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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY

Nov. 24, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 178
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Lisa Gray

NOV 24 2003

At 7:30 a.m....

Hospital board meets Tuesday

Cogdell Memorial Hospital's board of managers will review policies for its new assisted living center and geriatric psychiatric program when it meets at 7:30 Tuesday morning.

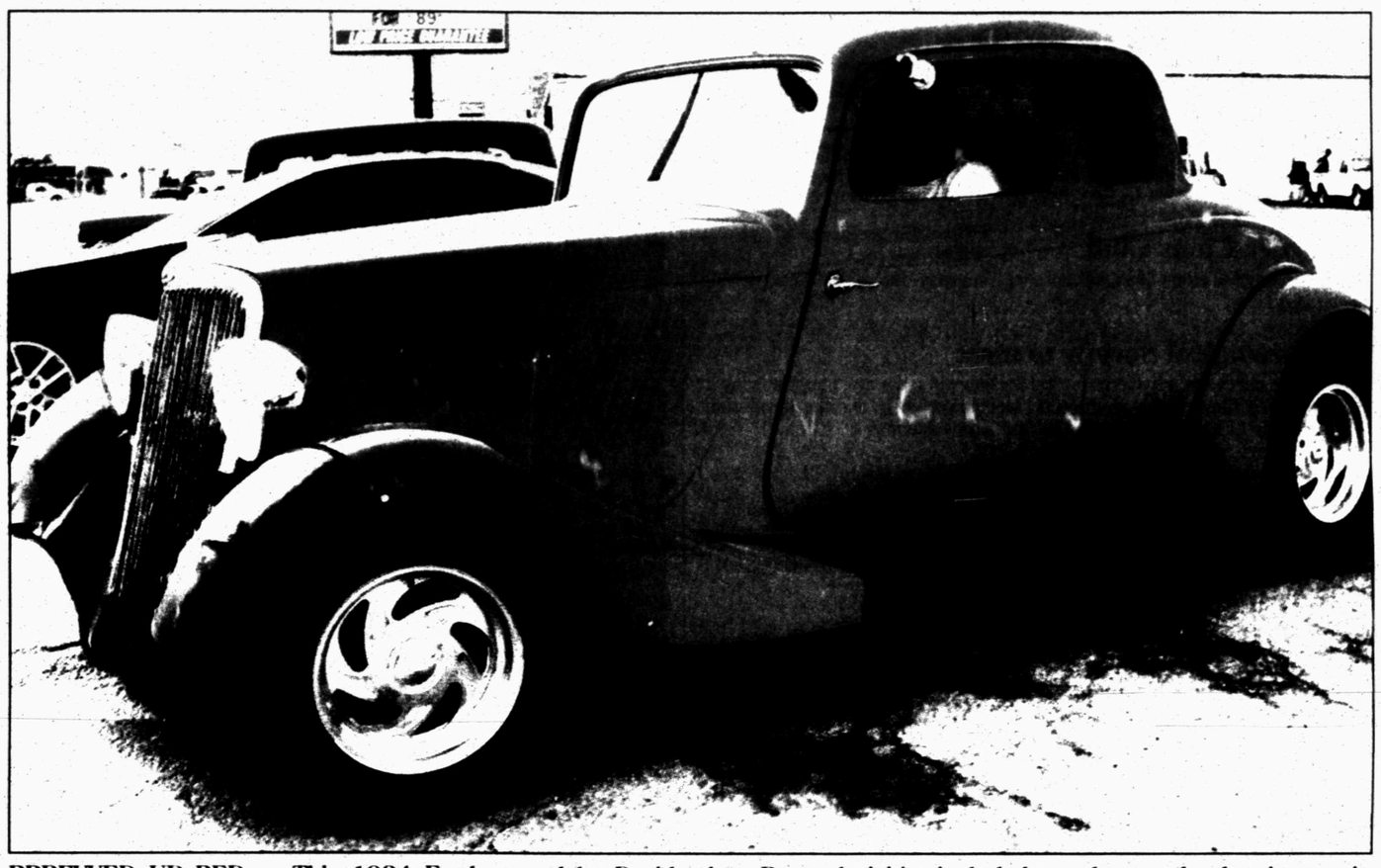
The former long-term care unit on the fourth floor of the hospital is being converted to an assisted living center and is currently undergoing some renovations prior to a state inspection.

The geriatric psychiatric program will be an outpatient program.

Other agenda items include the monthly medical staff report by Dr. Bid Cooper, and the monthly financial reports. Jean Hataway of the hospital's accounting office will lead the discussion on the financial statements and the certification of the bills payable.

Cheryl Chance, director of nurses, will give the monthly nursing report and in her position as acting chief executive officer, also will give the administrative report.

An executive session will be held as the board consults with an attorney.



RRREVVED UP RED — This 1934 Ford, owned by David Strunk and driven by Joe Dan Jones, was one of numerous classic cars at the Snyder Wheels Car Show. The show was part of many activities celebrating the grand opening of O'Reilly Auto Parts. Activities included a cookout and a drawing to win a Sony Playstation Nascar game which was won by Vicky Rowland.

Roadside bomb injures one in Mosul

MOSUL, Iraq (AP) — U.S. troops opened fire after an explosion near a military convoy today in Mosul, as fears grew that the anti-coalition insurgency was spreading north a day after two American soldiers were savagely beaten and killed in the same city.

Near the northern city of Kirkuk, an oil pipeline was on fire today. Adel al-Qazzaz, manager of the Northern Oil Company, said he believed sabotage was to blame. Insurgents have repeatedly targeted pipelines, and sabotage of oil infrastructure has become a major problem for the U.S.-run coalition.

In the Mosul attack, gunmen activated a roadside bomb and opened fire on the convoy, injuring a soldier, the military said.

Local residents said U.S. troops immediately cordoned the area in Hay al-Dobat neighborhood. "I heard a strong explosion saw the Americans randomly shooting in all directions," said Omar Hamed, a witness.

Also today, an Iraqi Sunni Muslim religious leader called on U.S. forces and resistance groups to observe a one-week cease-fire to allow the Iraqis to celebrate Eid al-Fitr, which marks the end of the holy month of Ramadan, media reports said.

Adnan al-Duleimi, the head of Iraq's Sunni endowments, appealed to guerrillas to cease operations for a week and also called coalition troops to stop raiding houses and chasing locals. His comments were broadcast by Arab satellite channels.

But there were fears that the insurgency was spreading northward from its original stronghold in the so-called Sunni Triangle.

On Sunday, gunmen in Mosul shot two American soldiers driving through the city center, sending their vehicle crashing into a wall. About a dozen swarming teenagers dragged the men out of the wreckage and beat them with concrete blocks, the witnesses said.

"One of the soldiers was shot under the chin and the bullet came out of his head. I saw the hole in his helmet. The other was shot in the throat," said Bahaa Jassim, a witness.

The city is 250 miles north of Baghdad.

Some people looted the vehicle of weapons, CDs and a backpack, Jassim said.

Jurors give Muhammad death

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. (AP) — Jurors decided today that John Allen Muhammad should be executed for masterminding the deadly sniper attacks that terrorized the Washington area for three weeks last fall.

As the verdict was read, Muhammad maintained the same unflinching demeanor he had shown through most of his trial. The jury deliberated five hours over two days before reaching the verdict against Muhammad, a 42-year-old Army veteran who had asked police to "Call me God" during the October 2002 spree.

Jurors had convicted him of murder a week ago and then heard testimony in the sentencing phase.

The jury's sentencing recommendation is not final. Circuit Judge LeRoy F. Millette Jr. can reduce the punishment to life in prison without parole when Muhammad is formally sentenced, but Virginia judges rarely do that. Sentencing is set for Feb. 12.

The jury concluded that prosecutors proved both aggravating factors allowing the death penalty: that Muhammad would pose a danger in the future or that his crimes were wantonly vile. He was sentenced to death on both counts he was convicted of last Monday: multiple murders within three years and murder as part of a terrorist plot.

"As we said from the get-go, the death penalty is reserved for the worst of the worse," prosecutor Paul Ebert said. "We think Mr. Muhammad fell into that category and we think the jury agreed."

"One thing's for sure they took pleasure in terrorizing people," he said. "They took pleasure in killing people and that's the kind of man that doesn't deserve to be in society."

Marion Lewis, 51, the father of sniper victim Lori Ann Lewis-Rivera, 25, said today that his relief at the jury's verdict was tempered.

"Now I have to wait 10 or 15 years for the execution to happen," he said. He added: "I don't believe there ever can be any total closure for something like this."

The jury also recommended the maximum sentences of 10 years in prison for conspiracy to murder and three years for using a firearm in a felony.

When Muhammad and his teenage co-defendant, Lee Boyd Malvo, were arrested on Oct. 24, 2002, several jurisdictions scrambled to prosecute them. Attorney General John Ashcroft decided to send them to Virginia to stand trial, citing the state's ability to impose "the ultimate sanction."

Only Texas has executed more people than Virginia since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976 — 310 to 89. Virginia is one of 21 states that allow the execution of inmates who committed capital crimes as 16- and 17-year-olds. Malvo was 17 at the time of the shootings.

During the sentencing phase of the trial, defense lawyers sought to portray Muhammad as a caring family man, showing jurors a home movie in which he played with his children and encouraged them to take their first steps. Several witnesses also testified he had a loving relationship with his kids.

Prosecutor James Willett said "that person no longer exists."

"He doesn't care about children, human life or anything else God put on this earth except himself," Willett said Thursday as he urged jurors to give Muhammad a death sentence.

Willett said Muhammad may have been a good father once, but "that person no longer exists. ... That person was murdered by this individual just as viciously and just as completely as everybody else."

The defense was barred from presenting any mental health evidence on Muhammad's behalf, because Muhammad refused to be interviewed by the prosecutors' psychiatrist.

SISD will close at noon Tuesday

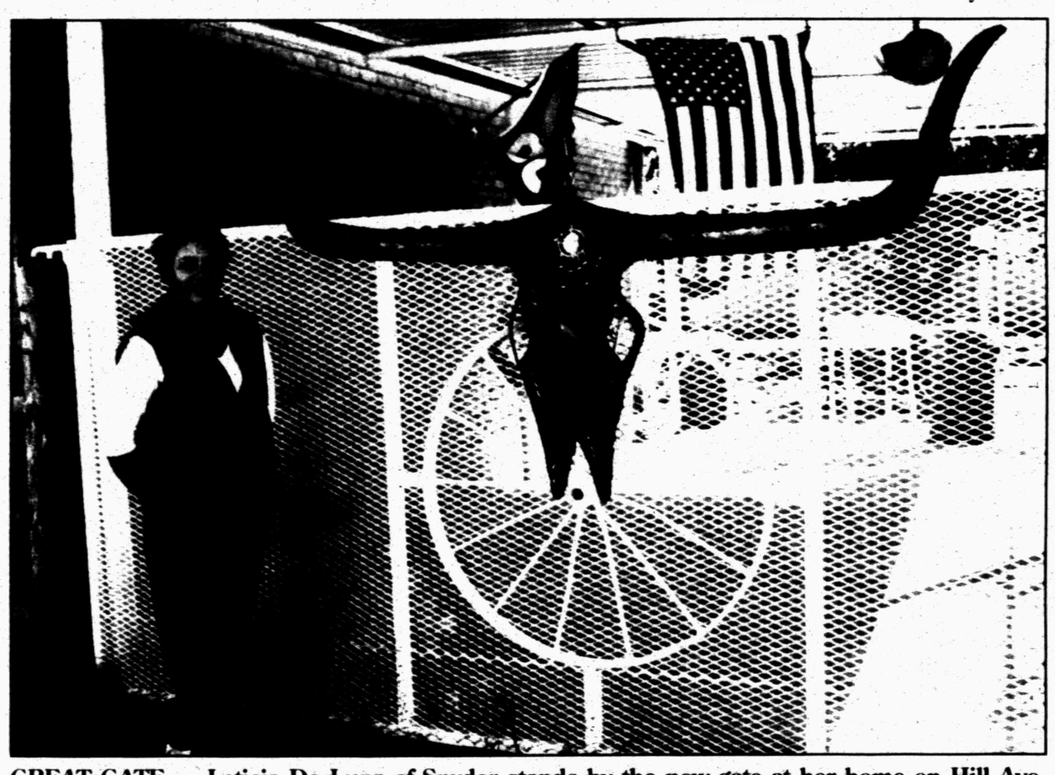
Snyder schools will dismiss at noon Tuesday for the Thanksgiving holidays and students will not return to class until Monday.

Both Hermleigh and Ira schools will dismiss at the regular time Tuesday and will also be out of class until Monday.

City Hall and the Scurry County courthouse will be closed in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday Thursday and Friday.

The Scurry County library will be closed Thursday through Sunday.

The city landfill will have a revised schedule this week. The landfill will close Thanksgiving Day, but will reopen on Friday. It will then be closed on Saturday and will resume normal hours on Monday.



GREAT GATE — Leticia De Luna of Snyder stands by the new gate at her home on Hill Ave. Her husband, Alfonso De Luna, built the gate in his spare time. (SDN Staff Photo)

Bush signs defense bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush signed a $401.3 billion defense authorization bill today, saying members of the U.S. armed forces are facing "a great and historic task" in confronting and defeating the forces of terrorism.

"The stakes for our country could not be higher," the president said at a Pentagon ceremony. "We face enemies that measure their progress by the chaos they inflict, the fear they spread and the innocent lives they destroy."

"America's military is standing between our country and grave danger," he proclaimed.

Bush spoke before leaving town for a holiday week at his ranch. On the way to Texas, Bush was stopping in Colorado at Fort Carson, home to four of the 16 soldiers killed Nov. 2 when a helicopter was shot down in the dangerous Sunni Triangle near Fallujah, Iraq. Fort Carson has sent 12,000 troops to Iraq, its largest deployment since World War II.

"We're standing for order and hope and democracy in Afghanistan and Iraq," the president said. "We're standing up for the security of all free nations and for the advance of freedom. The American people and your commander in chief are grateful," he said, "and we will support you in all your central missions."

