**************************FIRM 79903
2410 02-01-10 30P 22S
SOUTHWEST MICRO **C04
2627 E YANDELL DR
EL PASO TX 79903-3724

INSIDE

What's Up 2
Lifestyles 3
Sports 5
Midday stocks 7
Weather 10

WT-Int. Crude - $36.69
WTIC Posted - $33.50
Natural Gas - $7.825

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY

March 6, 2003
Vol. 54 No. 265
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Bill & Judy Wilkinson

At 6 p.m. today...

Contracts of teachers on SISD agenda

Personnel matters will highlight this evening's meeting of Snyder Independent School District's board of trustees.

One-year contract extensions for all present teachers within the system are being recommended by interim Supt. Jim Kirkland.

Kirkland said today that he expects the trustees to meet in executive session before voting on the contract extensions.

Trustees also will act on three resignations, those of Robbie Braziel and Waymon Holland, both junior high teachers and coaches; and Jessica Smith, SHS science teacher.

Raymond Stansell, a parent of a junior high student, has requested to address trustees regarding his daughter being cut from the seventh grade basketball team.

Trustees also will discuss the heating and air conditioning problems at the high school.

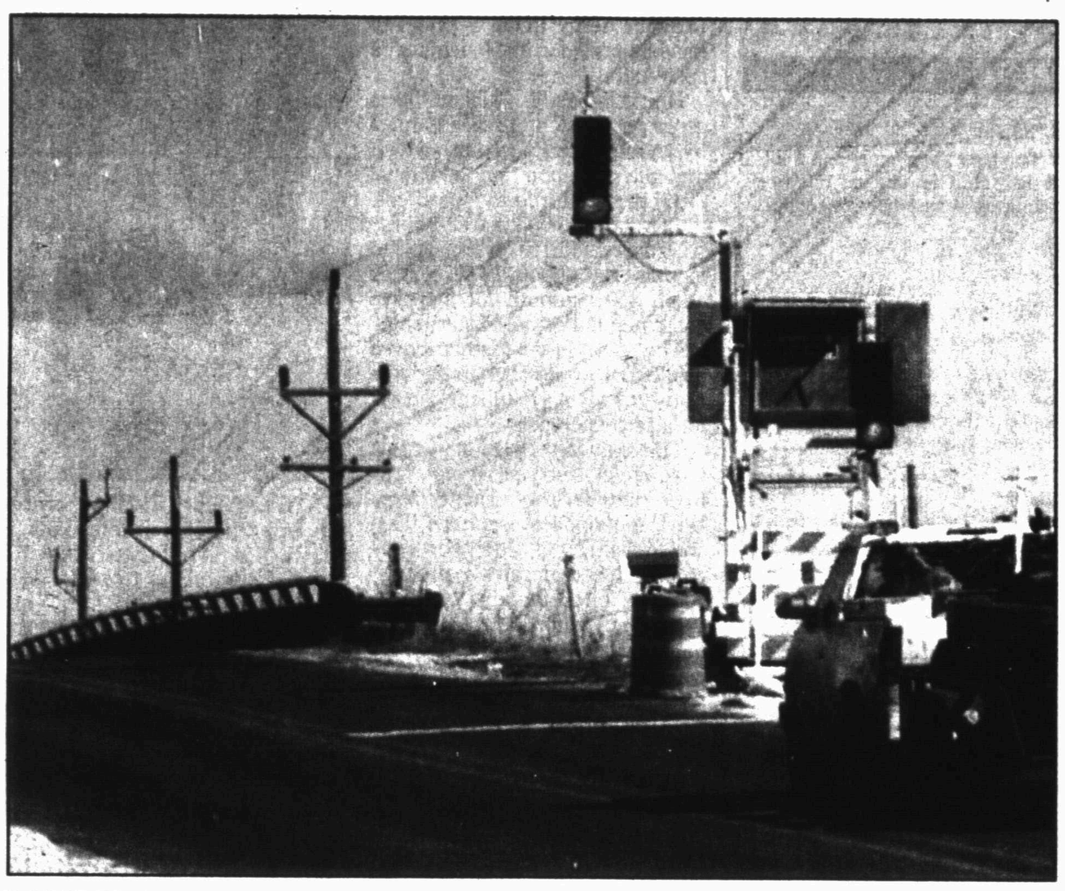
Currently, a portion of the system is in need of repairs at an estimated cost of $55,000.

Trustees have previously said they felt putting that much money into the old system would be a waste. The issuance of maintenance tax notes to replace the entire system is one alternative and that possibility also will be discussed tonight.

Bids for new band uniforms will be considered in tonight's meeting, as will the recommendation of the textbook committee for social studies books.

Karen Waller, assistant superintendent for finance, will present the monthly financial report and trustees will review Texas Association of School Boards updates.

The meeting gets underway at 6 p.m. in the school administration building.



DOWN TO ONE LANE — The Ave. E overpass at U.S. 84 is reduced to one lane of traffic after damage to a steel beem on its underside was discovered Wednesday. Until repairs are made, possibly next week, the bridge's west lane will remain closed. (SDN Staff Photo)

Avenue E and Hwy. 84...

Caution urged on overpass

Traffic is reduced to one lane across the Ave. E overpass at U.S. 84 after an unidentified vehicle damaged the structure recently.

A steel beam under the bridge was cracked by the unknown vehicle, causing an estimated $70,000 in damage, according to Mike Molter, TxDOT resident engineer.

Molter said an emergency contract will be put together to repair the bridge and work could begin next week.

In the interim, temporary traffic lights have been installed on both sides of the overpass, which runs east-west over U.S. 84.

Road cones are blocking the west lane of the overpass and the lights control traffic flow through the east lane.

The damage was reported to police dispatchers at 2:40 p.m. Wednesday, but it is unknown when the structure was hit.

Molter said whatever vehicle struck the bridge did so recently.

The bridge was temporarily closed, but reopened at 7 p.m. with the installation of the lights.

Powell plots blitz to win support for war

WASHINGTON (AP) — In a two-day diplomatic blitz, Secretary of State Colin Powell will try to overcome U.N. resistance to using force to disarm Iraq — warning that holding back would send a "terrible message" to tyrants everywhere.

He also warned again that if the U.N. Security Council does not act, the United States and its coalition partners are prepared to disarm Iraq by force and take responsibility for Iraq's future after a war.

In more intensified activity against Iraq, the United States ordered two U.N.-based Iraqi diplomats to leave the country and asked 60 countries to expel alleged Iraqi agents who could attack American interests overseas.

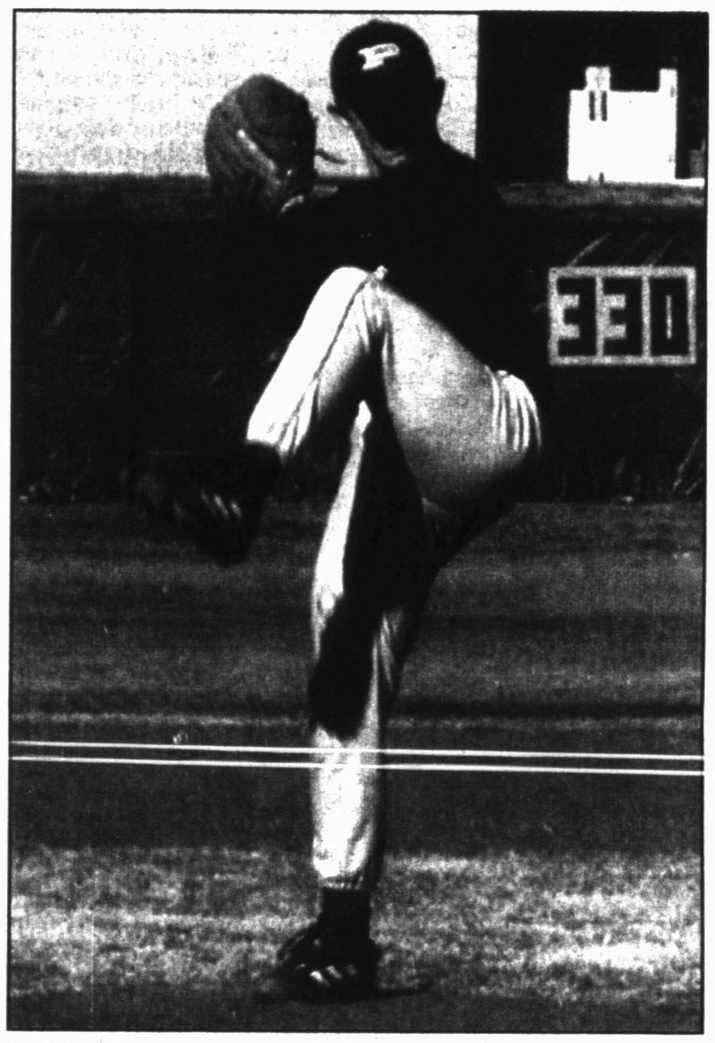
The government has identified 300 Iraqis in the 60 countries, said the U.S. officials, asking not to be identified. Some are operating as diplomats out of Iraqi embassies, and foreign governments are expected to comply with the U.S. request, the officials said.

President Bush scheduled a prime-time news conference today as part of his effort to prepare the nation for the prospect of war.

Spokesman Ari Fleischer said Bush's opening statement in the East Room would address "the successes in the war against terror as well as the importance of disarming Saddam Hussein."

During his fourth trip to the United Nations in less than two months, Powell is scheduled Friday to make what could be a final speech to the council urging approval of a U.S.-British-Spanish resolution supporting the use of force.

In advance of the speech, Powell arranged for meetings beginning later today in New York with British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, Qatari Foreign Minister Sheik Hamad bin Jassem Al Thani and Spanish foreign minister Ana Palacio.



WIND UP — Post hurler Randon Blacklock delivers a pitch against Sweetwater this morning, as the two teams got the Snyder baseball tournament underway. The Tigers play at 8 tonight against Slaton at Moffett Field. (SDN Staff Photo)

U.S. heavy bombers have landed in Guam

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — A group of long-range bombers deployed as a show of U.S. military might have landed in Guam, and more bombers were scheduled to arrive today as tensions increased in the standoff over North Korea's nuclear programs.

North Korean state radios today condemned the reinforcement as a preparation for invading the communist state, South Korea's national Yonhap news agency said.

Russia and China both urged Washington to hold direct talks with Pyongyang to defuse the standoff peacefully, saying they opposed military or other pressure on the isolated country.

"Russia has noted with concern the statements that have been issued recently by official American representatives that the United States doesn't exclude military means of solving the so-called North Korean nuclear problem," the Russian Foreign Ministry said today.

The ministry went on to say that "there is no alternative to the peaceful settlement of problems on the Korean Peninsula."

The Pentagon ordered the deployment of 12 B-1 and 12 B-52 bombers last Friday to deter conflicts that could arise in the West Pacific, said Lt. David Faggard at the U.S. Pacific Air Force headquarters in Hawaii.

Lt. Tom Wenz, a public affairs officer at Guam's Andersen Air Force Base, confirmed the landing of the first group of bombers.

Tensions over North Korea's nuclear program heightened over the weekend after North Korean fighter jets briefly intercepted a U.S. reconnaissance plane over the Sea of Japan. Guam is about 2,000 miles from North Korea.

The deployment of heavy bombers "was designed to show countries throughout the region that we don't have all our eggs in one basket," Faggard said, referring to the U.S. military buildup in the Persian Gulf region.

"These moves are not aggressive in nature. It's a prudent measure to bolster our defense posture," said Andersen spokeswoman Lt. Kim Melchor.

After the interception, President Bush said diplomatic efforts to defuse the tension are in progress but that the military option was on the table as a last resort.

Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement today that Moscow "noted with concern" that Washington doesn't exclude military means for solving the problem. China said it also opposed any sanctions.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Brian Brisendine



We eyeballed a funny-looking package on our seventh birthday and couldn't figure out what was hidden by the colorful wrapping paper.

When we finally tore into the treat after dinner and cake was consumed, we laid our hands on our first set of real golf clubs.

We'd spent afternoons in a golf cart countless times already and watched our Daddy work his way across Brownfield Country Club, so we figured we had the fundamentals down.

Our first outing with our very own sticks in hand was at an 18-hole, par 3 course in Lubbock called Treasure Island.

It was a beautiful little course that was lighted after dark, which made it an even neater place for a kid eager to try his new clubs.

We remember being told to settle down many times before we finally teed up our first golf ball, expecting with all our heart and imagination to claim our first hole-in-one. It didn't happen.

We swung with all the might our puny body could muster and scanned the sky for our gracefully arcing ball.

We were still looking upward when our Daddy piped forth for the first time with a phrase we've since heard millions of times.

"Keep your head down and your eyes on the ball," he said. We hate it when he says that, but he's usually right.

Our ball remained in its original location — on the tee. We're not sure how many swings it took before we finally duffed it forward a few yards.

Our first official golf shot was pretty ugly. But we were hooked and have remained a faithful hacker ever since.

Treasure Island and our follies on its short fairways have become treasured memories.

The course has since made way to corporate expansion.

A super-sized discount store and its even bigger parking lot now occupy the busy and profitable location.

That's a shame because it was a fantastic course that was well-kept and quick to play. It also boasted a lighted driving range, which we utilized many times while trying out newly purchased clubs over the years.

Treasure Island had a solid reputation as a par 3 course and annually made the Dallas Morning News "Top 25" list.

This year's list was released in a special section last weekend and we were pleased to discover two other courses near and dear to us ranked high.

Coming in at Number 14 on the list of the top 25 nine-hole courses in Texas was Western Texas College Golf Course. Just four slots back, at Number 18, was Scurry County Golf Course.

Having not one, but two of the best small courses in the state earns serious bragging rights for Snyder golfers.

The distinction also could serve as a boon for industrial development. Companies relocating to a community also consider the quality of life its employees will enjoy.

Two high quality golf courses in a community the size of Snyder is nothing to scoff at.

Congratulations are due to both courses' management and staffs on jobs well done.

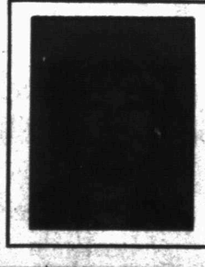
With temperatures rising, we'll be out there soon. We feel it this year — that hole-in-one is on its way!

ASK US

Q—How will WTC pay for construction of the ball fields?

A—The note repayment will be a budgeted expense, funded by employee positions that weren't filled this year.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Rhonda May...

....has lived in Snyder 31 years and is owner of Special Occasions & Gifts. Her husband, Thomas, farms and owns M&M Fuels. Their son, Bryant, graduated in December from Southwest Texas State University and works as a paramedic in Seguin. Hobbies include quilting, working in the yard, being with family and friends, decorating and last but not least, shopping.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

I never had the ambition to be something. I had the ambition to do something.
—Walter Cronkite

MAR 06 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Public school observances

In observance of Public School Week, Stanfield Elementary and Central Elementary parents may eat lunch with their children any day this week. West Elementary parents are invited to an awards assembly at 9 and 9:30 a.m. Friday in the auditorium.

Home-schoolers field trip

Home-schoolers will leave at 10:30 a.m. Friday for a field trip to the Fossil Museum in Crosbyton. For more information call 573-4136.

Golden K garage sale

The Golden K garage sale begins at 8:30 a.m. Friday and Saturday at the Senior Citizens Center, 2603 Ave. M. Donations are now being accepted.

American Legion garage sale

The American Legion will host a garage sale Saturday from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. at 1804 Ave. R. Proceeds will benefit Gateway Family Services and the American Legion building fund.

