13	.658	—
Los Angeles	20	20	.500	6
Arizona	18	21	.462	7½
Colorado	18	21	.462	7½
San Diego	13	26	.333	12½

Tuesday's Games

Houston 6, Pittsburgh 3
Arizona 6, Philadelphia 1
Chicago Cubs 7, Milwaukee 2
Cincinnati 7, St. Louis 2
Colorado 9, N.Y. Mets 8
San Diego 6, Florida 5, 10 innings
Atlanta 3, Los Angeles 1
Montreal 6, San Francisco 4

Today's Games

N.Y. Mets (Seo 1-2) at Colorado (Oliver 1-2), 3:05 p.m.
Montreal (Vargas 0-1) at San Francisco (Foppert 2-2), 3:35 p.m.
Houston (W.Miller 1-4) at Pittsburgh (D'Amico 2-4), 7:05 p.m.
Arizona (Schilling 2-2) at Philadelphia (Myers 3-2), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Zambrano 3-3) at Milwaukee (Kinney 2-2), 8:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Graves 2-2) at St. Louis (Morris 4-2), 8:10 p.m.
Florida (Willis 0-0) at San Diego (Bynum 0-1), 10:05 p.m.
Atlanta (Maddux 3-4) at Los Angeles (K.Brown 3-1), 10:10 p.m.

American League
East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	26	12	.684	—
Boston	24	14	.632	2
Baltimore	18	20	.474	8
Toronto	18	21	.462	8½
Tampa Bay	15	23	.395	11

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	23	14	.622	—
Minnesota	21	17	.553	2½
Chicago	18	20	.474	5½
Cleveland	11	26	.297	12
Detroit	8	28	.222	14½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	24	14	.632	—
Seattle	24	14	.632	—
Anaheim	18	19	.486	5½
Texas	16	22	.421	8

Tuesday's Games

Boston 5, Texas 4
Tampa Bay 7, Toronto 5
Oakland 3, Detroit 1
Anaheim 10, N.Y. Yankees 3
Seattle 8, Cleveland 3
Minnesota 4, Kansas City 2, 10 innings
Chicago White Sox 1, Baltimore 0

Today's Games

Texas (Benoit 1-0) at Boston (Fossum 3-1), 7:05 p.m.
Oakland (Hudson 3-1) at Detroit (Knotts 1-3), 7:05 p.m.
Tampa Bay (Brazelton 0-1) at Toronto (Lidle 5-2), 7:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Appier 2-2) at N.Y. Yankees (Wells 5-0), 7:05 p.m.
Seattle (Garcia 3-4) at Cleveland (Ja.Davis 2-4), 7:05 p.m.
Kansas City (R.Hernandez 4-2) at Minnesota (Reed 1-4), 8:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Helling 2-3) at Chicago White Sox (Wright 0-1), 8:05 p.m.

Spurs take series lead over LA

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Kobe Bryant had options. He could either drive for the tie, go for a winning 3-pointer or pass to someone else who had an open shot.

With Robert Horry open behind the arc, Bryant didn't hesitate to give him the ball. Even though Horry had missed 14 straight 3-pointers this series, his reputation for hitting clutch shots in the playoffs made him a logical choice.

His drought seemed over — all the way into the cylinder.

But the ball caught too much of the inside rim, banging from back to front to back, then popping out straight to David Robinson. He held on, and so did the San Antonio Spurs, who beat the Los Angeles Lakers 96-94 on Tuesday night and took a 3-2 lead in their second-round series.

"I got a good shot," Horry said. "I got a good look, I had my feet set. I did everything right. The ball just didn't go in."

Had it, San Antonio would've blown a 25-point lead one game after letting a 16-point lead slip away. The Spurs never trailed and were only tied at 2-2.

But they were able to hold on, so now the series shifts to Los Angeles for Game 6 on Thursday night with the three-time champions a game away from being eliminated.

"Tough loss, tough loss," Lakers center Shaquille O'Neal said.

Game 7 would be in San Antonio on Saturday. The Lakers are 0-5 this season at the Spurs' new home, the SBC Center.

"We're a tough team to put out," said Kobe Bryant, who led Los Angeles with 36 points. "It has something to do with luck, something to do with our grit, our fight. Game 6, we're going to give it our all."

Woods says Sorenstam should play several PGA tournaments

ALVESLOHE, Germany (AP) — Tiger Woods not only thinks Annika Sorenstam should play next week's Colonial, he believes she needs several chances to prove she can compete with the men.

"I think it will be more fair to her if she could play four or five tournaments — then you could judge on those results," Woods said Wednesday before playing in the Deutsche Bank Open. "I'm sure if she did play four or five, she'd get a roll ... In one tournament a lot could go wrong for her."

Vijay Singh told The Associated Press on Sunday that Sorenstam had no business playing Colonial and said that on the odd chance he gets paired with her, he'd withdraw.

"I hope she misses the cut. Why? Because she doesn't belong out here," Singh told AP golf writer Doug Ferguson during an interview as he left the locker room after the Wachovia Championship in Charlotte, N.C. "If I'm drawn with her, which I won't be, I won't play."

On Tuesday, Singh attempted to cast his remarks in a different light.

"If it was an attack on Annika at all, I would like to apologize to her," Singh said. "I actually said if I miss the cut, I'd rather she miss the cut as well. I hope she missed the cut because I don't want to have a woman beat me."

Sports Briefs

Playoff games at Moffett

Colorado City (17-5) and Post (25-9) will tangle at 7 Friday night at Moffett Field in a Class 2A regional quarterfinal game.

Game two will be at 10 a.m. Saturday, with game three, if necessary, to follow 30 minutes after the completion of game two.

Ladies play day

The SCGA hosts a ladies play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday. Format is point system.

LGA spring tournament

The Ladies Golf Association will have its spring tournament at Scurry County golf course Saturday and Sunday.

Memorial Day scramble

A Memorial Day scramble will be held May 26 at Scurry County golf course. Tee-off is 10 a.m.

Country Club pool opening

The Snyder Country Club pool will open May 24. Hours are 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.

Soccer hooligans attack team

ATHENS, Greece (AP) — More than 200 fans attacked the manager and players of Panathinaikos Athens, angry over the team's loss over the weekend.

The fans smashed cars and property and clashed with police during a team training session. Thirty people were detained and three policemen were injured, authorities said.

Panathinaikos manager Sergio Markarian and several players were struck by fans. None were hospitalized, authorities said.

NHL Playoffs

All Times EDT
CONFERENCE FINALS
(Best-of-7)

Monday, May 12
Anaheim 2, Minnesota 0, Anaheim leads series 2-0

Tuesday, May 13
New Jersey 4, Ottawa 1, series tied 1-1

Wednesday, May 14
Minnesota at Anaheim, 9 p.m.

Thursday, May 15
Ottawa at New Jersey, 7 p.m.

Friday, May 16
Minnesota at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 17
Ottawa at New Jersey, 3 p.m.

