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WT Int. Crude - $30.55
WTIC Posted - $27.25
Natural Gas - $5.560

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

April 21, 2003
Vol. 54 No. 304
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Larry Thompson

Law enforcement, EMS kept busy...

Easter weekend marred by accidents

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

The Easter weekend was a busy one for Snyder emergency personnel, responding to numerous mishaps around the county.

One intersection was particularly dangerous with two major accidents reported in less than 24 hours.

U.S. 180 and FM 1673 was the scene of a two-vehicle collision at 10:08 a.m. Saturday which resulted in three fatalities. At 4:45 a.m. Sunday, a one-vehicle rollover injured the driver.

Eight were injured, three fatally, in the accident involving a 2001 Chevrolet Tahoe driven by James Todd Etheredge, 39, of Levelland and a 1998 GMC pickup driven by Adam Wigley, 22, of Salado.

Wigley and his brother, Lance Wigley, 21, a passenger in the pickup, both were killed. Hockley County Clerk Mary Kay Walker, 46, of Levelland, the front-seat passenger in the Tahoe also died.

All three were pronounced dead at Cogdell Memorial Hospital shortly after 11 a.m. Saturday.

At least three Snyder EMS ambulances made multiple trips to the scene of the crash and to Cogdell.

Others responding were Snyder paid and volunteer firefighters, Snyder police, sheriff's deputies and DPS troopers.

Mitchell County trooper Shane McDonald said Adam Wigley failed to observe a stop sign northbound on FM 1673 and was struck broadside on the driver's side by the east-bound Tahoe.

Both vehicles came to rest in a cotton field northeast of the intersection. No one was ejected from the vehicles.

Adam Wigley and Walker were wearing seatbelts, but Lance Wigley was not, according to McDonald.

Four of the injured were Levelland students. They are Skyler Etheredge, 17, Samantha Etheredge, 14, Nicholas Etheredge, 18, and Zach Walker, 13. All but Nicholas was treated and released at Cogdell Hospital. He was transferred to a Lubbock hospital but was released Sunday.

The number of injured prompted Cogdell Memorial Hospital to issue a "code yellow" that signifies a mass casualty event, and all available personnel reported to the hospital.

Injured in the rollover at the same location Sunday morning was Larry Joe Martinez Jr., 19, of 310 20th Street.

Martinez as driving a 1999 Chrysler westbound on U.S. 180 when the vehicle left the roadway, then skidded 70 yards before it overturned.

DPS trooper Bill Blackley said the car appeared to have flipped several times, severed the top of a mesquite tree then rolled twice more. The vehicle came to a rest right-side-up in a nearby field.

Martinez was ejected from the vehicle and suffered head injuries. He was transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital and later transferred to Lubbock's University Medical Center.

Blackley said alcohol is believed to have been a factor in the Sunday morning accident.

At 4:46 p.m. Sunday, troopers responded to a one-vehicle accident one mile north of the Hwy. 180 overpass on U.S. 84.

The driver of a 1999 Honda, Maher Rashad Saab, was not injured. Saab's vehicle hit a guardrail head-on.

At 1:45 p.m. Saturday, the second of two area four-wheeler accidents in two days sent Cheryl Carr, 21, of 241 N. Hwy. 84 to a Lubbock hospital by AeroCare.

Carr was operating the four-wheeler near 37th St. and Ave. E with a three-year-old son, Chase Davis, as a passenger. He was not injured.

Friday evening, a four-wheeler mishap resulted in four-year-old Logan Patterson being air-lifted to Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock for treatment of head injuries.

TEAM EFFORT — Snyder firemen, Snyder EMS personnel and members of various law enforcement agencies worked Saturday morning at the scene of a two-vehicle accident that took the lives of a Levelland woman and two brothers from Salado. Numerous other accidents occurred over the weekend, but were not fatal. (SDN Staff Photo)

Wreck victim was Hockley County Clerk in Levelland

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Services were scheduled at 10 a.m. today for Mary K. Walker of Levelland, one of three victims of the two-vehicle accident that occurred Saturday morning at the intersection of FM 1673 and U.S. 180 east of Snyder.

Mary K. Walker

Walker was the county clerk of Hockley County, having been elected in 1990, and taking office on Jan. 1, 1991. She had worked in the clerk's office for some eight years as a deputy clerk before being elected.

Walker's husband, and the father of one of the passengers in the vehicle, Zach Walker, 13, had been killed in a two-vehicle accident in 1990 near Whiteface.

Zach is in the seventh grade in the Levelland schools.

The driver of the 2001 Tahoe in which Walker was a front seat passenger, James Todd Etheredge, 39, also of Levelland, was engaged to Mary Walker with a June wedding being planned.

Hockley County Judge Larry Sprowls said this morning that Walker was highly thought of by all Hockley County employees.

"She will be sorely missed," said Judge Sprowls.

Etheredge is a Fisher County native who had lived in Snyder at one time and worked at the Willow Park Inn.

At the scene of the accident Saturday morning, Etheredge said he did not see the GMC pickup until he was right up on it.

"I just barely saw it before we hit," said Etheredge.

Three other passengers were Etheredge's children from a previous marriage — Skyler Etheredge, 17, Samantha Etheredge, 14, and Nicholas Etheredge, 18 — all students in Levelland schools.

"The kids were all singing...having a good time and then we hit," said Etheredge as he tried to comfort the youngsters as they were being attended to by Snyder EMS personnel.

Both occupants of the pickup were killed.

The pickup was driven by Adam Wigley, 22, of Salado, and the passenger was his 21-year-old brother, Lance Wigley, also of Salado.

The pair was en route to visit another brother who is a Price Daniel Unit inmate.

Funeral services for the Wigley brothers are scheduled at 2 p.m. Tuesday in Belton.

County moves toward wind farm

By Brian Brisendine
SDN Staff Writer

Scurry County commissioners' court this morning approved guidelines for tax abatement and discussed issuing such an incentive to Cielo Windpower to build an $80 million wind farm in the county.

The company has requested a 10-year 100-percent abatement from the county. A similar abatement agreement was granted by Borden County for an additional 80-turbine wind farm.

Cielo representative Dave Groberg said the company would pay all school taxes even during the abatement and also that a fixed payment to other taxing entities could be considered.

Landowners where turbines are placed also will receive revenue-based royalties and the company will pay any increase in land taxes incurred by the owners.

The abatement guidelines approved today require that a company add a minimum of $150,000 to the tax roll of eligible property in order to be considered for tax abatement.

Other factors to be considered are jobs created and fiscal impact.

Projected new jobs created will be considered, including the number of jobs, retention of existing jobs, type of jobs, average payroll, total payroll and the number of local persons hired.

Cielo representatives have said that an initial construction workforce of more than 200 workers will be necessary and also that 10 to 12 permanent jobs will be maintained in Snyder with annual salaries averaging between $30,000 and $40,000.

Criteria considered for fiscal impact include the amount of real and personal property that will be added to the tax roll and the amount of direct sales tax to be generated. Also considered are infrastructure improvements by the county that will be required by the company and those to be made by the company and the compatibility of the project with the county's master development plan.

Previously, the guidelines called for capital investment and job creation, but the updated guidelines will allow "either, or," according to County Attorney Mike Hartman.

Commissioner Howard Limmer questioned what the project might be valued at in 10 years when it would be placed on the tax rolls, but Chief Appraiser Larry Crooks said it is "almost impossible" to estimate that figure.

The court took no action on granting an abatement, but called a special session at 10 a.m. Monday to further discuss the issue.

If an agreement can be reached at that meeting, the abatement can be finalized at the court's next regular meeting May 19.

If abatement is granted, construction could begin as soon as June and the wind farm would be in full operation by January.

In other business, the court approved an updated emergency management plan prepared by the Snyder Fire Department. The document included no changes, except current dates where applicable.

The court also approved authority of County Judge Rod Waller to sign West Central Texas Regional Housing Corp. Single Family Mortgage Revenue Bonds.

Judge Waller said the county is under no obligation to the 19-county organization, but the action would show support.

A proclamation was approved proclaiming Wednesday as Freedom Day in Scurry County.

No bids were received for an exclusive contract to provide soft drinks at county facilities and no action was taken on the item.

Both Coca-Cola and Pepsi-Cola had expressed interest in such a contract. The contract will be re-bid at a later date.

County Librarian Janie Romine presented the quarterly library report and said circulation is up by 127 items from the same period last year.

Romine said daily visitors at the library averaged almost 140 last year.

One line item transfer for $2,325 was approved at the county welfare office as was a budget amendment for $1,650 in Precinct 2 for lease of equipment.

A non-departmental budget amendment was approved for $12,783 to cover increase in liability insurance and bills were paid.

Waller presided and all members of the court were present to include Limmer, Ralph Trevey, Jerry House and Chloanne Lindsey.

This summer...

Student jobs program is seeking participants

State Rep. Scott Campbell has announced the continuation of the summer jobs for youth program in District 72 – Scurry, Mitchell, Coke and Tom Green counties.

This program was established in 1995 to create summer jobs for youths ages 16 to 21 to work a minimum of 20 hours per week.

The jobs are to last at least six weeks and costs for the summer average around $625 per student hired.

"Most of the jobs will start around June 1, but that is up entirely to the employer," said Rep. Campbell.

Forms have been mailed to area businesses and they should be returned no later than May 1 to Tati Nail, coordinator, c/o Snyder Chamber of Commerce, Drawer 840 in Snyder.

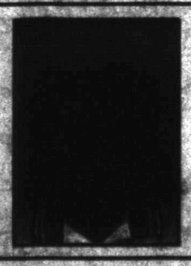
The telephone number is 573-3558, and the fax number is 573-9721.

ASK US

Q—How many people had the DPS predicted would die in traffic accidents over the Easter Holiday?

A—The DPS no longer makes predictions on holiday fatalities.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Betty Browning...

...is manager at McD's 66. She and husband, Morris, have two children and five grandchildren. Betty uses her spare time helping her daughter, Theresa, and her husband, Rodney, at Friendly Flower Shop, and her son, Stacy, who works for McCormick Marketing, and his wife, JoAnna, with their Po Boys Catering. Grandchildren are Brandon, Tanner, Jonathan, Ashley and Chelsie. Living in Scurry County all her life, she also enjoys sewing.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Go as far as you can see and when you get there, you will always be able to see farther.

—Zig Ziglar

APR 21 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Revival services

Snyder Church of God is holding revival services each evening through Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Avenue D Baptist revival

Avenue D Baptist Church is hosting a revival this week through Friday. Wes Massey is evangelist and the music evangelist is Don Thornton. There is a covered dish luncheon noon services daily, and evening services at 7.

Support group

Gateway Family Services support group meets at 6:30 p.m. each Monday to focus on the educational needs of adult victims of family violence and sexual assault. Help in the area of literacy, GED progress and computer skills will be offered in both group and individual settings. Children's support group will meet at the same time and childcare will be available. Call 573-1822 for more information.

Hermleigh Masonic Lodge

The Hermleigh Masonic Lodge will have its monthly stated meeting at 7:30 tonight. A meal will follow and all Master Masons are welcome.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "The Plan of Redemption," followed by "Case Studies in Salvation."

Prom preparation

SHS juniors and their parents are needed to work on the prom at the coliseum. Tuesday work will be from 5 to 9 p.m.

Citizenship seminar

Texas Farm Bureau will sponsor a citizenship seminar June 2-6 at Angelo State University. Applications are being accepted by calling the Scurry County Farm Bureau at 573-9963. Deadline for applications is Wednesday. Any high school student entering the 11th or 12th grade in August is eligible. Registration and transportation fees provided by the local Farm Bureau.

Luncheon/game day canceled

Martha Ann Woman's Club will not have its game day and luncheon on Wednesday. The next one will be May 28.

Get-acquainted coffee

Cogdell Memorial Hospital Auxiliary will hold a get-acquainted coffee at 10 a.m. Thursday in the old lobby at the hospital. The public is invited to learn of the Auxiliary's volunteer service and tour the hospital.

Family council meeting

A family council meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday at Snyder Oaks Care Center to discuss individual care plans. All family members are invited.

GED pre-registration and testing dates

Mandatory pre-registration for the GED test will be from 9 a.m. until noon on Thursday at the GED testing center, WTC Building 7B. The math segment of the GED will begin promptly at 8 a.m. Friday. For more information about the test, call Molly Kattes, 573-2919, or Emily Hataway, 573-8511, ext. 297, or 574-2112.

Snyder Wheels car show

The Snyder Wheels Car show featuring live music will be held from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. Friday in the American State Bank parking lot. Saturday's show will be from 10:30 to 4 p.m. on the Snyder square. The Saturday cruise will be from 6 to 9 p.m. Call 573-2171 or 573-3977 for more information.

Ira pictures needed

Parents of seniors at Ira are asked to provide 3-4 pre-school or elementary-age pictures of their senior for a slide show being prepared for graduation. Send to Becky Hudgins at the Ira school no later than Friday.