WSI garage sale

WSI will have a garage sale from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at 2802 42nd to benefit Relay for Life. Employees who want to donate items may call Deana at 573-3365 or May Ann at 573-2808

Country, Gospel music

Country and Gospel music will be played at the Senior Citizens Center starting at 6 p.m. Saturday.

Retired teachers to meet

The Retired Teachers Association will meet at noon Monday at The Shack. Sharla Bryan Moffett will speak about Cogdell Hospital services.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 p.m. Monday is "Everybody Needs Jesus," followed by "Count Your Blessings."

Free income tax help

Free income tax help is available for persons earning low to moderate incomes. There is no age restriction. Assistance is available from 9 a.m.-noon, and 1-3 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Senior Center, 2603 Ave. M.

Lenten worship services

The First Presbyterian Church will hold Lenten worship services at 6 p.m. every Wednesday through April 9. Anyone wishing to observe Lent is welcome to attend.

FBC services televised

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

FBC support groups

Support groups dealing with divorce, death, cancer or caring for elderly parents meet at 6:30 p.m. the second Thursday of each month at the First Baptist Church educational building. A special group for students facing these problems is held at the same time.

Ritz production

The Ritz Community Theatre will present *Arsenic and Old Lace* at 8 p.m. March 14-15 and at 2 p.m., Sunday, March 16. Reservations are required by calling the box office at 573-8889 or stopping by the theatre on the south side of the square from 2 to 5 p.m. on weekdays. Tickets are $7 or $5 for groups of 10 or more. Senior citizens and student tickets are $5 for the matinee only.

Community services fair

The community services fair will be Tuesday, March 18, from 4-6 p.m. at 2800 2nd Street. Free hot dogs, drinks and door prizes are hosted by Scurry Community Services.

SHS senior activities

Senior parents need to send in their $20 as soon as possible if they haven't already done so. Also, the three pictures of your senior student are needed by April 4. Both the money and the pictures can be left at the SHS office.

Senior water aerobics

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

Withered flowers needed

The First Assembly of God youth group is needing withered flowers for a project. Call Camellia Sue at 574-2922 to have them picked up.

Trees still available

The Soil and Water Conservation office still has several varieties of trees available at $1 each. These include Lace Bark Elm, Sand Plum, Honeylocust, and Aromatic Sumac. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

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.

Relay for Life teams needed

Teams are now being recruited for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life in Scurry County to be held April 25-26 at Tiger Stadium. For more information, contact Margaret Presswood, recruitment chairperson, at 573-4873.

WTC adult basic education classes

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

Cancer treatment transportation

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

PUC OKs price hike requests

AUSTIN (AP) — The Public Utility Commission on Wednesday approved requests that allow TXU Energy to raise its prices for its North Texas customers and Reliant Energy Retail Services to raise its price for its Houston-area customers.

Houston-based Reliant was given permission to raise its rates by about 8.2 percent, which amounts to about an additional $7.66 per month for a typical customer using 1,000 kilowatt-hours.

Dallas-based TXU will be able to increase rates about 12 percent, or about $10 a month for a typical customer, under the PUC ruling.

The commission also approved a rule that would change the time frame for when a company can ask for a price increase.

The state deregulation law that took effect last year temporarily froze rates for the formerly regulated monopolies, such as TXU and Reliant, but it allows new companies to set their rates so they can compete for customers.

Under the rule that was in effect, the formerly regulated companies could make a request to adjust their prices twice a year when natural gas prices increased by at least 4 percent for a 10-day period.

Under the approved change, natural gas prices must increase by at least 5 percent for a 20-day period. Natural gas prices must increase at least 10 percent if a company makes a request after Nov. 15 during a calendar year.

The PUC said that under the new rule, customers should have less exposure to higher bills from temporary spikes in fuel prices.

Date Book

Friday, March 7, 2003

Today is the 66th day of 2003 and the 76th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1933, Charles Darrow devised the board game Monopoly.

On this day in 1982, the Salvador Dali Museum opened in St. Petersburg, Fla.

On this day in 1999, Stanley Kubrick, an acclaimed American director, died at the age of 70.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Luther Burbank (1849-1926), naturalist and writer; Taylor Dayne (1962-), singer, is 41; Jeff Kent (1968-), athlete, is 35; Rachel Weisz (1971-), actress, is 32.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1951, Ezzard Charles, defeated Jersey Joe Walcott after 15 rounds for the boxing heavyweight champion title.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "It is well for people who think to change their minds occasionally in order to keep them clean. For those who do not think, it is best at least to rearrange their prejudices once in a while." — Luther Burbank

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (March 2) and first quarter (March 11).

Copyright 2003, NEA



STATE QUALIFIERS — Snyder High School band students Emily Long, Erin Cooley and Meagan Langham, from left, earned a I rating at the recent solo and ensemble contest in Lubbock. They will next compete at the May 24 state contest. In all, SHS band students earned 22 medals with 16 advancing to state. More pictures are on page 8. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

House prison budget proposal doesn't cover needs of system

AUSTIN (AP) — The state prison system would be overflowing, 2,500 probation officers would lose their jobs, offender treatment programs would be eliminated, and utilities, transportation and other areas would be cut under a two-year prisons budget proposed Wednesday by the House Appropriations Committee.

The $4.4 billion budget proposal is $800 million less than what the state is spending now on the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and $600 million less than what the department says it needs in 2004-05.

Lawmakers are trying to write the budget without new taxes, a task that requires deep cuts because of a $9.9 billion shortfall.

The prison proposal includes $56.6 million that committee members, led by Rep. Sylvester Turner, found in additional savings over the last few weeks.

Still, Turner warned, the budget is bare bones. It is only enough to cover basic prison operations, pay correctional officers and fund a portion of the state's parole division.

"The forecast is, it's raining, with the possibility of lightning and thunder," said Turner, D-Houston. "But we'll see whether or not it passes over."

Drug, alcohol and sex offender treatment programs, education services, managed health care, probation programs, agricultural projects and everything else would be axed.

That probably would result in more repeat crime and future costs for the state, said Tony Fabelo, executive director of the Texas Criminal Justice Policy Council, a state research office.

Prisons are full and are expected to become even more crowded over the next two years, and there's already a shortage of about 2,000 prison guards.

"It would be a disaster," said Sen. John Whitmire, a Houston Democrat who sits on the Senate Finance Committee. "We can't do it. We have to find the money."

Turner said he planned to ask his committee to vote on a budget bill that recommends the state fund all of what TDCJ says it needs, even if the money is not there, to send a message that it's the right thing to do in the interest of public safety.

East Texas task force arrests 14 members of 'Locos' gang

TYLER (AP) — Fourteen alleged members of a Tyler gang called the "East Side Locos" were indicted Wednesday under the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, accused of committing a host of crimes, including murder, burglary and illegal drug sales.

The indictments were made by the East Texas Violent Crimes Task Force after a 15-month investigation into gang activities.

Matthew D. Orwig, U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Texas, hailed the arrests — which included two alleged gang leaders — as a breakthrough to quelling gang violence in the Tyler area. He said more indictments were possible.

"The heart, the brains, the control of this particular organization, the East Side Locos, has been indicted and dismantled," Orwig said in today editions of the Tyler Morning Telegraph.

Orwig said the RICO statute, which groups many crimes committed by gang members together and charges them as a whole, means those arrested could face stiffer penalties.

The 14 indicted Wednesday — all males — face up to life in prison for selling methamphetamine and crack cocaine, burglarizing homes and collecting guns used in drive by shootings.

Prosecutors said they believe Jarvin Dorsey, a former John Tyler High School football who was paralyzed after a drive-by shooting, was shot by the gang members in May 2001.

Nine of the men appeared in federal court Wednesday, where a judge set arraignments and detention hearings for March 11. Four of the men already are serving state prison sentences and will appear in court later this month. Another man believed to be the third leader of the gang remains at large, authorities said.

events

LOTTO TEXAS™ TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers Lotto Texas

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

The ticket was worth an estimated $14 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 1-6-7-27-52-53.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $19 million

Pick 3
(Day) 5-6-6
(Night) 9-6-5
Cash Five
3-15-19-25-29

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

BARGAINS OF THE MONTH

Great Low Prices!

By combining the buying strength of thousands of True Value stores, you get great low prices on quality top-name brands.



Hefty
You Pay 4.49
2.99 After 1.50 Mfr. On-pack rebate
Drawstring Trash Bag Choose 25-ct./33-gal. trash bags or 55-ct./13-gal. kitchen bags. W 696 211, 594 074 86

1.99
2-Pair Men's Suede Gloves With poly cotton backs, safety cuffs, wing thumbs, bound hems and double shirred wrists. W 408 253 86

7.97
32-Gal. Wheeled Trash Can Two handles lock down to keep lid secure. Heavy-duty wheels provide easy portability. W 632 745 F8

Find many more items on sale and fast, helpful service

True Value. Help Is Just Around The Corner.

Southern True Value

Commercial Supply Network™ A Division of True Value

Your Source For Total Facility Maintenance

900 College Ave. 573-4903

OPEN: Mon. - Fri. 7 am to 5:30 pm
Saturday 7 am to Noon

St. Elizabeth Fish Fry

Friday, March 7
5:30 - 8:00 pm
St. Elizabeth Parish Center
30th at Ave. A,
Snyder, TX.

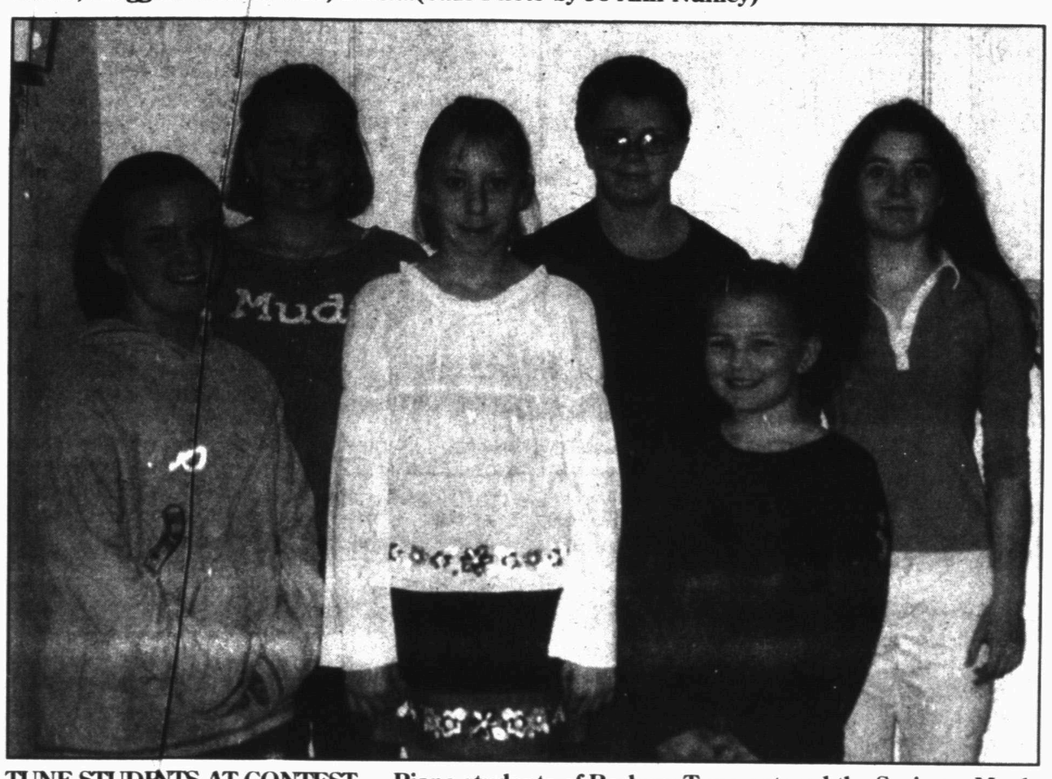
$6 per person
Children 6-12 $4

Meal Tickets Sold At The Door

Proceeds go to SCHOLARSHIP FUND
Sponsored by Men's & Women's Association



RIBBON CUTTING — Chamber of Commerce Goldcoats welcomed Trent Driggers, investment representative for Edward Jones at 3203 College Ave., as a new chamber member Tuesday. Seated on the first row, from left, are Donna Fowler, executive director for the chamber of commerce, Driggers and his wife, Dedra.(Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



TUNE STUDENTS AT CONTEST — Piano students of Barbara Tune entered the Springer-Manly Music Festival on March 1 at Hardin-Simmons University in Abilene. Students had to play a movement of a Sonatina or Sonata, a selection from the Baroque era and a patriotic selection for judge Susan Cushenbary. Participating, from left back row, were Brittany Scott, Brandon Hagins and Kristina Mayer. On the front row are Kristen Miller, Rachael Dupree and Audrey Miller. Not pictured is Gretchen Hollis. All received superior ratings and blue ribbons. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 03-06-03
♠ A 10 3
♥ Q 10 4
♦ A 6 5 3
♣ A 5 4

West
♠ K Q J 8 7 2
♥ J 8 7 3
♦ 10 9
♣ 7

East
♠ 9 6 5 4
♥ —
♦ Q 8 7 4 2
♣ K Q J 9

South
♠ —
♥ A K 9 6 5 2
♦ K J
♣ 10 8 6 3 2

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1 ♥	2 ♠	Dbl.	4 ♠
5 ♣	Pass	6 ♥	All pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

If East had thrown a diamond, declarer would have cashed the diamond king, played a club to dummy's ace, and taken the ace-six of diamonds. Yet, when East pitched a club, Penfold continued with the ace and another club. East had to return a diamond to Penfold's king, and she cashed her last two clubs to make the slam.

For that virtuoso performance, Penfold won the International Bridge Press Association's award for the best-played deal of 1992.

Copyright 2003, NEA

Thursday, March 6, 2003

Two losers made to evaporate

By Phillip Alder

Yesterday, I gave a deal featuring Sandra Penfold, a Scottish woman who has won two world-championship silver medals. Today, here is her most famous piece of declarer-play. The contract is six hearts. How did Penfold (South) make it?

North's double was negative, suggesting length in the minors. Penfold bid five clubs as a two-way bet: maybe it would make, or maybe it would be a good sacrifice against four spades. However, it persuaded North to jump to six hearts.

South appears destined to lose two club tricks, but Penfold found the way home. She ruffed the spade lead, cashed the heart ace, and when East discarded a spade, played a trump to dummy's 10. Penfold cashed dummy's heart queen, discarded a club on the spade ace, and played a diamond to her jack. When the finesse won, declarer, who hadn't lost a trick, cashed the rest of her trumps. After the last round, she held the diamond king and four clubs. The dummy had ace-third of diamonds and ace-doubleton of clubs. But East, who had three cards in each minor, still had to discard.

Comes in threes

FORT WALTON BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Good things came in threes for a Florida Panhandle mother.

Samantha Noble gave birth to her third child on Monday, March 3 — that's 3-3-03 — at exactly 3:33 p.m.

Dean Noble weighed in a 7 pounds, 2 ounces. He was 19 inches long.

"When I had my first ultra sound, I remember thinking, 'This better not be triplets,'" his mother said.

Families needed to become foster parents

The Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services needs safe and loving families to call upon for victims of child abuse and neglect that happens in Texas.

Foster families provide temporarily while the agency works with the family to reunite them.

TDPRS is in need of more foster and adoptive families in its 30-county region to care for these children. There is a special need for care for older children, sibling groups and medically fragile children.

For more information, orientation meetings will be held at 6 p.m. at:

Haskell, 420 N. 1st Street, March 11

Brownwood, 301 Main Street, April 7.