Sunday, May 18
Anaheim at Minnesota, 7 p.m., if necessary

Monday, May 19
New Jersey at Ottawa, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 20
Minnesota at Anaheim, 10:30 p.m., if necessary

NHL Playoffs

All Times EDT
CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS
(Best-of-7)

Monday, May 12
New Jersey 110, Boston 101, 2OT, New Jersey wins series 4-0

Tuesday, May 13
Dallas 112, Sacramento 93, Dallas leads series 3-2
San Antonio 96, L.A. Lakers 94, San Antonio leads series 3-2

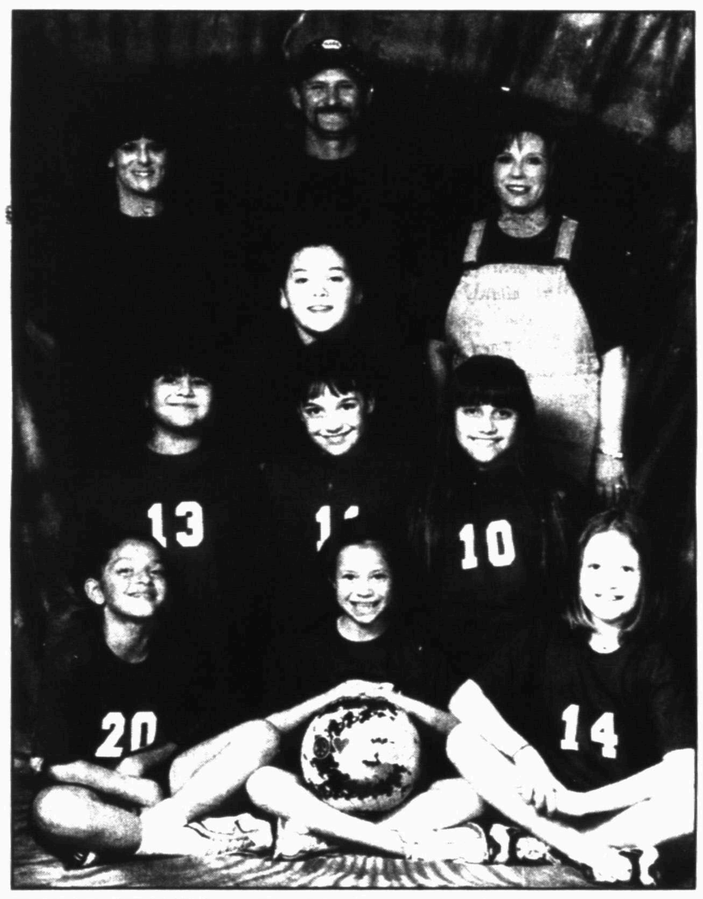
Wednesday, May 14
Philadelphia at Detroit, 8 p.m.

Thursday, May 15
San Antonio at L.A. Lakers, 8 p.m.
Dallas at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Friday, May 16
Detroit at Philadelphia, 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 17
Sacramento at Dallas, TBA, if necessary
L.A. Lakers at San Antonio, TBA, if necessary

Sunday, May 18
Philadelphia at Detroit, TBA, if necessary



JUNIOR CHAMPS — The Magic won the girls' Little Dribblers junior division with a perfect 8-0 record. The team is, front from left, Amanda Villa, Savannah Valdez, Audriana Rascon, middle, Jessica Hernandez, Alisha Gutierrez, Tessa Aguilar and, back, Madison Gutierrez. Behind the team are coaches Beth Zajicek, David Zajicek and Ruby Valdez. (Contributed Photo)

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BID NOTICE
Proposals for Snyder ISD High School HVAC Phase I will be received at the Administration Building, 2901 37th Street, Snyder, Texas until Wednesday, May 21, 2003, 2:00 P.M. and then publicly opened and read aloud. Any bid received after closing time will be returned unopened.

Proposals will be received for the General Construction including plumbing, ventilating, heating, air conditioning and electrical work.

A mandatory attendance Pre-Proposal Conference will be held Thursday, May 15, 3:30 P.M.. Prospective proposers shall meet at the main entrance of Snyder High School, 3801 Austin Avenue, Snyder, Texas.

The owner reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive all formalities.

Plans and specifications may be obtained from BGR Architects-Engineers, 2118 34th Street, Lubbock, Texas 79411. A deposit of $75.00 is required for each set of plans and specifications. Deposit is refundable upon return of plans and specifications.

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

KINDER MORGAN SACROC, LP, 4632 W. Hwy. 180, Snyder, Texas 79549, is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject water, CO2 with H2S & hydrocarbon gas into the Canyon Reef formation, SACROC Unit Lease, Well No(s). 144-4, & 145-4. The proposed injection wells are located approximately 4.0 to 4.5 Miles Northwest from Snyder, Texas in the Kelly-Snyder Field, in Scurry County. Water & CO2 with H2S & Hydrocarbon gas will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth intervals from 6350' to 7250'.
LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas. Requests for public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, Drawer 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711-2967 (Telephone 512-463-6792).

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Judge: Nichols can stand trial

OKLAHOMA CITY (AP) — A federal judge has ruled that Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols can stand trial on state murder charges, a decision cheered by victims' relatives who felt justice hadn't been served.

Nichols, already serving a life prison sentence on federal bombing charges, now faces 160 counts of first-degree murder for his part in the 1995 blast. Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty.

Nichols, 48, will be arraigned May 27 and prosecutors said they hope to pick a jury this year. District Judge Steven W. Taylor has already been named to hear the state case.

On Tuesday, District Judge Allen McCall said there was probable cause that Nichols was responsible for the April 19, 1995, bombing of the Oklahoma City federal building that killed 168 people.

Jannie Coverdale, whose two grandsons died in the blast, said she wants Nichols tried as soon as possible. "It's been a long time. And finally, somebody's going to be tried for killing 160 people," Coverdale said.

McCall was scheduled to convene another hearing for Nichols today where prosecutors will attempt to add at least one murder charge against Nichols for the death of an unborn child in the bombing.

Nichols was convicted in 1997 of federal conspiracy and involuntary manslaughter charges for the deaths of eight law enforcement officers in the bombing.

The state charges involve victims who were not part of the federal case. The U.S. Supreme Court has already turned down an appeal from Nichols arguing that a state trial amounts to double jeopardy.

The preliminary hearing for Nichols featured the same arguments and some of the same witnesses who testified against Nichols and bombing mastermind Timothy McVeigh at their federal trials.

Diane Leonard, who lost her husband in the bombing, said the names of the 160 other victims were not listed in the federal government's indictment against Nichols and McVeigh.

"That sent a message to the other 160 families that their loved ones didn't matter," Leonard said. "Today, they know they do."

Prosecutors say the bombing was a twisted bid at revenge against the government for the deadly siege at the Branch Davidian compound near Waco, Texas, exactly two years earlier.

They said Nichols and McVeigh prepared the 4,000-pound fuel-and-fertilizer bomb together and that Nichols participated in a series of robberies to raise money for the plot.