At Fort Carson, he was to have lunch with soldiers, meet privately with families of some who have died and speak about the situation in Iraq, where on Sunday two U.S. troops were killed and then pummeled with concrete blocks and a soldier traveling in a convoy was killed by a roadside bomb.

U.S. policies in Iraq are a major political vulnerability for Bush in the 2004 election season.

After months in which more than half of Americans approved of the president's handling of Iraq, a recent CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll showed disapproval at 54 percent and approval at 45 percent. Other polls find the public evenly divided on that question.

Public approval of Bush's handling of the economy, meanwhile, has increased recently with positive news on that front.

ASK US

Q—Where can tickets be purchased for Saturday's playoff football game between Snyder and Wylie? How much are they?

A—Tickets are available at the ad building and the high school until 11 a.m. Tuesday. Student tickets are $3 and adult tickets are $5. All tickets will be $7 at San Angelo Stadium.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Mildred Hollis...

... is a 51-year resident of Snyder. She is the mother of Carolyn Greene, Snyder; Tommy Hollis, Amarillo; Benny Hollis, Houston; and Alice Townes of Bridgeport. She is the proud grandmother of 10 grandchildren and 2 great-grandchildren. Her biggest hobby is enjoying her kids and grandkids.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Time is a great teacher.
—Carl Sandburg

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "The Power of Influence," followed by "Keep the Marriage Bed Undefiled."

Snyder Lions Club

The Snyder Lions Club will not meet Tuesday due to the Thanksgiving holidays.

Genealogical Society to meet

The Scurry County Genealogical Society will meet at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the county library. The program is "Martin Preuitt Jr. and the Revolutionary Battle of King's Mountain." Visitors are welcome.

SJHS yearbooks

Snyder junior high Tiger Times yearbook is on sale through Tuesday in room 110. Cost is $16 or students may make an $8 deposit. No extra copies will be ordered.

2004 Bulldog annuals on sale

The 2004 Bulldog annuals are now on sale for $26 with your name on cover or $22 without. Sales will continue through Tuesday. Contact Becky Hudgins at Ira School to purchase a copy.

Poinsettia sale

The SHS choir poinsettia sale continues through next Monday when deliveries will be made. Cost is $10 and can be ordered from any SHS choir member.

Deadline for Tiger's Lair

The deadline for senior dedications in the Tiger's Lair Yearbook is next Monday. A message of up to 35 words, a picture and $45 should be mailed to SHS Student Publications, 2901 37th. Call 574-6138 for more information.

Ira School photos

The following Ira students will be photographed Tuesday, Dec. 2: K-11 retakes and new students. Also, class favorites 6-12; junior and high school basketball. Group pictures (and officers): Junior and high school FFA, FCA, NHS, Student Council. Envelopes for basketball pictures and retakes will be passed out on next Monday.

Ira 2004 calendars

Ira's junior class is selling 2004 calendars featuring students from K-12. Cost is $10. Contact sponsors Vicki Flowers or Ron Baker at 573-2628 for orders. Deadline is Dec. 4 for Christmas delivery.

Sophomore family night out

Sophomore family night out will be Thursday, Dec. 4, at the Spanish Inn. You must present your coupon with your receipt. For more information, call Lynette Cooper at 573-1558.

G/T parents meeting

A meeting for parents of gifted and talented students will be held at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 4, at the West Elementary auditorium.

Annual Christmas parade

Snyder's annual lighted Christmas parade will begin at 6:30 p.m. Dec. 6. Line-up begins at 6 p.m. at Moffett Field. For parade entries call 573-3558 for more information. Santa will be at Towle Park from 4-6 p.m. the same day. Anyone interested in having a booth in the park may call 573-9811.

Child welfare board fundraiser

The Scurry County child welfare board is offering tickets for $1,000 worth of merchandise. A donation of $10 per ticket is requested for a drawing to be held Dec. 6. Tickets are available from any board member or by calling 573-7053 or 573-2376.

Choir Christmas program

"The Christmas Suite" will be presented at 2 p.m. Dec. 7 in the Worsham Auditorium by the combined choirs of Snyder High School, Snyder Junior High and West Elementary. The concert will follow a Christmas dessert buffet in the student center. Tickets are $5 and can be purchased from any choir member.

LVN testing dates

Testing dates at WTC for LVN ASSET will be 1:30 p.m. on Dec. 9, Jan. 20 and Jan. 27. To reserve a time, you must contact the WTC counseling office at 573-8511, ext. 313. Limited seating is available.

WTC spring pre-registration

Pre-registration at WTC continues through Dec. 12. Students should call or go by the counseling center to make an appointment. The number is 573-8511, ext. 313. Students who have not passed THEA (formerly TASP) and are in DRE, DMT and DEN classes must wait until grades are posted.

Madrigal Christmas dinners

The annual Madrigal Christmas dinners presented by the SHS choral department will be held at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 15-16 at Martha Ann Woman's Club. Tickets are $15 and can be obtained by calling 573-6301.

Extra cookbooks available

Extra Home for the Holidays cookbooks can be purchased at the Scurry County Extension Office for $5 each.

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbook

2004 Tiger's Lair yearbooks can still be ordered for $45 for the book only with additional options available for an extra costs. For more information, call 574-6138.

WTC Lions Club raffle

WTC Lions Club is selling chances for two spring season passes for either baseball or softball. Tickets are $1 each or six for $5. Tickets are available from any WTC Lions Club member. The drawing will be held Dec. 10.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conversation District is taking orders through Jan. 31 for windbreak trees. Large trees available are Oaks, Pines, Desert Willows, Golden Raintree, Texas Redbud and Chinese Pistache and more. To place orders, call 573-6317.

MARTINI WINS — Cindy Martini, left, fifth grade teacher at Northeast Elementary, has won a 20-minute aqua massage at MB Beauty Salon. That was the prize in the "Why My Teacher Is The Best" contest sponsored by Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse. One of Martini's students, Blaire Toombs, wrote the winning essay. Angela Velasquez represents SACADA as the community coalition coordinator. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Last commuter train returns to Manhattan

NEW YORK (AP) — A commuter rail line connecting Manhattan with New Jersey that was severed during the World Trade Center attacks has been re-established following an emotional train trip undertaken by victims' family members.

The first PATH train to Manhattan since the attacks rolled into the temporary trade center station Sunday. The train used also was the last to leave the trade center on Sept. 11, 2001.

Thelma Stuart, whose husband, Port Authority police officer Walwyn Stuart Jr., was instrumental in safely evacuating that train — and who then returned to the trade center, where he died — rode in the first car with her 3-year-old daughter, Amanda.

"It's a great honor," she said.

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said re-establishing transportation between New Jersey and lower Manhattan "is really going to make an enormous difference to many people's lives and be part of the real revival of downtown Manhattan."

"It's a resumption of normalcy," said New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey, who joined Bloomberg and New Jersey Sens. Jon Corzine and Frank Lautenberg in the second car as it left Exchange Place in Jersey City, N.J.

As they emerged from the train, Bloomberg, McGreevey and the other officials shook hands with Port Authority workers and police officers and then gathered for a ceremony to rededicate the station.

"Today, we're proud and we're pleased to bring back to the people of this region something that was taken from us on Sept. 11," said Anthony Coscia, chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey.

Suspect in shooting is caught

BRISTOW, Okla. (AP) — Throughout their 37-day manhunt for Scott James Eizember, law enforcement authorities believed the murder suspect was hiding in the same area where he is accused of shooting to death an elderly couple in Depew.

Their hunch turned out to be correct. A volunteer food bank worker surprised Eizember inside the Depew Methodist Church on Sunday, a sighting that forced Eizember to flee to two other states before he was shot by an Arkansas physician he allegedly kidnapped.

Eizember was listed in stable condition at the Memorial Health System of East Texas in Lufkin early today, where he was being treated for four gunshot wounds to the chest, authorities said.

Eizember's capture ended one of the longest manhunts in Oklahoma history and brought a sense of relief to law officers who have searched in vain for the 42-year-old suspect since Oct. 18, when he is accused of killing A.J. Cantrell, 76, and his wife, Patsy Cantrell, 70.

"This is what we've been looking for," Creek County Chief Deputy Michael O'Keefe said at a televised news conference late Sunday. "We're very elated at this point that the search is over with."

Eizember had managed to elude teams of law enforcement officers who combed through dense woods near Depew and Bristow in Creek County, located between Oklahoma City and Tulsa.

"We felt all along the Eizember was in the area," O'Keefe said. "Eizember's very skilled in the woods."

Eizember has been charged with two counts of first-degree murder as well as shooting with intent to kill and assault with a deadly weapon.

In addition to the Cantrell's deaths, Eizember is accused of shooting 16-year-old Tyler Montgomery and beating Carla Wright, Montgomery's grandmother, who lived across the street from the Cantrells.

Wright's daughter, Kathy Biggs, is Eizember's former girlfriend, who authorities believe he had been stalking.

Oklahoma law enforcement agencies picked up Eizember's trail Sunday morning after he was spotted by a volunteer with the Depew Methodist Church food bank.

Today's chuckle

Bologna shaped like car seat confiscated

EL PASO (AP) — Border agents last week landed a meaty bust, seizing 756 pounds of bologna arranged into the shape of a car seat and covered with blankets in a man's pickup.

U.S. Customs and Border Protection officers seized 81 rolls of Mexican bologna Friday at the Paso Del Norte bridge as the pickup entered the United States.

"It puts the ultimate consumer at risk," said customs spokesman Roger Maier. "Who knows how long these products have gone without refrigeration or without proper handling?"

Children were sitting on top of the illegal load before it was discovered, Maier said.

The rear seat had been removed from the extended-cab pickup and the bologna was put in its place.

He said the agency plans to pursue civil penalties against the Mexican man driving the truck.

Maier said the agency won't release the man's name until the case goes to trial.

Maier said the bologna goes for about $1 a roll in Juarez. When it is sold to a customer in the United States, it can go for between $5 and $10 a roll , he said.

events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Saturday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Lotto Texas drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 1-5-9-26-35. Bonus Ball: 27.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: 0.

Number matching five of five: 2. Prize: $16,215.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 17. Prize: $1,731.

Number matching four of five: 702. Prize: $90.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 642. Prize: $87.

Number matching three of five: 26,686. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 7,656. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 32,342. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $10 million.

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — Results of the Cash 5 drawing Saturday night:

Winning numbers drawn: 2-20-25-28-37.

Number matching five of five: 2.

Prize per winner: $22,455.

Winning tickets sold in: West and Vidor.

Matching four of five: 136. Prize: $149.

Matching three of five: 4,232. Prize: $12.

Matching two of five: 43,869. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 6-0-7
(Night) 0-4-8

Oil Patch News

Scurry County

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 2178 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, five miles northwest of Snyder. Planned for a depth of 7,200 feet, drill site is in Section 249, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan will drill the No. 2156 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, four miles northwest of Snyder. Also planned for 7,200 feet, location is in Section 249, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Kinder Morgan has completed the No. 176-9 SACROC unit in the Kelly-Snyder field, four miles southeast of Snyder. The well was finaled to produce 476 barrels of oil and 1,544 barrels of water. Perforations were from 6,637-7,050 feet, and location is in Section 251, Block 97, H&TC survey.

Borden County

Chevron will drill the No. 3617 Jo-Mill field unit, 15 miles southwest of Gail. Planned for a depth of 7,400 feet, location is in Section 18, Block 32, T4N, T&P survey.

Sharp Image Energy will drill the No. 3-69B South Lake Thomas, a 7,500-foot wildcat located four miles north of Vincent. Location is in Section 69, Block20, Lavaca Navigation survey.

Howard County

Range Production Co. will drill the No. 1-A Garrett, a 7,000-foot wildcat located 14 miles southeast of Big Spring. Drill site is in Section 137, Block 29, W&NW survey.

Endeavor Energy Resources will drill the No. 2-76 Guitar in the Would Have field, five miles northwest of Big Spring. Planned for a depth of 7,000 feet, location is in Section 6, Block A, Bauer and Cockrell survey.

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Date Book

Monday, Nov. 24, 2003

Today is the 328th day of 2003 and the 63rd day of autumn.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1859, Charles Darwin's "Origin of the Species" was published. Darwin, anticipating relatively little interest, thought the initial figure of 1,250 printed copies to be too much. These copies ended up selling out on the first day.

On this day in 1871, the National Rifle Association was founded in New York City.

On this day in 1963, Jack Ruby shot Lee Harvey Oswald.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Zachary Taylor (1784-1850), U.S. president; Scott Joplin (1868-1917), pianist and composer; Dale Carnegie (1888-1955), writer; William F. Buckley Jr. (1925-), editor and writer, is 78.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1953, Walter Alston signed the first one-year contract to manage the Brooklyn Dodgers.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Keep on raging — to stop the aging." — Dale Carnegie

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Nov. 23) and first quarter (Nov. 30)

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ENTOMOLOGIST VISITS STANFIELD — Entomologist Deanna Holladay recently visited Stanfield Elementary School. Pictured looking at her samples are from left, Laura Hamby and her students Miccah Wesley, Katelee Brock, Amber Morin, Leia Chester, Malinda Torres, Braydin Moreland. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Democrats exclude Lieberman

DES MOINES, Iowa (AP) — Sen. Joe Lieberman wants to debate after all. And he's crying foul at the Democratic National Committee for excluding him from a presidential faceoff today.

The Connecticut senator, who is not competing in Iowa's caucuses, had rejected an invitation to attend the Des Moines debate sponsored by the DNC. Eight other candidates had agreed to attend.

Later, Sens. John Edwards of North Carolina and John Kerry of Massachusetts said they could not be here because the Senate is debating a GOP-backed Medicare bill they both oppose. The DNC agreed to allow them to participate by satellite from a Washington studio. Two television screens will show Edwards and Kerry on stage, alongside six rivals who will be there in person.

Lieberman, who also opposes the Medicare bill, asked to participate by satellite as well. The DNC consulted with the other campaigns, at least two of which said he should not be allowed to take part.