Abilene, 3610 Vine, April 8.

Sweetwater, Tri-County Center, 317 Oak, April 7

Wichita Falls, contact Debbie Welborn in at 1-888-942-9943.

Other contacts are Karen Walker in Abilene, 888-558-7989, and Alex Hamilton in Brownwood, 888-780-9698.

Going Out of Business
Final Week!
Closing March 8th
75% OFF*
Except Precious Moments, Pretty-as-a-Picture, Chenshed Teddies, Boyds Bears, Dept. 56 Villages, and Snowbabies/bunnies are 50% off.
Pipka, Seraphim Angels, and Daddy's Longlegs are 35% off.
Snyder Drug Gifts & Collectibles
3609 College Ave. 573-9334
Hours: Open Noon til 5:30pm Monday thru Saturday
*The Obligatory Fine Print: All discounts taken from our initial regular price. Service items such as Western Union & Band Supplies are excluded. Cash, Check or Bank Card only; no layaways. Gift wrap charge on all items.

Top Five

By The Associated Press

TELEVISION

1. "CSI," CBS.
2. "My Big Fat Greek Life," CBS.
3. "Survivor: The Amazon," CBS.
4. "Everybody Loves Raymond," CBS.
5. "American Idol-Tuesday," Fox.

(From Nielsen Media Research)

FILMS

1. "Cradle 2 the Grave," Warner Bros.
2. "Old School," DreamWorks.
3. "Daredevil," Fox.
4. "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days,' Paramount.
5. "Chicago," Miramax.

(From Exhibitor Relations Co.)

HOT FIVE

1. "In Da Club," 50 Cent. G-Unit.
2. "All I Have," Jennifer Lopez (feat. LL Cool J). Epic.
3. "Mesmerize," Ja Rule (feat. Ashanti). Murder Inc.
4. "Miss You," Aaliyah. Unversal.
5. "Cry Me a River," Justin Timberlake. Jive.

(From Billboard magazine)

ALBUMS

1. "Chocolate Factory," R. Kelly. Jive.
2. "Get Rich or Die Tryin'," 50 Cent. Shady.
3. "Come Away With Me," Norah Jones. Blue Note. (Platinum — certified sales of 1 million units)
4. "Home," Dixie Chicks. Monument. (Platinum)
5. "Cocky," Kid Rock. Lava. (Platinum)

(From Billboard magazine)

—

In 1985, the Universiety of Alabama spent $8.6 million on its athletic department and $1.1 million on its physics department.

—

The basic monetary unit of Malta is the lira, and its chief fractional unit is the cent.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

Snyder Garden Club; Scurry County Library; "Gardening With Youth," by member Pamela Maresch; 4 p.m.

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

Deep Creek Cloggers lesson; at the coliseum annex; 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

AA Big Book Study; closed meeting; contact numbers are 574-8015, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

Scurry County AA closed meeting; Park Club at Winston Park; for information call 574-1292 or 573-9458; 8 p.m.

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

—

Only 20 percent of money transactions in the United States are made with U.S. currency. the rest are made by check or credit card.

NEW LOCATION!
Due To The Fire
COLORTYME
Rent to Own
Will now be located at
3028 Varsity Square
(formerly Movies and Video)
All payments can be made at this location Monday thru Saturday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.. A night drop is available for your convenience.
The staff would like to thank everyone for their support and look forward to serving Snyder and the surrounding areas even better!
A "Special Thanks" to all the Fire Departments and Volunteers for their service.
COLORTYME
Rent to Own

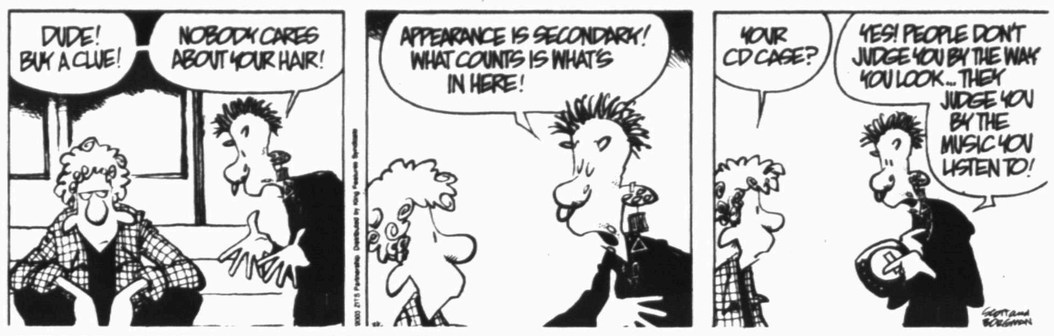
LOW PRICES, LOW RATES, LOW PAYMENTS
BILL WILSON'S Big Country AUTOLAND
East Traffic Circle
• Snyder, Texas
(915) 573-5456
or 1-800-573-5459

1998 Mercury Grand Marquis white, gray leather .....YOUR PRICE $8,900
2001 Mercury Sable power windows/locks, AC .....LOADED $8,900
2002 Olds Alero 2 dr., sunset gold, 14K miles .....MUST SEE $11,500
2001 Chevy Malibu silver .....GREAT GAS MILEAGE $8,500
1995 Ford Contour auto, AC, ...PRICED TO SELL $3,850
2001 Suzuki Esteem Wagon 31K Miles .....LOTS OF ROOM $7,500
1998 Plymouth Neon automatic Hiline .....4 DOOR $4,500
2000 Chevy Impala .....2 TO CHOOSE FROM $10,500
2001 Ford Focus auto .....GREAT GAS MILEAGE $8,000
1994 Pontiac Grand Am 4 door .....ICE BLUE SEDAN $4,850
1999 Pontiac Grand Am red V-6 .....LOADED $6,500
2001 Cadillac Deville 29K miles .....CRIMSON RED $23,500
1999 Chevy Malibu 29K miles, V-6 .....LOADED $8,500
1999 Ford Taurus 4 door, power windows/locks A/C .....RED $6,850
2001 Ford Escort 25K miles .....GREAT GAS MILEAGE $8,850
2001 Olds Alero silver. 15K miles .....LIKE NEW $10,850

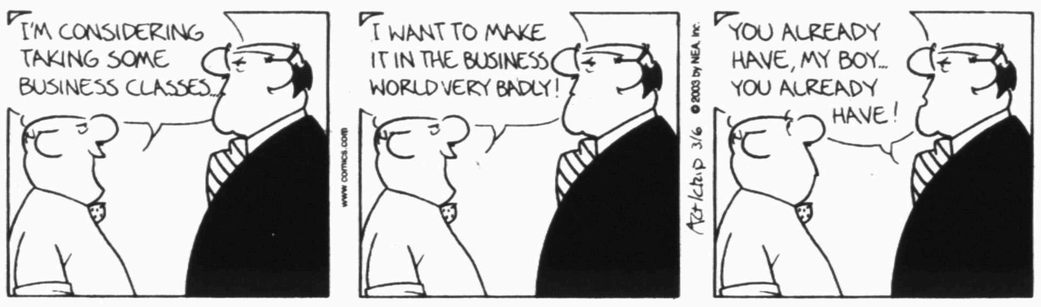
TRUCKS
1999 Dodge ExCab 1500 quad door, 76K miles .....RAM TUFF $11,500
2002 Toyota Tundra V-8, 23K miles .....EXCAB $22,500
2000 GMC 3500 ExCab 55K miles .....DUALLY $16,500
1999 Chevy Tahoe LT blue .....LOADED $18,500
1999 Chevy 1500 Z71 V-8, high miles .....EXCAB $10,500
1998 Chevy 1500 Z71 V-8, high miles .....EXCAB $9,500
1998 Chevy S10 LS power win./locks, 4 cyl. .GREAT GAS MILEAGE $5,500
2002 Chevy 1500 ExCab LS 5.3 .....SAVE TODAY $9,900
1998 GMC 1500 ExCab LS power win./locks, a/c, CD .....RED $12,500
2000 Ford Explorer XLT 48K miles $12,500
2001 Chevy Z71 ExCab loaded .....LIKE NEW $21,000
1999 Chevy Blazer 4 door .....GREAT SHAPE $11,000

MAR 06 2003

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



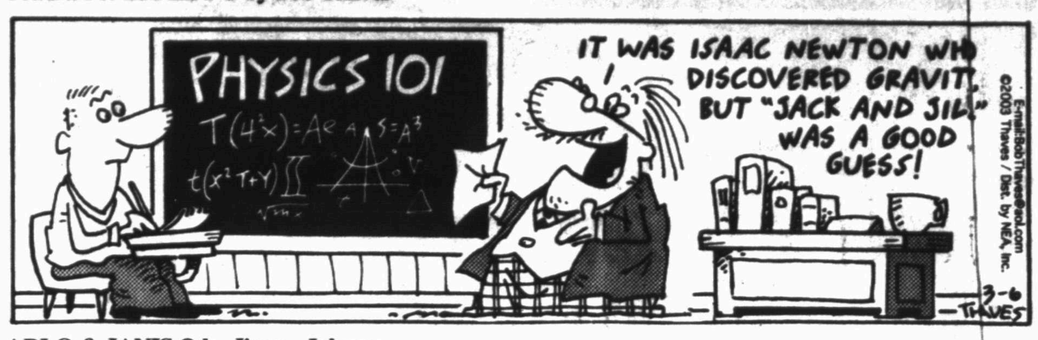
BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



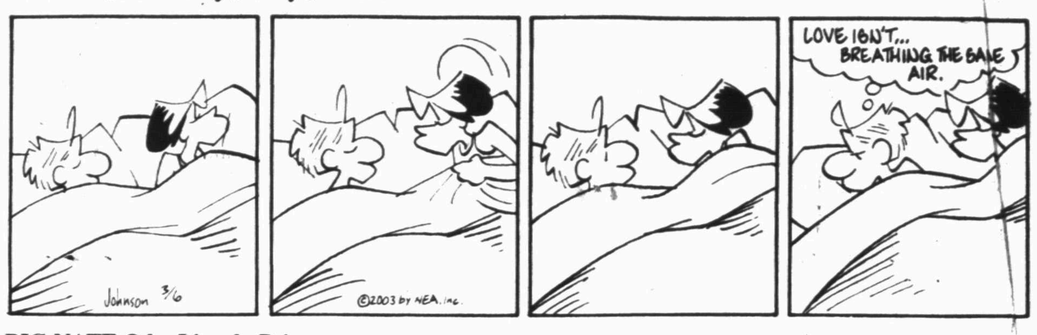
THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



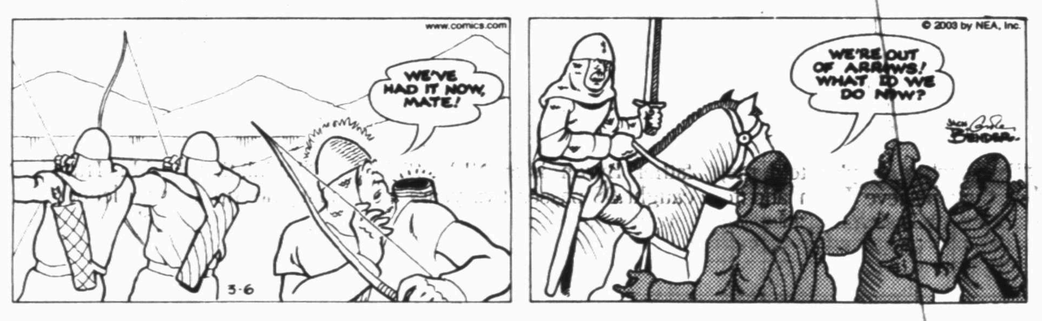
BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Bolted
5 Downpour
10 Coasted along
12 Forests near tundras
13 More meddlesome
14 Esteems
15 Growing medium
16 Bond rating
18 "Gosh!"
19 Damper
23 Fallen tree
26 Part of a sock
27 Enemy of Desdemona
30 Warrior woman
32 Rut
34 Pin type
35 Demure
36 Not bogus
37 Stein filler
38 Harley, to some
39 Guides
42 Big bird
45 Lounge
46 Very thin model
50 Fix, as boundaries
53 Car front
55 Neither good nor bad
56 Shout of glee
57 Dawdle
58 Mrs. Truman

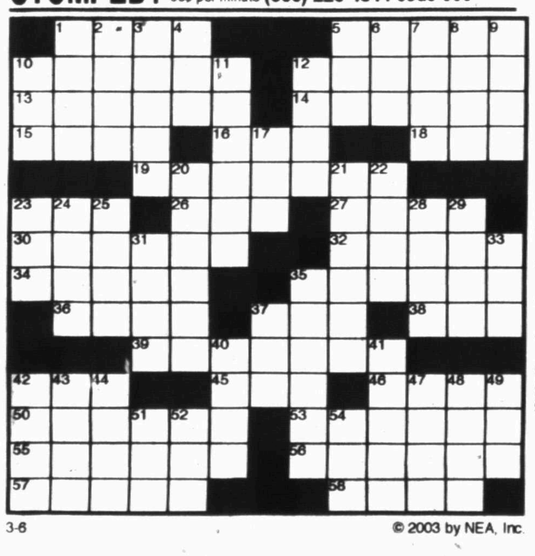
DOWN

1 Ice sheet
2 Sax-playing Simpson
3 Fixes a manuscript
4 Actress Ruby —
5 — Paulo, Brazil
6 Jewelry item
7 Beside oneself
8 Weight deduction
9 Latin I verb
10 Economic ind.
11 Chinese festival
21 One of two
22 — avis
23 Varnish ingredient
24 General — Bradley
25 Pastime
28 Knife wound
29 Prefix for pod
31 Strong fervor
33 Toga-party delivery
35 Priests
37 Computer language
40 Gance or Ferrara
41 Purloin
42 Waxed cheese
43 Note
44 Alien spacecraft?
47 High mountains
48 Cousteau's islands
49 Lawyer's charge
51 Umbrage
52 Voice vote
54 Corduroy ridge

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

STUMPED? Call for answers • Touch-tone or rotary phone 95¢ per minute **(900) 226-4344** code 000



3-6 © 2003 by NEA, Inc.

Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"Hold on!
What's this about 'til death do us part'?!"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

SPORTS

Area teams pull out of Canyon Reef Relays

The competition will be thin at Saturday's Canyon Reef Relays, with a host of area teams pulling out of Snyder's meet.

Only Andrews will send a boys' team to challenge Snyder, and the girls' field is limited to six teams, including Frenship, Andrews, Abilene Wylie and Hamlin.

"We've got 94 track meets going on in the state this weekend," boys' head track coach Roger White said. "There are about 20 different meets in this area alone."

White said many schools that have participated in the past elected to attend meets closer to their hometowns.

"Some schools like Estacado and Plainview have been coming every year," girls' coach Todd Pollard said. While the boys' teams from Frenship and Abilene Wylie will compete in other meets, the girls' teams from those schools will enter the Canyon Reef Relays.

White said he and Pollard will be surveying schools before next year's event in hopes of finding a suitable date.

"The date of the Canyon Reef Relay may change," White said. "We are sending a questionnaire around to find out what date is good for each school and then we'll find a date where we can get more participation."

White said he would like to see 12 to 15 teams in each of four divisions.