Nichols was home in Herington, Kan., the day of the explosion, but prosecutors say he helped McVeigh pack the bomb inside the Ryder truck a day earlier and helped stash his friend's getaway car.

On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Selenium overdose poses a serious risk

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I have a question about selenium supplements. I have been taking a product that contains 400 micrograms of selenium per tablet. The recommended dosage is two tablets per day. I have been taking this since July, but lately I have noticed that my hair has been falling out. I have since learned that 800 micrograms of selenium can be very toxic and cause hair loss. I have stopped taking the product, but would like to know how I can cleanse my system of this supplement and, just as important, how long it will take before my hair grows back. — A.F.

DEAR A.F.: I am quite surprised that an over-the-counter supplement would instruct you to take 800 micrograms per day. Despite the fact that selenium is a wonderful nutrient, it also has a narrow margin of safety. Let me give you some numbers. The estimated safe and adequate intake is between 50 and 200 micrograms per day. That is the level that the average individual should aim for. Selenium has a Tolerable Upper Level Intake (UL) of 400 micrograms per day. The UL is the highest level of daily nutrient intake that is likely to pose no risk of adverse health effects in almost all individuals. Jump from there to the Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level (LOAEL) of selenium, which is 910 micrograms per day. The LOAEL is the level that should be considered unsafe for everyone. Also take into consideration the uncertainty factor, which means that some people are more tolerant or sensitive to selenium than others. (There are always exceptions, such as an individual following a regimen prescribed by a physician.)

The bottom line is that you are taking a potentially hazardous level of this nutrient. Prolonged intake above 900 micrograms per day is associated with toxicity symptoms — one of which is hair loss. Other symptoms of a chronic selenium overdose include a garlicky odor to the breath, sweat and urine; a mottling of the teeth; abnormal nail growth; skin lesions; digestive problems; and nervous-system disorders. You also need to consider that the 800 micrograms of selenium you were taking was independent of any you were getting from your diet.

Selenium is present in foods, but the amount depends to a great degree on the selenium content of the soils and water in which they're grown. Selenium tends to be highest in soils west of the Mississippi River and east of the Rocky Mountains. Low selenium areas of the United States include the Northeast, Pacific Northwest and Southeastern coastal plains. One study found that feed corn from South Dakota, for example, contained 11 times the selenium as a similar corn grown in Michigan. (Its presence in feed corn is what makes meat a source of selenium.) Typical food sources of selenium include Brazil nuts; seafood such as tuna, clams, oysters, swordfish and lobster; meat; and grains such as corn, oats and wheat.

You were concerned about how long it would take for your hair to grow back. Unfortunately, there are no general rules, but research has shown that many chronic overdose symptoms can "correct" themselves over time. One of the metabolic effects of selenium overdose is that it interferes with an amino acid (cystine) used in the production of hair and nails. This is a logical explanation for why your hair fell out.

A diet high in protein might help, as it would provide a pool of amino acids to help "wash out" the selenium-contaminated amino acids from your body. Aside from that, it would be in your best interest to eat a high-fiber, plant-based diet and drink at least eight glasses of water a day. This would set up a process in which the greatest amount of healthful foods would be coming in and passing through your body — a condition that makes sense when you're trying to assist eliminate an unwanted substance. I also encourage you to contact your health professional immediately and inform him or her of this situation to find out if there are different recommendations tailored to your specific situation. Good luck and please let me know how things work out.

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

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	7.35	7.08	7.12	+.02
AOL TimeWrn	13.69	13.35	13.44	—.06
AT&T Corp rs	17.15	16.77	16.93	+.02
Albertsons	21.56	21.38	21.48	
Alltel	48.85	48.10	48.14	—.31
AmEl Pw	25.80	25.41	25.41	—.20
AndarkPtr	46.95	46.35	46.78	+.02
ATMOS Egy	23.45	23.15	23.30	+.01
Aviall	9.47	9.35	9.39	—.09
BP PLC	40.58	39.93	40.13	—.45
BakerHughes	30.20	29.73	30.18	+.21
Bank of Amer	74.56	73.72	73.81	—.51
BellSouth	26.73	26.31	26.46	+.08
BurlNoSFe	28.85	28.23	28.44	—.22
Caterpillar	53.48	52.47	52.66	—.51
CenterPoint	7.93	7.70	7.93	+.21
ChevronTex	69.45	67.92	68.02	—.63
Citigroup	39.58	38.99	39.13	—.14
CocaCola	44.62	44.01	44.12	—.13
ColgatePal	57.77	57.49	57.68	+.29
CmclMetals s	18.79	18.58	18.72	+.15
ConocoPhil	52.25	51.60	51.88	—.17
Cooper Inds	38.40	37.67	37.67	—.48
DaimlrChry	32.20	31.50	31.53	+.03
DeltaAir	14.98	14.47	14.49	—.20
Dillards Inc	14.50	14.12	14.16	—.20
DowChem	32.14	31.50	31.67	—.32
DuPont	43.25	42.70	42.71	—.53
EastmanChem	31.08	30.52	30.69	—.30
EstKodak	30.18	29.74	29.87	—.25
EDS Corp	18.20	17.92	17.96	
Entergy	48.85	48.39	48.39	—.13
ExxonMobil	35.63	35.26	35.32	—.21
FootLocker	11.63	11.35	11.36	—.12
GenDynam	92.70	92.25	92.55	—.04
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IntlPaper	37.48	36.91	37.01	—.35
JohnsonJn	55.90	55.32	55.42	—.08
KinderMorg	47.09	46.65	46.80	—.11
Kroger Co	14.98	14.84	14.96	+.17
LockheedM	49.73	49.13	49.42	—.12
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Medtronic	47.76	47.04	47.42	—.08
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NCR Corp	23.50	23.25	23.36	
Navistar	27.91	27.05	27.08	—.57
PNM Rescs	24.36	24.14	24.35	+.28
Penney JC	18.45	17.55	17.65	—1.20
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PhelpDodge	34.35	33.40	33.60	—.69
PilgrmPrd B	8.57	8.25	8.39	—.14
Praxair	58.45	57.50	57.62	—.79
ProctGamb	88.49	87.70	87.95	+.15
RadioShack	24.50	23.81	23.81	—.21
RoyalDut	44.94	44.52	44.56	—.05
SBC Comm	24.88	24.64	24.76	+.22
SaraLee	17.66	17.50	17.50	—.12
Scripps EW	85.21	84.61	85.18	+.19
SearsRoeb	28.00	27.51	27.56	—.30
SherwinW	28.01	27.62	27.86	—.02
SouthernCo	29.21	28.86	28.87	—.21
SwstAirl	16.05	15.75	15.76	—.17
SprintFON	11.88	11.67	11.76	—.04
SprintPCS	3.82	3.66	3.66	—.12
Sunoco Inc	37.90	37.30	37.79	+.34
TXU Corp	19.54	19.22	19.31	—.07
Templetnland	46.77	45.80	46.01	—.60
Texind	21.36	21.20	21.27	+.07
TexasInst	20.03	19.21	19.25	—.45
Textron	32.70	32.23	32.24	—.27
TrinityInds	18.10	17.97	17.99	—.03
TylerTech	3.99	3.92	3.99	+.02
UnionPacif	60.45	59.70	59.96	—.20
USSteel	14.60	14.15	14.17	—.15
UnitedTech	69.10	68.30	68.70	—.31
Unocal	28.98	28.77	28.86	—.07
VerizonComm	37.95	37.30	37.57	+.18
WalMart	55.98	54.75	54.79	—.70
WellsFargo	48.18	47.43	47.68	—.24
WstrnGasRs	39.51	39.10	39.17	—.34
WmnDixie	13.47	13.25	13.34	—.17
Xerox Cp	10.48	10.35	10.38	—.01
YumBrands s	26.49	25.88	25.90	+.04