Relay for Life quilt auction

The Friends for Life team is selling tickets for a hand-made pink ribbon quilt to be auctioned at the Relay For Life Friday. Tickets are $2 each or three for $5. For more information call the school credit union at 573-6568 or Rhonda May at Special Occasions at 574-1257. Tickets are available at either location.

Pyron Cemetery meeting

The Pryon Cemetery Association will meet at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Hermleigh Community Center. There will be a covered lunch.

Fluvanna Baptist program

Fluvanna Baptist Church will host the Lubbock Southcrest Baptist senior adult choir at 10:30 a.m. Sunday. The choir will present "How about Some Good News." Lunch will follow.

Midnight movie madness

Midnight movie madness, sponsored by the SHS senior class, will be held Saturday, May 3. Waiting on company bookings for Malibu's Most Wanted or Bullet Proof Monk. Tickets are $5 at the door and also are available at high school. All ages welcome and concessions will be open.

Lord's Acre lunch

First United Methodist Church will hold a Lord's Acre chicken-fry lunch at noon on Sunday, May 4, in the Wesley Hall, 2700 College Ave. Adult tickets $7, children under 10, $4. Carryouts will be available.

Senior water aerobics

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

Relay for Life cookbooks

The cookbooks of the Cogdell Memorial Hospital Relay for Life team are now available for a $10 donation. All proceeds go to the American Cancer Society. Call Becky Craig at 573-2472, Jo Schooler at 573-7807 or 573-6374.

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.

Craddick's competitive style of leadership taking shape

AUSTIN (AP) — Just three months into his leadership term, Texas House Speaker Tom Craddick already has commanded the chamber through two of the most contentious debates the legislature has seen in years.

The Republican has solidified his grip on the membership with his highly competitive, win-at-all-costs style, even luring a few well-placed Democrats to his team along the way.

With a group of Republicans who are in the majority for the first time since Reconstruction and a team of Democrats who are unaccustomed to being the underdog, members of both parties are grappling for every bit of power they can wield.

Craddick's first major battle as speaker was over a bill that combined medical malpractice with a measure to limit civil litigation in Texas.

Craddick and Gov. Rick Perry — both Republicans — campaigned on lawsuit reform. Several other legislators, including Democrats, campaigned on medical malpractice reform.

It became clear early on it was a battle Craddick wasn't going to lose.

The week of fiery floor debate was marked by public strong-arming and reports of backroom deal brokering.

While Democrats made last-ditch efforts to block consideration of the bill with political maneuvers and objections, Craddick tipped the scales, making his wishes plainly known to members and casting his own deciding vote on more than one occasion.

Historically, the House speaker doesn't vote and more than one vote on the same issue is widely considered unprecedented.

After the divisive fiasco of tort reform, many Capitol insiders thought the proverbial wheels had surely fallen off the House, and wondered how they could move forward with the business of making laws.

But, with the House bitterly divided down the aisle, Craddick brushed off the deep chasm, saying he learned long ago that there's "always another tomorrow, always another bill."

This time, it would be a state budget that slashed $9.9 billion in spending, including programs and services for Texans, as a result of a revenue shortfall.

Craddick, Perry and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst vowed early on that the massive shortfall would be overcome with cuts to spending, not by raising taxes.

After three days of grueling late night debate, the bill's most severe cuts in state services were more than 275,000 children from the Children's Health Insurance Program, 17,000 low-income pregnant women from Medicaid and 56,000 frail, elderly and disabled people who will be left without home care.

Craddick spent much of the three days working the chamber.

He seemed particularly adamant in squashing an attempt to restore $45 million in unspent legislative money on the state teacher retirement plan. The measure failed, with the help of Craddick's largely symbolic vote against it.

Lawmakers filed almost 500 amendments to the budget bill. But, in the end, only those amendments approved by the Republican leadership were passed.

That led some House Democrats to believe their amendments were doomed to fail from the start.

"We had no say," said Rep. Jim Dunnam, a Waco Democrat.

As Democrats fought to restore some of the cuts, Craddick called them "obstructionists" for holding up the process as deadlines loomed, which angered Democrats.

"Debate is the reason why we're here," said Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston.

Still, Craddick blamed them for the partisan fighting.

"It's the Democrats, not the Republicans," Craddick said. "They're the ones, in my opinion, who have made the House partisan."

"The people of Texas have made a change in the leadership and their philosophy."

Some Democrats fell in line with Craddick and the GOP. Rep. Vilma Luna, a Corpus Christi Democrat, served as vice chairman of the budget-writing House Appropriations Committee. She was the catalyst that squelched several of the Democrat's arguments.

Rep. Roberto Gutierrez, a McAllen Democrat, was the frequent point man for the Republican leadership in defending the proposed education cuts. He was a member of the House Appropriations Committee.

Today's chuckle

Oldest female postal employee keeps working

STAMFORD, Conn. (AP)— When Carmella Unker began her job with the U.S. Postal Service in 1967, the cost of a first-class stamp was a nickel and Lyndon Johnson was in the White House.

These days there is another Texan in the White House, but the cost of a stamp has risen to 37-cents and Unker, 85, is being recognized as the Postal Service's oldest full-time female employee.

She also was honored as the oldest female postal worker in 1998, and doesn't want to relinquish the title any time soon.

"I have no plans to retire," Unker said this week. "I see a lot of people younger than myself and they look half-dead."

Her job is organizing items that can't be handled by machines, such as magazines, nonprofit materials and newspapers, at the postal service's regional processing and distribution center.

Unker works five days a week on the 3:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. shift, as she has done for about 20 years. With a half-hour break for lunch, which she eats standing up, she usually leaves the facility about midnight.

"I thank God every morning when I wake up and every night when I get to bed that I can still do it," said Unker, who has worked for the Postal Service for about 35 years.

Her son, Ralph Anthony Unker, works at the same branch as a supervisor on the overnight shift.

Date Book

Monday, April 21, 2003

Today is the 111th day of 2003 and the 33rd day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1895, the first projected movie was demonstrated in New York City by Woodville Latham and his two sons. The demonstration involved a projector called the Eidolscope that rolled perforated film in front of a lantern.

On this day in 1946, John Maynard Keynes, whose economic theories laid the foundation for Franklin Roosevelt's fiscal policies during the Great Depression, died at the age of 62.

On this day in 1956, Elvis Presley's "Heartbreak Hotel" made it to the top of the Billboard charts.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Charlotte Bronte (1816-1855), writer; Friedrich Froebel (1782-1852), educator; John Muir (1838-1914), naturalist; Charles Grodin (1935-), actor and host, is 68; Tony Danza (1951-), actor, is 52.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1985, Ayrton Senna won his first of 41 Formula One Championship victories at the Grand Prix of Portugal.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world."— John Muir

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (April 16) and last quarter (April 23).

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11:00...LAWN MOWER DRAG RACES $5 entry fee
2:00 p.m....BURN-OUT CONTEST 3 classes. $10 entry fee
4:00 p.m....AWARDS Car Show & Burn-Out Contest
6:00-9:00 p.m....Cruise Awards, CASH PRIZES. Live music
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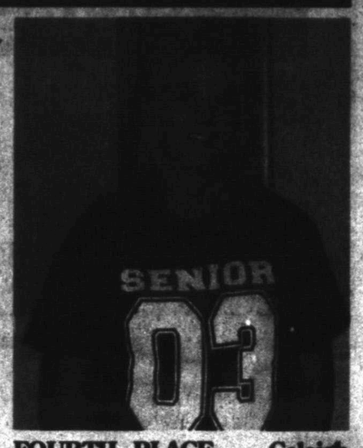
Inquiries...915-573-2171, 915-573-3579 Nights 915-573-7070



FOURTH PLACE — Celeigh Sterling, Ira senior, earned fourth place in computer applications at the regional meet and will be an alternate to state. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Dragnet for man ends with chase, gunfight

FAIR LAWN, N.J. (AP) — The dragnet for a man accused of killing a New Jersey police officer ended much the way it began: with a high-speed car chase and a wild gunfight between authorities and the suspect.

Deputies in Florida Sunday gunned down Omar Marti, 23, who allegedly shot and killed a New Jersey police officer last week, then led authorities on a multi-state manhunt.

Marti was found with a small arsenal of firearms, including an AK-47 assault rifle, said Lt. Bobby Caruthers of the Sumter County, Fla., sheriff's department.

He opened fire on deputies near Bevilles Corner, Fla., and shot himself in the jaw before the officers killed him, said Michael Mordaga, chief of detectives for the Bergen County Prosecutor's Office, who is in Florida assisting with the case.

Marti told a relative last week that police would never take him alive, Mordaga said.

"It appears at this point that he meant what he said," Mordaga said.

Marti, of Passaic, had eluded police since Thursday night, when prosecutors say he fatally shot Fair Lawn Officer Mary Ann Collura, 43, and wounded Clifton Officer Steven Farrell, 30, who is hospitalized in good condition.

Police said Marti led Farrell on a high-speed chase after the officer tried to pull him over for speeding. Collura answered Farrell's call for backup.

Police say after Marti stopped the car he pulled out a gun and shot the officers, then fled.

Marti first went to Binghamton, N.Y., with a cousin, then slipped away and drove south after more than 100 officers converged there, Mordaga said.

Marti got as far as Maryland before authorities realized he was gone, and he passed through Richmond, Va.; Atlanta; and Jacksonville, Fla.

Florida officers already were looking for Marti early Sunday when a Hernando County sheriff's deputy walked by the suspect's parked car, Mordaga said. Marti fired at the deputy, missed and drove off.

Marti was pursued into Sumter County by six deputies from both counties.

TEXAS LOTTERY

Saturday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas
AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:
Winning numbers drawn: 4-5-27-32-39-51
Estimated jackpot: $29 million.
Number matching six of six: none.
Matching five of six: 70. Prize: $3,317.
Matching four of six: 4,998. Prize: $114.
Matching three of six: 108,419. Prize: $5.
Next Lotto Texas game: Wednesday night.
Estimated jackpot: $35 million.
Pick 3
(Day) 7-6-5
(Night) 0-3-3
Cash Five
5-13-16-32-36

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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Military families await return of troops

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Audrey Trevino has played it over in her mind a thousand times: Her Navy husband steps off the ship after months at sea supporting the war in Iraq, grabs her in his arms and kisses her.

"I'm going to be there waiting when the ship comes home, whenever that is," said Trevino, 27, of San Antonio.

Now that the battle for Iraq is over, the lingering question for her and other military family members is when will the troops come home?

For some, it's a matter of weeks.

In San Diego and Everett, Wash., the anticipation is growing after word came that the USS Abraham Lincoln, a floating airfield for the Navy's most modern fighter jets, is on its way home.

The Lincoln and its seven-ship battle group have been at sea nearly nine months, longer than any U.S. carrier group now on duty. It will offload its airwing and leave some of support ships in San Diego before returning to its home port in Everett.

For others, especially families of Marines or Army soldiers, the wait will be much longer. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said it likely will be several months before most of the ground troops leave Iraq.

Antonia Aurilio, 28, of Bridgeport, Conn., said she has known from the day her husband, Gunnery Sgt. James Aurilio, was deployed that it would be months before he returned with the 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division to Twentynine Palms, Calif.

She just hopes he's back by August, in time for the birth of their second child.

"The rumors are starting, and you just hope they are true," she said.

Ten-year-old Jake Rabidou of Camp Lejeune, N.C., also doesn't know how long he's going to have to wait to see his father, a Marine gunnery sergeant deployed since January. He wants his father home soon, Jake says, "because I miss him."

Kathy Delay of Everett, Wash., is happy her husband, hospital Corpsman Mark Delay, is headed home aboard the Lincoln, but her thoughts also are with those whose spouses remain in the Middle East.

"Our husbands are on the way home. There are men on the front lines who are going to be there for months," she said. "So it's hard to be so excited."

Some cities already have had homecoming celebrations. In Norfolk, Va., and Groton, Conn., transport ships and submarines returned to thousands of flag-waving family members.

Members of the 507th Maintenance Support Company based at Fort Bliss, Texas, remain overseas, although five former POWs from the company returned to the base Saturday. Two Apache helicopter crewmen who were among the rescued POWs also returned Saturday to their base, Fort Hood, Texas.

"We will have several welcome celebrations, not only for (the 507th) but for all our soldiers," Fort Bliss spokeswoman Jean Offut said.

The wife of former POW Army Spc. Joseph Hudson already has plans for when her husband returns.

"He just wants dinner cooked for him. He's told me that he wants green chile chicken enchiladas," said Natalie Hudson, of El Paso, Texas.

Everett plans a welcome home party for the USS Lincoln, with a cheering crowd waving 20,000 yellow pompoms. Club Broadway has even begun collecting donations from local customers so it can throw its own party for the crew.

For Trevino, the return of her husband's transport ship, the San Diego-based USS Dubuque, can't come soon enough. That ship is not part of the Lincoln's group.