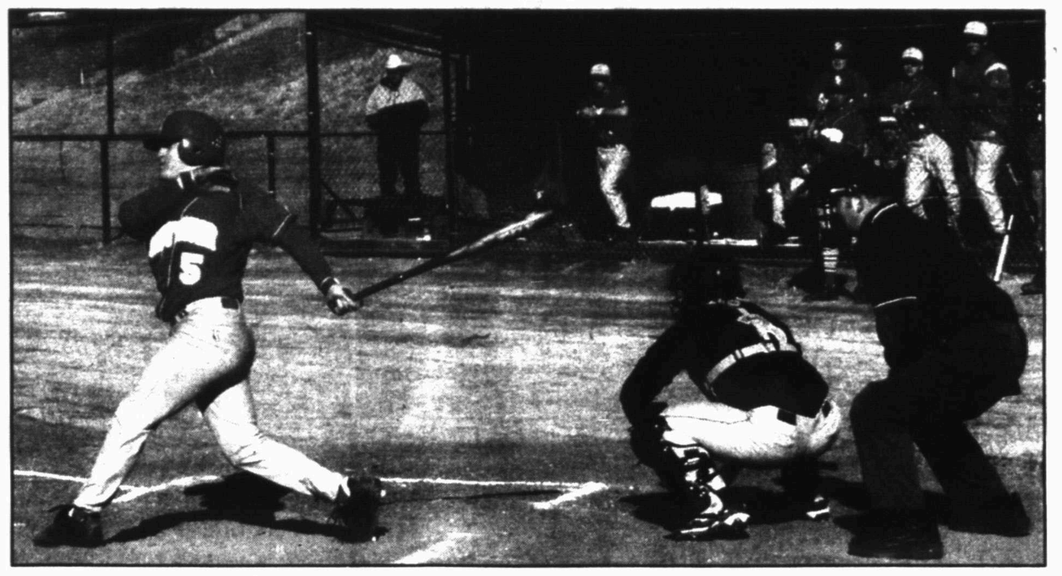
"I want to apologize for not having more teams," White said. "But with the price of gas and such, teams are staying close to home."

The meet is scheduled to begin at 9 o'clock Saturday morning, with field events and running preliminaries.

White said the preliminaries will be determined by how many runners Andrews enters.

"I'm going to let them enter more than three per event," White said.

The running finals will conclude the meet, with the 400M relay getting underway at 2 p.m.



SNYDER TOURNAMENT — Sweetwater's Kendall Carrillo swings and misses at a fastball as Post catcher Mitchell Mills receives the pitch. Sweetwater and Post opened the Snyder tournament at 9 today at the practice field, while Coahoma and Perryton kicked things off at Moffett. The Tigers play Slaton at 8 tonight. (SDN Staff Photo)

Plummer, Boston bolt Cards

By the Associated Press

Arizona's once-dynamic pitch and catch tandem of Jake Plummer to David Boston has been torn apart by free agency.

Plummer, the Cardinals' quarterback for the past six seasons, agreed Wednesday to a seven-year, $40 million deal with the Denver Broncos. Boston, his favorite target, headed west to San Diego for a seven-year deal worth more than $6 million a year for the first four seasons.

"When it came down to it, the opportunity to work with (Broncos head coach) Mike Shanahan was the determinant factor," Plummer said. "And also a franchise that has won Super Bowls and is on that same course to do it again, I believe.

"From what they've told me, what they believe I can add to this team, there's no reason we shouldn't be making a push very soon."

After a mediocre 2002 season, the Cardinals were expected to let Plummer leave. Now the Broncos, who gave incumbent Brian Griese permission to seek a trade, have their new quarterback.

At 28, with 82 NFL starts, Plummer could blossom under the offensive-minded Shanahan. In 1998, Plummer led the Cardinals to their first playoff victory since 1947.

The Broncos also added defensive tackle Daryl Gardener, who started 15 games last year for Washington and had 71 tackles and four sacks. Gardener is expected to replace Chester McGlockton, who was released by the Broncos.

San Diego's young passer, Drew Brees, should be smiling at the prospect of throwing to Boston, the top wide receiver available in free agency. The 6-foot-2, 236-pound Boston, whose father, Byron, is an NFL official, caught 98 passes two years ago for Arizona, which drafted him in the first round in 1999. He led the league with 1,598 yards receiving and was voted to the All-Pro team.

Last year, slowed by a knee injury, Boston had 32 catches. He also pleaded no contest to driving under the influence of drugs.

"This situation seemed to have all the intangibles for me," Boston said. "They're trying to win and that's what I'm trying to do."

He's expected to sign the deal Monday.

"I told our offensive staff, 'This is an outstanding player, don't mess it up,' " coach Marty Schottenheimer said. "We're delighted to have him."

Also quite happy with a transaction Wednesday was Packers coach Mike Sherman.

Defensive tackle Cletidus Hunt signed a six-year, $25 million contract with the Packers, who were able to remove the transition designation they assigned to him Feb. 20.

"I think that Cletidus Hunt is at just the tip of the iceberg in regard to what he's capable of doing," Sherman said. "I think he can be a dominant player in this league."

Rockets end four-game streak

TORONTO (AP) — Yao Ming left the Toronto Raptors in awe.

"He's the biggest thing I've ever seen," Toronto's Antonio Davis said.

The 7-foot-6 rookie center scored 13 of his 21 points in the fourth quarter as the Houston Rockets ended a four-game losing skid with a 97-95 victory over the Raptors on Wednesday night.

"We need to go over to China and see if we can find somebody like that," Toronto's Jerome Williams said.

After missing five of his first six shots, Yao finished 9-of-17 and grabbed nine rebounds before a crowd filled with fans from Toronto's Chinese community. He attracted approximately 50 media members from the city's Asian television, radio and newspaper outlets. A Rockets spokesman said it was by far the biggest media turnout for Yao in any NBA city.

"I have to thank my teammates for their faith in me. I don't think I played that well in the first half and they continued to give me the ball in the second half," Yao said through a translator. "This kind of trust grows my confidence."

Steve Francis added 19 points for the Rockets, who moved ahead of Golden State for ninth place in the Western Conference. The Rockets are two games behind eighth-place Phoenix.

"This is definitely a huge victory for us," Francis said. "We needed a win any way we could get it."

Yao appeared to block Antonio Davis' dunk attempt with 35 seconds left, but the officials ruled it a foul and Davis made two free throws to tie it at 92.

SHS tennis team heads to Waco for state tournament

The Snyder netters are on the road this morning, making their way to the state team tournament in Waco, scheduled Friday and Saturday.

The Tigers are early favorites in the tourney, along with Canyon, Vernon and Abilene Wylie.

Snyder is the number two seed from Region I after finishing behind Canyon at the regional tourney in Levelland last weekend.

The top two teams from each region advance to state, with 16 teams vying for the state title in 3-A.

Snyder netters competing include Horacio De Paz, Matt Hale, Rankin Hardin, Curt Phillips, Tanner Reed, Adam Rodgers and Joseph Ynguanzo.

Snyder will send a deep girls team to Waco with Jackie Beccue, Kara Brumley, Andra Dunham, Cozy Jones, Afton Sutter, Patricia Vargas and Stephanie Williams competing.

Sports Briefs

FBC golf tournament

The First Baptist Church youth ministry will sponsor the "Send a Youth to Camp" golf tournament March 29 at the WTC golf course.

Cost is $40 per person, with four people per team. Format is ABCD blind draw scramble. Call the church office at 573-2631 for more information or to register.

MLB umps file grievance

NEW YORK (AP) — Baseball umpires filed a grievance against major league teams, charging that the computer system chosen to evaluate them was not reliable.

Umpires have also filed an unfair labor practice charge with the National Labor Relations Board over management's refusal to provide information about the Questec Umpire Information System.

Williams re-indicted in chauffeur shooting

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — A new indictment against former NBA star Jayson Williams adds a weapons offense to the seven charges he already faces in the shooting death of a limousine driver.

The indictment increases Williams' possible prison sentence by 10 years. He could face nearly 55 years in prison if convicted on all charges, the most serious of which is aggravated manslaughter.

Georgia fires embattled assistant

ATHENS, Ga. (AP) — Georgia fired assistant basketball coach Jim Harrick Jr. after he was accused of academic fraud and paying a former player's bills.

Athletic director Vince Dooley announced that Harrick's contract would not be renewed when it expires June 30. In the meantime, the son of head coach Jim Harrick remains suspended with pay.

State Basketball Tournament

AUSTIN — Pairings for the University Interscholastic League boys' state basketball tournament Thursday through Saturday at Ewing Center:

CLASS 5A
Semifinals
Friday

Corpus Christi Ray (32-3) vs. Cypress Creek (31-6), 3 p.m.
Fort Bend Hightower (36-2) vs. De Soto (31-5), 7 p.m.

Championship
8 p.m. Saturday

CLASS 4A
Semifinals
Thursday

Beaumont Ozen (32-0) vs. San Antonio Sam Houston (29-10), 7 p.m.
Fort Worth Dunbar (35-1) vs. South Oak Cliff (29-7), 8:30 p.m.

Championship
4 p.m. Saturday

CLASS 3A
Semifinals
Thursday

Everman (31-7) vs. Aransas Pass (29-7), 2 p.m.
Tatum (29-6) vs. Hempstead (29-7), 3:30 p.m.

Championship
10:30 a.m. Saturday

CLASS 2A
Semifinals
Friday

Hitchcock (28-3) vs. Abernathy (29-5), 9:30 a.m.
Brock (34-3) vs. Buffalo (24-9), 11 a.m.

Championship
2:30 p.m. Saturday

CLASS A
Thursday
Division II

Oakwood (24-7) vs. Nazareth (26-6), 8:30 a.m.

Division I

Lipan (31-7) vs. Tenaha (24-7), 10 a.m.

TEXAS CUP
Saturday

Div. I champion vs. Div. II champion, 9 a.m.

Wisconsin wins Big Ten

By The Associated Press

Wisconsin was one of four Big Ten champions last season.

The Badgers are all by themselves in 2002-03.

Devin Harris made the second of two free throws with four-tenths of a second to play Wednesday night as the No. 24 Badgers won their first outright conference title since 1947 with a 60-59 victory over No. 14 Illinois.

These are Wisconsin's first consecutive league crowns since 1923-24.

Wisconsin athletic director Pat Richter presented coach Bo Ryan with the Big Ten trophy after the game.

"This is a dynasty!" Richter said as he handed the trophy to Ryan, only the third coach in Big Ten history to win titles in his first two seasons.

In the postgame celebration, fans and teammates hoisted senior Kirk Penney, a native of New Zealand, onto their shoulders and a banner at Kohl Center read, "Thanks, Mate!"

"We worked for so long and always said, 'We haven't won anything yet. We haven't won anything yet,'" Penney said. "Now, we have."

In other games involving ranked teams Wednesday night, it was: No. 2 Kentucky 106, Vanderbilt 44; No. 7 Pittsburgh 86, Seton Hall 54; No. 9 Wake Forest 75, North Carolina 60; No. 11 Xavier 88, Saint Joseph's 80, overtime; DePaul 79, No. 15 Louisville 76, overtime; Colorado 68, No. 20 Oklahoma State 56; and Tennessee 59, No. 23 Mississippi State 49.

Harris was fouled by Dee Brown as he drove to the basket with under a second left.

After his first free throw rattled in and out, Harris stepped back as the crowd groaned, then composed himself and made the second.

"I knew he was going to knock down the second one," teammate Alando Tucker said.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Baseball: **SNYDER TOURNAMENT**
Sweetwater vs. Post, practice field, 9 a.m.
Coahoma vs. Perryton, Moffett, 9 a.m.
Wylie vs. Levelland, Moffett, 11:45 a.m.
Snyder varsity vs. Slaton, 8 p.m.
Snyder JV #1 in Frenship tourney.
Softball: WTC at El Paso CC, DH, 1 p.m.

FRIDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity in Snyder tourney.
Snyder JV #1 at Frenship tourney.
WTC at Odessa College, DH, noon.
Softball: Snyder varsity vs. Jim Ned, 6 p.m.
WTC at Maricopa College tourney, Phoenix.
Golf: Snyder varsity boys at San Angelo.
Snyder varsity girls at Andrews.
Snyder JV boys at Sweetwater.
Tennis: Snyder varsity at state team tournament, Waco.
Track: Snyder at Coahoma.

SATURDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity in Snyder tourney.
Snyder JV #1 at Frenship tourney.
WTC at Odessa College, DH, noon.
Softball: WTC at Maricopa College tournament, Phoenix.
Tennis: Snyder varsity at state team tournament, Waco.
Golf: Snyder varsity boys at San Angelo.
Snyder varsity girls at Andrews.
Snyder JV boys at Sweetwater.
Track: Canyon Reef Relays.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	38	23	.623	—
Philadelphia	34	25	.576	3
Boston	35	26	.574	3
Orlando	32	30	.516	6½
Washington	30	31	.492	8
New York	26	35	.426	12
Miami	20	40	.333	17½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Detroit	38	23	.623	—
Indiana	38	23	.623	—
New Orleans	35	27	.565	3½
Milwaukee	30	31	.492	8
Atlanta	24	38	.387	14½
Chicago	21	41	.339	17½
Toronto	19	39	.328	17½
Cleveland	11	50	.180	27

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Dallas	46	14	.767	—
San Antonio	41	18	.695	4½
Minnesota	40	23	.635	7½
Utah	35	25	.583	11
Houston	31	30	.508	15½
Memphis	19	41	.317	27
Denver	12	50	.194	35

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	43	19	.694	—
Portland	39	21	.650	3
L.A. Lakers	33	28	.559	8½
Phoenix	33	28	.541	9½
Golden State	30	30	.500	12
Seattle	28	32	.467	14
L.A. Clippers	19	41	.317	23

Tuesday's Games

Toronto 89, Washington 86
Atlanta 92, Denver 86
Milwaukee 100, Miami 91
Detroit 96, Houston 83
New York 89, Cleveland 80
Phoenix 104, San Antonio 97
Dallas 88, New Jersey 79
Seattle 92, Minnesota 83
Golden State 107, Indiana 100

Wednesday's Games

Orlando 111, Milwaukee 99
Houston 97, Toronto 95
Washington 99, L.A. Clippers 80
Boston 97, New York 95
Atlanta 111, Cleveland 105
Memphis 96, Denver 86
Utah 94, Seattle 83
Phoenix 98, Portland 92
Sacramento 96, Minnesota 95, OT
L.A. Lakers 97, Indiana 95

Thursday's Games

New Jersey at San Antonio, 7:30 p.m.
Golden State at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Portland, 10 p.m.

Friday's Games

Milwaukee at Washington, 7 p.m.
New York at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Dallas at Miami, 8 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Boston, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at New Orleans, 8:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Utah, 9 p.m.
Philadelphia at Seattle, 10:30 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.

PUBLIC FAX SERVICE
Fax Number
573-0044
Sending: $1.95 First Page
$1 Thereafter
Receiving: 75¢ Per Page
Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
573-5486

MAR 06 2003

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

BUSINESS DIRECTORY OF SERVICES

Air & Water Purification

We Have The **SOLUTION** For **SICK HOMES OR OFFICES**
Know anyone with Allergies, Asthma, Breathing Difficulties, Pets, Odors, Smoking, or Snoring??
Seems that people are getting sicker in their homes & offices!
Call Toll Free
1-877-257-7166
For Your 5 Day Risk Free Trial/Evaluation

Beauty & Bikes

Ask for... **CHAR**
– Stylist/Color Specialist
@ ***Hair Razors***
for...Color Correction, Foil Weaves
Precision & Razor Cuts
Men's Fades
2417 College Ave. (just off the square) **573-6900**

PC'S
Ready for your next rally?
See me for all your preventative maintenance. Save on repairs!
573-0449
Harold Gasaway
950 CR 444 Snyder, TX

Carpet/Flooring & Cleaning

KING CARPET
Cleaning & Floor Coverings
915-573-3032
***Sale *Sale *Sale**
All in stock flooring
89¢ sq.ft. Tile
Carpet starting @ $6.99 sq.yd.
Vinyl starting @ $5.29 sq.yd.
Come In & See Our Big Selection!