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Fax resume to 235-1783 or call 235-1701, ext. 222 to request application. EOE

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GARAGE SALE Association for Retarded Citizens open each Tuesday and Thursday, 8a.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.

NOAH'S ATTIC 1503 26th St. Thursdays & Fridays 10a.m. – 5:30p.m.

Garage Sales

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Scurry County Country

West Nile virus expected to hit Texas again

COLLEGE STATION — A Texas mosquito expert is anticipating another — and earlier — round of West Nile virus for this state.

West Nile encephalitis activity has already picked up in Louisiana with the virus reportedly being found in birds throughout the state and in the mosquito population around Baton Rouge, said Dr. Jim Olson, entomologist with the Texas Agricultural Experiment Station.

"With that being an indication, we could be in for another year of West Nile virus activity," in Texas, Olson said.

"This is probably one of the earliest records of a mosquitoborne virus (becoming active) in the South." Normally, activity begins in May or June, he said.

In 2002 – the first year West Nile was reported in Texas – 202 laboratorypositive huma case and 13 deaths in the state were attributed to the virus, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

According to the CDC, West Nile virus is commonly found in Africa, West Asia and the Middle East. It is closely related to the St. Louis encephalitis virus, and it can infect humans, birds, mosquitoes, horses and some other mammals. West Nile fever is usually a mild disease in people and is characterized by flulike symptoms. It typically lasts only a few days and does not appear to cause any longter health effects, the CDC said.

Olson said West Nile virus is birdborne; to date, more than 110 species of birds have been found to be infected with and have the ability to serve as the source of the virus.

"Mosquitos feeding on infected birds become infected themselves and then pass that on to other birds," he said. "Or if, by chance, if they feed on horses and humans, they could infect those."

State health officials are still encouraging horse and mule owners to vaccinate their animals. If the animals were vaccinated last year, a booster is recommended, Olson said.

"Consult your veterinarian and get them vaccinated now," he said. "There is a delay time from when the vaccination starts and when the horses will build a high enough immunity to be considered protected. That delay time can be up to six weeks."

For people to avoid mosquitos and the possibility of disease, the entomologist recommended the three P's: Protection of self, using protective clothing and a repellent of choice and avoiding being outside during the times of day when mosquitos are active.

Olson suggested wearing clothing that is loosefitting.

"With tightfitting clothing, mosquitos can drill right through the fabric," he said.

Longsleeved and longlegged clothing provides protection for skin. Clothing should be light colored because mosquitos are attracted to darker hues, he said.

Prevent mosquito breeding around the house by removing all sources of standing water, dumping artificial containers and removing those containers.

Prevent mosquitos from getting into homes with the proper screening and sealing frames doors and windows. Olson said he suspected most human infections of West Nile and other encephalitis viruses are caused by bites either in the home or places close by, such as yards and patios.

Citronella candles offer some protection outside if they are used in areas with little wind movement, but Olson urged people to practice safety when burning those.

Insectkilling devices, such as the "bug zappers" should be placed at a distance – about 50 feet – from the area you're trying to protect. "They do tend to attract more mosquitos than they kill," he said.

Communitywide spraying can be effective if done properly, he said.

"Any spraying that is done needs to be based on need, as indicated by the presence of mosquitos and, even more so, the presence of the virus in that area," Olson explained.

Proper surveillance by health authorities can determine those two factors.

"Indiscriminate spraying of mosquitos that is not out of a sense of need is not recommended. There has to be an actual need. Otherwise, other measures are sufficient," he said.

Further information is available from

http://www.cdc.gov/ncidod/dvbid/westnile/

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Garden Checklist for May, 2003

1. Cut off old blossoms on spring-flowering annuals such as pansies, snapdragons, stock, and calendulas to prolong the flowering season.

2. Continue to fertilize roses every four to six weeks with small amounts of a balanced fertilizer.

3. Allow foliage of spring-flowering bulbs to mature and yellow before removing.

4. Set out plants of portulaca and purslane in sunny areas. Root cuttings of your favorite colors by placing 3-to 4-inch stems in moist, sandy soils.

5. It is not too late to sow directly into the soil seeds of sunflower, zinnia, morning glory, portulaca, marigold, cosmos, periwinkles, and gourds. Achimenes, cannas, dahlias, and other summer-flowering bulbs can also be planted in May.

6. Pinch back the terminal growth on newly planted annual and perennial plants. This will result in shorter, more compact, well-branched plants with more flowers.

7. Time to plant caladium tubers, impatiens, coleus, begonias, and pentas in shady areas.

8. Make cuttings of your favorite chrysanthemums and root them in a mixture of sand and peat moss. Cover cutting box with plastic and place in shaded area for 5 or 6 days to prevent wilting.

9. Replace or replenish mulch materials in flower-beds and shrub borders to conserve moisture and reduce weed growth.

10. Prune climbing roses as they complete their spring bloom season. Remove dead or weak wood as needed.

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Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dauphin, CEA–Family and Consumer Sciences, 2612 Ferguson Rd, Snyder, Texas 79549

Nutrition Substitutions and Makeovers

"I didn't have paprika so I used another spice. I didn't have potatoes so I substituted rice. I didn't have tomato sauce so I used tomato to paste; (A whole can, not a half can; I don't believe in waste). A friend gave me this recipe and said "you just can't beat it. There must be something wrong with her, I can't even eat it!" -Unknown

"It may be nutritious, but does it taste good?" is often a concern when people start altering recipes in pursuit of "healthier" food. Following are eight questions and answers about recipe substitutions and make over to help you enjoy DELICIOUS and NUTRITIOUS food.

Q. I'm trying to cut back on my salt intake. If a recipe calls for garlic salt, about how much garlic powder should I substitute?

A. Substitute one half the amount of garlic powder. For example, instead of 1/4 teaspoon of garlic salt, use 1/8 teaspoon of garlic powder.

Q. How can I substitute whole wheat flour for white flour to increase the fiber in a recipe?

A. You often can successfully substitute whole wheat flour for half the white flour. For example, for each cup of white all-purpose flour, use ½ cup of whole wheat flour plus ½ cup of white all-purpose flour. Substituting equal amounts of whole wheat flour for all-purpose flour doesn't work as well. The resulting product is likely to have less volume and a coarser texture.