Lieberman's spokesman, Jano Cabrera, said, "We think this is unfair."

"The rules of the debate were changed and two candidates were allowed to participate remotely. Given these rule changes, we obviously were interested in debating. We're sure any technological problems can be worked out," Cabrera said.

DNC spokesman Jim Mulhall said: "When we heard the request of the Lieberman campaign, we made every effort to figure it out. But based on technological concerns and based on issues of fairness, we could not work it out. We canvassed and discussed the issues involved with all of the campaigns."

Retired Army Gen. Wesley Clark's campaign initially rejected an invitation to attend an upcoming debate in New Hampshire. When the campaign reversed course, the DNC accepted Clark's request to attend the debate in person — apparently without canvassing the other campaigns.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 11-24-03
♠ 8 6 4 3
♥ A Q 10
♦ A K Q 10
♣ 7 4

West
♠ Q 2
♥ 9 6 5
♦ 8 6 5 3 2
♣ J 5 2

East
♠ A
♥ 8 7 4 2
♦ J 4
♣ A K 10 9 6 3

South
♠ K J 10 9 7 5
♥ K J 3
♦ 9 7
♣ Q 8

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
			1 ♣
1 ♠	Pass	4 ♠	All pass

Opening lead: ♣ 2

Monday, Nov. 24, 2003

When there is only one option

By Phillip Alder

Danish philosopher Soren Kierkegaard wrote, "I see it all perfectly; there are two possible situations — one can either do this or that. My honest opinion and my friendly advice is this: do it or do not do it — you will regret both."

At the bridge table, often you can do this or do that, and if you find the winner, you will not regret your choice. In this deal, there are choices, but you should realize that one is much more promising than the others. Look at the North and East hands. Defending against four spades, your partner (West) leads the club two: four, king, queen. You try the club ace: eight, five, seven. What would you do next?

North judged that a slam was unlikely. So, instead of cue-bidding two clubs, he jumped straight to game.

You know that there is still one club outstanding, but West must have it. With a doubleton, he would have led his higher card.

You can see three tricks: one spade and two clubs. From where will the fourth come? Not hearts — both finesses are working if South needs them. Not diamonds — that suit is solid. And not clubs. So, that leaves only spades. If partner has king-doubleton, king-third or queen-third, it doesn't matter what you do; but if he has queen-doubleton or jack-third, it does. Lead another club.

Declarer will probably ruff in the dummy and call for a spade. But you win with the ace and play a fourth club, which here promotes your partner's spade queen as the setting trick.

Whenever you have taken all possible side-suit tricks, concede a ruff-and-sluff.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Pregnant teen is urged to seek adult guidance

DEAR ABBY: I was shocked when I read your reply to "Alone and Terrified," the teenage girl from Columbus, Ga. She had just discovered she was pregnant and was afraid to tell her parents because she was scared of their reaction. You advised her to go to Planned Parenthood. Were you advising her to get an abortion? — **APPALLED IN FLORIDA**

DEAR APPALLED: No. That's a matter of personal choice. I urged her to confide in her mother or another trusted female adult, and if she could not do that, to consult Planned Parenthood. The worst thing in the world a girl in that situation can do is nothing. I knew that Planned Parenthood would advise her about her entire range of options. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: Why did you assume that the girl couldn't trust her father enough to talk with him? In your mind, any trusted female seems preferable to talking to Dad. And what about the prospective father? — **DONALD C. HUBIN, PH.D., COLUMBUS, OHIO**

DEAR DONALD: If the father was the parent who gave the girl her sex education, then she might feel comfortable confiding in him. However, many young women are self-conscious, and therefore reluctant, to discuss their sexuality with their fathers. Had she felt she could depend on the boy involved, she wouldn't have signed herself "Alone and Terrified."

DEAR ABBY: If that girl aborts her baby, she will most likely suffer for the rest of her life with the guilt she will eventually feel for having chosen abortion. — **LISA S., NEW MILFORD, PA.**

DEAR LISA: That's not always the case. Reactions can vary. Although some women experience guilt, I have read that many report feeling a combination of regret and relief.

DEAR ABBY: Here in California a girl recently died because rather than going to her parents for help, she went to Planned Parenthood. Secrets should never be encouraged. Parents are the teen's best option. — **DANA S., ESCONDIDO, CALIF.**

DEAR DANA: All medical procedures, and that includes abortion, carry some risk. According to reports I have read, the girl died of septic shock after taking RU-486. However, abortions are far safer today than they were 10 years ago — and certainly safer than when the procedure was illegal and performed in back alleys.

My heart goes out to that girl's parents, and I agree that parents should be the best option. However, not all families are the kind we saw on "Leave It to Beaver," and many girls are afraid to confide in their parents.

DEAR ABBY: You should read "Grand Illusions," George Grant's expose of the racist roots of Planned Parenthood. Not to have advised that girl to visit her local Crisis Pregnancy Center was misleading. — **LENORE IN MANHATTAN, MONT.**

DEAR LENORE: Margaret Sanger, who founded the tiny birth control clinic that was to become the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, became a family planning crusader because she felt it was vital for POOR women (and that included women of color) to control their fertility and not be forced to have large families they couldn't take care of. A woman who is not in charge of her reproductive life is not in charge of her life. According to the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the average woman, without birth control, would have between 12 and 15 pregnancies in her lifetime.

Planned Parenthood's mission is to help women make the right choice for THEM. For some, that means carrying a pregnancy to term. For others, it means using birth control. And for still others it can mean having an abortion. It is a matter of personal freedom and deeply personal choice.

P.S. I would advise women to go to Crisis Pregnancy Centers if I were convinced they wouldn't be forced to watch color videos of aborted fetuses.

**

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.)

(EDITORS: For editorial questions, please contact Alan McDermott, amcdermott(at)amuniversal.com)

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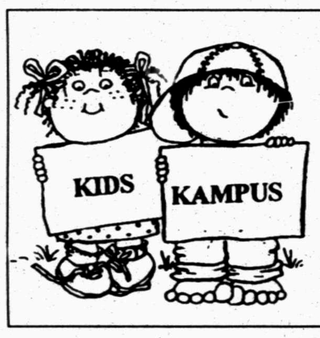
The first Italian-American state governor was John Pastore, who was elected chief executive of Rhode Island in 1945.



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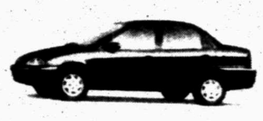

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SPORTS

NFL roundup...

Ravens, Rams come back in overtime

By The Associated Press

It was a long day for the Ravens, Rams and Patriots, and they all made the extra work pay off.

Baltimore staged a stunning rally from a 17-point fourth-quarter deficit Sunday and beat Seattle 44-41 in overtime on Matt Stover's 42-yard field goal.

"I think this day was a defining moment for our team," said linebacker Ray Lewis, who had 13 tackles. "We never stopped believing in each other. We stuck together as a team."

St. Louis needed a last-second field goal by Jeff Wilkins to force Arizona into OT, then Wilkins won it 30-27 with a 49-yard kick.

"I think I had a little more thoughts running through my head today," Wilkins said, "but fortunately when the time came, I was able to clear the mind and put a good foot on it."

New England also escaped on a field goal in the extra period as Adam Vinatieri connected from 28 yards to beat Houston 23-20.

"I didn't think we particularly played well, but we have a lot of tough guys in that locker room that stepped up and made a lot of big plays at key times," Patriots coach Bill Belichick said.

Ravens 44, Seahawks 41, OT

At Baltimore, the Ravens (6-5) stormed back behind Anthony Wright. The former third-string quarterback had the finest performance of his career. He went 20-for-37 for 319 yards and a personal-best four touchdowns — all to Marcus Robinson.

Matt Hasselbeck threw a career-high five touchdown passes for the Seahawks, going 23-for-41 for 333 yards. Darrell Jackson had seven receptions for 146 yards and two scores, and Bobby Engram also had two touchdown catches. But the Seahawks (7-4) fell to 1-4 on the road.

Patriots 23, Texans 20, OT

At Houston, Tom Brady's 4-yard touchdown pass to Daniel Graham forced overtime, but Adam Vinatieri had his 37-yard field-goal attempt blocked early in the extra session. Then, Vinatieri made the winner with 41 seconds left to extend New England's winning streak to seven games.

The Patriots (9-2) were ready to end overtime quickly when Mike Vrabel picked off Tony Banks' pass on the first play. But Ramon Walker gave the Texans (4-7) a stay with the first field goal block in franchise history.

Rams 30, Cardinals 27, OT

At Tempe, Ariz., St. Louis (8-3) took sole possession of the NFC West lead after Wilkins' second winning kick in a row — his 31-yarder last week beat the Bears. Marc Bulger, who threw four interceptions, led the Rams on a 16-play, 82-yard drive and Wilkins' 24-yard field goal tied it at 27 as regulation ended.

Jeff Blake threw two second-half touchdown passes to rookie Anquan Boldin and the Cardinals (3-8) rallied from a 14-point third-quarter deficit to take a 27-24 lead. Boldin caught six passes for 123 yards to fall a yard shy of tying the NFL record for the quickest to 1,000 yards receiving by a rookie. He has 66 catches for 999 yards.

Chiefs 27, Raiders 24

At Kansas City, another classic in this long rivalry ended when Morten Andersen booted a 35-yard field goal with 4 seconds left. Trent Green hit Marc Boerigter for 16 yards on fourth-and-14 to set it up for the Chiefs (10-1), who have the NFL's best record.

Priest Holmes, whose 15 TDs rushing lead the NFL, had 91 yards rushing and 100 yards receiving. He went over the 1,000-yard rushing mark for the third straight year.

Jerry Rice, 41, caught a milestone touchdown pass from Rick Mirer for Oakland (3-8). His 47-yard touchdown was reception No. 1,500 and TD catch No. 193, both NFL records.

Titans 38, Falcons 31

At Atlanta, with Steve McNair sidelined by a calf injury, Billy Volek threw his second career touchdown pass, rallying the Titans (9-2) from a 21-point deficit. Justin McCareins scored twice, on a 58-yard punt return and a 14-yard TD pass from Volek.

Atlanta (2-9) got an 86-guard touchdown on a screen pass to Warrick Dunn and Doug Johnson threw for 276 yards.

Colts 17, Bills 14

At Orchard Park, N.Y., Edgerrin James carried Indianapolis' banged-up offense, scoring twice, including the winner on a fourth-down plunge from inside the 1 with 1:38 remaining.

The Colts (9-2) won with leading receiver Marvin Harrison seeing limited action because of a hamstring injury.

Buffalo (4-7) got two touchdowns after going three games without one, but lost its fourth in a row.

Packers 20, 49ers 10

At Green Bay, Wis., the Packers (6-5) gained 243 yards on 48 carries in dominating San Francisco (5-6) on the ground.

Ahman Green ran for 154 yards on 27 carries and set franchise records with his fourth straight 100-yard game and eighth of the season. He also surpassed John Brockington as the second-leading rusher in team history, trailing only Jim Taylor.

The Packers beat the Niners for the 10th time in 11 tries when quarterbacked by Brett Favre, who threw two touchdown passes. He has at least 20 TDs for the 10th straight season, tying Dan Marino's NFL record.

Vikings 24, Lions 14

At Minneapolis, the Vikings (7-4) snapped a four-game losing streak and remained one game ahead of Green Bay in the NFC North. Corey Chavous and Brian Williams each returned interceptions for touchdowns late in the game.

The Lions (3-8) tied Buffalo (1983-86) for the second-longest road skid in NFL history at 22 games. The Houston Oilers (1981-84) own the league record with 23 consecutive losses away from home.

Eagles 33, Saints 20

At Philadelphia, Donovan McNabb completed 16 of 25 passes for 259 yards and one touchdown, leading the Eagles (8-3) to their sixth straight victory. David Akers added four field goals.

Deuce McAllister had 184 yards rushing, including TD runs of 76 and 22 yards, and Aaron Brooks threw for 287 yards for the Saints (5-6).

Dolphins 24, Redskins 23

At Miami, Jay Fiedler came off the bench late in the third quarter and helped the Dolphins rally from a 13-point deficit. Fiedler led scoring drives of 71 and 69 yards, both ending with touchdowns by Ricky Williams, who ran for 107 yards.

The largest fourth-quarter comeback by the Dolphins (7-4) since 1980 came in their debut in orange jerseys.

Washington (4-7) lost for the sixth time in seven games. Bruce Smith tied Reggie White's NFL career sacks record by getting a half-sack.

Bears 19, Broncos 10

At Denver, Chicago (4-7) benefited from good field position and two pass interference penalties against Lenny Walls. Kordell Stewart scored on a 1-yard run after replacing Chris Chandler, and Paul Edinger kicked four field goals.

Clinton Portis finished with 165 yards on 14 carries for his second straight 1,000-yard season for Denver (6-5).

Bengals 34, Chargers 27

At San Diego, the Bengals (6-5) stayed atop the AFC North with Baltimore.

Jon Kitna matched his career high with four touchdown passes, three to Chad Johnson, and Corey Dillon ran for 108 yards on 18 carries to help the Bengals win for the fifth time in six games.

San Diego (2-9) has lost 16 of its last 20 under coach Marty Schottenheimer and will miss the playoffs for the eighth straight season.

Steelers 13, Browns 6

At Cleveland, the Browns (4-7) couldn't hold onto the ball or do anything when they threatened the Steelers' goal line.

Pittsburgh (4-7) capitalized on five Cleveland turnovers and Jerome Bettis ran for a season-high 93 yards.

Jets 13, Jaguars 10

At East Rutherford, N.J., Jacksonville (2-9) outplayed and outgained New York (4-7) all game. But Chad Pennington threw a 3-yard touchdown pass to Santana Moss with 26 seconds remaining, capping a 94-yard drive.

Boys run out of juice; girls crush visiting Lake View

The Snyder Tigers held on for as long as possible Saturday, ultimately running out of bodies and energy in a 65-47 loss to San Angelo Lake View Saturday.

Snyder led at halftime, but wore down against the bigger and deeper Chiefs.