She and her husband, Signalman Victor Trevino, have been married a little more than two years, half of which her husband has spent at sea.

"I'll just keep thinking about it," she said. "It kind of makes the wait worth it."

She's looking forward to him sharing the journal he has kept throughout the war.

"I know this is going to be a really big thing that happened to him, and he's going to want to talk about," she said. "He doesn't want to forget any of it, and I don't want him to."

Though families look forward to the homecomings, nearly all say the hardest part will come with the end of celebrations.

"I've never had a husband come home from war before," Aurilio said. "I understand it's going to take time to get back to normal. I know they have seen stuff I can't comprehend."

Chopper crashes in lake during search for missing fisherman

CONROE (AP) — The crew of a helicopter searching for a missing fisherman crashed into Lake Conroe over the weekend.

The copter carrying two rescue divers spiraled out of control and went down Saturday morning near the shore of Sam Houston National Forest. Aboard were Vernon Miller, 52, and Jim Morris, 47, both Montgomery County Precinct 1 Constable's Office dive team reserve deputies.

"They were in the air searching for a missing person ... and when they banked to the left they lost control of the aircraft, and the pilot was able to get it close enough to the shore to where the water wasn't deep," Sheriff's Department Lt. David Park told The Courier in Conroe.

He said Morris was the pilot and Miller was the only passenger. The aircraft crashed into water about four to five feet deep and rested on its left side of a rural northwestern portion of the lake, about 30 to 50 feet offshore.

The divers were attempting to search for a 30-year-old fisherman who was reported missing early Friday by a friend. The unidentified man vanished after a small boat he and another man were in capsized while the two were checking a fishing trotline Thursday near midnight. The missing man did not surface, but his friend swam to safety.

The search continued even with the helicopter crash.

The missing man's name was withheld pending notification of relatives.

Federal Aviation Administration and Texas Department of Public Safety officials are investigating the helicopter crash.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

All work and no play make this husband suddenly single

DEAR ABBY: I didn't know I had a problem until the day my wife/lover/best friend walked out on me two weeks before our 13th anniversary.

All our married life I worked a seven-day-a-week factory job on second shift, and in the mornings managed my own retail business.

I thought everything at home was great. Our house and cars were paid for. We even owned a boat. It turns out that all my wife wanted was for me to hold her, love her and "be there" for her. Now she lives 600 miles away.

I learned my lesson the hard way. I closed my business, but it's too late. Abby, please warn your readers about the danger of becoming a workaholic. Material things are not worth the price of losing the one person who shares your life. I hope my story will save someone else's marriage. — **HIT WITH REALITY IN MICHIGAN**

DEAR HIT: So do I. In order for couples to grow together, they must communicate, spend time with each other and share mutual interests. Good marriages don't just happen. Like anything else worth having, they require work and nurturing.

**

DEAR ABBY: I am a female college student. I am having a problem with a former classmate from last semester. I'll call her Theresa. We started a friendship, but the conversation was always awkward, and we had few common interests, so it was a chore to spend time with her. Not a good formula for friendship.

Theresa calls my apartment and my cell phone, and she e-mails me on a weekly basis. I screen all of my calls and never respond to her e-mails, but she hasn't taken the hint.

How does one "nicely" end a friendship without burning bridges? Our paths may cross again one day in the corporate world. None of my family or friends have an answer. — **BESIEGED IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR BESIEGED: Since you never see her and do not respond to her e-mails, it shouldn't be difficult to tell your former classmate that you are very busy and do not have the time she has to devote to a friendship. Say it kindly, and wish her all the best in the future.

**

DEAR ABBY: What do you think of my husband's behavior? We've been married almost 50 years, and if I didn't speak all day long we would live in a silent world. My husband says nothing, not even "good morning." He will stalk right by me on his way out the door and never say a word.

This is nothing new. It has been like this nearly all of our married life. We are both college-educated, with responsible professions, and were raised in well-educated, professional families. No one else I know gets treated this way.

I have tried talking to him about this, but it does no good. Thanks for any insight you can give me. — **SUFFERING IN SILENCE IN MASSACHUSETTS**

DEAR SUFFERING IN SILENCE: Your husband's behavior could be a sign of long-standing depression or it could be passive-aggressive abuse. How you have tolerated it for 50 years is beyond me. Ask him why he married you. His reply may provide you with some insight. Then ask yourself — is this how you want to spend your remaining years? Your signature says it all. I couldn't live in an atmosphere like that.

**

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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For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby — Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-21-03
♠ Q J
♥ 6 4 3
♦ 7 2
♣ K Q J 10 9 8

West
♠ 10 8 7 5 4
♥ Q 10 9
♦ A Q
♣ 7 4 2

East
♠ 9 6 2
♥ K J 8
♦ J 10 8 5
♣ 6 5 3

South
♠ A K 3
♥ A 7 5 2
♦ K 9 6 4 3
♣ A

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 ♦	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
2 ♥	Pass	3 ♣	Pass
3 NT	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 5

Monday, April 21, 2003

Prepare to unblock the blocked suit

By Phillip Alder

Victor Hugo, in "Les Miserables," wrote, "All roads are blocked in a philosophy that reduces everything to the word 'no.' To 'no' there is only one answer and that is 'yes.'"

Sometimes at the bridge table we are faced with a blocked suit. South, the declarer in three notrump, has six club tricks, but he cannot take them immediately. First, he has to unblock — cash — the club ace; then, he must get into the dummy in another suit to reach the remaining club tricks.

Suppose you are South. How would you plan the play after West leads the spade five?

Normally, a two-over-one response, like North's two clubs, promises at least 10 or 11 points. However, with such a strong six-card suit, the responder is permitted to upgrade. He already has thoughts of three no-trump, and if that is to be the final contract, probably it would be better for South to be the declarer.

On the third round of the auction, South knows that the blocking singleton club ace is hardly ideal for three no-trump, but what else can he do?

You seem to have 10 tricks via three spades, one heart and six clubs. However, you need a dummy entry once the blocking club ace has been played. At trick one, carefully win with your spade king (or ace). Then, cash the club ace, cross to the spade queen, and run the clubs. Finally, return to the heart ace, take the spade ace (or king), and claim that overtrick.

Whenever you see a blocked suit, usually it is right to unblock the blocking card(s) as quickly as possible.

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•Vegetable Plants •Statuaries
•Bedding Plants •Pond Plants
•Complete Line ferti·lome Products
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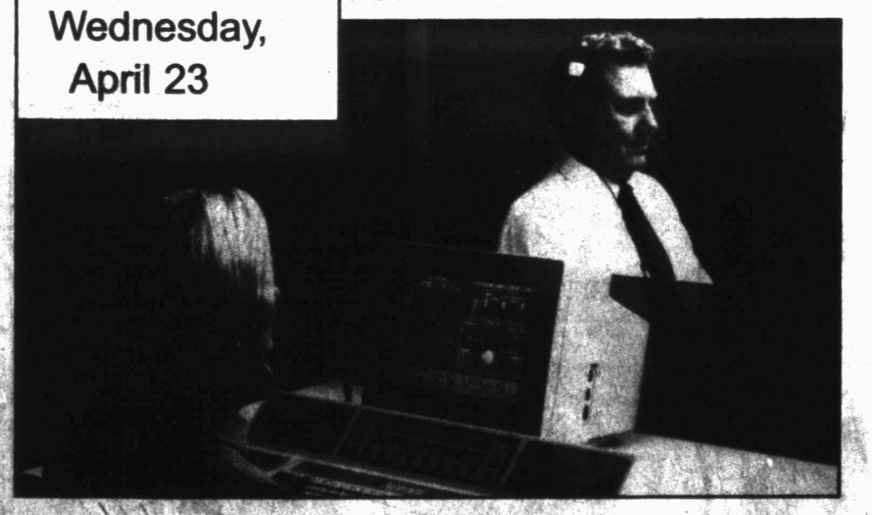
8:30-5:30 Mon. - Sat., Sun. 2-4
106 37th St.
Scotty Prince & JoAnn Prince

administrative professionals
ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONAL'S WEEK
APRIL 21 - 26, 2003
Send a "Thank You" bouquet to your hardworking staff
FTD
"For All You Do" Bouquet
Say thanks in a thoughtful, distinctive and memorable way with this cheerful bouquet. A special arrangement in a vibrant green, yellow or blue handblown vase.
$25.00

Teleflora
"Splash of Spring" Bouquet
Inspired by Andy Warhol comes in a dazzling glass vase filled to the brim with bright Spring flowers
$35.00

Other great ideas to say "Thank You" — Mugs, Balloons, Customized Gift Baskets, Candles
SHS Prom - April 26th
Beautifully designed corsages & boutineers
Friendly Flower Shop
3203 1/2 College Ave 915-573-5260, 915-573-3851

ONE DAY ONLY!
Wednesday, April 23
PROBLEMS HEARING?



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APR 21 2003

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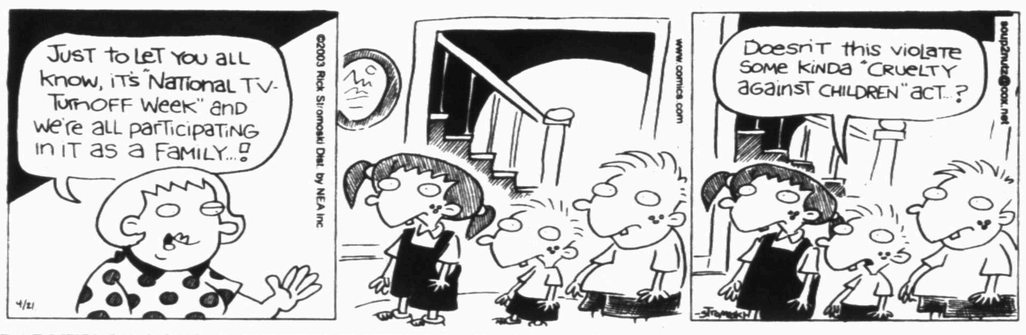
THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom

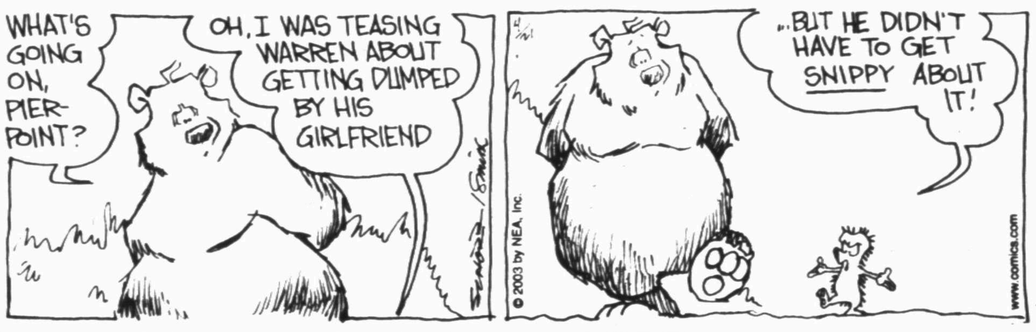
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell

BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun

THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



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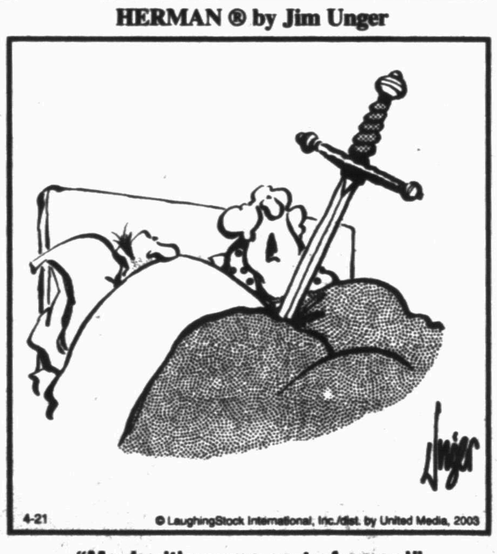
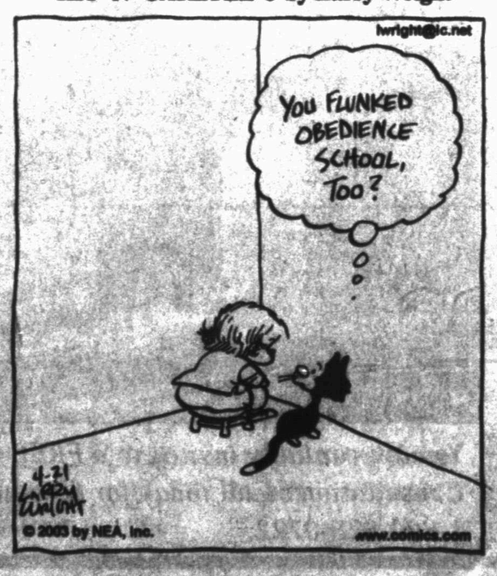


"Maybe it's some sort of omen!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Pouch
4 Hurry
8 Buzz
11 Day of the wk.
13 Verve
14 Single, in Paris
15 Blissful spot
16 Morse signals
17 Like Capp's Abner
18 Senelbly
20 Health food
21 Yes vote
22 "What's that?"
24 Tremble
27 Usual
30 Pipe fittings
31 Fishline winder
32 Tease
34 Chromosome material
35 Turnpike
36 — salad
37 Moor
39 Filleted
40 Name, to Pierre
41 Body part
42 Swiss capital
45 Opposite of veto
49 Luau guitar
50 Game traps
53 Nobel Prize city
54 Longing
55 Dog-food brand
56 Honey drink
57 Mach 1 exceeder
58 Actress Laura —
59 Pollution control org.