CARPET CLEANING EXPRESS
Your Local Carpet Cleaning Specialist
*Water, *Fire & *Smoke Damage
24 Hour Emergency Services
573-2661

Complete Floor Covering Service
*Ceramic Tile *Showers
*Wall Tile * Tile Cabinet Tops
*Wood Floors *Carpet *Tile
All type repairs & restretching.
Joe Brown 573-2324
Call for appointment.
All Work Guaranteed!

Catering

CATERING
Specializing in Briskets & Ribs
Homemade Sauce
•Weddings •Anniversaries
•Reunions • Private Parties
Call Kerry Clay
(915) 573-8349
725-3533 (mobile)

Construction

Lee's Construction
"No Job Too Small"
Residential
Remodeling & Repair
STEVE LEE
Snyder, Texas
79549
915/573-2709
Mobile
915/725-3165

SPARLIN CONSTRUCTION
Welding *Metal Buildings*
Fabrication *Carpentry*
Fencing *Painting*
Bud Sparlin
574-2206 573-9752
or 575-4182
2701 48th St.
Snyder, TX
79549

CIRCLE M WELDING
•Welding •Residential
•Fabrication •Roustabout
•Concrete Work
•Backhoe Services
Office: **915-573-8005**
Fax: **915-573-8047**
7365 West Hwy. 180 Snyder, TX 79549

HAYS CONSTRUCTION
Paint Interior/Exterior
Remodeling/Framing
Drywall/Siding
Call Anytime For A Free Estimate
Thomas Ashley **574-1448** David Hays

Electric

DALE'S ELECTRIC
We Do All Kinds Of Electrical Work
New & Repairs
403 33rd St.
573-5330
Mobile 338-1227
Dale Swigert

Insurance

Stewart Insurance Services
• GREAT RATES
• GREAT SERVICE
All Lines of Insurance
904 26th St. Snyder, TX
573-8401

A PROUD PAST WITH A SOLID FUTURE
GERMANIA SINCE 1896
Property • Auto • Life Insurance
KUBENA INSURANCE AGENCY
915-863-2754
Marsha Kubena, Agent

Masonry

Straight Line Masonry
*Brick *Block *Stone
*Custom Fireplaces
Residential/Commercial
Repairs - Houses
Retaining Walls
Free Estimates
Paul Dickerhoff
573-0258

Painting

West Painting
Interior, Exterior Painting
Drywall, Acoustical Ceilings
Wallpapering
30 Years Experience
Owner: Richard West
573-2490
721-2875 (mobile)

Plumbing

Plumbing Repair Service
Telephone
(915) 573-3085
Coventry Plumbing
M-19955
1311 College Ave. Snyder, Texas 79549
Jim Coventry Owner

The SDN Business Directory Gives You The Most Exposure For Your Advertising $$

Storage Rentals

New storage units now available in downtown **Hermleigh**, located at 688 Harlan Ave.
J & K Rentals
573-0859
or come by 3609 W. Hwy 180 for more information.
12x30 units & other sizes available in **Snyder**

North Ave. E Storage Buildings
10' x 20'
DAVID HOLT
573-3255

Tree & Lawn Services

TREEMASTERS
Professional Tree Trimming & Deep Root Fertilization
Now Is The Time!!
21 yrs. experience. References available.
915-573-4937
If no answer, leave message.

HINTON C & S
Complete Field, Lawn & Irrigation Service
(915) 573-0878

Internet Service

Bullard's Internet Service
Dell "white box" computers. Check our prices! Local support. Something new. Dell prices with no long waits on hold trying to get help!
- *Local Storefront, New Computers, Repairs Upgrades, Software, Networking*
- *If you are our customer, we fix your Internet problems for free*

3405 College Ave.
573-4801

Business Hours:
Monday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
CLASSIFIED DEADLINE
Tuesday through Friday
4:00 p.m. prior day
For Sunday & Monday
3:00 p.m. Friday
Snyder Daily News
3600 College Ave.
P.O. Box 949
Snyder, Texas 79550

For Classified Power Call
573-5486
Fax 573-0044

ERROR
Advertisers Should Check Their Ad On The First Day of Insertion!
The Snyder Daily News cannot be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion. Claims cannot be considered unless made within 5 days from date of first publication. No allowance can be made when errors do not materially affect the value of the advertisement. All ads are cash unless customer has an established advertising account with The Snyder Daily News.
The Publisher is not responsible for copy omissions, typographical errors, or any unintentional error that may occur further than to correct it in the next issue after it is brought to his attention.

Classified Ads $17.55 for 5 days, get the 6th day FREE!!
15 words or less
(Excluding Garage Sales & Displays)
Ads must be in by 3:00p.m. the day before you want them in the paper!

Announcements

I, Debra Cooper, will not be responsible for any debts other than my own as of 3/4/03.

Lost & Found

REWARD!
Lost or stolen from Jr. High tennis courts, Head TIS4 tennis racket, yellow & black w/case.
574-1305 or 725-2087

Vehicles

Parting out 1992 Ford Ranger. Good 2.3 motor, 5-speed transmission, 4 new tires. 573-2429

Motorcycles

1999 Kawasaki Vulcan 1500 Customized, lots of chrome. Like new. $8,000 OBO
574-6896

Business Services

Duke and Son
Concrete, Masonry, House Leveling, Patchwork (brick & concrete). 573-5911, 573-2477

Tilling–Leveling
Front-end loader, Walk-behind tiller, Tractor tiller, Small acreage plowed. 915-573-8264

Wanted: Houses to clean.
Mon.–Fri., 7-yrs experience.
References upon request.
573-9070, 573-4131 ask for Diana.

Employment

A&B Transport, Inc. is now taking applications, in the Snyder area, for pump and vacuum truck drivers. For appointment call 915-573-1851.

Experienced salad preparation person needed. Apply in person @ Rudy's, 4604 College. *No phone calls.*

PART-TIME NURSERY WORKER
for First Baptist church. Must be able to work during Sunday Worship Services. If interested, please pick up an application at 1701 27th St.

PIZZA INN
Now hiring wait-staff & drivers.
Please apply in person,
3907 College Ave.

PT handyman/housekeeper needed. Free apartment, including utilities, plus salary negotiable. American Motor Inn 915-573-5432.

Sell Avon, start immediately, no door to door sales.
$10 startup fee.
573-1271 Ind. Rep.

Wait-staff and part-time cook needed. Apply in person only at Hog Heaven, 1510 College.

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

Midwestern Services, Inc.
The Tank Cleaning Professionals
Tank Cleaners Needed
Applications are currently being accepted.
70% Out of Town Travel is required.
For more information call (915) 573-6666.
Hourly wage and bonuses. 100% drug free.
EOE

Instructions

Defensive Driving Classes
Saturday Mar. 8th, 8a.m.–3p.m. or Mon. & Tues. Mar. 10th–11th, 6p.m.– 9p.m. each night.
2619 College Ave. 573-2850

Farmer's Column

3 year old, male Llama, $250.
573-0660 or 338-5781

HAY FOR SALE
Square or Round
Alfalfa, Coastal & Wheat
2 3/8" upset tubing for sale.
Ross Preston
573-1217 725-9444

NEED COW FEED?
Try gin motes. 500–600 lbs
CLEARANCE SALE! $5/bale
(was $15/bale)
Inadale Gin 915-766-3550

Merchandise

FOR SALE
New crop shelled pecans.
573-0894

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

Spring Cleaning
Antique wardrobe, $150/OBO, Antique vanity, $200/OBO, Mary Kay 40%–75% off, large inventory.
863-2338

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

FIREWOOD!! Mesquite!
Local cutter. Part seasoned.
24"-22"-20"-18". Some split.
Delivered. **573-1216**

Newspaper End Rolls
$1.00 & Up
Call 573-5486 or come by Snyder Daily News today!

Garage Sales

GARAGE SALE
2812 Ave. L
Friday 8a.m. – ??
Small freezer, Small ice maker.
Lots of good stuff.

GARAGE SALE
American Legion Bldg.
1804 Ave. R
Sat. March 8 Only 9:30 – 4:00
Proceeds will go to Gateway Family Services & American Legion Bldg. Fund
Clothes, Household items, Tools & Much more!

GARAGE SALE
Strayhorn Storage #43
23rd & Ave. L
Friday 8:30a.m. – Noon
Furniture, Dishes, VCR, Clothes, Knick-knacks, etc.

GARAGE SALE
Thursday, Friday & Saturday
9a.m. – 5p.m.
112 Elm (behind house, in bldg.)
Coke stuff, S & P sets, What-nots, Fur, Clothes & much, much more! Come see!

GOLDEN K KIWANIS
SUPER GARAGE SALE
Friday 1p.m. – 5p.m.
Saturday 8a.m. – 1p.m.
Senior Citizen Center
2603 Ave. M
Something for everyone!

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS
ALWAYS A WINNER

Garage Sales

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

WSI Fundraiser Benefiting
ACS - Relay For Life
2802 42nd St.
Saturday 8a.m. – 2p.m.
Lots of everything!
Clothing, Household items.
Too much to list. Come see!

Apartments For Rent

1 & 2 bedroom furnished apartments for rent with bills & cable paid.
573-5879 or 915-728-8482

Furnished 1 bedroom apartment for rent. Nice & clean. Located in Hermleigh. Call 863-2700.

Western Crest & Windridge Village
3901 Ave. O
Snyder, TX
573-1488
Quality Living At An Affordable Price
1 Bedroom, 1 Bath
Pool
2 Bedrooms, 2 bath
W/D Connections, Pool & Playground

Fieldcrest Apartments
Under New Ownership
1 bedroom/1 bath - $290 (very big bedroom)
2 bedroom/1+ bath - $310
*We pay water
*You pay electricity
*$100 security deposit
*No application fee
700 E. 37th
(across from coliseum)
573-3519

Houses For Rent

2 bedroom brick duplex, new paint, CH/A, appliances.
573-1012 or 575-0580

3802 Noble
2 bedrooms, w/washer & dryer, stove & refrigerator. $350/mo.
3806 Noble
2 bedrooms, w/washer & dryer, stove & refrigerator. $350/mo.
573-9066, contact at 1809 38th.

HOUSES FOR RENT
Available Now
3609 44th St. 3-2-2 . . . . .$600
Elizabeth Potts Realtors 573-8505

CALL FOR RESULTS!
573-5486
CLASSIFIEDS

Real Estate

Beautiful Brick Home
Newly updated 3 bdrm-2bth, CH/A, fireplace, 2-car garage, large corner lot, new 6 ft. privacy fence. 3014 El Paso 573-6496

BY OWNER
5603 CEDAR CREEK DR.
LARGE CUSTOM BUILT, AMENITIES GALORE.
READY MOVE IN.
573-9780

OWNER FINANCE
***218 29th St.**, remodeled, 2-1, fenced yard, garage, low down, $370 mo. total, 10 years.
***134 20th Place**, 2-1-1, fenced, storage shed, low down payment, $402/mo. total, 20 years. Call 725-4831.

JACK & JACK Realtors
611 Coliseum Dr
Ford Spikes, Owner/Broker
573-8571 573-3452
Ira ISD 3-2-2cp, storage, appliances, .25 Acre
Corner 3-1¾-2, CONTRACT PENDING 5T
Gorgeous Home 1986 Sq. Ft. on 12 + Acres
Lrg. Home Nice neighborhood 5-1¾ ..$59.5T
Shop Bldg. + 3 Lots 407 College & 2-1 Merrill
Stock Farm 146 Acres Near Dermott
REDUCED! 2510 Towle Park Rd 3-2-2cp, 1Acre
5 Business Shopping Complex 606 Coliseum
2 Living CONTRACT PENDING 2111 43rd
Nice Storm Cellar 3-2-2cp 314 36th $37.5T
3-1¾-1cp brick starter home .....207 36th St.
Good Floor Plan 3-1¾-2 4006 Jacksboro $54.9T
17.5 Acres CONTRACT PENDING $100T
80 acres 5 mi. SE of Hermleigh, 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building.....Call
Fisher Co. 11.59 acres plus older house approx. 19 miles east of Snyder.....Call
Stonewall Co. 1,315 acre cattle operation. Water well + 6 earth tanks. Deer, quail, turkey & hogs.....Call
We Will Work For YOU! We Need Listings
Doris Spikes.....573-6602

DON'T THROW IT OUT — CLEAR IT OUT!



SELL WHAT YOU DON'T WANT — BUY WHAT YOU DO — THROUGH THE CLASSIFIEDS! FAST, CHEAP, EFFECTIVE TOO.

Snyder Daily News Classified Ads
573-5486

WIN A FREE - 1 YEAR SUBSCRIPTION TO THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Persons Subscribing Or Renewing Subscriptions For 6 Months or More During Each Month Are Eligible To Win A FREE 1-Year Subscription. Clip Coupon & Bring With Payment To:

SNYDER DAILY NEWS - 3600 College Ave. or Mail to P.O. Box 949, Snyder, Texas 79550

Drawing Will Be Held At The End Of Each Month

Name_____
Address_____
City_____
State_____
Zip_____

By Carrier Or Mail In County	By Mail Out Of County
1 Year: $88.80	1 Year: $113.85
6 Mos: $47.70	6 Mos: $61.60

Band's tour manager answers questions

WEST WARWICK, R.I. (AP) — The tour manager for a rock band that was on stage when a deadly nightclub fire broke out told investigators he has paperwork outlining the band's general use of pyrotechnics, but he said all the documents specific to that show were destroyed in the fire.

According to court documents, Dan Biechele told investigators the paperwork from the booking of Great White's Feb. 20 concert at The Station burned. Biechele said he did have generic forms stating the band's terms and conditions, including the use of pyrotechnics.

Investigators say sparks from the pyrotechnics started the blaze that killed 98 people and injured nearly 190. A grand jury is investigating.

Biechele has maintained that he received permission from the club's owners, brothers Jeffrey and Michael Derderian, to set up pyrotechnics for the concert. The Derderians say they never were asked about pyrotechnics and never gave permission.

Biechele's Rhode Island attorney, Tom Briody, did not return telephone calls Wednesday or today for comment.

Ed McPherson, a California-based attorney for the band, said Great White had never used the special effects before this latest tour.

"They decided that they were going to spruce it up a little bit. So they said, 'Why don't we try this?'" McPherson told The Associated Press.

Biechele, he said, made sure that he carefully explained all about the pyrotechnics to every club prior to the performance and received explicit permission to use it.

About a week before the nightclub fire, he got permission from club owner Michael Derderian, McPherson said. "I believe it was by phone, which is consistent with what he did with other shows."

Officials at clubs in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Florida and Maine where Great White recently played have said the band used pyrotechnics but failed to notify the management.

Police have searched the band's tour bus and taken fax sheets for Great White's pyro order, three performance agreements, other unspecified documents, computer equipment, electrical gear, according to an inventory of what was seized. They also found a ledger and other documents in a safe in the club's ruins, court document show.

The court documents also show that a neighbor of The Station said he had told club owners they could soundproof the building with packing foam.

The soundproofing is considered a key part of the investigation. Investigators believe the fire quickly spread through the highly flammable foam. State law bars highly flammable material from being used as soundproofing in clubs and bars.