"We just ran out of gas," head coach Bud Birks said. "We did a lot of good things, but we need to be tougher. We got good experience for our young guys, and they did a good job."

Snyder was paced offensively by Lee Scott, who led all scorers with 28 points. Cade Simpson added nine, and Austin Hatfield recorded seven.

AJ Ross led Lake View with 27, while Tony Smith added 14.

The Tigers will travel to Monterey for a varsity game at 7:30 tonight, while the freshmen head to Big Spring for a 6:30 p.m. match-up.

The Tigers will host Big Spring at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, with just a varsity game scheduled to close out the schedule for the week.

Snyder 58, Lake View 33

The Lady Tigers held Lake View to three first quarter field goals, building upon a 14-point halftime lead to blow past the San Angelo school, 58-33.

Erin Burleson and Terann Ragland combined for 13 of Snyder's 17 first quarter points as the Lady Tigers built their lead in each quarter.

"We got in their passing lanes and forced some turnovers," head coach Mike Martin said. "We did a great job on the boards and shot better."

Burleson, Ragland and Sirena Medrano each drained a three-pointer in the third period, as the Lady Tigers built a 43-23 lead at the end of the third.

Brianna Burks was 4-for-4 from the charity stripe in the fourth quarter, and Glyn Wright finished with nine points, hitting from the floor in each period.

Burleson paced the Lady Tigers with 12, while Ragland finished with 10.

Jordan Stansell had six, and Sarah Henson and Teddi Crenwelge posted five points each.

Martin said he expects to see continued improvement.

"The learning curve is going to be accelerated because we have so many young ones," he said.

The Lady Tigers host Clyde at 7:30 tonight, before closing out the schedule this week with a 6 p.m. Tuesday contest at Frenship.

Red Raiders outlast ETSU

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas Tech got the victory but coach Bob Knight was clearly frustrated.

He wasn't happy with his players' concentration, energy level or their execution in a 64-53 win over ETSU Sunday night.

"Whether we'll ever get there or not, I don't know," Knight said after the game. "We were able to survive a difficult game offensively because we did play defense."

Andre Emmett scored 25 points and grabbed 13 rebounds to lead the Red Raiders (3-0) who led throughout the game but had to stave off a late first-half surge by the Buccaneers (1-1). Tech plays its NIT semifinal game against Utah on Wednesday night.

"We got the win, but if we want to accomplish the goals we set, we can't play like that," Emmett said. Down by five at the break, ETSU didn't get its first field goal of the second half until Brad Nuckles put back a rebound with 14:42 remaining to pull within 39-30.

Tech's largest lead was 49-32 and it came with 11:13 remaining in the game when Emmett, who finished 10-of-16 from the field, hit an 8-foot jumper from inside the lane. In the final three minutes of the game, the Buccaneers twice cut the margin to nine but could get no closer.

SHS golfers 11th at Marble Falls, Horshoe Bay tourney

The Snyder varsity boys golf team recorded an 11th place finish over a two-day tournament split between Horseshoe Bay and Marble Falls.

The opening round was held at Slickrock Golf Course at Horseshoe Bay, with the final round at Meadowlakes Country Club in Marble Falls.

Wyl Wiggins shot an 86-85 171 to lead the Tigers. Blake Scott fired an 81-92, 173, while Cole Robertson knocked 12 strokes off his opening day total 93 to record an 81 in the second round. He finished with a 174. Matt Schoolcraft carded a 100-99 199 in the tournament.

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Class 3A Playoff Pairings

CLASS 3A
DIVISION I
Region I

Quarterfinals

Snyder (8-4) vs. Abilene Wylie (8-4), 2 p.m. Saturday at San Angelo Stadium, San Angelo.

Region II

Quarterfinals

Gainesville (12-0) vs. Forney (11-1), 4:30 p.m. Friday at Texas Stadium, Arlington.

Region III

Quarterfinals

Jasper (10-2) vs. Manor (10-2), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Bryan.

Region IV

Quarterfinals

Burnet (12-0) vs. Sinton (8-4), 3 p.m. Friday at Corpus Christi's Buccaneer Stadium.

DIVISION II
Region I

Regionals

Sweetwater vs. Vernon (9-2), 2 p.m. Saturday at Lowery Field, Lubbock.

Merkel (9-3) vs. Kennedale (11-1), 6 p.m. Saturday at Wichita Falls.

Region II

Regionals

Gilmer (12-0) vs. Tatum (8-4), TBA.

Atlanta (8-4) vs. Jefferson (8-4), 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sam Parker Field, Mount Pleasant.

Region III

Regionals

China Spring (10-2) vs. Bellville (12-0), 7:30 p.m. Friday at Round Rock ISD.

Marlin (8-4) vs. La Grange, TBA.

Region IV

Regionals

Liberty Hill (11-1) vs. Port Isabel (8-3), 2 p.m. Saturday at Seguin.

Rice Consolidated (10-2) vs. Devine (7-5), 7:30 p.m. Saturday at Seguin.

National Football League

AMERICAN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
East						
New England	9	2	0	.818	219	175
Miami	7	4	0	.636	201	170
Buffalo	4	7	0	.364	173	187
N.Y. Jets	4	7	0	.364	210	221
South						
Indianapolis	9	2	0	.818	309	216
Tennessee	9	2	0	.818	303	208
Houston	4	7	0	.364	194	277
Jacksonville	2	9	0	.182	185	254
North						
Baltimore	6	5	0	.545	256	232
Cincinnati	6	5	0	.545	244	246
Cleveland	4	7	0	.364	185	190
Pittsburgh	4	7	0	.364	203	253
West						
Kansas City	10	1	0	.909	333	198
Denver	6	5	0	.545	257	198
Oakland	3	8	0	.273	214	256
San Diego	2	9	0	.182	209	314

NATIONAL CONFERENCE	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
East						
Dallas	8	3	0	.727	205	168
Philadelphia	8	3	0	.727	220	196
N.Y. Giants	4	6	0	.400	182	223
Washington	4	7	0	.364	216	256
South						
Carolina	8	3	0	.727	218	204
New Orleans	5	6	0	.455	232	258
Tampa Bay	4	6	0	.400	201	161
Atlanta	2	9	0	.182	208	311
North						
Minnesota	7	4	0	.636	293	247
Green Bay	6	5	0	.545	284	233
Chicago	4	7	0	.364	191	244
Detroit	3	8	0	.273	180	266
West						
St. Louis	8	3	0	.727	299	229
Seattle	7	4	0	.636	289	232
San Francisco	5	6	0	.455	242	186
Arizona	3	8	0	.273	163	309

Sunday's Games

Dallas 24, Carolina 20
Baltimore 44, Seattle 41, OT
New England 23, Houston 20, OT
N.Y. Jets 13, Jacksonville 10
Indianapolis 17, Buffalo 14
Green Bay 20, San Francisco 10
Minnesota 24, Detroit 14
Pittsburgh 13, Cleveland 6
Philadelphia 33, New Orleans 20
St. Louis 30, Arizona 27, OT
Chicago 19, Denver 10
Tennessee 38, Atlanta 31
Kansas City 27, Oakland 24
Cincinnati 34, San Diego 27
Miami 24, Washington 23

Today's Game

N.Y. Giants at Tampa Bay, 8 p.m.

Thursday's Games

Green Bay at Detroit, 11:30 a.m.
Miami at Dallas, 3:05 p.m.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Atlantic Division							
Philadelphia	12	2	4	1	29	60	36
New Jersey	11	3	4	0	26	46	30
N.Y. Islanders	9	8	2	0	20	58	46
N.Y. Rangers	7	7	4	2	20	53	52
Pittsburgh	5	10	3	1	14	36	67
Northeast Division							
Boston	11	3	3	3	28	56	44
Toronto	8	6	5	2	23	52	59
Buffalo	9	9	2	1	21	46	54
Ottawa	8	7	2	2	20	59	46
Montreal	9	10	1	1	20	44	49
Southeast Division							
Tampa Bay	11	2	3	1	26	47	29
Atlanta	11	7	3	1	26	65	59
Florida	8	12	2	0	18	48	61
Carolina	5	9	7	0	17	41	53
Washington	5	13	1	1	12	48	60
WESTERN CONFERENCE							
Central Division							
St. Louis	12	5	0	1	25	48	40
Detroit	11	8	2	0	24	65	52
Chicago	6	9	4	3	19	41	61
Nashville	8	10	1	0	17	47	53
Columbus	7	10	2	1	17	41	52
Northwest Division							
Vancouver	12	5	2	2	28	68	48
Colorado	12	6	1	1	26	62	49
Edmonton	10	8	2	0	22	61	59
Calgary	9	8	0	2	20	39	44
Minnesota	8	10	3	0	19	49	51
Pacific Division							
Los Angeles	10	7	1	1	22	50	41
Anaheim	7	7	2	5	21	45	55
San Jose	5	6	8	2	20	53	55
Dallas	8	10	3	0	19	47	56
Phoenix	6	8	5	1	18	47	61

Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.

Sunday's Games

Atlanta 1, Phoenix 0
N.Y. Rangers 6, Ottawa 2
Tampa Bay 0, Carolina 0, tie

Monday's Games

Buffalo at Florida, 6:30 p.m.
Washington at Detroit, 6:30 p.m.
Vancouver at Toronto, 6:30 p.m.
Phoenix at Dallas, 7:30 p.m.
Nashville at Colorado, 8 p.m.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlantic Division				
Philadelphia	7	7	.500	—
Boston	5	7	.417	1
New Jersey	5	7	.417	1
Washington	5	8	.385	1½
New York	4	9	.308	2½
Miami	3	11	.214	4
Orlando	1	12	.077	5½
Central Division				
Indiana	10	2	.833	—
New Orleans	10	4	.714	1
Detroit	9	5	.643	2
Milwaukee	6	7	.462	4½
Toronto	6	7	.462	4½
Atlanta	5	9	.357	6
Chicago	4	10	.286	7
Cleveland	4	10	.286	7
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
Dallas	9	4	.692	—
Houston	8	4	.667	½
Minnesota	8	5	.615	1
San Antonio	8	6	.571	1½
Denver	7	6	.538	2
Utah	7	6	.538	2
Memphis	6	6	.500	2½
Pacific Division				
L.A. Lakers	11	3	.786	—
Sacramento	9	4	.692	1½
Seattle	7	4	.636	2½
Portland	7	6	.538	3½
Phoenix	6	6	.500	4
Golden State	6	7	.462	4½
L.A. Clippers	4	5	.444	4½

Sunday's Games

Milwaukee 82, Toronto 62
New Orleans 81, Detroit 80
Sacramento 110, Chicago 99
Golden State 78, Portland 72
Seattle 88, Washington 85
L.A. Lakers 121, Memphis 89

Today's Games

New York at Boston, 6 p.m.
Indiana at Orlando, 6 p.m.
Detroit at Atlanta, 6:30 p.m.
Houston at L.A. Clippers, 9:30 p.m.

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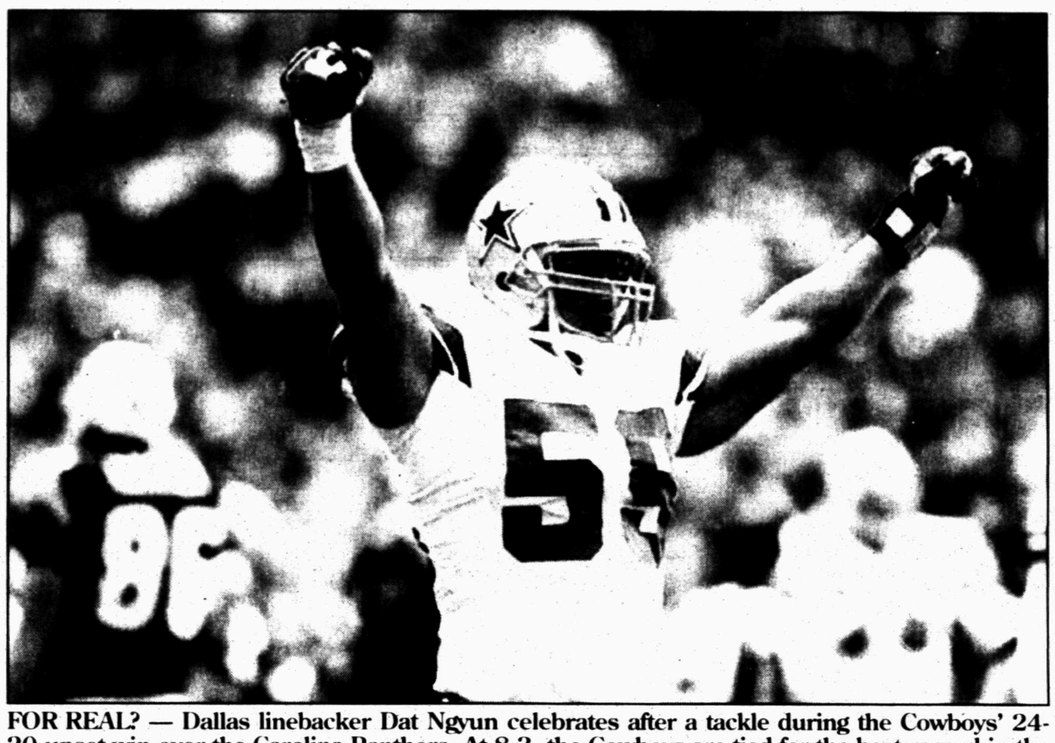
SPORTS



FOR REAL? — Dallas linebacker Dat Ngyun celebrates after a tackle during the Cowboys' 24-20 upset win over the Carolina Panthers. At 8-3, the Cowboys are tied for the best record in the NFC and are tied with Philadelphia for first place inthe NFC East. (AP Photo)

Cowboys upset Panthers to guarantee .500 record

IRVING (AP) — The Dallas Cowboys can't be called losers in their first year under Bill Parcells, no matter what happens the rest of the season.

Dallas is guaranteed at least a .500 season after beating the Panthers 24-20 Sunday. After three straight 5-11 seasons, that's a big accomplishment — especially with five games left.