Q. I'd like to decrease the saturated fat in a recipe. How can I substitute oil for a solid shortening when baking?

A. There is no standard procedure to substitute oil for a solid shortening in baked products. Oil is 100 percent fat while butter, margarine and other solid shortenings are lower in fat on a volume for volume basis.

Also, solid shortening helps incorporate air into the batter when it is whipped with other ingredients such as sugar and eggs. This procedure often is referred to in a recipe as "creaming." If you try to cream ingredients with oil, your baked product is likely to be more compact and oily in texture.

Your best bet is to check with the companies that make oil. Most companies have toll-free numbers, addresses or Web sites through which you can obtain more information and recipes.

Also, check your cookbooks, the library and the Internet for recipes that use oil. Cookbooks by the American Heart Association (AHA) use oil in several of their recipes plus feature recipes that are reduced in fat content.

Q. Is there an easy way to make croutons that are lower in salt and fat than those you buy at the store?

A. Here's a quick recipe idea for you.

HOMEMADE CROUTONS
Bread*

Olive oil-flavored or garlic-flavored cooking spray

*If possible, start with low sodium bread; check with your grocery store or local health food stores as to availability in your area.

1. Preheat oven to 350 F.

2. Cut bread into ½-inch cubes and spread in a single layer on a baking sheet.

3. Spray bread cubes lightly with an olive oil-flavored or garlic-flavored cooking spray.

4. Bake on the middle shelf of oven for 10 minutes or until browned and crisp.

These taste best if eaten the same day they're made.

Q. I like thick, creamy soups but don't like all the fat calories that come with them. How can I make a creamy, low-fat soup and enjoy eating it, too?

A. A quick, tasty and nutritious way to create a creamy texture in soups without adding fat is to puree some or all of the vegetables. Wait until your vegetables are cooked, then remove them with some of the liquid and puree until creamy in your blender. For some soup, you may be able to use a handheld immersion blender and dream the vegetables right in your soup pot.

"Cooking Light" magazine (March 2003) warns when blending hot liquids to "...use caution because steam can increase the pressure inside the blender and blow the lid off." They advise filling the blender no more than half full and blending in batches if necessary. And — while blending — hold a potholder or towel over the lid.

Here's a recipe from the National Cancer Institute http://www.5aday.gov that gives a unique example of pureeing vegetables in a way that doubles the amount of vegetables in a serving.

DOUBLE-THE-SERVING STEW

Serves 6

Fruit and Vegetable Servings Per Person: 2 ½

This recipe adds richness to your stew while "secretly" boosting the vegetables in it. By removing the first set of vegetables halfway through the cooking process, blending them, pouring them back as sauce, and adding new cut-up vegetables, you're doubling your vegetable servings and adding lots of flavor and texture to the final stew.

*2 tablespoons all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon salt
*1½ teaspoon ground black pepper
*1 pound lean beef stew meat, cut into 1-inch cubes
*1 tablespoon vegetable oil, low-sodium beef broth, plus more as needed
*2 medium onions
*2 stalks celery
*2 medium potatoes
*2 medium turnips
*4 carrots
*2 cloves garlic, chopped
*1½ teaspoon dried thyme
*1 cup fresh parsley, chopped

In a plastic bag, combine flour, salt and pepper. Add meat and shake to coat. Heat oil in large saucepan or Dutch oven. Add meat and brown. Prepare the vegetables by cutting one onion, two celery stalks, one potato, one turnip and one carrot into large chunks. Add the vegetables to the meat along with the garlic and thyme. Stir in broth and bring to boil. Reduce heat and cover. Simmer for about 40 minutes or until meat is tender. While meat is cooking, prepare remaining vegetables by cutting the onion, celery, potato, turnip and carrot into 1'inch cubes. Remove simmered vegetables (onion, celery, potatoes, turnips, carrots) and whiz in a blender until smooth. Return vegetable puree to pot. Thin with beef broth or water, if necessary. To pot add remaining uncooked onions, celery, potato, turnips, and carrots. Bring to simmer and cover. Cook for an additional 30 minutes or until vegetables are tender. Add parsley just before serving.

SOURCE: Courtesy of National Cancer Institute – Eat 5 a Day for Health soup recipes and Check the recipes at this Web location for additional soups using pureed vegetables.

Q. I've heard you can use yogurt in making low fat salad dressings. How do you go about doing this?

A. Here are two recipe ideas to get you started. Use them as a springboard to creating additional recipes. Also, check the Web sites of yogurt companies for more recipes.

1. YOGURT SALAD DRESSING

*8 oz. plain yogurt, fat free
*1¼ cup mayonnaise, fat free
*2 TBSP. chives, dried
*2 TBSP. dill, dried
*2 TBSP. lemon juice

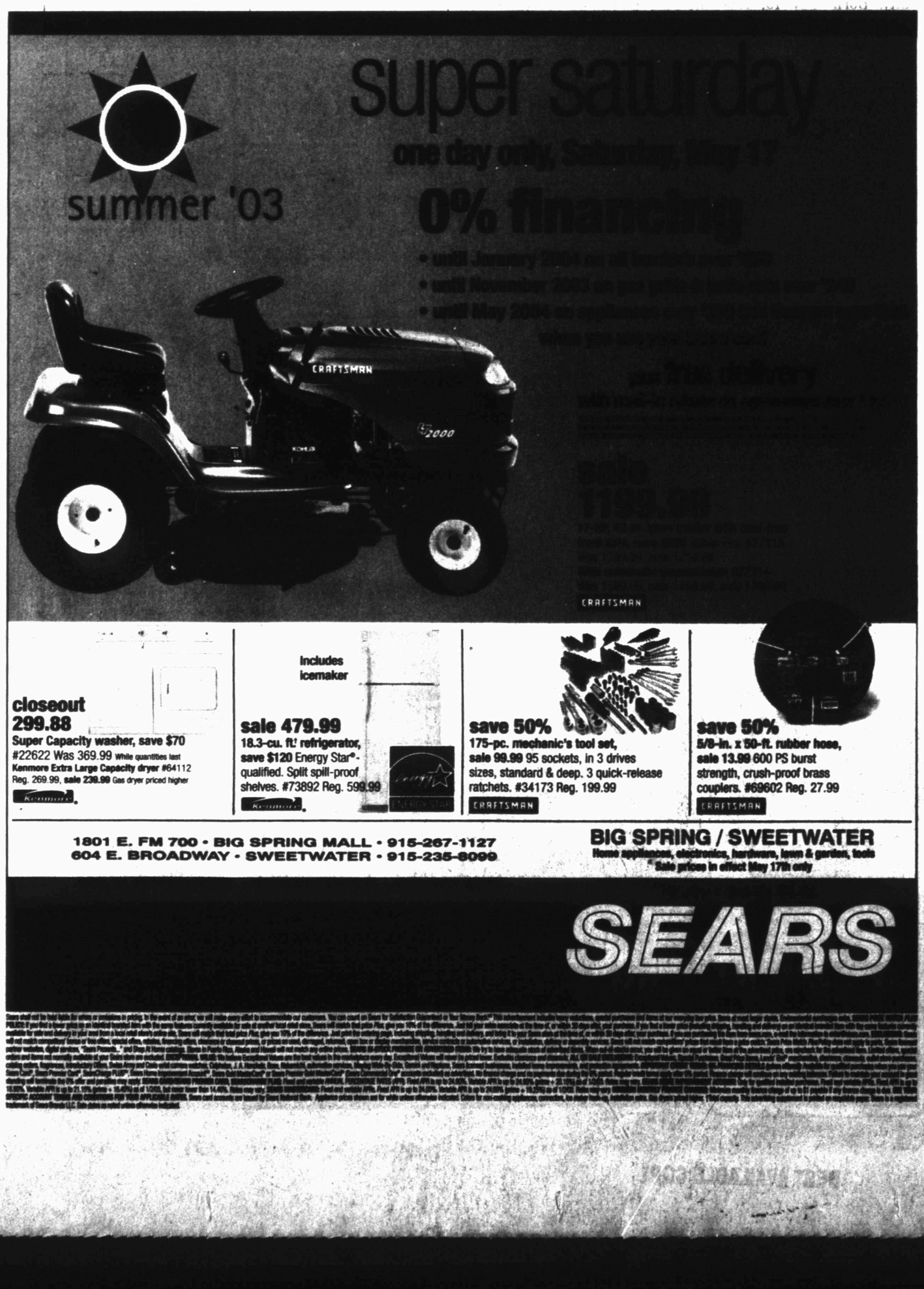
Mix all ingredients in bowl and refrigerate.