DOWN

1 Fuss
2 Autobahn vehicle
3 So-so grades
4 Tint again
5 A Baba
6 Household pet
7 Annapolis grad
8 Luau dance
9 Apartment
10 Brooks and Gibson
12 Skulks
19 Caustic substance
20 Physicist
22 Removed weeds
23 Internet addr.
24 Math proof abbr.
25 Arm bone
26 Ladd of films
27 Not far away
28 Make — — for it
29 Stripe
31 Leeway
33 Spoiled
35 Greek P
36 Powwow drum (hyph.)
38 News network
39 Two-piece part
41 Fiery crime
42 Pays for
43 Just scrapes by
44 Cleft
46 "Gotcha!" (2 wds.)
47 Tizzy
48 "Star Wars" mentor
50 Traipse
51 — de France
52 PBS relative

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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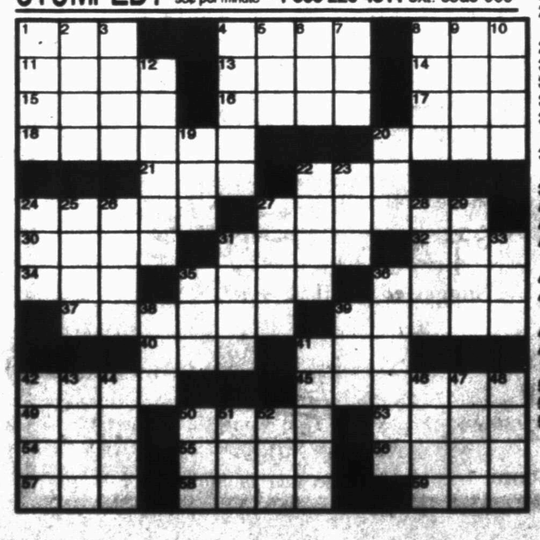

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

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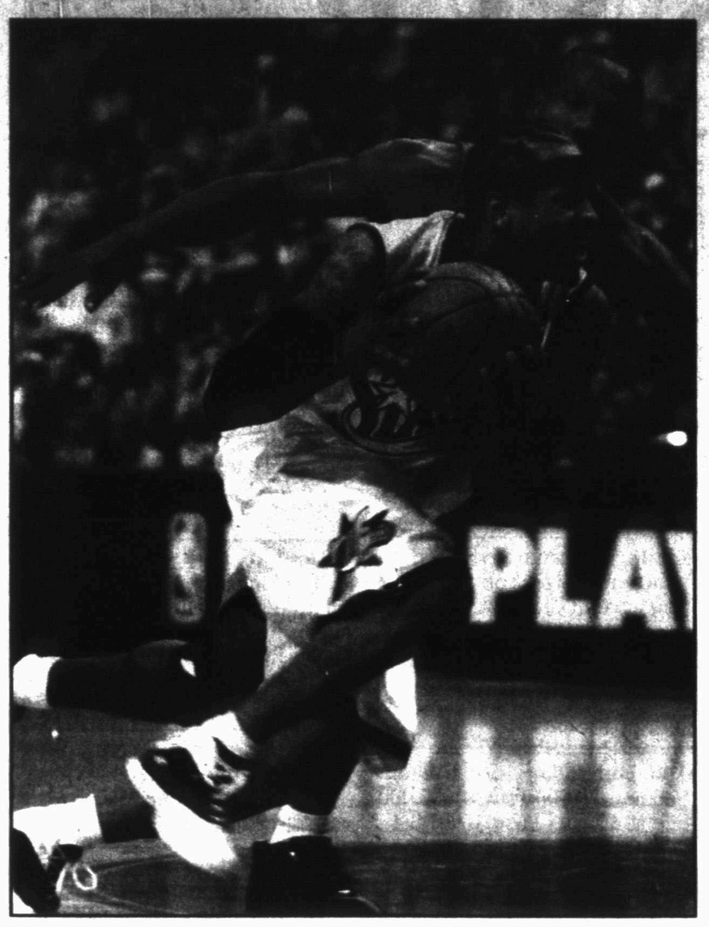
SPORTS



DOUBLE NICKEL — Philadelphia 76er guard Allen Iverson, front, drives past New Orleans Hornet George Lynch, back, during the fourth quarter of a first-round playoff game in Philadelphia. Iverson scored 55 points in the 76ers' 98-90 victory. (AP Photo)

NBA playoffs...

Lakers steamroll Timberwolves; Spurs stunned by Marbury's trey

By The Associated Press

On a weekend when Allen Iverson scored 55 points to top a list of outstanding individual performances, the team to beat — the Los Angeles Lakers — took a big step in the NBA playoffs.

Iverson was a one-man gang in lifting Philadelphia past New Orleans 98-90 Sunday night. Only Michael Jordan, Elgin Baylor, Wilt Chamberlain and Charles Barkley have scored more in a playoff game.

"The only player I've ever seen play like that was Michael Jordan," 76ers teammate Derrick Coleman said.

The Lakers didn't need such a huge output from one of their stars to successfully begin their quest for a fourth consecutive title. For the first time since beginning their championship run, the Lakers opened on the road and beat Minnesota 117-98.

Kobe Bryant (39 points) and Shaquille O'Neal (32 points, 10 rebounds) did have big outings of their own.

"I don't know what the big deal is about playing on the road," Bryant said. "I've never seen fans scream loud enough to block my jump shot."

In Sunday's other game, Orlando, the eighth seed in the East, got 43 points from league scoring leader Tracy McGrady to upend Detroit 99-94.

"I'm out to prove to a lot of people that although I'm the only All-Star on my team, we're capable of pulling this off," McGrady said.

The playoffs began Saturday with the West's eighth seed, Phoenix, also pulling off a stunner, 96-95 in overtime at San Antonio. Stephon Marbury hit a running 3-point bank shot at the buzzer to lift the Suns.

Dirk Nowitzki's career-high 46 points led Dallas past Portland 96-86, and Paul Pierce had 40 points, 21 in a fourth-period comeback, as Boston rallied past Indiana 103-100.

Kenyon Martin's 21 points and 15 rebounds helped New Jersey beat Milwaukee 109-96. Chris Webber had 27 points and 11 rebounds in Sacramento's 96-90 win against Utah.

The playoffs resume Monday night with Phoenix at San Antonio, Boston at Indiana, and Utah at Sacramento.

Lakers 117, Timberwolves 98

Bryant scored 28 points in the first half as the Lakers set the early tempo against a team that never has won a playoff series.

The Lakers, who overcame an 11-19 start to finish with 50 wins, were 19-22 on the road during the regular season. But in the postseason, Los Angeles has won 17 of its last 19 away games.

"We're pretty experienced at taking crowds out of games," said Bryant.

Kevin Garnett had 23 points, 14 rebounds and seven assists for Minnesota.

76ers 98, Hornets 90

Iverson made 21 of 32 shots. He had 20 points in the fourth quarter and reached 50 points for the third time in 46 career playoff games. It was his ninth game with at least 40.

"When I'm out there on the basketball court in front of 20,000 people, and I'm making shots and they're into it and jumping up and cheering, that's what I get the goose bumps from," Iverson said. "Because I know when these people leave this arena, that might be something they'll cherish for the rest of their life."

Magic 99, Pistons 94

McGrady set a team playoff record, going 15-of-28 from the field and 10-of-12 from the free throw line.

"This guy is arguably the best player on the planet," Pistons coach Rick Carlisle said.

Detroit allowed opponents just 87.7 points per game this season. No other team was lower than 90.

Orlando rookie Drew Gooden had 18 points and 14 rebounds.

Detroit's Richard Hamilton scored 28 points in his playoff debut.

Mavericks 96, Trail Blazers 86

Nowitzki keyed a 15-1 third-quarter run that began while Rasheed Wallace, who was guarding the German star, was out after turning his ankle.

Nowitzki, who also had 10 rebounds, put Dallas ahead for good with a 3-pointer with 3:01 left in the third quarter while he was falling down.

"To see him just keep making buckets like that was a beautiful thing," Dallas point guard Steve Nash said. "He just refused to let us lose."

Wallace led the Blazers with 26 points.

Celtics 103, Pacers 100

Pierce hit a key 3-pointer with 11 seconds left and went 21-for-21 from the foul line for Boston.

Pierce had missed 15 of his 19 shots from the floor in the first three quarters.

"We are what we are offensively, and we go to Paul in the fourth quarter," coach Jim O'Brien said. "We go to him under all circumstances. We've seen Paul go 1-for-15 and then score 46 points in the second half."

Suns 96, Spurs 95, OT

Tim Duncan missed three free throws in the final 16 seconds. After Duncan's final miss with 5.1 seconds left, Marbury sped up the floor and launched his winning shot for the Suns' fourth victory in five games against San Antonio this season.

"I heard a quote from Tim Duncan where he said, 'We allowed them guys to stay around,'" Marbury said. "By allowing us to stay around, it allowed us to win the game. That's all we want on the road."

Amare Stoudemire added 24 points and banked in a 3-pointer late in regulation to force overtime.

Kings 96, Jazz 90

The Jazz slowed the pace, but the Kings had Webber, Peja Stojakovic (16 points) and super sub Jim Jackson (15 points). The teams are meeting in the first round for the third time in five seasons.

Karl Malone had 27 points, eight assists and seven rebounds for Utah.

Nets 109, Bucks 96

Jason Kidd schooled Oakland playground mentor Gary Payton with 14 points, 14 assists and six rebounds. He held Payton scoreless for more than 3½ quarters.

Martin took an awkward fall under the basket early in the third quarter, but returned quickly and led seven Nets in double figures.

Midland roughs up WTC

MIDLAND — The Western Texas College Westerners were swept aside by Midland College Saturday, getting outscored 26-4 in the noon twinbill.

WTC managed just three hits in the opener, and starter Ricky Bockhorn was shelled for six runs in two innings.

Tanyon Reeves drove in a run on a double in the second game, as the Westerners staked a 1-0 lead after one. But Midland answered back with 11 runs over the next three innings to get the runaway win.

Jeremy Cross doubled and scored and Logan Parker had an RBI for WTC

Cody Guzman was tagged with the loss, giving up three runs on three hits in two innings.

Jomar Martinez relieved Guzman, and was rocked for eight runs in his two innings.

In eight games against Midland this season, the Westerners only played one complete game. Chap first baseman Marcus Ross had six home runs and 30 RBI against the Westerners in those eight games.

WTC (11-40, 4-28) will take on New Mexico Military Institute Thursday at Scharbauer Sports Complex in Midland at 10 a.m. in a play-in game for the conference tournament, scheduled for Thursday through Sunday.

Rangers edge A's

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Booed and hassled as usual by the Oakland fans, Carl Everett made sure his bat had a bigger impact than their words.

A day after a fan threw a cell phone that hit him in the head, Everett homered close to that same section in right field as the Texas Rangers beat the Athletics 2-1 on Sunday.

Everett has homered in the last five games in which he's batted, a club record. The Rangers ended a four-game road losing streak and wrapped up a 19-game stretch to start the year against the tough AL West.

Everett says the fans behind him in right field were just as annoying a day after he was hit.

Everett's solo shot in the seventh off Chad Bradford (1-2) broke a 1-all tie. The ball landed a couple sections away from where 24-year-old Juan-Carlos Covarrubias-Serrano, of Palo Alto, was arrested during the Rangers' 12-2 loss Saturday. He faces a charge of assault with a deadly weapon.

David Rinetti, the A's vice president of stadium operations, said Covarrubias-Serrano was intoxicated. Covarrubias-Serrano will be arraigned Tuesday and was being held on $15,000 bail.

Rangers starter Colby Lewis (3-0), who made his major league debut in Oakland last April, pitched six solid innings in his first road start of the season, coming off a win over Anaheim on Tuesday.

"He's at that stage he gives me a look when I tell him he's out of the game," Texas manager Buck Showalter said.

Lewis allowed one run and four hits, striking out three and walking four. Ugueth Urbina pitched the ninth for his seventh save.

Lewis said his facial expression — the look Showalter was talking about — is just one of confidence, a sign he wants to stay in.