"We may not be winners, but we're not losers anymore," Parcells said.

Quincy Carter threw two touchdown passes, then converted two third downs on the final, clock-milking drive to prevent another Carolina comeback.

The Cowboys (8-3) are tied with Carolina, St. Louis and Philadelphia for the NFC's best record. The NFC East rival Eagles have won six straight since losing at Dallas.

Carolina is home next week against the Eagles, a week before the Cowboys play at Philadelphia.

And Dallas goes into its Thanksgiving Day game against Miami with eight wins for the first time since 1998, its last winning season.

"We'll see what we can do," Parcells said. "We have a lot of football left, but we're going to be in the hunt for a while."

Carolina has already matched its win total from the last two years combined, but is still short of clinching the second winning season in the nine-year team history. The other was when the Panthers went to the NFC championship game in 1996.

"My confidence is not at all shaken," said Panthers quarterback Jake Delhomme, who was just 9-of-24 for 175 yards and a touchdown. "We just didn't play too well, and we know it."

The Panthers had already won six games in the final two minutes or overtime. After John Kasey's 34-yard field goal with 3:47 left, Carter didn't give them a chance to make it seven.

Carolina never got the ball back.

Carter scrambled for 4 yards on third-and-9 from the 21 before two penalty flags, one a 15-yarder on Brenston Buckner for grabbing Carter's facemask. The clincher was a 13-yard pass to Jason Whitten on third-and-8 with 1:39 left.

Carter finished with the most attempts (44) and completions (29) of his career, for 254 yards. His early 24-yard TD pass to Joey Galloway was his longest completion, and he later threw a 5-yarder to Jeff Robinson — whose primary job is deep snapping.

"It's not like he was Joe Montana out there. His receivers made a lot of plays," Buckner said of Carter. "He took the safe 5-yard pass and didn't force anything."

The Cowboys' offense scored three touchdowns. Dallas had just four in the previous four-game stretch that included two shutout losses and a 10-6 win.

"Good teams are going to score points, you have to know that as an offense," Carter said. "Our defense has carried us for a while. It was important for us to come out and give the defense a chance."

Until fullback Richie Anderson took a handoff and pitched out to Aveion Cason for a 16-yard TD that made it 24-17 late in the third quarter, Carolina answered each Dallas score, tying the game at 3, 10 and 17.

Delhomme's 1-yard TD pass to Brad Hoover tied the game at 17 on the possession before the Cowboys' trickery for the go-ahead score.

Men's League Basketball

Snyder National Bank stayed a game behind league-leading West Texas State Bank with a 68-49 win over Rotan Sunday.

Marquise Lenard and Eric Boone pumped in 17 each for SNB, while Rotan's Shane Salazar led all scorers with 21.

Matthew Fambro hit for 27 and Bryan Cave chipped in with 21 as American State Bank hammered Big Country Autoland, 95-64. Jeremiah Roden scored 20 for Big Country.

WTSB	6	1
SNB	5	2
ASB	5	3
Rotan	2	9
Big Country	1	10

Mourning quits, needs transplant

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — New Jersey Nets center Alonzo Mourning is leaving basketball again because the kidney disease he's had for three years is worsening and he needs a transplant.

The announcement today came just a few months after Mourning signed a four-year contract with the Nets believed to be worth $22 million. The four-time All-Star sat out all of last season and large portions of two of the last three years because of the kidney ailment, focal glomerulosclerosis

The team said Mourning needs a transplant "in the near future" and that a nationwide search is under way for a prospective donor.

"Alonzo is a true champion and a very courageous athlete who attempted to defy the odds with his comeback to the NBA," Nets president Rod Thorn said. "Unfortunately, his medical condition will not allow him to continue his basketball career."

Dr. Gerald Appel of Columbia University Medical Center said Mourning's kidney function has deteriorated rapidly.

"It is no longer medically safe for him to play basketball," Appel said. "Although he still feels well, the chemical imbalances in his blood make it dangerous for him to play."

Bulls fire Cartwright

CHICAGO (AP) — Bulls coach Bill Cartwright was fired Monday after Chicago's 4-10 start to a season that was supposed to bring marked improvement.

Pete Myers will be the interim coach, and general manager John Paxson hopes to name a replacement within the next week.

"The team is underperforming and we have to find ways to win, period," Paxson said. "I am not satisfied with the team's start this season and changes have to be made. This represents the first change, but not necessarily the last."

Cartwright is the second NBA coach to be fired this season following Doc Rivers at Orlando.

The Bulls were in Dallas, where they play the Mavericks on Tuesday night. Paxson was to meet with the team and then return to Chicago.

The Bulls have lost seven of their past 10 games. They've struggled offensively and defensively, and haven't been able to find a rhythm despite returning three starters from last year's squad that won 30 games for the first time since 1998.

Even worse, the team has shown little energy. Its first four losses were by an average of 27 points, including back-to-back 30-point blowouts. Eddy Curry, expected to have a breakout year, has struggled, while Tyson Chandler has battled a back injury for much of the season.

Cartwright's dismissal had been rumored for days, and he seemed to have made peace with it Sunday, when Sacramento beat Chicago 110-99 in his last game as the team's coach. Cartwright had more than 20 family members and friends at the game near his hometown of Elk Grove, Calif.

"My dad's wisdom was simple: Just do the best you can and come on home," Cartwright said. "That's it."

Cartwright is 51-100 in almost two seasons as coach. He replaced Tim Floyd on Dec. 28, 2001, after serving as a Bulls assistant for six years.

OU may be best in Big 12 history

By the Associated Press

The Big 12 championship awaits, as does the final act, the national championship.

Yet the way the Oklahoma Sooners are playing, it may not be enough to judge them against their peers. It's time to start considering whether they are the best team in the conference's 8-year history.

And, just like every game they play, the answer could be a runaway victory.

If the Sooners win their two remaining games, they would become the second national champion the league has produced, joining the 2000 Oklahoma squad.

Since winning it all is a must for the "best ever" tag, the comparison becomes one-on-one. And it's not much of a comparison.

The 2000 OU team, led by quarterback Josh Heupel, was a plucky group that forced everyone to respect them. Ranked 19th when the season began, they earned their way to No. 1 by going through No. 11 Texas, No. 2 Kansas State and No. 1 Nebraska.

After that, wins didn't come as easily against lesser foes Texas A&M, Texas Tech and Oklahoma State. But the Sooners still found a way to win. They squeaked out another win over K-State again in the league championship, then beat a strong Florida State team in the Orange Bowl.

The postscript on that OU club is that they answered every challenge, often against quality foes and often when they were expected to lose. That's impressive and important because it laid the foundation for the success coach Bob Stoops has had ever since.

Three years later, Stoops is winning with players he recruited, not predecessor John Blake's leftovers. The way he is winning leaves no doubt about the Sooners' strength.

Having started the season with the pressure of being No. 1, Oklahoma has worn the crown proudly.

When the Sooners stepped on the field in Lubbock on Saturday, Oklahoma was the only undefeated Division I-A team. They walked off that way too, with a 56-25 victory filled with noteworthy achievements.

A national-best 14th straight win gave Oklahoma its 10th unbeaten regular season in the last 65. It also marked the seventh time this season the Sooners have scored at least 50 points.

With an early field goal, Tech led for 2 minutes, 14 seconds. That upped the total that OU has trailed this season to a minuscule 5:58.

The Sooners have had only two meaningful fourth quarters all season. Oklahoma led the entire game both times, and both were played on the road.

In the second game, Alabama kicked a late field goal to finish within seven points. In late October, Colorado scored a touchdown with 5:03 left to get within seven, but the Sooners answered with a touchdown to win by 14.

It's been a long time since another team was this much better than everyone else.

Of course, they still have to prove it two more times: Against Kansas State in the Big 12 title game and, if they beat the Wildcats, probably against Southern California in the national championship Sugar Bowl.

K-State won the North division by beating Missouri 24-14 on Saturday. Darren Sproles ran for a school-record 273 yards and two touchdowns, and broke the school single-season rushing record he set last season.

The rebounding Wildcats have won six straight since a three-game midseason losing streak. On Dec. 6, at Arrowhead Stadium, they'll try making it seven straight.

The added incentive will be avenging a loss to Oklahoma in the 2000 title game and forcing the Sooners to feel the same anguish they felt in 1998, when a perfect season and chance for a national championship ended with a loss to Texas A&M in the Big 12 championship.

Four previous teams have gone 8-0 in league play. Only two made it 9-0.

The '00 Sooners and '97 Nebraska Cornhuskers won the league title game, while the '98 Wildcats and '96 Cornhuskers lost that extra game.

Rodriguez would accept trade Red Sox, Yankees

DALLAS (AP) — American League MVP Alex Rodriguez would accept a trade to either the Boston Red Sox or the New York Yankees.

Rodriguez informed the Rangers of his choices, and the newspaper, citing an unidentified major league source, reported the shortstop chose Boston and New York.

Rodriguez has seven years left on a 10-year, $250 million contract. A clause in his contract prohibits the Rangers from trading him unless he agrees.

Rodriguez said at a news conference Friday in the Dominican Republic that Rangers owner Tom Hicks told him there were three possible scenarios: sticking with his contract, restructuring it or shopping him around.

The newspaper said that numerous baseball officials have confirmed the Rangers' claims that there are no serious talks for Rodriguez because of his contract.

Rangers general manager John Hart has said a few inquiries about Rodriguez got no further that "kicking the tires," the newspaper reported.

Hart did not immediately return a telephone call to The Associated Press Sunday night.

This season Rodriguez hit .298, tied for the major league lead with 47 homers, and led the AL in runs (124) and slugging percentage (.600). He had 118 RBIs.

Regarded by many as the league's best all-around player, Rodriguez became the first American League player to win the MVP while playing for a last-place team.

AP Top 25

	Record	Pts	Pvs
1. Oklahoma (65)	12-0	1,625	1
2. Southern Cal	10-1	1,558	2
3. LSU	10-1	1,492	3
4. Michigan	10-2	1,432	5
5. Georgia	9-2	1,319	6
6. Texas	9-2	1,292	7
7. Tennessee	9-2	1,215	9
8. Ohio St.	10-2	1,171	4
9. Florida St.	9-2	1,056	11
10. Miami	9-2	1,019	t13
11. Florida	8-3	975	t13
12. Purdue	9-3	860	16
13. Iowa	9-3	770	17
14. Kansas St.	10-3	692	19
15. Miami (Ohio)	10-1	665	18
16. Washington St.	9-3	654	8
17. Mississippi	8-3	567	15
18. Boise St.	10-1	437	20
19. TCU	10-1	407	10
20. Pittsburgh	8-3	406	21
21. Virginia Tech	8-3	279	12
22. Bowling Green	9-2	270	22
23. Oklahoma St.	9-3	205	24
24. West Virginia	7-4	203	25
25. Nebraska	8-3	158	23

Others receiving votes: Arkansas 84, Minnesota 81, Maryland 80, Utah 69, Southern Miss. 26, Michigan St. 19, N. Illinois 17, Clemson 7, Connecticut 6, Oregon 4, Wisconsin 4, Memphis 1.

PeeWee all-stars top Pecos at Midland gridiron tournament

The Snyder fifth- and sixth-grade PeeWee football all-stars went 1-3 in the Midland tournament, topping Pecos, 26-6, for their victory.

Justin Gaines had touchdown runs of six and four yards and grabbed an interception, while Dakota Carroll sprinted in for a 36-yard touchdown run.

Carroll added a two-point conversion on a pass to Clint Wall.

Kenyon Gafford and Daniel Escobedo led the Snyder defense, recording eight stops each.

John Martini and Roberto Aguirre had six tackles apiece.

Kelton Garcia bulled in from the 3-yard line for Snyder's only score in a loss to Ft. Stockton, 12-8.

Wall hit L.A. Jaramillo for the two-point conversion. Gafford had nine stops, Aguirre posted eight and Escobedo added seven tackles for Snyder.

The all-stars were blanked by San Angelo, 24-0, despite 70 yards rushing from Shade Roemisch. Gafford had eight tackles and Escobedo tallied seven.

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REDUCED! 600 29th 2-1-1, office, den...$18T
Owner Finance Lrg. Mobile Home 2-2, 302 24th Nice.....$20T
3773 Dalton 3-1¾-1cp, den, dining...$35T
60 Acres w/C (UNDER CONTRACT) sq. ft.
REDUCED! 1.7 (UNDER CONTRACT) $65T
Shop Bldg. + 3 Lots 407 College & 2-1 Merrill
111 Peach 2 or 3-1.....$9.5T
80 acres 5 mi. SE of Hermleigh, 3-2-2 + office + shop & out building.....Call
Good Shop Bldg. or Garage 1802 College $16T
Commercial Property for Sale or Lease
Stonewall Co. 1,315 acre cattle operation. Water well + 6 earth tanks. Deer, quail, turkey & hogs.....Call
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New pacemaker gives doctors instant report

DALLAS (AP) — Some doctors say a heart-monitoring device that faxes information directly to a physician's office from anywhere in the world can save lives, but federal regulators say it could pose a danger to patients.

The Federal Communications Commission earlier this year banned the device known as a portable messenger, because of fears it could further clog airwaves already crowded with transmissions from high-tech medical gadgets.

The German-based manufacturer, Biotronik, appealed the ruling and expects a decision by the end of the year. The FCC allowed the 3,000 patients who already had the portable messenger to continue using it.

The ruling offers a glimpse of regulation complications and corporate competitions on the horizon as technology factors more into medicine. Meanwhile, patients may lose out on devices that could help them, some doctors say.

"This information has potentially life-saving consequences. Why should we be denied access to this information?" Dr. Allistar Fyfe, a cardiologist at Medical City Dallas Hospital, said of the portable messenger. He has about a dozen patients using the device.

Approved by the FDA in April 2002, the portable messenger uses technology similar to a cell phone and works along with a special pacemaker. The pacemaker sends signals to the portable messenger, which is worn like a pager on a waistband or belt. The device then transmits patient information to doctors.

Doctors can program the device to monitor specific heart activity and to send reports periodically. Patients can also trigger transmission, if they feel something is wrong.