Makes 8 servings. Serving size: 2 TBSP.

Nutrition Facts. Per Serving: Calories: 23; Sodium: 84 mg.; Total fat: 0 g; Calcium: 72 mg.; Saturated fat: 0 g; Magnesium: 10 mg; Cholesterol: 1 mg; Potassium: 104 mg; Fiber: 0 g.

Source: Courtesy of National Heart, Lung & Blood Institute DASH Recipes

Continued next week



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SEARS

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Legislature standoff continues

AUSTIN (AP) — Accusations flew across state lines as Texas House legislators holed up in an Oklahoma hotel traded barbs with Republicans at home over their rebel effort to stymie GOP redistricting plans.

Democrats on both sides of the border hailed as heroes the 51 lawmakers who fled to Oklahoma to block debate on a congressional redistricting bill.

But Texas Republicans, convening again today in a placid chamber that could not conduct legislative business because of a lack of a quorum, castigated their rebel colleagues for the growing heaps of bills placed in jeopardy of not being passed.

Gov. Rick Perry, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and House Speaker Tom Craddick — all Republicans — appeared before news reporters after a weekly breakfast meeting and pleaded with the Democrats to return to Austin.

"We want our colleagues back," Dewhurst said. The lieutenant governor, who presides over the Senate, said lawmakers are only days away from completing "a historically successful session" that will balance the state's budget without a tax bill, despite a $9.9 billion shortfall.

Despite the work stoppage, Perry said, Republicans remain focused on legislative business.

"Texans need to know that this partisan disruption will not stand in the way of the greater good," Perry said. He added that he hasn't been pondering calling a special legislative session after the regular 140-day session ends June 2.

All the while, the legislative clock continued to tick.

"There are a lot of bills here in Texas that are dying, bills that affect every part of our community, that affect the elderly, the young, that affect our industry, that affect our efforts against terrorism," said Rep. Ruben Hope, R-Conroe.

Snyder officers respond to several accidents

Accidents

Snyder officers responded to several accidents in the city Tuesday.

A two-vehicle major accident was reported at 5:11 p.m. on College Ave. Involved were a 1994 Oldsmobile driven by Lindabeth Autrey, 59, of 2805 Ave. Y and a 1989 Mercury driven by Lillie Hernandez, 46, of 3798 Sunset.

A passenger in the Oldsmobile, Elwanda Stewart, 81, was transported to Cogdell Hospital by private vehicle.

At 11 a.m., a two-vehicle accident was reported at 37th Place and El Paso. Involved were a 2001 Dodge Caravan driven by Suzanne Barrow, 44, of 1901 Round Rock and a 1985 GMC pickup driven by Jennie Sorrells, 33, of 492 CR 122.

Another minor accident was reported at 3:45 p.m. in the parking lot of Snyder Healthcare Center. Involved were a 1998 Ford Windstar driven by Audine McCann, 73, of 1610 N. Ave. R and a parked 2003 Dodge Caravan owned by Cindy Garcia of Hermleigh.

Arrest

Snyder officers arrested Andrew Amador Perez, 40, of 214 20th Street at 9:10 p.m. Tuesday on warrants for parole violation.

Theft

Gilbert Rios reported at 1:30 p.m. Tuesday that his air conditioner had been stolen from his house in the 900 block of 23rd Street. Officers submitted an offense report for Class B theft.

Close patrol

A man in the 3000 block of 39th Street reported that another male subject had threatened to assault him. A close patrol of his residence was initiated and officers advised they would attempt to serve the other subject with a criminal trespass warning.

Births

Ashley Maldonado and Jesus Gonzales announce the birth of their son, Adrian Ray Gonzales, at 12:35 p.m. on May 11 in University Medical Center in Lubbock. He weighed six pounds, 14 ounces.

Grandparents are Amy Maldonado of Lubbock and Santos Gutierrez Jr. of Snyder. Great-grandparents are Andy and Lynn Maldonado and Santos and Angie Gutierrez, all of Snyder. Great-great-grandparents are Mr. and Mrs. A.B. Mosher of Loraine.

Taiwan police make sure quarantines for SARS continue

BEIJING (AP) — Police in Taiwan went house-to-house and enforced SARS quarantines today, while railway authorities in China installed thermal scanners at some train stations to check passengers for fevers and keep the disease from spreading over their vast rail networks.

"The infectious outbreak is our call to arms. Time is lives," said a front-page article in the newspaper Beijing Daily.

As regional airlines cut more flights, the United Nations issued a new prediction about the economic fallout of the SARS outbreak: 5 million job losses in the global tourism sector this year, with Asia hit the worst.

The number of deaths worldwide from the flu-like disease rose today to at least 588. Eight new SARS deaths were reported in east Asia.

The regions with the worst SARS outbreaks showed signs of optimism. China announced today its lowest one-day increase in new SARS cases in weeks: 55, raising its total to 5,124. Health officials are trying to prevent a new surge of the disease in China's poor countryside.

In Hong Kong — which reported nine new infections, its 11th straight day of single-digit increases, scientists credited quarantines for breaking the chain of transmission. University of Hong Kong researchers say the territory's outbreak is losing momentum and should dwindle by June or July and die out by October.