Club neighbor Barry Warner, who worked for a foam company, told investigators he was approached by one of the Derderian brothers shortly after they bought The Station in March 2000. Warner, who lives behind the building, said the co-owner wanted to address Warner's complaints about noise at the club, and once the brothers found out he worked for the American Foam Corp., they started talking about the foam.

"Warner informed the Derderians that they could purchase the foam and use it as a form of sound-absorbing material," according to a police search warrant affidavit.

Warner, who no longer works for American Foam, said Wednesday the affidavit didn't accurately represent his conversation with state and federal investigators.

"There's a lot of inaccuracies," Warner said, declining further comment.

Michael Derderian's attorney, Kathleen Hagerty, has said the brothers deferred to Warner as the expert on a foam they believed to be appropriate soundproofing. American Foam president Aram DerManouelian has said the club bought $575 worth of the foam in mid-2000 and bought the "cheapest" material.

The investigative documents also describe details from probe by the police and Rhode Island Attorney General's office. They refer to the "egg crate foam" on the ceiling and walls.

"It would appear at this time that this material was NOT made of a fire retardant material but rather was highly combustible which served to feed the fire and cause it to spread rapidly," detectives wrote.

State has another bad sales tax month, Strayhorn says

AUSTIN (AP) — State sales tax collections for February were down 4.7 percent compared with the same month the previous year, Comptroller Carole Keeton Strayhorn said Wednesday.

The report means that Texas could be heading toward two consecutive years of declines in sales tax revenues for the first time in its history, Strayhorn said.

"I believe we may have a historic unfortunate first in Texas," she said. "We're not seeing any light at the end of the tunnel."

Last year was only the second year Texas had a decline in sales tax revenue. The other time was 1983.

Collections for February declined by $59.4 million compared with February 2002. This is the eighth month in a row in which total monthly general sales tax collections have been less than the same month in the previous year.

Year-to-date state sales tax collections are down 2.5 percent, or $184.3 million, compared with the same period last year

The comptroller, the state's chief financial officer, repeatedly has been the harbinger of bad economic news.

More than two years ago she warned that the Legislature would be facing a $5.1 billion shortfall.

Moderately Confused



Today's chuckle

Marijuana found after 911 mistakenly called

PALM SPRINGS, Calif. (AP) — Police found more than 75 marijuana plants inside a house after a woman who lived there mistakenly called 911 instead of 411.

Police said the woman dialed 911 shortly after 11:20 a.m. Tuesday. When she hung up, a police dispatcher called the number right back, and someone hung up again, police Sgt. Dan Rose said.

Two officers went to the house and found 76 plants valued at $76,000 growing in a room with sophisticated lighting. Officers also found three handguns and other weapons inside the house.



"We know something is going on, but we don't know what," Rose said.

A man, who was not immediately identified, gave police a prescription for medical marijuana. However, the quantity of plants made police suspicious, so they began investigating the authenticity of the prescription, Rose said. The man was arrested for investigation of cultivation and possession of marijuana for sale.

Another man who tried to run from police was arrested for investigation of parole violations and was sent back to state prison Wednesday.

The woman who misdialed was not arrested.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



An unusual source of lead toxicity

DEAR DR. GOTT: I read with interest your recent article on lead levels in children. Our family had a similar experience when our grandson had a routine blood-lead level drawn when he was a 1-year old. The test showed an elevated level, so we checked all the usual sources of lead exposure, including lead-based paint and lead pipes. We found nothing. But the child's lead level increased.

As part of an investigation, we discovered that vinyl mini-blinds may contain lead! Apparently the mineral is used as a stabilizing agent in the vinyl covering. However, prolonged exposure to direct sunlight causes the lead to leach to the surface of the blinds in the form of a dust. Children touching the blinds and then putting their fingers into their mouths can thereby ingest the lead.

I spoke with a representative of the Consumer Products Safety Commission and was informed that the agency had issued a warning bulletin on the problem in 1997. As a result, American manufacturers were required to stop using lead in their blinds and to mark the packages with a "No Lead Added" statement. Unfortunately, many imported brands probably still contain lead.

The vinyl mini-blinds in my daughter's house were tested and found to contain high levels of surface lead dust. The blinds were removed. Follow up blood tests have shown a progressive fall in my grandson's lead levels, which are now in the normal range. Therefore, this evidence virtually confirms the fact that the mini-blinds were the source of his lead exposure. We were fortunate to identify this source before any permanent damage was done, but it was almost by accident that we found a clue pointing to the dangerous blinds.

Millions of such blinds are used in homes, day care centers and schools where children come in contact with them. Frankly, I am amazed that our government and state health authorities have not publicized this serious health threat. I have discovered that there are imported mini-blinds on the market with no "lead free" markings. Officials have also admitted that most mini-blinds made before 1997 contain lead. The only safe brands are U.S. made with the "no lead added" proclamation.

I hope that you will inform your readers about this potentially disastrous situation.

DEAR READER: And inform them I will. Lead poisoning is a serious pediatric public health menace, which can lead to a variety of ills, including anemia, paralysis, brain disease, mental disturbances, convulsions and muscular collapse.

While many cases of lead poisoning can be traced to lead-based paints, lead plumbing and glazed or pewter utensils, the presence of lead-rich dust on mini-blinds is a source the average parent does not ordinarily consider. I hope that your letter will act as a wake-up call. Thank you for writing.

To give you related information about other blood disorders, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Blood Donations/Disorders." 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.

Copyright 2003, Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	2.60	2.50	2.52	— .08
AOL TimeWrn	11.08	10.74	10.98	— .07
AT&T Corp rs	18.54	18.26	18.27	— .27
Albertsons	18.67	18.44	18.46	— .35
Alltel	42.83	42.33	42.52	— .66
AmEl Pw	22.08	21.73	21.86	— .09
AndarkPtr	46.54	46.12	46.16	— .09
ATMOS Egy	21.63	21.41	21.53	— .08
Aviall	6.80	6.66	6.68	— .09
BP PLC	39.43	39.20	39.25	— .02
BakerHughes	30.66	30.03	30.45	+ .12
Bank of Amer	68.50	67.33	68.06	— .28
BellSouth	21.07	20.67	20.82	— .39
BurlNoSFe	24.29	24.04	24.08	— .26
Caterpillar	45.64	44.70	44.89	— .74
CenterPoint	5.91	5.76	5.84	— .13
ChevronTex	66.03	65.39	65.58	— .37
Citigroup	33.30	32.67	33.02	— .15
CocaCola	37.76	37.20	37.60	+ .05
ColgatePal	50.15	49.45	49.67	— .48
CmclMetals s	13.25	13.11	13.12	— .14
ConocoPhill	51.44	50.78	50.90	— .48
Cooper Inds	37.37	36.99	37.20	— .17
DaimlrChry	29.49	29.11	29.30	— .64
DeltaAirl	8.53	8.40	8.44	— .09
Dillards Inc	13.96	13.25	13.78	+ .38
DowChem	26.19	25.78	25.83	— .60
DuPont	35.74	35.20	35.47	— .20
EastmanChem	31.17	30.90	30.90	— .34
EstKodak	29.49	29.02	29.38	— .16
EDS Corp	14.98	14.67	14.68	— .32
Entergy	45.84	45.30	45.37	— .53
ExxonMobil	34.86	34.58	34.66	— .26
FootLocker	10.00	9.70	9.94	+ .07
GenDynam	56.61	55.23	55.31	—1.08
GenElec	24.06	23.50	23.86	— .04
GenMills	42.56	42.00	42.08	— .21
GenMotors	31.61	31.05	31.34	— .28
GaPacific	14.55	14.25	14.25	— .13
Goodrich	15.07	14.76	14.90	— .22
Goodyear	4.34	4.20	4.22	— .07
GtAtlPac	4.60	4.35	4.38	— .29
Halliburtn	20.17	19.93	20.15	+ .15
Hanson ADS	23.80	23.47	23.63	— .67
HarteHanks s	18.22	17.87	17.88	— .09
HomeDepot	22.43	21.76	22.31	+ .16
Honeywellintl	22.32	21.81	22.07	— .25
IBM	77.78	76.80	77.26	— .47
IntlPaper	34.88	34.41	34.41	— .54
JohnsonJn	53.39	52.30	53.30	+ .49
KinderMorg	44.51	44.28	44.39	— .26
Kroger Co	13.07	12.94	13.01	— .04
LockheedM	45.09	44.09	44.25	— .83
Lowes Cos	38.10	36.99	37.86	+ .24
Lubys	1.30	1.26	1.30	+ .02
LucentTech	1.58	1.53	1.57	+ .01
MarathonOil	23.39	23.17	23.21	— .17
MayDeptStr	19.30	18.48	18.99	+ .13
Medtronic	45.12	44.39	44.75	+ .05
Motorola	8.20	8.07	8.08	— .18
NCR Corp	18.60	18.35	18.44	— .36
Navistar	23.09	22.70	22.87	— .01
PNM Rescs	20.73	20.48	20.61	— .14
Penney JC	19.11	18.15	18.89	+ .20
PepBoys	8.62	8.36	8.36	— .27
PepsiCo	37.84	37.02	37.47	+ .17
Pharmacia	41.02	40.52	40.81	+ .26
PhelpDodge	33.99	33.50	33.74	— .34
PilgrmPrd B	7.65	7.18	7.28	— .45
Praxair	51.98	51.26	51.31	— .75
ProctGamb	81.25	80.15	80.62	— .37
RadioShack	19.98	18.86	19.61	+ .59
RoyalDut	40.28	39.96	39.96	— .27
SBC Comm	20.88	20.45	20.72	— .13
SaraLee	18.80	18.56	18.62	— .38
Scripps EW	77.50	76.51	77.36	+ .11
SearsRoeb	20.20	18.63	19.58	— .42
SherwinW	26.21	25.83	25.84	— .44
SouthernCo	28.69	28.33	28.44	— .14
SwstAirl	12.57	12.27	12.49	+ .09
SprintFON	12.30	11.96	12.14	— .17
SprintPCS	3.78	3.68	3.68	— .12
Sunoco Inc	36.47	36.23	36.30	— .17
TXU Corp	16.34	16.14	16.24	— .11
TempleInland	40.33	39.77	39.77	— .57
TexInd	19.11	18.79	18.83	— .15
Texasinst	16.42	15.35	16.23	+ .03
Textron	35.05	34.61	34.62	— .48
TrinityInds	16.20	15.81	16.07	+ .22
TylerTech	3.53	3.37	3.52	+ .09
UnionPacif	54.30	53.73	53.74	— .55
USSteel	11.75	11.46	11.46	— .30
UnitedTech	57.20	55.42	56.66	— .12
Unocal	26.43	26.09	26.15	— .25
VerizonComm	34.50	33.80	34.11	— .52
WalMart	48.53	47.10	48.22	+ .34
WellsFargo	45.74	45.16	45.42	— .22
WstnGasRs	33.14	32.86	32.87	— .23
WinnDixie	12.01	11.89	11.89	— .17
Xerox Cp	8.76	8.48	8.71	+ .13
YumBrands s	23.12	22.76	22.93	— .11

MAR 06 2003



ON TO STATE — This Snyder High School brass sextet, performing *Canzone No. 4*, received a I rating at the solo and ensemble contest in Lubbock. From left are Matthew Stokes, Candice Gordon, Brandi Russell, Jason Hook and Kristina Mayer. Brock Tyrell is not pictured. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



QUALIFY FOR STATE — Snyder High School saxophone trio, consisting of Clark Reed, Kristina Mayer and Sterling Millhollon, from left, recently scored a I rating on its *Adagio and Allegretto* at the solo and ensemble contest in Lubbock. The trio advanced to the state contest in May. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Lawyers pushing late appeal for condemned man from Texarkana

AUSTIN (AP) — Lawyers for a condemned Texarkana man are pushing a late appeal to keep him next week from possibly becoming the 300th person executed in Texas since the state resumed capital punishment in 1982.

Delma Banks' trial was tainted by prosecutorial misconduct, racism and a bad defense attorney, lawyers for the convicted killer contend in appeals to the U.S. Supreme Court and the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

"Mr. Banks' case is fraught with the kind of unreliability that we know leads to wrongful convictions," George Kendall, an attorney with the New York City-based NAACP Legal Defense Fund, said Wednesday at a news conference.

Banks, 43, has been on death row since 1980 for fatally shooting Wayne Whitehead, a 16-year-old Texarkana-area youth, and stealing his car. He is scheduled to die by injection March 12, a day after another death row inmate, Bobby Cook, is set to become execution No. 299.

Banks' attorneys contend Bowie County prosecutors withheld key evidence during trial — specifically a 74-page pretrial witness statement with inconsistent testimony, failed to correct errors by key witnesses and improperly struck potential black jurors from the jury pool. Banks, who is black, was convicted by an all-white jury.

Banks' lawyers also say the prosecution's two key witnesses were flawed and that prosecutors let them lie on the witness stand.

The first witness, Charles Cook, testified Banks told him he had killed someone then left him a murder weapon and the victim's car.

Cook later recanted his testimony during a 1999 federal hearing, saying as a twice-convicted felon he was threatened with going to prison if he did not testify against Banks. Defense lawyers say another witness, Robert Farr, told them after the trial he was a paid police informant. Farr died two years ago, Kendall said.

Bowie County District Attorney Bobby Lockhart didn't immediately return a telephone message left at his office by The Associated Press.

Banks' case has been bouncing around state and federal appeals courts for more than two decades.