"I was still in that mode to go out in the seventh," he said.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY	
Golf:	Boys regional tourney, Ratliff Ranch, Odessa.
	Girls regional tourney, Nueva Vista, Midland.
Baseball:	Snyder JV at Merkel, 5 p.m.
TUESDAY	
Golf:	Boys regional tourney, Ratliff Ranch, Odessa.
	Girls regional tourney, Nueva Vista, Midland.
Softball:	WTC at Midland, DH, 4 p.m.
WEDNESDAY	
Tennis:	Regional tourney at Odessa College.
THURSDAY	
Tennis:	Regional tourney at Odessa College.
Softball:	WTC at Midland, DH, 4 p.m.
Baseball:	WTC vs. NMMI, Midland, 10 a.m.
FRIDAY	
Track:	Regional meet at Odessa College.
Baseball:	Ira at Rotan, 5 p.m.
SATURDAY	
Track:	Regional meet at Odessa College.
Baseball:	WTC in conference tourney.

NBA Playoffs

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7)

Saturday, April 19

New Jersey 109, Milwaukee 96, New Jersey leads series 1-0

Boston 103, Indiana 100, Boston leads series 1-0

Phoenix 96, San Antonio 95, OT, Phoenix leads series 1-0

Dallas 96, Portland 86, Dallas leads series 1-0

Sacramento 96, Utah 90, Sacramento leads series 1-0

Sunday, April 20

Orlando 99, Detroit 94, Orlando leads series 1-0

L.A. Lakers 117, Minnesota 98, L.A. Lakers lead series 1-0

Philadelphia 98, New Orleans 90, Philadelphia leads series 1-0

Monday, April 21

Phoenix at San Antonio, 8 p.m.

Boston at Indiana, 8:30 p.m.

Utah at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 22

Milwaukee at New Jersey, 7 p.m.

L.A. Lakers at Minnesota, 9:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 23

New Orleans at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

Orlando at Detroit, 8 p.m.

Portland at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 24

Indiana at Boston, 6 p.m.

New Jersey at Milwaukee, 8:30 p.m.

Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 11 p.m.

Friday, April 25

Detroit at Orlando, 8 p.m.

San Antonio at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Dallas at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

NHL Playoffs

FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7)

Wednesday, April 16

Tampa Bay 3, Washington 1

Ottawa 3, N.Y. Islanders 1

Colorado 3, Minnesota 1

St. Louis 4, Vancouver 1

Philadelphia 3, Toronto 2, 3OT

Anaheim 3, Detroit 2, OT, Anaheim wins series 4-0

Thursday, April 17

New Jersey 3, Boston 0, New Jersey wins series 4-1

Ottawa 4, N.Y. Islanders 1, Ottawa wins series 4-1

Dallas 5, Edmonton 2

Friday, April 18

Tampa Bay 2, Washington 1

Vancouver 5, St. Louis 3

Saturday, April 19

Philadelphia 4, Toronto 1, Philadelphia leads series 3-2

Minnesota 3, Colorado 2, Colorado leads series 3-2

Dallas 3, Edmonton 2, Dallas wins series 4-2

Sunday, April 20

Tampa Bay 2, Washington 1, 3OT, Tampa Bay wins series 4-2

Vancouver 4, St. Louis 3, series tied 3-3

Monday, April 21

Philadelphia at Toronto, 7 p.m.

Colorado at Minnesota, 7:30 p.m.

Tuesday, April 22

Toronto at Philadelphia, 7 p.m., if necessary

Minnesota at Colorado, 10 p.m., if necessary

St. Louis at Vancouver, 10:30 p.m.

Major League Baseball

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	15	3	.833	—
Boston	13	5	.722	2
Baltimore	8	9	.471	6½
Tampa Bay	6	12	.333	9
Toronto	6	13	.316	9½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City	14	3	.824	—
Chicago	11	7	.611	3½
Minnesota	9	9	.500	5½
Cleveland	6	12	.333	8½
Detroit	1	16	.059	13

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	11	8	.579	—
Oakland	10	9	.526	1
Anaheim	9	10	.474	2
Texas	8	11	.421	3

Sunday's Games

Baltimore 4, Tampa Bay 1

Boston 6, Toronto 5

Kansas City 4, Detroit 3

Cleveland 7, Chicago White Sox 4

N.Y. Yankees 8, Minnesota 2

Seattle 7, Anaheim 6

Texas 2, Oakland 1

Monday's Games

Toronto (Lidle 2-2) at Boston (Burkett 1-0), 11:05 a.m.

N.Y. Yankees (Wells 2-0) at Minnesota (Reed 1-2), 1:05 p.m.

Cleveland (Westbrook 0-2) at Chicago White Sox (Garland 0-1), 2:05 p.m.

Tampa Bay (Parris 0-1) at Baltimore (Helling 0-1), 7:05 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Montreal	11	8	.579	—
Atlanta	10	9	.526	1
Philadelphia	10	9	.526	1
Florida	9	11	.450	2½
New York	8	11	.421	3

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	12	7	.632	—
St. Louis	9	8	.529	2
Houston	9	9	.500	2½
Pittsburgh	9	9	.500	2½
Milwaukee	8	11	.421	4
Cincinnati	6	13	.316	6

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	15	3	.833	—
Colorado	12	7	.632	3½
Los Angeles	8	11	.421	7½
Arizona	7	12	.368	8½
San Diego	7	12	.368	8½

Sunday's Games

Cincinnati 7, Montreal 5

Atlanta 8, Philadelphia 1

N.Y. Mets 7, Florida 4

Pittsburgh 8, Chicago Cubs 2

Milwaukee 5, Houston 4

Arizona 1, St. Louis 0

Colorado 8, San Diego 0

Los Angeles 16, San Francisco 4

Monday's Games

No games scheduled

Sports Briefs

Babe Ruth dance

The Snyder Babe Ruth League will have a fundraising dance Friday from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Towle Park barn. Cost is $5 and concessions will be available.

Sammy Baugh golf tourney

The 11th annual "Slingin'" Sammy Baugh golf tournament will be held Saturday at the WTC golf course.

Format is four-person scramble and the tax-deductible fee is $140 per team. Shotgun starts set for 8:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Cash prizes will be awarded for the top four teams, with proceeds from the tournament to benefit the SISD boys and girls golf programs. Sammy Baugh will compete in this tournament.

Teams may register at the WTC pro shop. Entry deadline is April 25.

Ladies play day

The SCGA hosts a ladies play day at 9 a.m. each Tuesday at the Scurry County golf course. Format is low net twosomes.

GCSAA golf tournament

The student chapter of the Golf Course Superintendent Association of America will host a golf tournament May 3 at the WTC golf course. Format is two-man low ball/alternate shot/select shot, with a 9 a.m. tee off slated.

Cost is $100 per team. Call the pro shop at 573-9291 for more information.

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Man charged with murder and abduction

REHRERSBURG, Pa. (AP) — A man accused of kidnapping his 13-year-old niece after killing her parents may have been obsessed with the girl, authorities said.

Robert Lee Hixson, 42, was captured Sunday after a chase and four-hour standoff with police. He is charged with killing his wife's brother, and the brother's wife at their Pocono Mountains home before abducting their daughter, Hadley.

"There is some evidence of an obsession of a sexual nature with the 13-year-old," Monroe County District Attorney Mark P. Pazuhanich said.

Hixson was arraigned on two counts of criminal homicide. He sat shaking in the chair during the brief hearing, quietly answering questions from a judge. He was sent him to the Monroe County Correctional Facility without bail.

Pazuhanich said sexual assault, kidnapping and burglary charges would also be filed, the Pocono Record reported. Pazuhanich told the paper he would likely seek the death penalty against Hixson.

Myron L. "Butch" Bilger, 40, identified Hixson as the shooter before he died, said Pocono Mountain Regional Police Detective Harry Lewis. Hixson shot Bilger and his wife, Ellen Bilger, Saturday, authorities said. A 5-year-old daughter ran next door to get help while Hixson drove off with Hadley, police said.

Police issued a statewide Amber Alert for Hadley. The alert led to a tip that Hixson's red pickup truck was spotted in Berks County, about 90 miles southwest of the girl's home in Pocono Lakes, police said.

Police used tire-flattening devices to disable the vehicle after a high-speed chase. Hixson pulled into a parking lot where he released Hadley but held police at bay and pointed his gun at himself.

A police negotiator helped end the standoff. State troopers said Hixson never pointed his gun at them, and that if he had he likely would have been shot.

Hixson's mother-in-law said Hixson is unemployed. He has been married to her daughter for about eight years and has four sons, including one by her daughter, she said.

Donna Faye Bilger said her son had caught Hixson driving with Hadley about two weeks ago. "Butch yanked her out of the truck," she said. She said that charges were filed, but neither police nor the prosecutor could immediately confirm the account.

On Saturday, Hixson dropped his wife off at his mother-in-law's home a few hours before the shootings.

Police who later came to her house found that two of her husband's weapons, including a shotgun, were missing from a locked cabinet, Donna Faye Bilger said. She did not know when they were taken.

Both victims died from shotgun blasts to the abdomen, police said.

According to court records, in 1979 Hixson abused his 4-month-old daughter from a prior relationship, breaking her skull, ribs and leg, the Pocono Record reported.

In 1993, he attacked a young woman with a claw hammer, repeatedly hitting her in the head, and was sentenced to two to four years for aggravated assault, the paper said.

Former prisoners of war now begin readjustment

EL PASO (AP) — Five former prisoners of war spent the day with family members on Sunday, sequestered at Fort Bliss where they will begin to ease back into life in the United States.

"I would imagine they are just kicking back and enjoying each others' company," said post spokeswoman Jean Offutt. She said the families and soldiers are all staying together in a hotel-like building within the protective confines of Fort Bliss.

They returned to Fort Bliss on Saturday evening as thousands of onlookers cheered and waved American flags. Also among the returnees were two First Cavalry Division Apache helicopter pilots from Fort Hood, Chief Warrant Officer Ronald D. Young Jr., 26, of Lithia Springs, Ga., and Chief Warrant Officer David S. Williams, 30, of Orlando, Fla.

After returning to Fort Hood on Saturday night, Young and Williams joined President Bush at Easter church services at the military base on Sunday. Bush met with the two and their families afterward, saying he had "a good talk with them. Good, strong men."

Williams said the meeting "was an absolute honor."

Added Chief Warrant Officer Ronald D. Young Jr: "We stand 100 percent behind whatever our president decides to do. We're honored to serve him. And this is definitely one of the highlights of my life, absolutely."

Offutt said the Fort Bliss soldiers are expected to be examined by doctors from the William Beaumont Army Medical Center in El Paso starting on Monday.

Col. Glenn Mitchell, medical center commander, said Saturday that he had given the five soldiers from the 507th Maintenance Company a quick examination and found them "in great shape and in great spirits."

Mitchell said the examinations, which include psychological evaluations, will take between two and four days depending on how much of the work was done at the military hospital in Landstuhl, Germany, where the former POWs stayed last.

"We hope we don't have to admit any of them to the hospital," Mitchell said.

Spc. Shoshana Johnson, 30, from El Paso, sustained gunshot wounds to both ankles during an ambush near Nasiriyah, Iraq, on March 23. Although others also were wounded, they have been able to walk on their own. Johnson has required wheelchairs to get around.

However, military officials in El Paso have said it is still possible Johnson will be treated on an outpatient basis.

During the ambush, nine members of the 507th were killed and six taken prisoner, including Pfc. Jessica Lynch, who was rescued from an Iraqi hospital on April 1.

Lynch is still recovering from her injuries at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

The 507th soldiers taken prisoner were: Johnson; Joseph Hudson, 23, Alamogordo, N.M.; Spc. Edgar Hernandez, 21, Mission; Pfc. Patrick Miller, 23, Park City, Kan.; and Sgt. James Riley, 31, Pennsauken, N.J.

Man arrested after explosive device found

TEMPLE (AP) — A Bell County man remained in police custody Sunday evening as authorities investigated the discovery of an explosive device at a Temple mall.

Colonial Mall-Temple was evacuated early Saturday after a package discovered outside a Dillard's store was reported to Temple police, who said it appeared to be a explosive device.

Personnel from Fort Hood took control of the device, and experts confirmed it was an explosive.

Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms Agent Mark Curtin declined to describe the device.

Authorities identified a suspect, who was spotted at a rest stop near Salado on Saturday afternoon.

He sped away in a Chevrolet Blazer, striking a Bell County Sheriff's Office vehicle. During the pursuit, the Blazer also collided with the unmarked Temple police car, causing it to spin and the Blazer to roll.

The man and an officer were treated at Scott & White Hospital in Temple for minor injuries.

The wreck shut down a portion of Interstate 35 for about four hours on Saturday night.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Sjogren's syndrome

DEAR DR. GOTT: What is Sjogren's syndrome?