Taiwan faced a worsening outbreak, and Singapore may have suffered a setback amid reports of a possible outbreak at its largest mental health facility, officials said.

The Institute of Mental Health was sealed off and all 1,800 patients and 1,600 workers quarantined as tests were run to confirm whether there was a SARS outbreak after some began showing symptoms Friday. The city-state, where 28 have died, last reported a confirmed new case on April 27.

The United Nations' labor agency gave a sense of some of the likely economic damage from the SARS outbreak.

The International Labor Organization predicted that a drop in international travel caused by SARS fears, combined with the economic downturn, could lead to 5 million job losses in the global tourism sector this year.

Hong Kong, Singapore, Taiwan and Vietnam, all sites of SARS outbreaks, are likely to lose more than 30 percent of their travel and tourism jobs, the ILO reported. The predicted losses would bring to 11.5 million the number of tourism jobs cut around the world since the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks sent the industry into a downward spiral.

FFA banquet set Thursday

Snyder High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter will host its annual banquet Thursday at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center.

The meal gets underway at 5:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 6:30. FFA members will be recognized for accomplishments at the district, area, state and national levels this school year.

Obituaries

Lloyd Ainsworth

1912-2003

Funeral service for Lloyd Ainsworth, longtime Scurry County resident, is set for 2 p.m. Thursday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Tom Holcomb, minister of the East Side Church of Christ, will officiate. Burial will follow in the Fluvanna Cemetery.

Mr. Ainsworth, 92, died Sunday, May 11, in Snyder Oaks Care Center after a lengthy illness.

Born May 2, 1912 in Fluvanna, he married Maebelle Tucker in March of 1933 in Hobbs, N.M. Mr. Ainsworth was a retired Fluvanna area farmer.

He was preceded in death by a daughter, Mary Ellen Keith, on Jan. 13, 1999.

Survivors include his wife, Maebelle Tucker Ainsworth of Snyder; a brother, Pat Ainsworth of Snyder; a sister, Anna Jean Buddock of Wichita, Kan.; two grandchildren, Carrie Keith and Chad Keith, both of Austin.

Verna Knight

1907-2003

Verna Knight, longtime Snyder resident, died Tuesday, May 13, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Graveside service for Mrs. Knight, 95, was set for 2 p.m. today in the Ira Cemetery. The Rev. Buddy Payne, pastor of First United Methodist Church in Snyder, will officiate.

Verna Knight

Born May 18, 1907 in Buffalo Gap, she married John Wilson in 1927. He died in 1938. She married T.B. "Bick" Knight in 1941. He died in 1977. She was a homemaker and a member of the Crusaders Sunday School Class.

Survivors include a daughter, Bobbie Rose of Snyder; a brother, R.T. Pippin of Plains; a granddaughter, Sharlot Sparlin of Snyder; two great-grandsons, Marc Sparlin of Snyder and Darin Sparlin of Dallas; a great-great-granddaughter, Berkley Sparlin of Dallas; a niece, Marilyn Ellison of Plains; and a nephew, John Pippin of Cincinnati, Ohio.

Bob Hardman

1928-2003

LAMESA — Robert Edward "Bob" Hardman, the father of Barbara Ashby of Snyder, died Monday, May 12, in Medical Arts Hospital.

Funeral service for Mr. Hardman, 74, was set for 10 a.m. today in the First Baptist Church Chapel with the Rev. Randy Hardman officiating. Burial will follow in the Borden County Cemetery under the direction of Branon Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 18, 1928 in Avery, Tex., he married Estelle Middlebrook on March 3, 1952 in Avery.

A U.S. Army veteran of the Korean conflict, Mr. Ashby was a member of the First Baptist Church and had worked in the oil well service industry.

Survivors include his wife, Estelle Hardman of Lamesa; another daughter and her husband, Elton and Katie Stary of Plainview; a son-in-law, Mac Ashby of Snyder; a son and daughter-in-law, Randy and Debra Hardman of Gail; a brother and his wife, Harry and Irvelyn Hardman of Avery; a sister and her husband, Liz and Albert McPeak of Lamesa; nine grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Bob Johnson

1916-2003

SLATON — Bob Johnson, a former resident of Hermleigh, died Monday, May 12.

Graveside service for Mr. Johnson, 87, was set for 4 p.m. today in the Englewood Cemetery with Dr. Cleve Kerby, pastor of the First Baptist Church, officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Englunds Funeral Service.

Born May 1, 1916 in Whitt, Tex., he attended school in Newcastle. He married Maria Empson on Aug. 9, 1978 in Las Vegas, Nev. She died in 2000.

A U.S. Marine Corps veteran of World War II, Mr. Johnson lived in Hermleigh for eight years before moving to Slaton.

Survivors include two sons, Mike Jennings of Louisville, Ky., and Mike Harvey of Slaton; three daughters, Susan Ingalls of Slaton, Kathy Fanelli of Raton, N.M., and Patricia Blake of Oak Harbor, Wash.; two sisters, Vida Dosior of Cresent, Okla., and Gay Hicks of Iowa Park; 15 grandchildren; and 15 great-grandchildren.

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Benny Benavidez

1966-2003

HAMLIN – Funeral service for Benito "Benny" Benavidez of Snyder was set for 2 p.m. today in the Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Burial was to follow in Hamlin Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Foster-Adams Funeral Home.

Mr. Benavidez, 36, died Saturday, May 10, in Colorado City. Born May 19, 1966 in [illegible] graduate from Aspermont High School and was married Margarita Salazar Benito. He was a Catholic and an employee of Weatherford-LEAMCO in Snyder.

Survivors include his wife, Margarita Benavidez; a son, Adrian Benavidez; two daughters, Monica and Lisa Benavidez; his parents, Sebastian and Mary Benavidez; four brothers, Jesse, David, Don and Adam Benavidez; and a sister, Terry Benavidez.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Thu 5/15	Fri 5/16	Sat 5/17
92/68	85/54	88/54
Partly cloudy skies in the morning will give way to cloudy skies during the [illegible]	Times of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 80s and lows in the mid 50s.	Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 50s.
Sunrise 6:45 AM, Sunset 8:35 PM	Sunrise 6:44 AM, Sunset 8:36 PM	Sunrise 6:44 AM, Sunset 8:37 PM