EXTRA! REAL STORY CAN NOW BE TOLD

MY THREE LIVES

InHeadlines

Eight men slain in Texas prison break
Reporter's husband only man to escape alive
News reporter flees with escaped convict
Undercover reporter works toward prison reform
ABILENE REPORTER NEWS

Frontier reporter flies Mt. McKinley for news
Mary Carey first woman on McKinley in winter
Alaska reporter declares war on Governor
Homesteader wins war for highway
THE PALMER FRONTIERSMAN

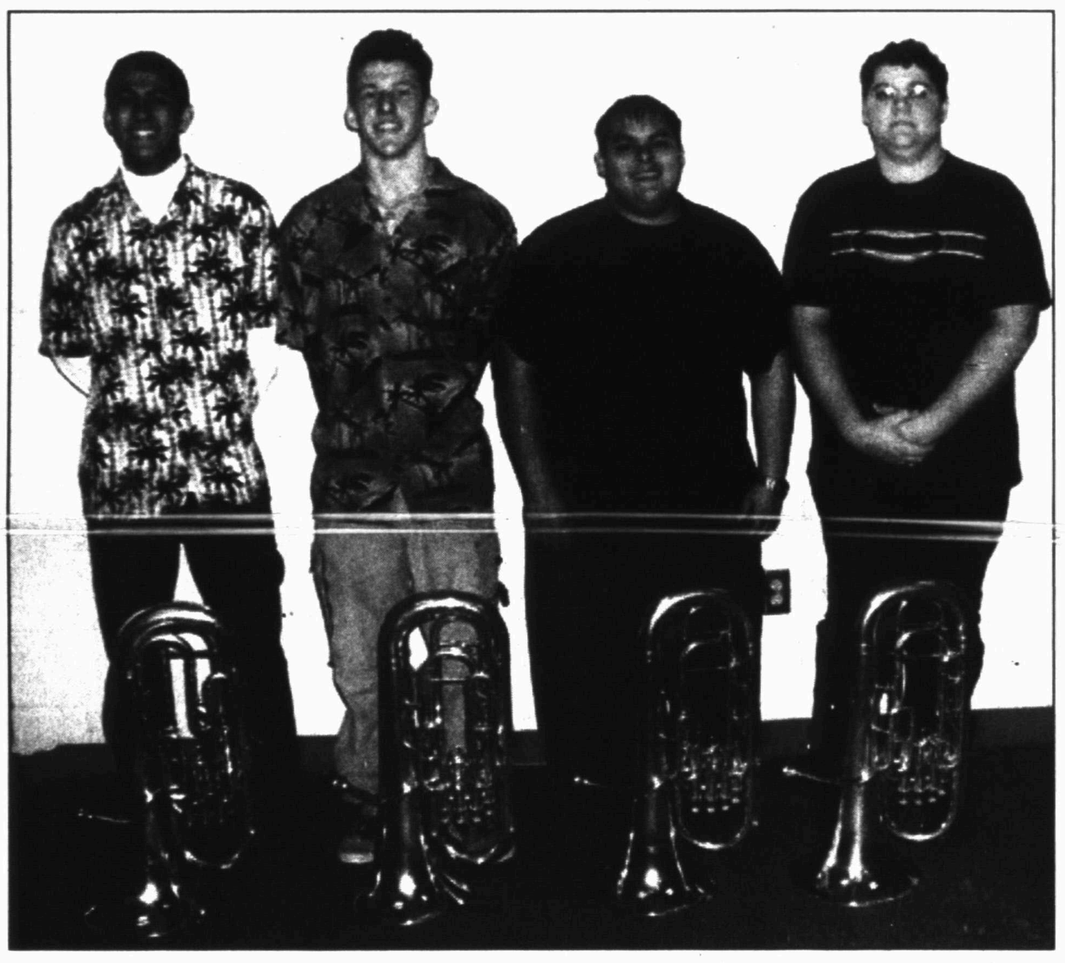
Alaskan shared an outlaw's life
Reporter wins national award
Mary Carey lived it all – dangerously
Suspense - Drama - High Adventure in Alaska
THE ANCHORAGE DAILY NEWS

Mary Carey
Author of Twelve Books

Only $27.95
Available At
SNYDER DAILY NEWS
3600 College Ave.
573-5486



STATE BOUND — Snyder High School brass sextet performed *Bartok for Brass* at the recent solo and ensemble contest in Lubbock. Members earned a I rating and now advance to the state contest in May. Back row from left are Daniel Medrano, Santino Hermosillo, Brandi Russell. Front row from left are Isaac Hernandez, Glenn Burns and Jason Hook. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



ON TO STATE — Snyder High School baritone quartet, performing *Suite for Trombones*, qualified for state during solo and ensemble competition in Lubbock. Members of the quartet from left are Daniel Medrano, Matthew Stokes, Isaac Hernandez and Aaron Lindsey. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Ted Nugent speaks to Wisconsin Bow Hunters meet

APPLETON, Wis. (AP) — Rocker Ted Nugent was right at home at the annual convention of the Wisconsin Bow Hunters Association.

Nugent — a hunter, gun-rights advocate and co-author of the cookbook "Kill It & Grill It" — was the featured speaker Saturday as the standing-room-only crowd of about 560 people cheered when he said people against hunting are waging a war on the American dream.

"There is nothing more perfect than hunting," said Nugent, whose hits include "Cat Scratch Fever."

Nugent, who looks fit and healthy at 54, said he doesn't drink or smoke, a message he shares with schoolchildren. Nugent also criticized the idea that vegetarianism is an alternative to killing for food.

Even if you live on tofu, he said, someone has to clear a field of native vegetation to raise the beans.

New bills filed focus on child pornography

AUSTIN (AP) — A group of conservative Texas lawmakers are trying to take on the child pornography industry.

The Texas Conservative Coalition filed a handful of bills Wednesday to tackle child pornography in Texas — an industry that one lawmaker says is three times bigger than Disney theme parks and twice the size of Major League Baseball.

One of the bills, penned by Rep. Buddy West, R-Odessa, is a measure that would outlaw "virtual" child pornography — computer simulations and other fool-the-eye depictions of teenagers or children having sex. The Supreme Court ruled last year that making it a crime to create, distribute or possess virtual pornography is unconstitutional.

But the lawmakers gathered Wednesday, part of the Texas Conservative Coalition, argued that the decision does not directly affect Texas law because Texas prosecutors already have the burden of proof to show an actual child is involved in the pornography.

"(Virtual child pornography legislation) will help avoid different interpretations by state courts, eliminate uncertainty over whether the law applies to computer-generated child pornography and set community standards acceptable in Texas," said Rep. Elizabeth Ames Jones, R-San Antonio.

Also in the package of bills touted by the Texas Conservative Coalition is a measure that would prohibit a sex offender from owning or working for a sexually oriented business.

Other bills would make showing obscene material to a minor a state jail felony and would require school libraries to prove compliance with child Internet protection laws to receive a Telecommunications Infrastructure fund or distance learning grant.

TORT REFORM

Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said Wednesday it's his goal to have the Senate take up legislation that combines civil lawsuit and medical malpractice issues.

Dewhurst said that would clear up some ambiguities that are in the current law.

A House committee on Tuesday approved one bill that is designed to limit civil liability lawsuits and cap malpractice awards for pain and suffering at $250,000. The issues of civil lawsuits and medical malpractice originally were filed as separate bills.

Rep. Joe Nixon, R-Houston, said the bill is designed to curb frivolous lawsuits that doctors and business groups say are causing skyrocketing malpractice insurance rates and forcing some companies to close.

Dewhurst said he expects the House will approve that bill within a few weeks and send it to the Senate. Meanwhile, he said that within a few weeks, the Senate should be able to pass and send to the House legislation that would change the way the state regulates the homeowners and auto insurance market.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"Whether it's 15 stories or 20 stories, you're going to get killed no matter what." — Tony Fabelo, executive director of the Texas Criminal Justice Policy Council on the impact of proposed budget cuts despite an additional $56 million.

Missing woman's case reclassified as homicide

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — More than two months after she disappeared without a trace, the case of a missing pregnant woman has been reclassified as a homicide.

Authorities did not give a specific reason for the change in the case, which had been described as a missing person investigation. Laci Peterson, 27, has been missing sine Christmas Eve.

"As the investigation has progressed we have increasingly come to believe that Laci Peterson is the victim of a violent crime," said a statement released Wednesday by Craig Grogan, the Modesto police department's lead homicide investigator.

Grogan said the reclassification has prompted a new $50,000 reward for "information that leads to her location and recovery." Previously a $500,000 reward was offered for information leading to Peterson's safe return home to her family.

In a statement, Peterson's family did not specifically mention the reclassification, instead urging anyone with information on her whereabouts to come forward.

"Our family desperately needs to know where she is and what has happened to her," the statement read. "We realize that with every day that passes the possibility of finding her alive diminishes."

Police searched Peterson's home Feb. 18-19 and seized 95 items. Peterson's husband, Scott, 30, was not present.

Police have also searched two of his pickup trucks, seized two family computers and a boat that Peterson bought shortly before his wife disappeared.

Scott Peterson says he last saw his wife the morning of Christmas Eve as he left to go fishing at Berkeley Marina. Police say they don't consider him a suspect but have not ruled him out.

Cher's wig stolen

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — Cher's production company has reported the theft of a wig valued at $8,000 to $10,000, apparently stolen from the singer's collection of tresses during a sold-out concert stop.

"The wig is described as half-black and half-teal, and it was braided," said Christie Collins, a police spokeswoman.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Pregnant wife fears she's lost husband's full attention

DEAR ABBY: My fifth wedding anniversary is coming soon. I was looking forward to it until last night. I took my children to visit their daddy at his office. He is usually happy to see us. We found him eating his dinner in the company's break room.

We were enjoying a pleasant conversation when suddenly a female co-worker burst in and began telling a story. This woman, "Carmen," is very voluptuous and extroverted. My husband started laughing like crazy at Carmen's funny story — which I didn't find amusing at all. But it didn't bother me until my husband came home from work and we started getting ready for bed. He began repeating this "funny" story he heard at work. When I told him I was there when Carmen told it, he looked surprised and said, "You were?"

Abby, I was crushed! I had been in that break room for 15 minutes before Carmen came in, and my husband had forgotten all about our visit. I am trying not to let it bother me, but I am 7 1/2 months pregnant and beginning to believe my husband no longer cares for me. What should I do? — **FEELING BIG AND BROKENHEARTED**

DEAR FEELING BIG AND BROKENHEARTED: First of all, remember that pregnancy is only temporary, and that many people think there is nothing more beautiful than a pregnant woman. However, somehow you are feeling threatened. Carmen may be bombastic, but if your husband wanted to share her funny story with you, you should not be threatened. Because instance of short-term [illegible] loss.

DEAR ABBY: I am [illegible] and in tears as I write this. My parents met in college and married when Mom got pregnant with my older brother. They recently celebrated their 17th anniversary. Lately, it seems all Mom and Dad do is argue. My father's job requires him to work long hours and travel a lot, so things have been especially stressful.

Last weekend, my brother and I went to visit our aunt and uncle who live a couple of hours away. While I was sitting at their computer e-mailing some friends, I couldn't resist the temptation, so I pulled up an e-mail Mother had sent to my aunt. In it, Mom wrote that she "can't take it any longer" and finally talked to a divorce lawyer. She plans to file for divorce as soon as my brother graduates from high school. She doesn't want us kids to know because my brother needs to keep his grades up so he can get into a good college, and she knows the news would upset us.

But that wasn't the worst part. Mom went on to say she had confessed to our priest that she's been having an affair with a co-worker! Mom reads your column every day, so please give us some good advice. If she reads this letter and your reply, maybe it would help her reconsider what she's doing. — **HOPING TO SAVE MY PARENTS' MARRIAGE IN GEORGIA**

DEAR HOPING'S MOTHER: If this scenario seems strangely familiar to you, please know that your plans are no longer a secret and are causing great stress to your daughter.

Before you make any life-altering decisions, end the affair and start marriage counseling with your husband. It wouldn't hurt to begin family counseling as well.

**

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.

For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more attractive person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds only) to: Dear Abby Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included.)

COPYRIGHT 2003 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, March 7, 2003

Friends and contacts you've developed over time may prove to be very important to you in the year ahead. It will be these associates who will bring you the most success, both socially and commercially.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Today's ideas aren't apt to be as ingenious as those you conceived yesterday, especially where your work is concerned. Don't be overawed by what you accomplished previously.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Making a loan or borrowing something of value from a friend could turn out to be an unpleasant experience today. In either situation, you will be inviting potential complications.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Trying to juggle a number of delicate projects at one time today could prove disastrous. You'll have far better results in doing a proper job by attempting less.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Proceed cautiously and methodically today when attempting to put into action a plan that has yet to prove itself. There's a good chance a number of revisions will be necessary.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Set definite limits on your spending objectives and don't exceed them — no matter how good the bargains are. Putting yourself in debt could have frightening effects on you later.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Clarify your objectives today or else you could waste a lot of time and effort trying to achieve something that will neither further your cause nor advance your personal interests.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Be very discriminating today as to whom you go to for favors. Choosing the wrong person will not only meet with refusal, but this individual could describe your needs to others in unflattering ways.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — It's good to be hopeful and optimistic about something you want, but, unless it is realistic, you could be assuming things instead of facing the realities of the situations.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Should you have to deal with someone today who has made promises to you in the past that she or he never kept, be sure to keep this person's track record in mind and deal with things accordingly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Be careful today about what you attempt to market. It will prove very unwise if you try to sell people on something that you don't totally believe in yourself.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Depending upon the wrong person today could leave you suffering a loss due to this person's carelessness, ineptitude or lack of experience.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Make every effort to finish what you start today. If you leave things hanging fire, hoping to get to them later, they are apt to remain undone.

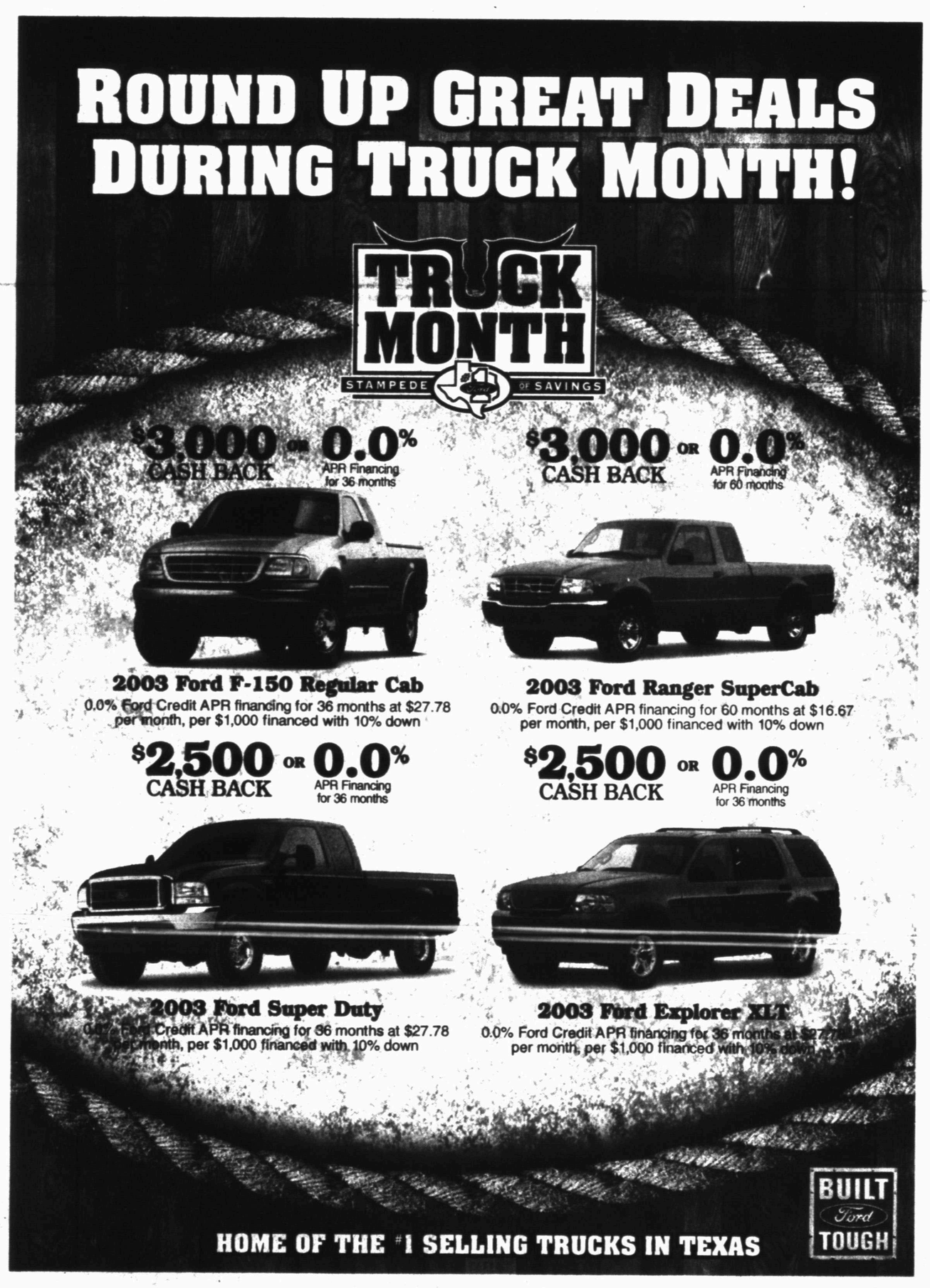
Get a jump on life by understanding the influences that are governing you in the year ahead. Send for your Astro-Graph year-ahead predictions by mailing $2 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167.