DEAR READER: Sjogren's syndrome is a chronic, auto-immune (self-allergy) disorder, marked by inflammation of various body organs, causing dry eyes, dry mouth, poor digestion, arthritis, chest pain and kidney disease. The diagnosis is made by blood tests and special X-rays. Treatment is directed toward relieving symptoms (with eye drops, for instance); more severe cases require steroid therapy.

DEAR DR. GOTT: My 41-year-old husband is a diabetic. A few months ago, he was started on oral medication. But he stopped it when his sugar levels became normal. Now he cannot maintain an erection and refuses to discuss this situation with the doctor, even though it is stressing our marriage. Where do we go from here?

DEAR READER: Right back to the doctor.

Diabetes is one of the most common causes of erectile dysfunction, regardless of whether the disease is controlled by diet or requires medication, such as pills or insulin. Diabetes is associated with premature arteriosclerosis, progressive arterial narrowing due to accumulation of plaque, which — like rust in an iron pipe — plugs blood vessels.

Because erections depend on a free-flow of blood into the penis, arteriosclerosis (and, hence, diabetes) often causes sexual malfunction when this supply of blood is reduced by plaque.

Aside from the purely physical consequences of such a situation, the affliction may lead to severe psychological trauma as well. Impotent men are frequently ashamed; they may naturally believe that their very manliness is diminished. Unfortunately, they may be too embarrassed to seek medical assistance.

I recommend that your husband swallow his fears and level with his doctor. Many causes of erectile dysfunction are treatable — even curable — with modern medical therapy. In addition, your husband's decision (to stop taking medicine for diabetes) needs to be aggressively addressed, because in the long run, without treatment, he is risking serious health problems, including nerve damage, heart disease, kidney failure and a host of unsavory complications.

I suspect that your husband may eventually require input from a urologist. This is a decision your spouse and his physician can make in the future.

One fact is clear: The situation will not improve as long as your husband tries to "tough it out" by refusing help. He owes it to himself — as well as to you — to share his concerns with a professional.

To give you related information, I am sending you copies of my Health Reports "ED" and "Diabetes." 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(s).

DEAR DR. GOTT: To tell which eggs are all right, I place eight in a pot of boiling water. Those that come to the top are bad; I take them out, and then hard boil the rest for 10 minutes. Am I just kidding myself?

DEAR READER: As eggs spoil, they produce gases that make them lighter. So an old test for freshness is to see if the egg floats or sinks in water. If it floats, it's probably not appropriate to consume.

Your technique sounds overly complicated. An easier solution might be to check the expiration date on the container. Or, if you choose, use cold water.

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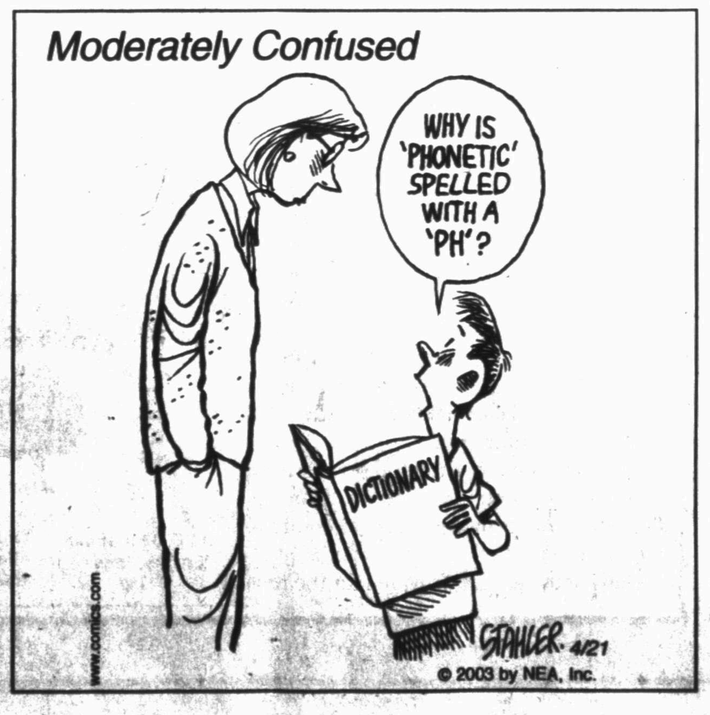
Moderately Confused



Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	4.46	3.81	3.96	—1.04
AOL TimeWrn	12.77	12.56	12.69	+ .09
AT&T Corp rs	14.25	14.04	14.09	—.14
Albertsons	18.92	18.65	18.78	+ .26
Alltel	46.83	46.15	46.21	—.80
AmEl Pw	25.00	24.65	24.74	—.43
AndarkPtr	46.25	45.73	46.00	—.05
ATMOS Egy	21.99	21.83	21.85	—.05
Aviall	8.13	8.00	8.04	
BP PLC	39.13	38.80	38.95	+ .09
BakerHughes	28.02	27.68	27.85	+ .15
Bank of Amer	73.98	72.52	72.80	—.08
BellSouth	23.23	21.92	22.03	—.17
BurlNoSFe	27.81	27.51	27.70	+ .62
Caterpillar	52.41	51.54	51.88	—.10
CenterPoint	7.59	7.40	7.47	—.12
ChevronTex	64.57	64.01	64.31	+ .26
Citigroup	39.62	38.49	38.61	—.43
CocaCola	40.80	39.92	40.00	—.40
ColgatePal	56.25	55.91	56.11	+ .36
CmclMetals s	14.87	14.75	14.76	—.11
ConocoPhill	51.46	50.98	51.18	—.07
Cooper Inds	38.41	37.79	38.04	—.04
DaimlrChry	32.74	32.35	32.45	—.06
DeltaAirl	12.25	10.76	11.37	—.38
Dillards Inc	13.04	12.89	12.96	—.03
DowChem	30.60	30.26	30.39	+ .09
DuPont	41.00	40.16	40.36	—.27
EastmanChem	29.38	29.10	29.23	—.07
EstKodak	31.69	31.41	31.55	+ .14
EDS Corp	17.60	17.10	17.16	—.71
Entergy	48.25	47.88	47.97	—.04
ExxonMobil	35.16	34.70	34.80	—.23
FootLocker	10.44	10.23	10.35	—.02
GenDynam	60.60	59.52	60.34	+ .82
GenElec	28.53	27.47	28.18	—.31
GenMills	45.79	45.23	45.40	—.23
GenMotors	36.01	35.27	35.55	+ .18
GaPacific	14.73	14.25	14.40	+ .07
Goodrich	14.83	14.60	14.77	+ .15
Goodyear	5.06	4.90	5.02	+ .12
GtAtlPac	5.00	4.71	4.83	—.14
Halliburtn	20.97	20.60	20.69	—.26
Hanson ADS	26.20	26.20	26.20	+ .10
HartfHanks e	18.04	17.79	17.95	—.01
HomeDepot	27.60	27.10	27.28	—.09
Honeywellnt	22.76	22.25	22.41	—.15
IBM	84.51	83.41	83.68	—.58
IntlPaper	34.40	33.67	33.92	+ .09
JohnsonJn	55.90	55.17	55.22	+ .21
KinderMorg	46.26	45.73	46.20	+ .45
Kroger Co	14.18	13.87	13.96	—.10
LockheedM	46.00	45.37	45.73	+ .37
Lowes Cos	45.77	45.11	45.21	—.44
Lubys	1.40	1.32	1.35	+ .05
LucentTech	1.55	1.50	1.54	+ .04
MarathonOil	23.35	23.07	23.16	—.05
MayDeptStr	20.69	20.13	20.48	—.02
Medtronic	47.70	47.01	47.26	+ .20
Motorola	8.00	7.82	7.85	—.05
NCR Corp	21.13	20.82	20.94	+ .01
Navistar	27.54	27.04	27.30	—.20
PNM Rescs	22.57	22.40	22.51	—.06
Penney JC	17.04	16.06	16.75	—.29
PepBoys	8.05	7.97	8.01	—.04
PepsiCo	42.69	41.85	41.95	—.59
PhelpDodge	33.54	32.80	33.10	+ .07
PilgrmPrd B	8.75	8.58	8.65	—.25
Praxair	58.37	57.45	58.10	+ .43
ProctGamb	89.83	89.22	89.35	+ .09
RadioShack	23.80	23.21	23.75	+ .17
RoyalDut	43.33	43.10	43.17	—.17
SBC Comm	20.73	20.20	20.32	—.28
SaraLee	19.53	19.13	19.19	—.29
Scripps EW	79.34	76.80	77.21	—2.12
SearsRoeb	27.08	26.39	26.78	+ .15
SherwinW	27.91	27.60	27.77	+ .12
SouthernCo	28.79	28.55	28.62	—.12
SwstAirl	16.38	15.09	15.22	—.30
SprintFON	11.23	11.09	11.17	+ .12
SprintPCS	4.65	4.36	4.40	—.08
Sunoco Inc	38.15	37.86	38.10	+ .11
TXU Corp	18.06	17.94	18.04	—.03
TempleInland	42.66	41.95	42.26	+ .21
TexInd	19.78	19.24	19.46	—.32
TexasInst	19.84	19.00	19.05	—.35
Textron	29.80	29.49	29.59	+ .23
TrinityInds	15.50	15.16	15.50	+ .27
TylerTech	3.85	3.80	3.80	+ .02
UnionPacif	58.75	58.20	58.51	+ .11
USSteel	13.03	12.43	12.77	+ .64
UnitedTech	61.07	59.95	61.04	+ 1.04
Unocal	27.10	26.81	26.93	—.14
VerizonComm	33.80	33.05	33.20	—.43
WalMart	55.45	54.78	54.87	—.54
WellsFargo	47.90	46.96	47.11	—.39
WstnGasRs	35.21	35.05	35.15	—.05
WinnDixie	12.79	12.44	12.62	—.03
Xerox Cp	9.28	9.10	9.27	+ .27
YumBrands s	24.73	24.42	24.49	—.31

APR 21 2003

'Anger Management' remains No. 1 movie

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Anger Management" kept its grip on the No. 1 spot at the box office for a second weekend.

The Adam Sandler-Jack Nicholson comedy took in $25.6 million in ticket sales, giving it a 10-day total of $80.3 million.

That means it should hit $100 million by next weekend and does not face serious competition from new films until May 2, when "X2: X-Men United" opens, said Tom Sherak, a partner in Revolution Studios, which produced "Anger Management" for Sony.

The family flick "Holes," based on Louis Sachar's book about the adventures of juvenile delinquents forced to dig holes in a dry lake bed, debuted a strong second with $17.1 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

"Holes," whose cast includes Sigourney Weaver, Jon Voight and Patricia Arquette, had the strongest average among the top 10 films, at $7,336 in 2,331 theaters. "Anger Management" was next at $7,171 in 3,570 cinemas.

"Malibu's Most Wanted," with Jamie Kennedy as a white rapper whose gangsta demeanor cramps his father's political ambitions, opened at No. 3 with $13.1 million. Chow Yun-Fat's martial-arts action comedy "Bulletproof Monk," about a Buddhist superhero charged with protecting a sacred scroll, debuted in fourth place with $8.6 million.

In narrower release, the comedy "Chasing Papi," about a ladies man with three women on the line, opened at No. 12 with $2.21 million.

"A Mighty Wind," the latest "mockumentary" from director Christopher Guest ("Best in Show"), nearly equaled the gross for "Chasing Papi" while playing in fewer than a fourth as many theaters.

"Mighty Wind," a spoof about a reunion concert of '60s folk groups, took in $2.2 million in just 133 theaters for an impressive $16,541 average, compared to a $3,778 average in 585 cinemas for "Chasing Papi."

Box-office analysts were surprised by "Holes," whose returns exceeded even distributor Disney's expectations by a few million dollars.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, April 22, 2003

The best-laid plans won't stop you from suddenly veering off in a new direction when something very opportune and unexpected happens in the year ahead. Interesting developments are in the offing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Today's development where your social life is concerned could be construed as a new beginning of an important course that will reveal itself as time unfolds. Much fun is in the offing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — With the end in sight regarding an objective you've been quite anxious to attain, it'll prove, as of today, that your diligence and patience have paid off. You'll be glad you hung in there.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — This is a particularly good day to initiate or launch a new enterprise. The knowledge and expertise you've acquired will prove to be extremely valuable in your efforts to succeed.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Events that take place today could be responsible for raising your sights where your career goals are concerned. They'll make you realize that you have more going for you than you thought.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Teaming up with the right type of partner today could infuse new life in a situation that up until now you have been attempting on your own. This union will contain strength.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Be on the lookout today for a new development initiated by another that could help supplement your earnings. It may require extra work, but it's nothing that you can't handle.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — There's a strong possibility that today you could meet someone, forming what will turn out to be a dynamic new relationship. Your personalities will make a winning combination.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Due to an unexpected shift in circumstances that takes place today you may very wisely now reverse your position on something about which you had been unrelenting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Try not to get yourself locked in on any ideas or plans today that would tie you down too far in advance. Something unexpected that you'll want to be part of is likely to pop up today.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Operate in the realm of finances or material acquisition today — this could be an exceptionally rewarding day for you once involved. In fact, you could be downright lucky.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — The course of action you've been following for some time may suddenly take a new turn today, putting you on a far more exciting path than the one you had been following.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — An individual who is presently under some obligation to you may surprisingly wipe the slate clean today. It'll come about without any provocation from you and will be very welcomed.