Biotronik said the device costs about $8,000, and the pacemaker takes about 30 minutes to implant under the collarbone. The device works as long as it is within 6 feet of the pacemaker, company spokesman Fred Koury said.

The system proved to be a lifesaver for Billie Jo Slade, 71, a retired teacher's assistant from Athens, Texas, diagnosed with a rapid heartbeat.

Two months after installation of her pacemaker in February, the messenger sent reports to her doctor showing that her heartbeats jumped from 70 to 140 a minute. The abnormal rhythms could have led to a stroke if gone undetected.

"My biggest fear was having a stroke," Slade said. "It changed my outlook on doing things."

Slade illustrates how far pacemakers have come. About 10 years ago, pacemakers could only detect malfunctions within the device itself, such as low batteries or connection failure.

"With this device, we can communicate in real time," said Fyfe, Slade's doctor. "We can find out tomorrow night or the next day or in three minutes ... if there's been a change in heart rhythm."

Despite praise from doctors, a competitor of Biotronik that makes a similar device, Minneapolis-based Medtronic, claimed the device's signals do not follow federal rules. It was Medtronic's May 2001 complaint, filed after Biotronik received approval for its device, that led to the FCC ruling in February.

In 2000, the FCC created wireless medical telemetry — a precise block of frequency bands for medical devices — to prevent transmission interference. Devices must make sure they're on an open band before transmitting. Biotronik's device does not do that, the FCC said.

There's also a question of whether the device's transmission meet the FCC's definition of a medical implant event, a technical term for medical emergencies that trigger a transmission. Federal rules say there must be a change in the patient's medical condition that requires a medical response when an implanted device transmits medical information.

"To send a report when there is no change doesn't meet the rules," said Jeff Tobias, an FCC adviser. "If you're going to send a report, there has to be a change in the patient's condition."

Biotronik said its device "squarely fits within the definition of a medical implant event," and that's one of the reasons it appealed the FCC decision.

Medtronic's system is Internet-based. It transmits patient information to a secure server and a doctor can retrieve it from a Web site, company spokeswoman Valerie Lind said.

Both devices are important advances in medicine, said Dr. Stephen Hammill, a cardiologist at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn., and a member of the North American Society of Pacing and Electrophysiology Heart Rhythm Society.

"If you look five years from now all pacemaker companies will have similar systems," Hammill said.

With 62 million Americans diagnosed with heart disease, pacemakers are a high-stakes industry, generating about $5 billion a year among the four manufacturers operating in the United States.

Industry analyst John Putnam, with Belmont Harbor Capital-Soleil in Chicago, said it's not unusual to see companies file lawsuits or petitions to delay a competitor's product.

Abuse reports double at juvenile detention centers located in state

AUSTIN (AP) — Confirmed cases of abuse and mistreatment have doubled at the state's 22 juvenile detention facilities and halfway houses over the past five years, according to figures from the Texas Youth Commission.

Advocates for juvenile offenders say the rise indicates a detention system that is overwhelmed by emotionally disturbed offenders.

The percentage of mentally ill juvenile offenders has jumped from about one-quarter of detainees in 1995 to nearly half the system's 5,200 residents today.

State officials say mentally ill offenders pose additional difficulties, but they say the increase in abuse statistics reflects changes in the way allegations are classified.

The two facilities with the highest numbers of confirmed abuse and mistreatment per student have the highest concentrations of mentally ill residents: Corsicana Residential Treatment Center and Crockett State School.

"With emotionally disturbed youth, it is much more likely they will engage in the kinds of behavior that require a response from staff," said Linda Reyes, assistant deputy executive director of rehabilitative services for the commission. "They are arguably the most difficult-to-manage youth in the state and have bombed out of the rest of the system. That's how they end up in TYC."

Last year, the Texas Youth Commission received 1,458 allegations of abuse and mistreatment and ruled that 535 cases were valid. In 1998, the commission said, there were 260 confirmed cases out of 693 reports.

Residents can lodge mistreatment complaints, but most are filed by medical personnel and other staff. Complaints are assigned to youth commission investigators, and TYC is required to report serious incidents to law enforcement.

New classification procedures that took effect three years ago expanded the definition of neglect, a type of abuse, to include any sexual contact or assault between offenders. Since then, the number of confirmed cases has continued to rise even as the system's population fell.

Texas Youth Commission Chairman Leonard Lawrence said he isn't convinced the numbers indicate an increase of abuse and mistreatment.

"Some of this has been going on all along; we're just now catching it with our reporting," he told the Austin American-Statesman.

Individual reports of incidents are confidential. The American-Statesman obtained summary reports of confirmed cases through open-record laws.

In one case, a 13-year-old boy had sex with a 12-year-old boy in a shower room in the Corsicana Residential Treatment Center. In another, a corrections officer in Crockett grabbing a boy by the neck, trying to choke him and slamming the youth's head on a corner wall.

The summaries do not indicate what happened to youths involved — they can be sent to higher-security facilities or adult prisons — or whether agency staff were disciplined.

In 1998, the commission reported that there were five confirmed cases per 100 students at the facilities. Last year, that rate doubled to 10 per 100 students.

Juvenile offenders are in custody for crimes ranging from car theft to capital murder. Nearly all are punished in the counties in which they are convicted. Judges send the toughest cases to state detention centers and halfway houses.

Commission officials say they have made changes based on abuse reports. When the review board noticed that many assaults were happening in showers, the board required more supervision. When reports of drugs and other contraband rose, the agency acquired more drug-sniffing dogs and initiated surprise sweeps.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Tea does not protect against stroke

DEAR DR. GOTT: I've heard that people who are tea drinkers seldom, if ever, have strokes. Are there components in tea that are responsible? Since I prefer to avoid beverages that contain caffeine, I would like to find a substitute — unless, of course, caffeine is the magic anti-stroke ingredient.

DEAR READER: I am not aware of any valid studies showing that tea drinkers are immune to stroke. There is no sound scientific evidence proving that this beverage protects against disease, heart disorders or cancer. Nonetheless, recent reports from Asia indicate that green tea may well have some health benefits. At this point, I am awaiting confirmation of these data.

For now, I advise you to continue drinking tea if you like it, not for any supposed health issues. Because many standard teas do contain caffeine (which does not improve health), you may wish to switch to non-caffeinated, herbal teas.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: I suffer from corns and calluses. Can you help me deal with this problem?

DEAR READER: Corns and calluses are simply the accumulated buildup of hard, dry, dead skin that appears over pressure points between the bones of the feet and footwear. Calluses form in locations where the skin is irritated, usually from shoes that are too tight.

As the layers of dead skin enlarge, they exert pressure on the underlying tissue (usually the toe bones), leading to pain. Corns can also form between toes from ill-fitting shoes that squeeze the toe bones together.

These common afflictions are easy to cure.

Use fine sandpaper, an emery board or a pumice stone to reduce the size of the callus or corn. Sand away the dead skin until the soft, healthy skin appears. This will take care of the discomfort.

However, to prevent a re-accumulation, you'll have to modify your footwear. Choose shoes that are comfortable and don't pinch your feet. Using a combination of prudent sanding and appropriate shoes, you should be able to avoid the discomfort and nuisance of corns and calluses.

DEAR DR. GOTT: In February, my internist found my cholesterol to be 248 and he put me on Lipitor. After a month of therapy, I began having severe muscle pain and stiffness. My CPK level was sky-high.

Then my doctor tried Zetia. Once again, I showed signs of muscle damage and stopped the drug. What options are left?

DEAR READER: I hope that you've tried a low-cholesterol diet as a first step in therapy. A level of 248 places you at moderate risk for cardiovascular disease, but, I believe, the elevated level (above 200, experts advise) could be brought down by simple dieting alone.

Many cholesterol-lowering drugs result in, as an unusual side-effect, destruction of muscle cells, causing pain, stiffness and a high CPK blood level. Unfortunately, you seem to be prone to this complication.

If an appropriate diet fails to lower your cholesterol, I suggest therapy with high-dose niacin, a vitamin. Ask your doctor about this, if you appear to need medicine to achieve your goal.

If readers would like to contact Dr. Gott, they may write him through your newspaper or send their mail directly to Dr. Gott c/o United Media, 200 Madison Ave., 4th fl., New York, NY 10016.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	12.35	12.01	12.29	+ .33
AT&T Corp	20.07	19.60	19.67	—.33
Albertsons	21.21	20.41	21.15	+ .71
Alltel	44.83	44.20	44.70	+ .55
AmEl Pw	27.58	27.27	27.54	+ .42
AndarkPtr	44.62	44.35	44.36	—.11
ATMOS Egy	24.77	24.43	24.70	+ .35
Availl	15.40	15.16	15.32	+ .20
BP PLC	43.14	42.88	42.93	+ .33
BakerHughes	28.56	28.16	28.20	—.30
Bank of Amer	74.84	74.43	74.70	+ .35
BellSouth	26.00	25.72	25.89	+ .14
BurlNoSFe	29.64	29.35	29.41	+ .10
Caterpillar	73.73	73.05	73.46	+ .57
CenterPoint	9.50	9.45	9.48	
ChevronTex	74.50	73.80	74.26	+ .78
Citigroup	47.08	46.50	46.95	+ .61
CocaCola	46.88	46.39	46.72	+ .30
ColgatePal	52.47	51.98	52.40	+ .53
CmclMetals	24.82	24.42	24.42	—.20
ConocoPhill	56.90	56.43	56.74	+ .29
Cooper Inds	52.94	52.10	52.78	+ .80
DaimlrChry	37.71	37.25	37.46	+ .37
DeltaAirl	12.00	11.56	11.87	+ .44
Dillards Inc	16.08	15.51	16.06	+ .49
DowChem	37.00	36.54	37.00	+ .60
DuPont	39.97	39.64	39.95	+ .56
EastmanChem	35.00	34.50	34.94	+ .58
EstKodak	24.50	24.30	24.44	
EDS Corp	21.60	21.41	21.54	+ .20
Entergy	52.79	52.29	52.76	+ .52
ExxonMobil	35.76	35.40	35.69	+ .35
FootLocker	20.99	20.75	20.90	—.03
GenDynam	81.48	80.78	81.15	+ .42
GenElec	28.94	28.60	28.90	+ .34
GenMills	45.01	44.60	44.97	+ .54
GenMotors	42.43	41.81	42.35	+ .74
GaPacific	26.71	26.15	26.67	+ .77
Goodrich	26.92	26.53	26.89	+ .36
Goodyear	6.41	6.27	6.39	+ .17
GtAtlPac	7.50	7.20	7.43	+ .47
Halliburtn	23.29	23.04	23.07	—.08
Hanson PLC	33.92	33.76	33.80	—.03
HarteHanks	21.22	20.83	21.04	+ .11
HomeDepot	36.35	35.79	36.33	+ .67
HoneywellIntl	29.60	29.10	29.46	+ .51
IBM	89.69	88.95	89.57	+ .94
IntlPaper	37.66	37.11	37.66	+ .56
JohnsonJn	51.40	50.00	51.36	+ .48
KinderMorg	54.20	53.70	53.93	+ .41
Kroger Co	18.95	18.63	18.81	+ .16
LockheedM	46.55	46.08	46.40	
Lowes Cos	58.48	57.80	58.36	+ .85
Lubys	3.40	3.27	3.36	+ .06
LucentTech	3.10	3.02	3.03	+ .03
MarathonOil	29.38	29.10	29.13	—.11
MayDeptStr	30.16	29.60	30.15	+ .52
Medtronic	44.58	44.15	44.56	+ .51
Motorola	13.66	13.40	13.53	+ .13
NCR Corp	33.75	32.92	33.75	+ 1.07
Navistar	42.04	40.40	42.03	+ 1.96
PNM Rescs	27.72	27.40	27.60	+ .36
Penney JC	25.10	24.60	25.05	+ .60
PepBoys	20.00	19.50	19.91	+ .40
PepsiCo	47.97	47.30	47.78	+ .27
PhelpDodge	60.00	59.00	59.93	+ 1.13
PilgrimsPride	14.55	14.45	14.52	+ .13
Praxair	68.80	68.05	68.76	+ 1.01
ProctGamb	97.17	95.57	97.16	+ 1.40
RadioShack	31.36	30.64	31.32	+ .77
RoyalDut	44.85	44.60	44.61	+ .25
SBC Comm	23.48	23.07	23.26	+ .23
SaraLee	20.50	20.25	20.44	+ .13
Scripps EW	92.40	91.26	92.39	+ 1.14
SearsRoeb	55.64	54.98	55.56	+ .71
SherwinW	32.12	31.94	32.10	+ .11
SouthernCo	28.87	28.70	28.81	+ .16
SwstAirl	18.03	17.53	17.99	+ .59
SprintFON	15.45	15.24	15.41	+ .03
SprintPCS	4.58	4.40	4.55	+ .20
Sunoco Inc	46.59	46.17	46.23	—.05
TXU Corp	21.65	21.26	21.56	+ .30
TempleInland	55.50	54.90	55.47	+ .97
TexInd	28.44	27.82	28.28	+ .51
TexasInst	29.19	28.70	29.10	+ .75
Textron	49.49	49.00	49.39	+ .26
TimeWarner	15.95	15.65	15.84	+ .29
TrinityInds	25.21	24.68	25.04	+ .51
TylerTech	8.14	7.90	8.12	+ .24
UnionPacif	63.60	63.18	63.24	+ .18
USSteel	23.45	23.02	23.38	+ .48
UnitedTech	85.10	84.30	85.08	+ 1.18
Unocal	31.36	31.05	31.19	+ .14
VerizonComm	32.79	32.40	32.63	+ .43
WalMart	55.98	55.10	55.89	+ 1.08
WellsFargo	57.09	56.90	56.92	+ .42
WstnGasRs	43.40	43.05	43.33	+ .23
WinnDixie	8.49	8.38	8.40	+ .08
Xerox Cp	10.40	10.23	10.31	—.23
YumBrands	33.25	32.80	33.20	+ .67