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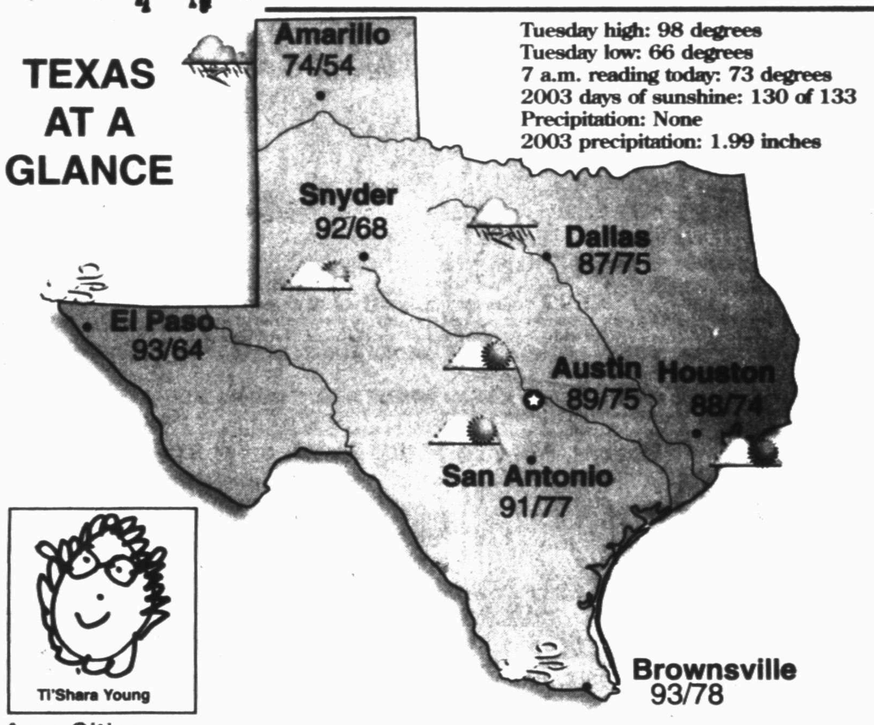
TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Tuesday high: 98 degrees
Tuesday low: 66 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 73 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 130 of 133
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 1.99 inches

Ti'Shara Young

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	90	73	pt sunny	El Paso	93	64	windy	Midland	101	69	mst sunny
Amarillo	74	54	t-storm	Fort Stockton	102	70	mst sunny	Raymondville	94	75	windy
Austin	89	75	pt sunny	Gainesville	84	70	t-storm	Rosenberg	88	75	pt sunny
Beaumont	87	73	pt sunny	Greenville	84	70	t-storm	San Antonio	91	77	pt sunny
Brownsville	93	78	windy	Houston	88	74	pt sunny	San Marcos	89	76	pt sunny
Brownwood	92	73	pt sunny	Kingsville	92	75	windy	Sulphur Springs	84	70	t-storm
Corpus Christi	89	77	windy	Livingston	87	71	pt sunny	Sweetwater	93	70	pt sunny
Corsicana	85	73	t-storm	Longview	85	69	t-storm	Tyler	86	73	t-storm
Dallas	87	75	t-storm	Lubbock	89	62	t-storm	Weatherford	86	70	t-storm
Del Rio	97	79	pt sunny	Lufkin	87	73	t-storm	Wichita Falls	85	70	t-storm

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	73	61	t-storm	Houston	88	74	pt sunny	Phoenix	93	71	mst sunny
Boston	58	46	cloudy	Los Angeles	71	57	pt sunny	San Francisco	67	50	windy
Chicago	61	47	rain	Miami	85	76	pt sunny	Seattle	52	41	rain
Dallas	87	75	t-storm	Minneapolis	69	49	pt sunny	St. Louis	71	55	pt sunny
Denver	58	44	t-storm	New York	64	49	cloudy	Washington, DC	66	56	rain

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
May 9	May 16	May 23	May 31

UV Index

Thu 5/15	Fri 5/16	Sat 5/17
High	Extreme	Extreme

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

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BEST AVAILABLE COP

MAY 14 2003

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Thursday, May 15, 2003

The very things that you can do unaided are what may bring you your largest successes in the year ahead. An assertive individual, however, could end up advancing your ambitions in ways you couldn't have done without him or her.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Little of value will be accomplished today if you team up with someone who lacks your ambition and drive. Instead of adding impetus to the assignment, she or he will be dead weight.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Usually you're a gung-ho individual full of vinegar and spice, but today you might put such pressure on yourself you'll end up being a wet noodle with no life left in you. Loosen up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Friendships could represent a tender area for you today, but not because of what another may do to you. It's more likely you'll do something thoughtless to a pal. Be careful.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Just because you get along with everybody doesn't mean others do. When gathering together several strong-willed individuals today, make certain they all get along well with one another or trouble could ensue.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Without you realizing it, persons with whom you associate could have a strong influence on your attitude and outlook. Hang around with negative pals and you'll find yourself reduced to their level.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Someone who is rather skillful at making you feel under obligation might try to use this ploy once again today to get you to do his or her bidding. See through the facade and don't let it get to you.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — If you are asked to decide on something important today that could have long term effects, find a reason to put it off. Chances are you'll not be in an upbeat mood and the matter needs a broader view.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Sometimes it is necessary to call in the experts, and today may be one of those days. It would prove very unwise to tackle a task that requires professional know-how.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Getting coerced into participating in something you don't enjoy could put a damper on the event for everybody. Chances are your unhappy mood would settle on everybody else like a pall.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Although you're usually rather a good sport when involved in a competitive situation, today this might not be so. Both you and the opposition could take things a shade too seriously.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Don't take anything for granted today. An idea that you thought others were in accord with might be challenged and things could get a bit sticky if you are caught off guard.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Be especially mindful of your prized possessions today. Some negative influences are lurking about you and you could suffer a loss through either theft, spoilage or breakage.

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

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Widow gives birth

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — The widow of a soldier killed in the war in Iraq gave birth to a baby boy Monday afternoon, according to the Iowa National Guard.

Nathaniel Ethan Kiehl weighs 7 pounds, 2 ounces and has a full head of brown hair, family friends told KCCI-TV in Des Moines.

Army Spc. James Michael Kiehl, 22, of Comfort was killed in an ambush in March.

Big Bend hiker is mauled

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A mountain lion has attacked and clawed a hiker at Big Bend National Park, where rangers closed trails as the hunt began for the animal.

A trained dog team was summoned to the 800,000-acre park along the Rio Grande in far West Texas after the 30-year-old hiker was attacked.

Park rangers had no explanation for the mountain lion's attack, which ended when the hiker managed to hit the animal with a rock.

The hiker, whose name was not released, was attacked following shouting and other defensive measures failed to scare the lion off.

"He saw the animal from the trail, and they had a face-off for 20 minutes or more before the animal charged him, clawed him and pulled him to the ground," park spokesman David Elkowitz told the San Antonio Express-News. The hiker was attacked at about 8:30 a.m. Tuesday on the Basin Loop Trail, which begins in the Chisos Basin, within a mile of the Chisos Basin Lodge. The dog team and handlers were beginning the search late Tuesday.

"They will go to the site and attempt to pick up the scent of the offending animal, and if they can track it down, it will be shot," said Elkowitz.

He said the hiker walked to safety and was treated for bite wounds by a park medic. The hiker then drove himself out of the park.

"Aggressive lions are the exception. This seems to be the fourth lion attack in the last 20 years. One was serious, but I don't believe anyone has died from a lion attack at the park," Elkowitz said.

The small population of mountain lions at the park is rarely seen by camp visitors.

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