Know where to look for romance and you'll find it. The Astro-Graph Matchmaker wheel instantly reveals which signs are romantically perfect for you. Mail $2.75 to Matchmaker, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

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NASA's shuttle program manager to resign

HOUSTON (AP) — The NASA shuttle program manager who became one of the space agency's most recognized faces after the Columbia disaster had planned to leave the job but stayed on because of the catastrophe, a source said.

Several news outlets have reported that Ron Dittemore, 51, will soon resign. The source told The Associated Press that Dittemore's impending departure was common knowledge at NASA, and that he was going to take a job in private industry.

Dittemore originally intended to resign after Columbia completed its research flight on Feb. 1, the source said Sunday on condition of anonymity.

Dittemore postponed his resignation because of his personal grief and public responsibility to find out what caused the shuttle to disintegrate before its scheduled landing at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida. All seven astronauts aboard were killed.

"He had always planned to retire after this flight," the source said.

Your Complete Area

Business Directory

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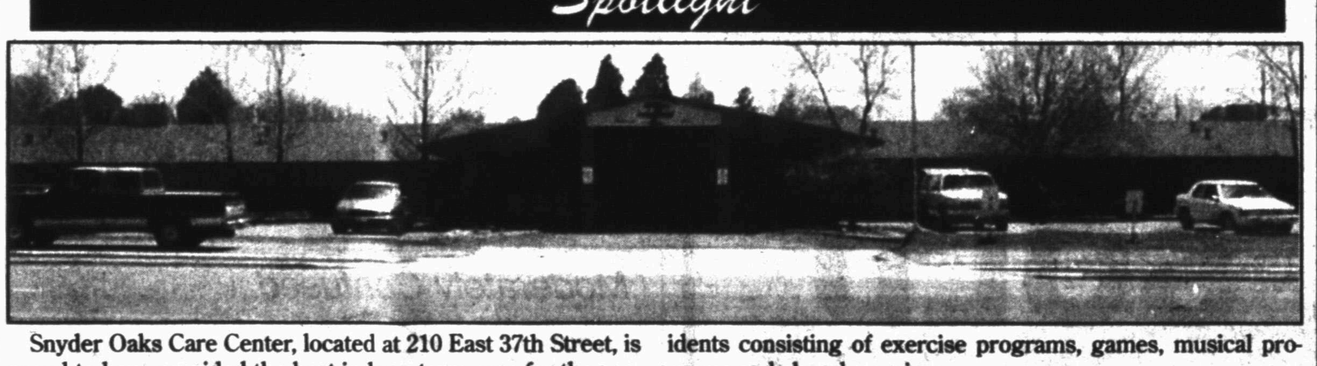
BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

Spotlight



Snyder Oaks Care Center, located at 210 East 37th Street, is proud to have provided the best in long term care for the senior citizens of Snyder and the surrounding areas since 1977.

The facility is licensed to house 97 residents and is Medicare and Medicaid approved. Twenty-four hour nursing care is provided along with an in-house rehabilitation team specializing in physical, occupational and speech therapy. Respiratory therapy is a special service offered along with diabetes and oxygen therapy.

Dietary specialists insure that special diet needs are met and optional menu items are available. Residents dine in a large, open dining room.

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Daily activities are provided for the residents consisting of exercise programs, games, musical programs and church services.

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Feel free to stop by for a tour or call 915-573-9377 for more information.

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Snyder, Texas
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Office: 915-573-9377
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Home: 915-573-3132

Alleged abuse of jail prisoners in Chicago under investigation

CHICAGO (AP) — Four years ago, more than two dozen guards with batons and dogs burst into the Cook County Jail's maximum security unit. Prisoners were allegedly stripped, beaten and stomped.

Several inmates needed doctors afterward and one was rushed to a hospital with seizures, according to an internal affairs report by the sheriff's office.

The incident was barely noticed until it surfaced in news reports four weeks ago. But now state and federal grand juries have begun investigations.

Pointing to evidence that a similar episode occurred in July 2000, critics of the jail say a thorough investigation is long overdue.

"The jail is a place with very serious problems right now and the problem is extreme misconduct by guards," said attorney Jean Maclean Snyder of the MacArthur Justice Center at the University of Chicago.

The center represents six prisoners involved in the incidents. If they win in court or their lawsuits are settled, taxpayers would cover the cost.

The fallout has embarrassed Gov. Rod Blagojevich, who had picked former jail Superintendent Ernesto Velasco to head the state Department of Corrections. Velasco asked to have his name withdrawn.

The jail is a sprawling complex circled by gray stone walls, steel fences and rolls of barbed wire next door to the bleak old Cook County Criminal Courts Building two miles southwest of downtown.

I NEED A VACATION — West Elementary students presented *I Need A Vacation*. Judy Brown is the music teacher. Students in the top photo are from left, third row, Alex Levario, Sharla Nolan, Jerry Silva, Jessie Thomas, Esperanza Benitez, Patrick Meighan, Shaquita Sneed, Joe Rivera and Arthur Martinez; second row, Shanekia Pruitt, Meagan Mireles, Daniel Chacon, Paul Wilson, Jake Linebarger, Ashley Hagins, Jesse Connor and Bailey Richardson; first row, Katy Spradlin, Elizabeth Davis, Justin Olvera, Caleb Harrison, Jamie Martinez, Jon Ryan Hernández, Alex Martinez, Veronica Alvarado, Jordan Wright and Brenna Fletcher. Students in the middle photo are from left third row, Kris Alarcon, Consuelo Acosta, Douglas Brunson, Ashley Swigert and DaNorris Smith; second row, Chase Petersen, Bianca Alvarado, Antonio Silva, Leticia Aguilar, Roxann Renteria and Kira Bilano; first row, Kayla Liccardi, Crystal Flores, Ruben Molinar, Kasey Young and Chase Guynes. Students in the bottom photo are from left third row, Troy Russell, Christopher Wittie, Joe Lara, Kendra Iglehart and Yoci Arellano; second row, Chase Alarcon, Adrian Rosa, Robert Albarez, Amanda Kerr and Stephanie Rodriguez; first row, Wes von Roeder, Dayton Grice, Taylor Griggs, Mariah Robbins, Jessica Garza, Erma Rodriguez, Jaclyn DeLeon and Ashlee Wallace. (Staff Photos by Shirley A. Gorman)

Hoffman likes roles

NEW YORK (AP) — Dustin Hoffman doesn't mind playing supporting roles in his latest films.

"It's so freeing," Hoffman said. "They don't write leads for a guy 65 years old. Suddenly, you're at the point where you've gone full circle. I'm meeting these younger guys. They're letting me be a part of their great gift."

Hoffman only has two scenes in "Confidence," starring Edward Burns. Hoffman leaves the leads to John Cusack in "The Runaway Jury."

Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Sharp Image Energy Inc. will drill the No. 1 Towle Park, a 7,700-directional wildcat re-entry project located one mile southwest of Snyder. Drill site is in Section 182, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Sharp Image will drill the No. 2-A Southeast Kelly Snyder, a 7,400-foot wildcat located one mile south of Snyder. Drill site is in Section 182, Block 3, H&GN survey.

Borden County

Chevron USA will drill the No. 5510 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Planned for a depth of 7,500 feet, location is in Section 26, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Chevron will drill the No. 5335 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Also planned for a depth of 7,500 feet, location is in Section 27, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Chevron will drill the No. 5135 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Contracted for a depth of 7,500 feet, location is in Section 29, Block 33, T4N, T&P survey.

Chevron will drill the No. 4415 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Also planned for 7,500 feet, drill site is in Section 23, Block 28, T4N, T&P survey.

Garza County

Burk Royalty will drill the No. 1-34 Beggs, a 7,718-foot wildcat located 18 miles east of Post. Location is in Section 34, Block 2, T&NO survey.

Howard County

Southwest Royalties Inc. will drill the No. 6-13 Powell, an 8,100-foot wildcat located three miles south of Coahoma. Location is in Section 13, Block 31, T1S, T&P survey.

LCS Production will drill the No. 414 Guitar in the Varel field, six miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned for a depth of 5,999 feet, location is in Section 14, Block A, Bauer and Cockrell survey.

LCS Production will drill the No. 314 Guitar in the Varel field, six miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned for a depth of 5,999 feet, drill site is in Section 14, Block A, Bauer and Cockrell survey.

LCS Production will drill the No. 2 Guitar in the Varel field, six miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned depth is 5,999 feet, and drill site is in Section 14, Block A, Bauer and Cockrell survey.

LCS Production will drill the No. 1 Guitar in the same field, six miles northwest of Big Spring. Contracted for a depth of 5,999 feet, location is in Section 14, Block A, Bauer and Cockrell survey.

LCS Production will drill the No. 1 Long in the Varel field, four miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned depth is 5,999 feet, and location is in Section 14, Block 33, T1N, T&P survey.

Nolan County

VRC Oil and Gas will drill the No. 1 Gladys Dulin, a 7,040-foot re-entry wildcat located five miles north of Roscoe. Location is in Section 10, Block 23, T&P survey.

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C5521A

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P6358A

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C5707B

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TG5642A

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*4 dr., V-6, auto
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C5540A

2002 Chevy 1500 ExCab
$21,000
*Red/black two tone, 20K mi.
*Power windows/locks, LS pkg.
*2 WD V-8, automatic
P2614

2001 GMC Yukon, 4 dr.
$19,900
*White - tan leather
*SLT pkg., CD, dual A/C
*3rd seat, must see
C5720A

2000 Chevy 2500 Reg Cab
$12,850
*White-grey cloth
*V-8, 5 spd., 44K miles
*Great work truck
C5413B

2001 Chevy Blazer 2 dr.
$11,900
*Blue - grey cloth
*Sport pkg. V-6
*Power windows/locks, cruise
PT5725A

1996 Chevy 2500 ExCab
$11,500
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*Maroon leather
*Power windows/locks
*Silverado
*65K miles, local truck
C5419B

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*Blue & white
*XLT V-8
*Needs work
C5396A

APR 21 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Scott Peterson awaits arraignment

MODESTO, Calif. (AP) — Arrested because detectives feared he might try to flee the country, a jailed Scott Peterson waited to be arraigned on charges that he murdered his wife and their unborn child.

Alone in a 6-by-9 maximum-security cell in the Stanislaus County jail, Peterson spent the weekend talking to his lawyer and making phone calls, said Kelly Huston, a spokesman for the sheriff's department.

"He has been treated much like any other maximum-security inmate that we have here," Huston told reporters gathered Sunday outside the jail. Peterson, who wore shackles and a belly chain whenever he was taken from his cell, was "rather quiet" and "very courteous" to his jailers, Huston said.

Although authorities said the proceeding could be delayed for a day, Peterson was expected to be arraigned today on charges that he killed his wife, Laci Peterson, and their unborn son. Prosecutors have not said if they will seek the death penalty.

Scott Peterson, 30, has maintained that he had nothing to do with his wife's disappearance, and was fishing in San Francisco Bay when she vanished just before Christmas. Last week authorities found the bodies of Laci Peterson and the baby on the shore of the bay.

Investigators had long declined to name Scott Peterson as a suspect, but even before DNA tests identified the bodies, Modesto police arrested Peterson Friday near San Diego because they feared he might flee to Mexico.

High court to hear appeal from Texas death row inmate

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court said today it will hear an appeal from a Texas death row inmate who claims an inept defense lawyer and underhanded prosecutors denied him a fair trial 23 years ago.

Delma Banks has been on Texas' death row longer than any other inmate, and has seen more than 300 fellow inmates taken to their execution. He was minutes away from his own execution when the Supreme Court gave him a reprieve last month. That reprieve will now be extended at least until next fall, when the high court will hear Banks' case.

His new lawyers claim Banks was poorly represented at trial, prosecutors improperly withheld information and testimony from two prosecution witnesses was shaky.

Banks was convicted in 1980 of killing a 16-year-old former coworker at a fast food restaurant. Witnesses reported seeing Banks with the victim the night he was shot, and driving the victim's car afterward.

Banks had no prior criminal record and maintains his innocence. Prosecutors say the case against Banks is solid, and that time already has run out for Banks to make any more appeals.

Banks' new lawyers asked the high court to examine the tangled history of Banks' appeals, and a lower court ruling that Banks could not show the lawyer's performance affected the outcome of the trial.

The Supreme Court declined today to include in its review claims that prosecutors wrongly kept blacks off the jury. Banks is black, his victim was white and the jury was all white.