Copyright 2003, Newspaper Enterprise Assn.

Skakel complains about prison life in letters

CHESHIRE, Conn. (AP) — Michael Skakel, serving 20 years to life for the 1975 murder of his teen-age neighbor, has complained in letters to a cousin that he is receiving harsher treatment in prison than other inmates.

In letters to George Skakel III, of Greenwich, Skakel said he's twice been thrown into solitary confinement and has been denied his heart medication at Cheshire Correctional Institution, the Greenwich Post reported today. The paper said George Skakel gave it access to the letters.



WILSON MOTORS

BEST IN TEXAS

FORD
LINCOLN
MERCURY

1-800-545-5019 915-573-6352

YOUR TRANSPORTATION HEADQUARTERS FOR OVER 40 YEARS

East Hwy. 180 - Across from Coliseum Snyder, Texas

NOT ALL CUSTOMERS WILL QUALIFY FOR LOWEST APR FINANCING. SEE DEALER TO SEE IF YOU QUALIFY. Cash back includes $500 Bonus Cash on F-150 Light Duty 4x2 only. Residency restrictions apply. For cash back or APR financing on 2003 models, take new retail delivery from dealer stock by 3/3/03. Excludes Lightning, Harley-Davidson, 6.0L and 7.3L models. See dealer for details.

MAR 06 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Fort Hood deployment continues

FORT HOOD (AP) — Preparations for deployment are continuing at Fort Hood, despite questions about whether orders for the 4th Infantry Division may have been affected by the Turkish government's reluctance to allow U.S. soldiers to use its bases in a potential war against Iraq.

The 12,500 soldiers of the 4th Infantry received deployment orders in late January. Along with 17,000 more troops from the 1st Cavalry Division who received orders to deploy to Southwest Asia, that would bring the total number deployed from the nation's largest military post to almost 30,000.

"We received our deployment orders on January 20th," said Army Lt. Col. Bill MacDonald, the 4th Infantry Division's public affairs officer, on Wednesday. "Everything is the same now as it was then. There is no change from our perspective."

Fort Hood officials announced Monday the overseas deployment of 1st Cavalry Division troops. No date or destination was announced.

Retired Army Lt. Gen. Pete Taylor, a former III Corps and Fort Hood commander, said he trusts that post officials know what they're talking about when they say nothing has changed and that sending the 4th Infantry's equipment back wouldn't make sense on the heels of alerting the post's other division.

Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of Central Command, told a Department of Defense briefing on Wednesday that he would protect the planning effort, citing his interest in security and secrecy.

"We're going to protect our forces. We're going to protect our plan," Franks said. "And when the timing is right to make decisions like the destination of the 4th Infantry Division, then we'll be prepared to do that."

Soldiers were continuing to prepare for deployment.

"I'm ready to go," Sgt. 1st Class Richard Tulsie of the 1st Battalion, 10th Cavalry, 4th Infantry said.

Staff Sgt. Wilber McDaniel of the 13th Corps Support Command, also on deployment order, said his wife would likely welcome any news if a deployment were canceled.

"She won't be mad if I stay," he said with a laugh. "But we act when they say act and we stop when they say stop. That's the type of job we're in."

Staff Sgt. Anthony Hall of the 13th Corps Support Command said he has prepared by moving out of the house he was renting and is now living with a friend while he waits to head out.

"It comes with the territory," he said.

Lindh assaulted in federal prison

WASHINGTON (AP) — The FBI said today it was investigating an attack by an inmate on John Walker Lindh, who is imprisoned for helping the Taliban in Afghanistan.

"There was an assault and we have a pending investigation," FBI spokesman Ed Cogswell said here. He said he couldn't comment on the details of an ongoing probe.

Another law enforcement source speaking on condition of anonymity said Lindh was uninjured.

"It was a minor incident, a prison fight. He got a little scraped up, but he's fine. One guy was picking on him," said this source, speaking on condition of anonymity. The source said it wasn't possible to immediately provide information on Lindh's attacker.

The San Bernadino Sun received an anonymous tip early Tuesday that Lindh had been attacked.

"Yes, I'd like to inform your newspaper that John Lindh Walker, who is incarcerated in Victorville, was assaulted this night by a white supremacist organization that is imprisoned there. Thank you," the male caller said in a voice message.

The paper was unable to identify the caller or the attacker.

Lindh, 21, was sentenced in October to 20 years in prison after pleading guilty to supplying services to Afghanistan's defunct Taliban government and carrying explosives in commission of a felony. He has been at the medium-security federal prison in Victorville, Calif., northeast of Los Angeles, since January.

George Harris, an attorney with the San Francisco firm that represents Lindh, said he was unaware of any incident.

"We would be concerned if my client would be in danger," he said.

Federal Bureau of Prisons spokesman Dan Dunne said agency policy prohibits him from commenting on the details of an inmate's confinement.

But, he did say that Lindh remains "safely housed at Victorville. He is housed in a unit which is consistent with his individual safety and security needs."

Lindh, his parents and his legal representatives are under a gag order as a condition of his plea bargain and are barred from talking to the media, Dunne said.

Before arriving at the Victorville facility, Lindh had been held at a federal lockup in Virginia. He was moved to be closer to his parents, who live in Northern California.

Lindh was placed in the general prison population last month at his attorneys' request and was working as an orderly, cleaning indoors where guards could watch him, the Sun reported, citing an unnamed source it said works at the prison.

NASA's administrator urges changes to attract more people to space agency

WASHINGTON (AP) — NASA's administrator urged Congress today to allow the space agency to change the ways it recruits and retains its brightest scientists and engineers.

Administrator Sean O'Keefe warned that NASA faces dangerous shortages because of looming retirements and fewer college graduates with skills it needs.

O'Keefe described the situation as "alarming" at a Senate hearing, and said the agency's specialized employment requirements were destined for crisis unless lawmakers approved changes.

O'Keefe said the situation was especially poignant, given questions about NASA's future after the Columbia accident. The agency has been lobbying for these changes for more than a year. It employs about 19,000 people worldwide.

"We need to address these trends now by anticipating and mitigating their impact on NASA's work force in the near-term and beyond," O'Keefe said. "These indicators could lead to a severe work force crisis if we do not take prompt action."

Among other changes, O'Keefe endorsed better hiring and retention bonuses — beyond 25 percent of an engineer's base salary — and increases in the agency's top wages from $134,000 to $142,000, including adjustments to the salaries of NASA's most senior executives.

"We lost some individuals with skills we couldn't afford to lose" during the past decade, O'Keefe said, "and now these skills need to be replaced. Through downsizing and the normal attrition process, we lost key areas of our institutional knowledge base."

The chairman of the House Science Committee, Rep. Sherwood Boehlert, R-N.Y., has introduced a bill that includes many of the changes NASA is seeking.

"NASA has a human capital challenge of the highest order," said Boehlert, who testified at today's hearing. He described current employees as highly talented but cautioned that they are "leaving in droves."

Although O'Keefe made only passing reference to the Columbia accident in his prepared statement, he said the shuttle program and work on the International Space Station were vital to understand long-term effects of radiation and low gravity on humans.

O'Keefe said continuing those programs — which he said were particularly hard hit by a lack of skilled workers — is important for what he described as NASA's new vision to "improve life here, to extend life to there and to find life beyond."

O'Keefe said he does not believe NASA's difficulties in attracting talented employees played any role in the shuttle accident, but he acknowledged that the board investigating the disaster was looking at whether it might be a factor.

O'Keefe alluded to concerns about Columbia's safety expressed among midlevel engineers in e-mails during the days before the shuttle's breakup, saying there was "a spirited debate of folks judging the judgment" of those engineers.

O'Keefe cautioned that when such engineers involved in those discussions leave the agency, then "bench strength is not what it could be."

Arrests for possession and public intoxication reported

Arrest

Deputies arrested Esteban Aguilar, 37, of Tucson, Ariz. at 7:15 p.m. Tuesday on local warrants for possession of more than 50 pounds of marijuana.

Snyder officers arrested a 22-year-old man at the Kingswood Apartments at 9:09 p.m. Wednesday on warrants for public intoxication and for failure to appear before a judge.

Theft

Alex Gutierrez requested an officer in the 1900 block of 29th Street at 4:25 p.m. Wednesday and reported the theft of his entertainment center. He advised who might have taken the property and officers told him the proper steps to get it back.

Tony Sosa reported that he paid another subject to build an entertainment center, but he hadn't received it. Officers advised that an offense report for Class B theft would be submitted.

Daniel Highfield reported that two subjects stole more than $200 from his apartment Wednesday and officers submitted a report for the theft.

Obituaries

Opal Dean

1910-2003

Opal King Dean, 92, died Tuesday, March 4, at the home of her granddaughter, Edilyn Smith, in Snyder.

Funeral service for Mrs. Dean is set for 11 a.m. Saturday at Trinity Baptist Church in Big Spring with the Rev. Randy Cotton officiating.

Graveside service will follow at 2 p.m. Saturday in Hillside Memorial Gardens in Snyder. Arrangements are under the direction of Myers and Smith Funeral Home in Big Spring.

Born April 13, 1910 in Brownwood, she married Claude L. King in 1927 and he died in 1960. She married Ferman L. Dean on Aug. 16, 1973.

The Deans lived in Rising Star a few years before moving to Big Spring. Mr. Dean died on Oct. 6, 1998.

A homemaker, Mrs. Dean was a member of the order of Eastern Star and Trinity Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by a son, Eddy King; and five brothers, Lois, Gilbert, Carl, Paul and Dick Madison.

Survivors include two sons, Claude King of Quanah and Joe King of Huron, S.D.; a brother, Louie Madison of Andrews; six other grandchildren; 13 great-grandchildren; and 12 great-great-grandchildren.

Family visitation will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Friday at the funeral home. The family suggests memorials to the Trinity Baptist Church building fund, Box 1448 in Big Spring, 79721.

Personal, Professional Service
BELL CYPERT-SEALE FUNERAL HOME
3101 College Ave. 573-5454

Nona Ballew

1930-2003

SEMINOLE — Nona "Joey" Ballew, a native of Borden County, died Tuesday, March 4.

Funeral service for Mrs. Ballew, 72, was set for 2 p.m. today in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. R.A. Hanks officiating. Arrangements were under the direction of Boyer Funeral Home.

Born March 7, 1930 in Borden County, she married J.R. "Pat" Ballew on Aug. 13, 1953 in Lovington, N.M. She had lived in Seminole since 1937 until moving to Andrews one year ago.

A member of the First Baptist Church in Seminole, she was retired from American National Insurance Company and was co-owner of Seminole Safety Anchor.

She was preceded in death by her husband; and a son, Gene Cecil Ballew.

Survivors include a son, Pete Ballew of Andrews; two sisters, Pat Humble of Seminole and Irene Creighton of Gail; and three grandchildren.

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

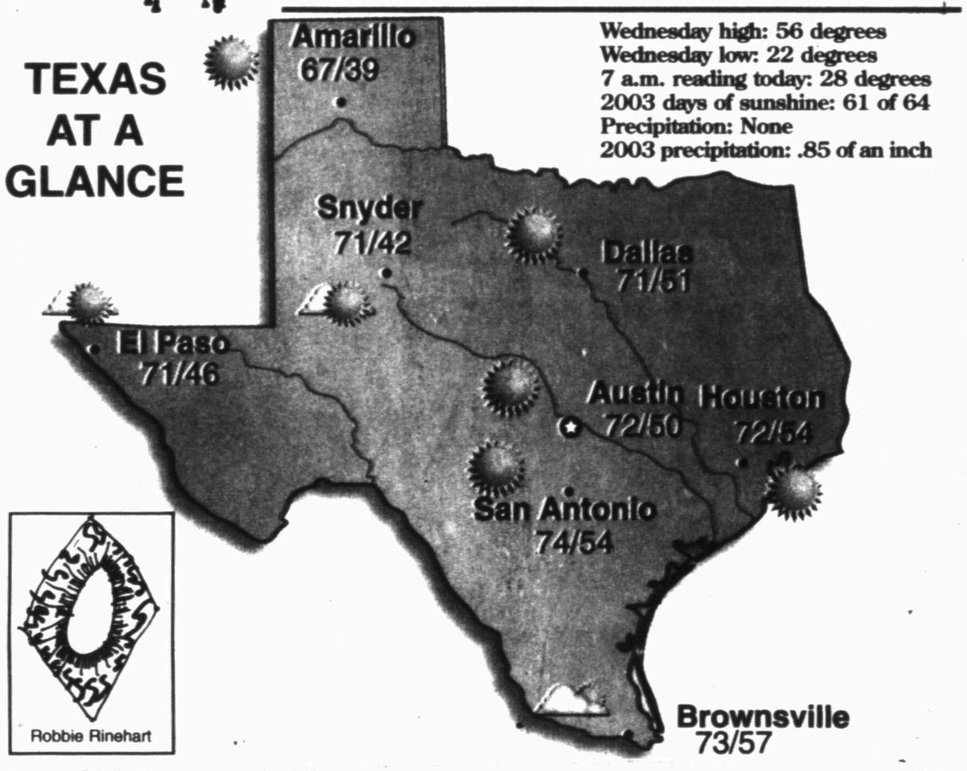
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 3/7	Sat 3/8	Sun 3/9
71/42	75/41	75/42
Mostly sunny skies. High 71F. Winds WSW at 5 to 10 mph.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.	Mix of sun and clouds. Highs in the mid 70s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise 7:04 AM / Sunset 6:45 PM	Sunrise 7:03 AM / Sunset 6:46 PM	Sunrise 7:02 AM / Sunset 6:47 PM

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
1901 26th Street • 573-5441
FDIC

TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Wednesday high: 56 degrees
Wednesday low: 22 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 28 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 61 of 64
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: .85 of an inch

Robbie Rinehart

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	73	49	sunny	El Paso	71	46	mst sunny	Midland	72	46	sunny
Amarillo	67	39	sunny	Fort Stockton	74	48	sunny	Raymondville	73	53	pt sunny
Austin	72	50	sunny	Gainesville	68	44	sunny	Rosenberg	72	53	sunny
Beaumont	72	53	mst sunny	Greenville	68	46	sunny	San Antonio	74	54	sunny
Brownsville	73	57	pt sunny	Houston	72	54	sunny	San Marcos	73	51	sunny
Brownwood	75	48	sunny	Kingsville	74	53	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	69	46	sunny
Corpus Christi	70	54	mst sunny	Livingston	72	49	sunny	Sweetwater	74	45	mst sunny
Corsicana	71	50	sunny	Longview	72	48	sunny	Tyler	73	52	sunny
Dallas	71	51	sunny	Lubbock	73	42	sunny	Weatherford	70	45	sunny
Del Rio	78	56	mst sunny	Lufkin	73	53	sunny	Wichita Falls	72	44	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	63	42	drizzle	Houston	72	54	sunny	Phoenix	76	52	mst sunny
Boston	31	28	mst sunny	Los Angeles	66	49	pt sunny	San Francisco	58	44	pt sunny
Chicago	44	31	pt sunny	Miami	88	72	pt sunny	Seattle	45	34	rain
Dallas	71	51	sunny	Minneapolis	37	22	cloudy	St. Louis	60	44	pt sunny
Denver	53	29	pt sunny	New York	37	32	pt sunny	Washington, DC	45	36	pt sunny

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Mar 3	Mar 11	Mar 18	Mar 25

UV Index

Fri 3/7	Sat 3/8	Sun 3/9
High	High	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

©2002 American Profile Hometown Content Service