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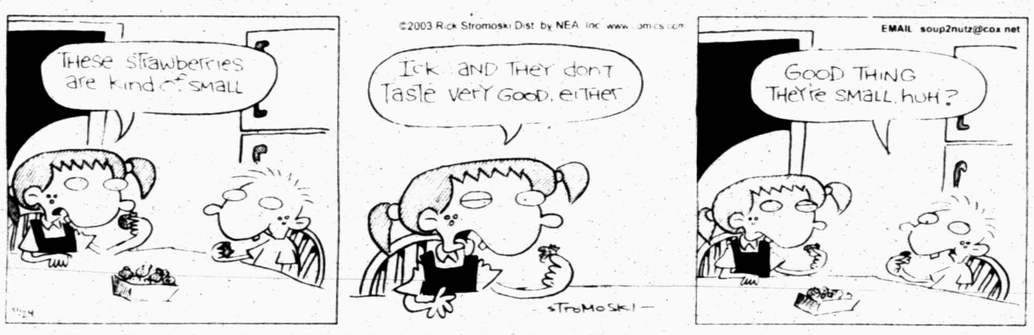

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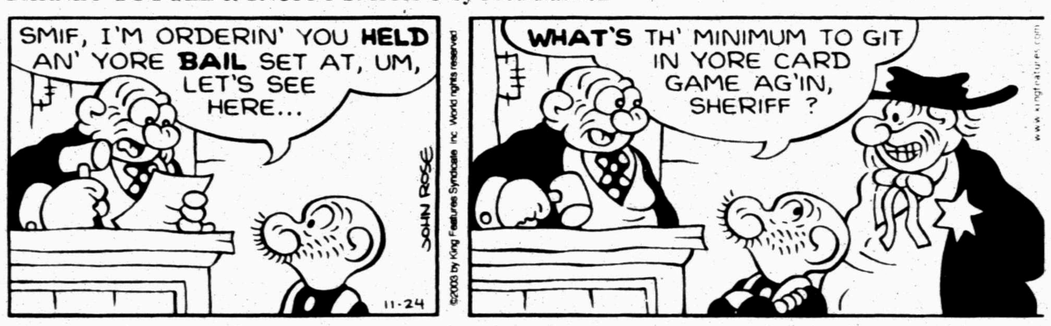

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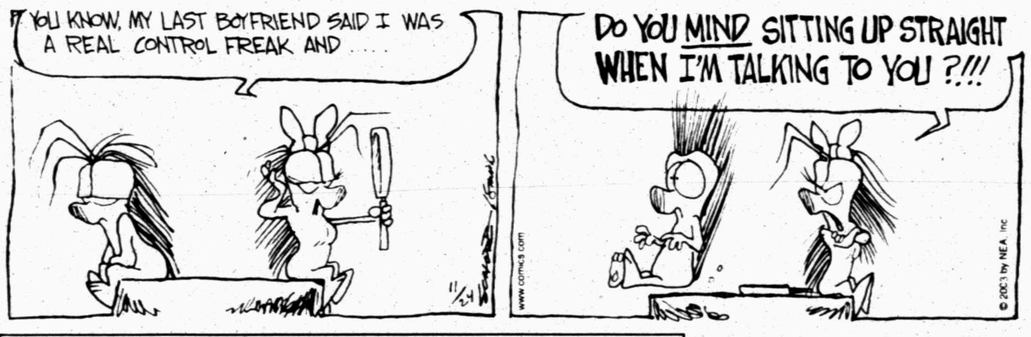

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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Rile
4 Debate side
7 Yes, in Yokohama
10 Gorilla or chimp
11 Breakdowns
13 Auto-safety feature
14 First-down yardage
15 Slang
16 Teachers' org.
17 Powerful raptors
19 Strangely
21 Unlatch
22 Basic channel
23 Orange drink
26 Inhale
30 Nessie's hideout
31 — tai
32 Habit
33 Feel bad
34 Recede
35 Greek-salad topper
36 Soothe
39 Garlic juicer
40 Tint
41 Hamm of soccer
42 Impoverish
45 Gold medalist
48 Ocean dweller
49 Brown by heating
51 Lay down
53 Air rifle shot
54 Preserves fish
55 RCA products
56 "— Te Ching"
57 Home, in the phone book
58 Invite

DOWN

1 Cauldron
2 Touche provoker
3 Lucy Lawless role
4 Thick soup
5 18-wheelers
6 Plastic — Band
7 Clock part
8 Cain's victim
9 "Do as — —!"
11 Mr. Kramden
12 Boulder
18 Mild oath
20 Spiral molecule
22 Cattle stall
23 Applaud
24 Disturb
25 NCAA Bruins
26 Movie pig
27 Hat or umbrella —
28 Lean-tos
29 ORD guesses
31 Portion out
35 Comic — Lebowitz
37 Sweater letter
38 Mother's sisters
39 Ice cream purchases
41 Fine sprays
42 Obligation
43 First name in Nashville
44 As well as
45 Hull plank
46 This, to Isabella
47 Gives it the gas
50 Dinghy's need
52 "My, my!"

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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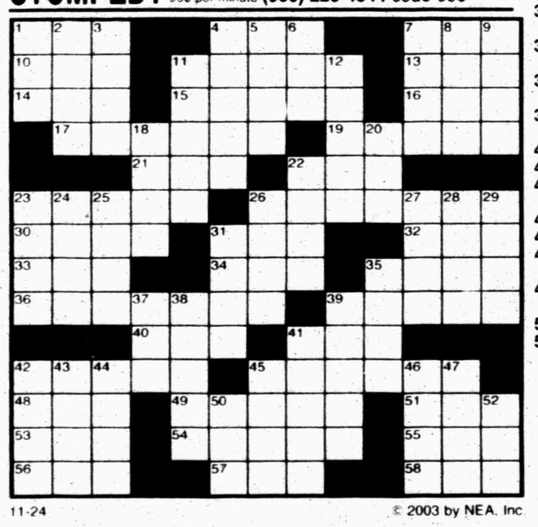

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"SCHOOL WAS A LOT OF FUN UNTIL THE TEACHER CAME BACK IN THE ROOM."

"I asked him what he wanted for our anniversary and he said, 'two

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Tuesday, Nov. 25, 2003

It isn't likely that the year ahead will be another run-of-the-mill year. Chances are your social circle will be increased and the new additions will bring with them a number of fresh interests and exciting times.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Try to avoid any arrangements or plans that could curb your mobility or freedom of action. You need to be footloose in order to take advantage of something quite pleasant that pops up today.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Things concerning your financial interests could take a good turn at this time. Yet what you derive might come through a unique set of circumstances rather than from your own efforts.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — A person you recently met who you'd like to get to know better may contact you today with an invitation for a get-together. It looks like this person has a place in your life.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Nice people always want to do nice things for nice friends. And today some pleasant surprises could be in the offing for you simply because you are well thought of by others.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Should a flash of inspiration hit you today through a stimulating conversation, give it your full attention. You could be onto something big that should be given serious consideration.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Don't be afraid to experiment with unconventional ideas, methods or procedures to improve upon worn-out items or situations. Your ingenuity could be met with startling success.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — A chance meeting with a friend today who introduces you to an associate that she or he is with could turn out to be quite beneficial. You and your friend's pal may have much to share with each other.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — It's nothing to fret about if everything doesn't run like clockwork today, because it will be one of those unexpected changes that could work for your benefit. Go with the flow and keep your eyes open.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Someone who has admired you from afar might step out of the shadows today and make his or her presence felt. Welcome the initiation of a new friendship, because it could go surprisingly far.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — It may be one of those days when everything will be different. Events that you thought would be boring won't be, and situations that are usually routine could turn out to be quite exciting.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — A surprise invitation to a social event, which may have interested you but which you never expected to be part of, could come to you today through someone who is invited and told to bring a friend.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Lady Luck may be riding your shoulder today in a matter where you have had some financial concerns. Think positive and be hopeful regarding the outcome of events.

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Michael Jackson launches new Web site proclaiming innocence

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Michael Jackson, addressing his fans directly via a new Web site, says the child molestation allegations made against him are "predicated on a big lie" and he will be exonerated in court.

The entertainer's spokesman, Stuart Backerman, had said last week that Jackson was putting the site together so he could communicate with the news media and fans. Jackson said in his statement that it would serve as a source for "official communications on my case."

"As you know, the charges recently directed at me are terribly serious," Jackson said in the six-paragraph statement. "They are, however, predicated on a big lie. This will be shown in court, and we will be able to put this horrible time behind us."

Jackson surrendered to Santa Barbara County authorities on Thursday after an arrest warrant was issued alleging he committed lewd or lascivious acts with a child under 14.

He was released on $3 million bail. Authorities have said they expect to file formal charges sometime after Thanksgiving.

Jackson said his attorneys have advised him to say little about the matter until it is resolved.

"No doubt, this will be frustrating for all of us," he added.

He also urged people to be skeptical of those representing themselves as his friends or claiming to speak for him.

"With few exceptions most of them are simply filling a desperate void in our culture that equates visibility with insight," he said.

Economy gives Bush image boost

WASHINGTON (AP) — The strengthening economy is giving President Bush a boost with the public, just as postwar Iraq is becoming more of a liability.

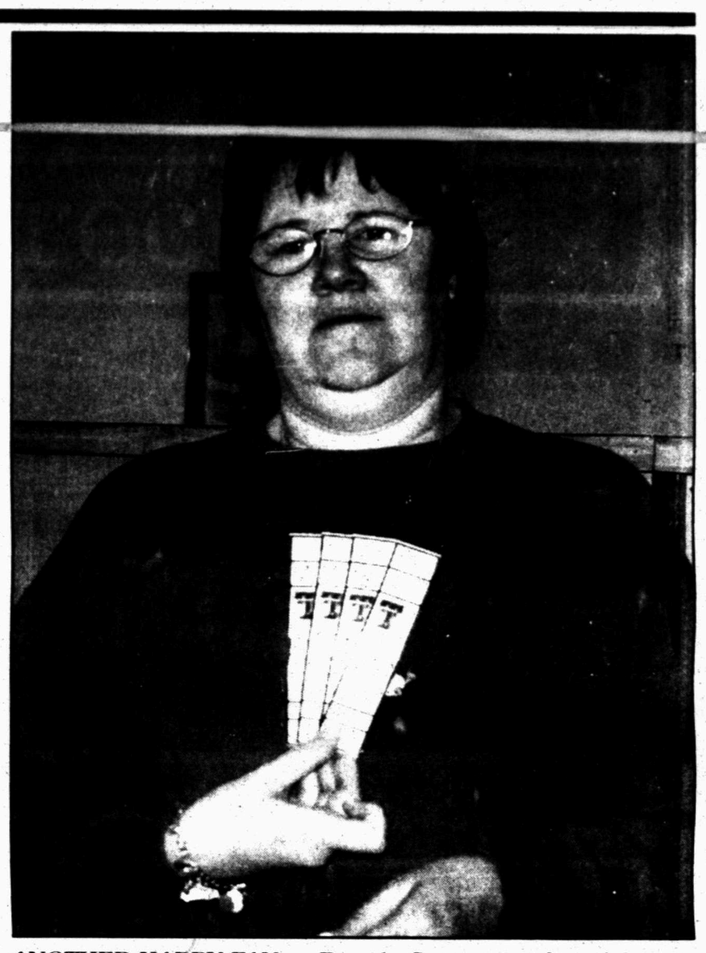
If current trends continue, Bush may be looking to the economy to provide him with political strength to negate increasing doubts about his policies in Iraq. In recent months, his standing on Iraq, foreign policy and the terrorism fight provided a counterweight to his low standing on the ailing economy.

"We've seen a reversal," said Karlyn Bowman, a public opinion analyst at the American Enterprise Institute. "Right now, to many people's surprise, it looks like the economy is going his way and Iraq may be a trouble spot for him."

Public approval of Bush's handling of the economy has increased in several recent polls, notably the NBC-Wall Street Journal poll — from 43 percent to 50 percent since the summer — and the CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll — from 42 percent to 47 percent over the past month.

"When you get the economy moving up, the incumbent is the beneficiary," said Peter Hart, a pollster who helps produce the NBC-Wall Street Journal poll. "It helped Bill Clinton and it's now helping George Bush."

On the question of Iraq, approval for Bush is heading in the opposite direction. After months in which more than half approved of the president's handling of Iraq, a recent CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll showed disapproval at 54 percent and approval at 45 percent. In other polls, the public is about evenly divided on that question.



ANOTHER HAPPY FAN — Brenda Gentry won four tickets to Sunday's Texas Tech Red Raiders men's basketball game against East Tennessee. (Staff Photo)

Protests focus on military school

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Organizers of a protest at Lackland Air Force Base say they're focusing on a military school for Latin American and Caribbean soldiers on the base.

About 40 people demonstrated peacefully Sunday at the little-known Lackland training school which protesters describe as a "a sister program to the School of the Americas." A larger protest at Fort Benning, Ga., resulted in arrests over the weekend.

Called the Inter-American Air Forces Academy, the Texas program has trained Air Force personnel from Latin America for 60 years. Stefan Wray of Austin, a spokesman for the Military Documentation Project, told protesters that government documents show the academy has been more than a school for mechanics training, as the Air Force claims.

Wray said the program also has trained officials in air intelligence, ground defense skills, search and rescue operations, and other military skills.