During jury selection in Banks' case, prosecutors disqualified the only four black potential jurors, and Banks' lawyer did not object. His new lawyers have compiled statistics they say show that in the months surrounding Banks' trial in Bowie County, Texas, prosecutors excluded 94 percent of blacks eligible to sit on juries.

Two key witnesses against Banks have since recanted portions of their testimony. One said he testified in hopes of avoiding prosecution on a drug charge, and another said he was a paid informant who lied at Banks' trial.

Banks claims officials stonewalled him for years before he found out that the second witness, Robert Farr, was paid. Farr's testimony was crucial to the jury's finding that Banks would continue to be a danger even if he were put in prison for life. The jury then sentenced Banks to death.

In 2000, a federal judge heard evidence that was not put before the Banks jury.

Officers arrest man Saturday for DWI

• ***Arrests***

Officers arrested a 34-year-old male at 10:29 p.m. Saturday in the 1200 block of N. Avenue R for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated.

At 1:56 p.m. Sunday, deputies arrested a 26-year-old female at the sheriff's office for warrants out of Sweetwater for failure to identify and for fishing without a license.

• ***Assault***

Officers filed a report for Class A assault at 10:57 a.m. Saturday in reference a woman having been assaulted Friday night at 506 29th St.

• ***Juvenile drivers***

Dispatchers received two complaints Sunday in reference to juveniles driving vehicles. The first complaint was in the area of 42nd Street and Ave. U, the other was in the 1700 block of Ave. O.

• ***Livestock on roadway***

Several reports were made over the weekend about livestock being on roadways.

Reports were made from County Road 1116, Hwy. 84 near the old Halliburton facility, Hwy. 208 and South College Ave., and on County Road 452 and Hwy. 208.

• ***Gas drive offs***

Reports of gas drive offs were made Saturday for $20.65 from United Fuels, Sunday for $2 from Town and Country East, and $43 from Town and Country North on Sunday.

• ***Shoplifting***

Officers were called to Wal-Mart at 2:10 p.m. Saturday in reference to a shoplifter in custody. A criminal trespass warning was issued and the juvenile was released to his parents.

• ***Reckless driver***

Officers were notified at 3:30 a.m. Sunday that a person was driving a pickup in the area of the Towle Park Barn and Moffett Field and spinning doughnuts on the pavement.

• ***Smashed mail boxes***

Two persons on FM 1606 notified deputies at 9:42 Sunday morning that their mailboxes and newspaper holders had been smashed.

• ***Dogs at large***

Officers were notified early this morning that dogs were out in the 200 block of 29th Street and in the area of 30th St. and Ave. E.

Obituaries

Ethel Williams

1913-2003

Beverly Ethel Williams, 89, died Saturday, April 19, in Memorial Hermann Hospital in Houston after a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Williams is set for 3 p.m. Wednesday in the Odom Chapel of the First United Methodist Church with the Rev. Buddy Payne, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in the Dunn Cemetery under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born June 24, 1913 in Dilley, she married Vernon Williams on July 5, 1940 in Roswell, N.M.

Mrs. Williams was a homemaker and had been a resident of Houston since 1983 when they returned from Singapore where Mr. Williams had worked. She also was a former resident of Farmington, N.M., and Elk City, Okla.

Survivors include her husband, Vernon Williams of Houston and formerly of Scurry County; three sons and two daughters-in-law, Michael and Geny Williams of Houston, Fred and Karen Williams of Abilene and Robert A. Williams of Houston; five grandchildren, Karie Williams of Abilene, Michelle Williams, Beverly Williams, Rob Williams and Sean Williams, all of Houston; and five cousins living in Scurry County, Johnny Richardson, E.J. Richardson, Anne von Roeder and Mary Dunn.

A.J. Grubbs

1913-2003

SWEETWATER — A.J. Grubbs, a native of Scurry County, died Sunday, April 20, in Hendrick Medical Center in Abilene.

Funeral service for Mr. Grubbs, 89, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the McCoy Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. Orvel Brantley officiating. Burial will follow in the Sweetwater Cemetery.

Born Sept. 12, 1913 in Scurry County, he married Muriel Woodard on July 18, 1940 in Seminole.

Mr. Grubbs was retired from the Sweetwater Cotton Mill and was a deacon emeritus of the Avondale Baptist Church.

He was preceded in death by four sisters.

Survivors include his wife, Muriel Grubbs of Sweetwater; two sons, Bobby Grubbs of Brownwood and Don Grubbs of Wichita Falls; a daughter, Wanda Walker of Sweetwater; seven grandchildren; and eight grandchildren.

Family visitation will be held from 6 to 8 this evening at the funeral home. The family suggests memorials to the Avondale Baptist Church parking lot fund.

Mr. Strickland

1921-2003

ABILENE — Fieldon Alton Strickland, the brother of Zella Thompson of Snyder, died Saturday, April 19, in an Abilene hospital.

Funeral service for Mr. Strickland, 81, is set for 10 a.m. Tuesday in the Elliott-Hamil Funeral Home Chapel. Les McGalliard and Jim Hall will officiate. Burial will follow in the Tecumseh Cemetery.

Born Sept. 18, 1921 in Burkett, he was a U.S. Army veteran and attended Texas Tech.

Mr. Strickland moved to Abilene in 1949 and was a salesman for Thornton's Department Store, Barrett Automotive, Horace Holly Motors and for Arrow Ford.

A member of the Clyde Church of Christ, he married Ida Mae Graham on Nov. 17, 1971 in Altus, Okla.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hardy Lee and Verna Strickland; and a brother, Curtis Strickland.

Survivors include his wife, Ida Mae Strickland of Clyde; four sons, Alton Strickland of Mesa, Ariz., Johnny Strickland of Plano, Steven Strickland of Grapevine and Timothy Strickland of Abilene; a daughter, Faye Smith of Weimar; a stepdaughter, Alice Kolpin of Cleburne; two other sisters, Juanita Edmondson of Weatherford and Verna Jean McCoy of Brownwood; 18 grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

Essie Childress

1912-2003

ROBERT LEE — Essie Christina Childress, a friend of many people in Scurry County, died Saturday, April 19.

Funeral service is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday in the Robert Lee Baptist Church. Burial will follow in the Robert Lee Cemetery under the direction of Shaffer Funeral Home.

Born Dec. 26, 1912 near Gustine, Mrs. Childress was a ranching wife and worked along side her husband for 20 years on the Cortez Russell ranch. She was a licensed vocational nurse and worked many years at Coke County Memorial Hospital and later at West Coke County Nursing home.

Her husband of 56 years, Melvin Childress, also served as sheriff of Coke County and during that time they lived in the jail and she cared and cooked for prisoners. She was a member of the Robert Lee Baptist Church and the Eastern Star.

She was preceded in death by her husband; a grandson; four sisters; and two brothers.

Survivors include three daughters, Bonita Copeland of Robert Lee, Juanice Herr of Collierville, Tenn., and Carolyn Braswell of College Station; one sister, Ione Wilson of Dallas; eight grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; and one great-great-grandchild.

Tommy Lanier

1950-2003

SWEETWATER — Jerry Thomas "Tommy" Lanier, the brother of Bob Lanier of Snyder, died Saturday, April 19, in San Angelo.

Graveside service for Mr. Lanier, 53, is set for 11 a.m. Wednesday in the Decker Cemetery with the Rev. Lance May officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of McCoy Funeral Home.

Born March 16, 1950 in Sweetwater, Mr. Lanier had been a resident of San Angelo since 1975. He was a ranch foreman and was a member of the San Angelo Archery Club.

Survivors include two daughters, Holly Johnson and Nicole Tate of San Angelo; a son, Jerry Robert Lanier of Fort Hood; his mother, Emma Lee Lanier of Blackwell; three sisters, Virginia Harris of Blackwell, Rudy Thomas of Maryneal and Patty Lanier of New Braunfels; the mother of his son, Sheila Lanier of San Angelo; a special friend, Charlotte McCabe of Robert Lee; and seven grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to the Hospice of San Angelo or to the American Cancer Society.

Professional Services

BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Independently Owned & Operated
WCFH
WRIGHT COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME
200 East 37th Street
Snyder, Texas
915-573-6200

Today's Weather

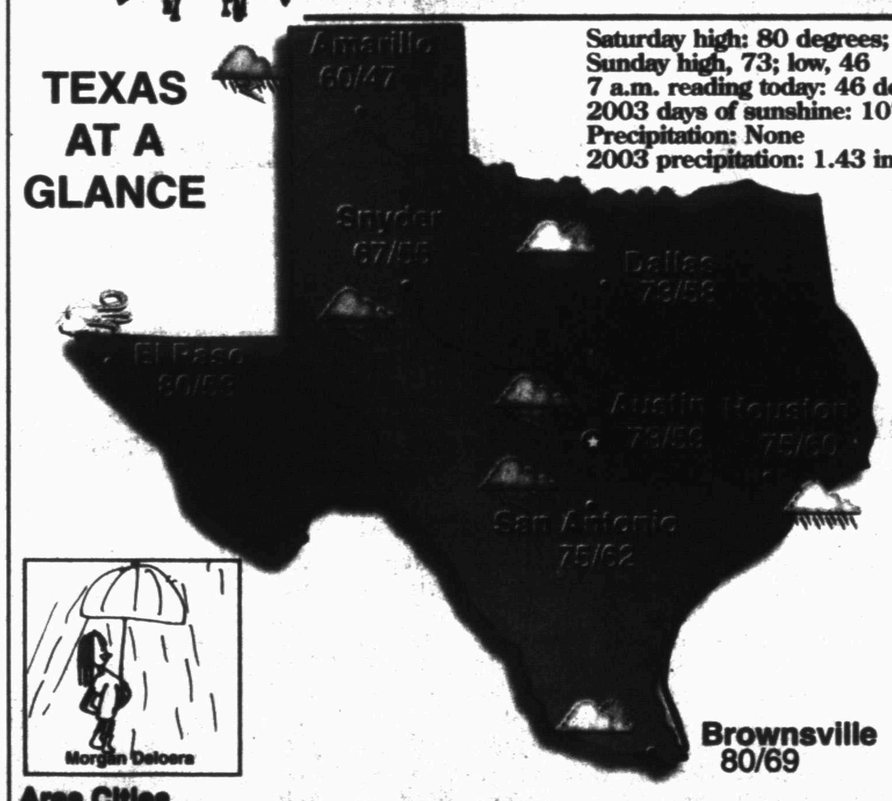
Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 4/22	Wed 4/23	Thu 4/24
67/55	70/51	80/49
Partly cloudy and becoming windy with isolated thunderstorms possible.	A few thunderstorms possible. Highs in the low 70s and lows in the low 50s.	Sunny. Highs in the low 80s and lows in the upper 40s.
Sunrise 7:06 AM, Sunset 8:18 PM	Sunrise 7:05 AM, Sunset 8:19 PM	Sunrise 7:04 AM, Sunset 8:20 PM

West Texas State Bank — 1901 26th Street • 573-5441 — FDIC

TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Saturday high: 80 degrees; low, 45
Sunday high, 73; low, 46
7 a.m. reading today: 46 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 107 of 109
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 1.43 inches



Morgan Delcera

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Abilene	64	59	t-storm
Amarillo	60	47	t-storm
Austin	73	59	t-storm
Beaumont	75	60	cloudy
Brownsville	80	69	cloudy
Brownwood	72	59	t-storm
Corpus Christi	76	67	t-storm
Corsicana	72	58	cloudy
Dallas	73	58	cloudy
Del Rio	79	67	t-storm
El Paso	80	53	windy
Fort Stockton	82	58	t-storm
Gainesville	71	53	cloudy
Greenville	71	53	cloudy
Houston	75	60	rain
Kingsville	80	66	t-storm
Livingston	75	56	rain
Longview	74	54	pt sunny
Lubbock	66	53	t-storm
Lufkin	75	57	pt sunny
Midland	76	58	t-storm
Raymondville	82	67	cloudy
Rosenberg	75	60	t-storm
San Antonio	75	62	t-storm
San Marcos	74	60	t-storm
Sulphur Springs	72	54	pt sunny
Sweetwater	67	58	t-storm
Tyler	74	57	cloudy
Weatherford	71	54	rain
Wichita Falls	69	55	rain

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	70	43	sunny
Boston	51	47	t-storm
Chicago	54	31	pt sunny
Dallas	73	58	cloudy
Denver	65	40	t-storm
Houston	75	60	rain
Los Angeles	61	48	rain
Miami	81	69	pt sunny
Minneapolis	62	40	sunny
New York	61	45	rain
Phoenix	76	54	pt sunny
San Francisco	58	47	windy
Seattle	60	43	pt sunny
St. Louis	64	43	mst sunny
Washington, DC	65	45	pt sunny

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Apr 16	Apr 23	May 1	May 9

UV Index

Tue 4/22	Wed 4/23	Thu 4/24
High	Very High	Very High

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

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