NOV 24 2003

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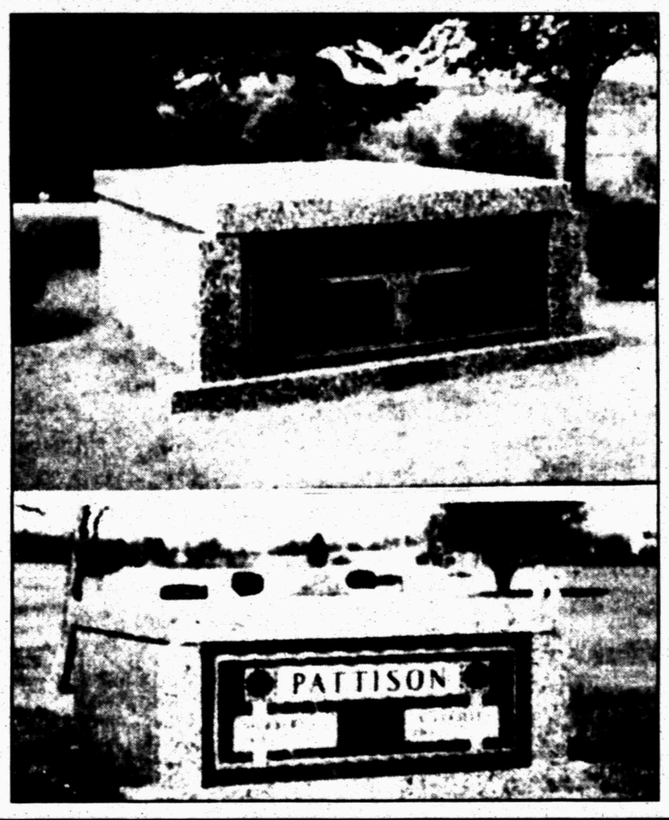
Spotlight



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

GOP picks Dem support for Medicare

WASHINGTON (AP) — The roster of Democrats supporting a Medicare prescription drug bill is growing in the Republican-controlled Senate, despite a defiant, last-minute bid to block passage by opponents who argue the measure poses a threat to older Americans.

"It's not gold. It's something we call fool's gold," Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., said as the bill's opponents put the Senate through an unusual Sunday session that served as the prelude to a series of showdown votes today.

Proponents of the legislation dismissed such claims. "It's very easy to be negative," said Sen. Max Baucus, the Montana Democrat who is one of the chief authors of the measure. "This bill's not perfect. But it's very, very good."

The bill would provide a prescription drug benefit for Medicare beneficiaries for the first time since the giant health care program for seniors was created in 1965, with subsidies to help lower-income seniors pay the premiums and other costs.

It also would provide subsidies to insurance companies in hopes they would offer private coverage to seniors — a provision viewed with favor by conservatives but suspicion by many Democrats.

After years of gridlock and months of struggle, the bill's supporters claimed they would gain the 60 votes they needed to prevail on the first in a series of test votes expected during the day. Opponents did not challenge that, but said they hoped to erect more challenging hurdles.

The bill cleared the House in a pre-dawn, 220-215 vote Saturday. Senate passage would send it to President Bush, who is eager to sign it into law.

The bill's most vocal opponent has been Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., but some of the party's presidential hopefuls sought a share of the spotlight Sunday.

"This bill is really about President Bush passing the buck on prescription drug coverage and passing the bucks from seniors to the pharmaceutical industry," said Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, who scrapped a series of campaign events to return to the Capitol for his speech and the votes.

Sen. John Edwards of North Carolina likewise flew to Washington, eager to join the fight.

Debate over gas additive lawsuits stalls energy bill

WASHINGTON (AP) — Hoping to rescue energy legislation stalled in the Senate, Republicans were discussing elimination of a controversial provision to give legal protection to the makers of MTBE, a gasoline additive found to contaminate drinking water, officials said.

These sources, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Senate and House officials, as well as the Bush administration, have discussed the suggestion, but no decisions have been made.

Another GOP source emphasized that House Republican leaders so far have refused to give in on the MTBE liability protection. This source expressed doubt that a solution can be reached over the next three days, meaning an energy bill probably would have to be put off until next year.

The energy bill, a top priority of President Bush, is stymied in the Senate. Supporters fell two votes short of the 60 needed to advance it to final passage last week.

The proposal under discussion would remove the legal protection in the bill for makers of MBTE as well as ethanol, along the lines of a suggestion made on the Senate floor by Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota.

Daschle, whose state would benefit from a variety of ethanol-related provisions in the measure, supports the bill and voted to advance it to passage last week.

After that vote, he said there "should be no doubt" that if the MTBE liability provisions were taken out, the energy bill would pass the Senate and be enacted into law. He proposed that "safe harbor language be eliminated for ethanol as well as MTBE."

The MTBE provision originated in the House, where it has the strong support of Majority Leader Tom DeLay of Texas and Rep. Billy Tauzin, R-La., who led the House energy bill negotiations. Most MTBE is produced in Texas and Louisiana.

House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., on Sunday blamed the gridlock over energy on lawyers who are flooding the courts with lawsuits against MTBE manufacturers.

"The trial lawyers held the bill up," he said, appearing on "Fox News Sunday," arguing that the industry turned to MTBE because of "a federally mandated program to reduce (air) pollution" and should be protected.

"They were forced to create the product," said Hastert.

Critics of the additive have argued that the oil industry chose MTBE to meet federal air pollution requirements, although they knew as far back as the mid-1980s that the oxygenate would be difficult to control and clean up if it got into water supplies.

Fire at Moscow dormitory for foreign students kills 32 today

MOSCOW (AP) — An early-morning fire today raced through a Moscow dormitory packed with students from Africa, Asia and Latin America, killing at least 32 people and injuring 139.

The fire quickly engulfed most of the dilapidated building housing students of the Patrice Lumumba Friendship of Peoples University, an institution that in the 1960s and 70s symbolized the Soviet Union's commitment to the Third World but deteriorated in the 1990s.

The building, which housed 272 students, served as a quarantine facility for newly arrived foreign students needing medical checks before starting their studies.

"It was like a horrible nightmare," said Abdallah Bong, a student from Chad looking at the gutted building. "We saw them crying for help and jumping out of the windows, and we could do nothing to save them."

Bong and other witnesses said fire engines were slow to start action as they jammed into a narrow access road blocked by parked cars, unable to stop the flames from gutting most of the dormitory above the ground floor.

The fire burned for more than three hours. Smoke poured from windows as a wet snow fell before dawn, and, after the fire was put out, the building's concrete walls were streaked with black soot. Nearby trees were caked with ice that had formed from water used to extinguish the blaze.

"A friend of mine who arrived just a few days ago broke his leg when he jumped out the window, and I don't know what happened to another friend," Nafafe Tengna, a third-year journalism student from Guinea, said as he waited for authorities to distribute a list of victims.

A preliminary investigation pointed to an electrical problem, Deputy Interior Minister Rashid Nurgaliyev told President Vladimir Putin during a Cabinet session. Some bystanders said the fire could have been started by electric heaters.

Births

Alicia Marie Ortega was born to Charles and Christina D. Ortega of Snyder at 8:35 a.m. on Nov. 21 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. Alicia weighed six pounds.

Paternal grandparents are Melecio and Annie Roybal of Clovis, N.M., and maternal grandparents are Jim and Ninfa DeLao of Snyder.

Five arrests made over the weekend

•Arrests

Five arrests were made over the weekend.

The first arrest came at 5:12 p.m. Saturday in the 2600 block of Avenue W. A 24-year-old woman was taken into custody on warrants for allowing a dog to run at large and failure to appear.

A 43-year-old man was arrested by officers at 5:35 p.m. Saturday in the 2800 block of Avenue I on two warrants for running a stop sign and for failure to appear.

A 19-year-old man was arrested at the Western Texas College apartments 2:18 a.m. Sunday for consumption of alcohol by a minor. After being released, he was arrested at 10:51 p.m. Sunday in the 6200 block of College for criminal trespass.

At 4:57 a.m. Sunday a 22-year-old man was arrested in the area of FM 1263 for driving while intoxicated.

All of these subjects were booked into the Scurry County Jail.

•Minor accident

A minor accident occurred Sunday at the corner of 35th and Beaumont. The accident entailed a 2001 Hyundai driven by Alicia Graves, 23, of Snyder, and a 2000 Buick driven by Reta Cook, 64, also of Snyder. There were no injuries reported.

•Burglary

A caller reported that a home in the 2300 block of Ave. I had possibly been broken into. He reported that the back door of the residence had been kicked in and the homeowner was out of town. The owner of the house was notified. No missing items were reported.

•Criminal mischief

A caller requested an officer at 9:44 p.m. Sunday at the parking lot of United to report some criminal mischief to his vehicle.

Obituaries

O.C. Stanley

1916-2003

DALLAS — O.C. Stanley, longtime Snyder resident, died Thursday, Nov. 20, at his home in Dallas.

Funeral service for Mr. Stanley, 87, is set for noon Wednesday in the Laurel Land Memorial Chapel with interment in Laurel Land Memorial Park.

O.C. Stanley

Born Nov. 12, 1916 in Wichita Falls, he served in the Navy Seabees in the South Pacific, including the Invasion of Okinawa in World War II and participated in the rebuilding of Pearl Harbor.

Mr. Stanley was in the construction business in West Texas and in the Metroxplex and moved to Dallas from Snyder in 1981 where he was a member of the Jefferson Blvd. Church of Christ.

He is survived by his wife of 65 years, Vertie Lee Stanley of Dallas; a daughter, Constance Ashley of Dallas; two grandsons LCPL Jonathan Ashley of Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Matt and Trent Ashley of Dallas; two great-granddaughters, Kayla and Rhonda Ashley of Commerce.

Willie Thomas

1904-2003

KNOX CITY — Willie Mae Thomas, mother of A.Z.Thomas of Snyder, died Sunday, Nov. 23, in Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Graveside service for Mrs. Thomas, 99, is set for 2 p.m. Tuesday at the Gillispie Cemetery in Knox City. Paul Chambers will officiate and Mansell-Smith Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

Born on July 13, 1904 in Venus, Texas, she married Austin Z. Thomas who preceded her in death in 1968. Mrs. Thomas was a member of the Knox City Foursquare Church. She ironed clothes for the public and enjoyed quilting.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Edward Worlow and Mary Etta Barkley Worlow, eight brothers, two sisters and one daughter, Doris Faulkner.

Survivors also include a daughter-in-law, Dorothy Thomas of Snyder; a son-in-law, Max Faulkner of Oklahoma; five grandchildren; and six great-grandchildren.

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Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 11/25	Wed 11/26	Thu 11/27
61/40	**67/37**	**63/29**
Sunshine along with some passing clouds. High 61F.	A few clouds. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the upper 30s.	Abundant sunshine. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the upper 20s.
Sunrise 7:22 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:23 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM	Sunrise 7:24 AM, Sunset 5:38 PM

–Come Rain or Shine–

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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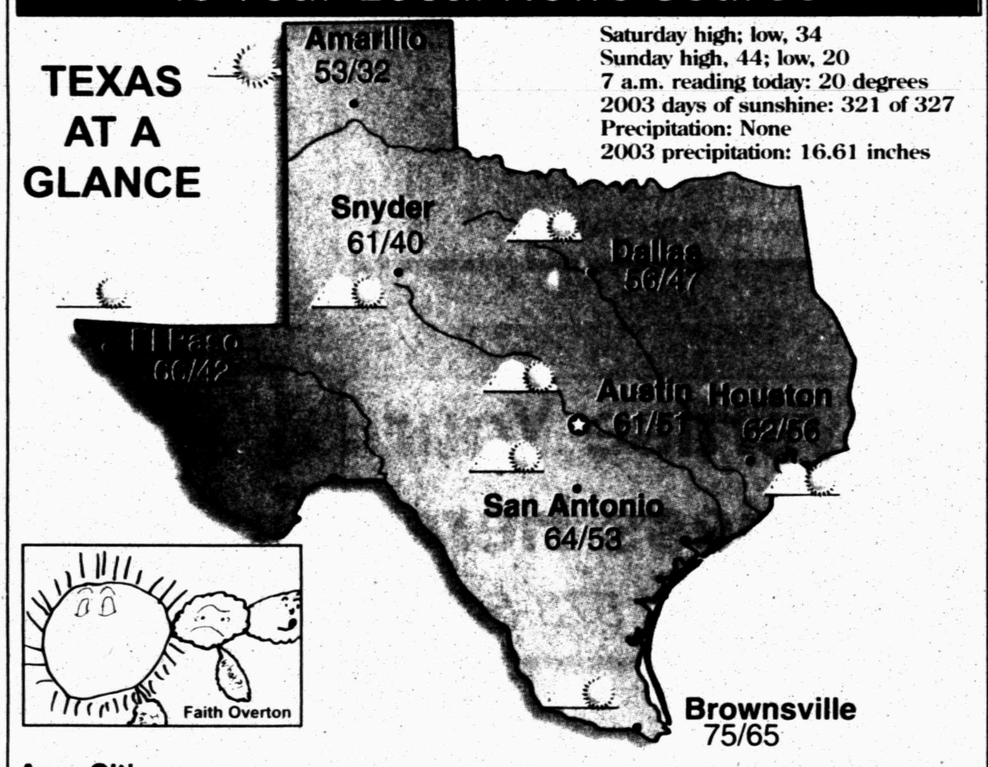
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Saturday high; low, 34
Sunday high, 44; low, 20
7 a.m. reading today: 20 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 321 of 327
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 16.61 inches



Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	61	45	pt sunny	El Paso	66	42	pt sunny	Midland	66	43	pt sunny
Amarillo	53	32	mst sunny	Fort Stockton	70	46	pt sunny	Raymondville	74	61	pt sunny
Austin	61	51	pt sunny	Gainesville	55	42	pt sunny	Rosenberg	62	56	pt sunny
Beaumont	61	52	pt sunny	Greenville	54	44	pt sunny	San Antonio	64	53	pt sunny
Brownsville	75	65	pt sunny	Houston	62	56	pt sunny	San Marcos	62	51	pt sunny
Brownwood	61	46	pt sunny	Kingsville	72	60	pt sunny	Sulphur Springs	55	43	pt sunny
Corpus Christi	69	61	pt sunny	Livingston	59	49	pt sunny	Sweetwater	62	44	pt sunny
Corsicana	58	48	mst sunny	Longview	56	44	pt sunny	Tyler	56	45	mst sunny
Dallas	56	47	pt sunny	Lubbock	61	37	pt sunny	Weatherford	57	43	pt sunny
Del Rio	63	51	pt sunny	Lufkin	59	47	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	58	38	pt sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	55	32	sunny	Houston	62	56	pt sunny	Phoenix	67	44	mst sunny
Boston	46	32	pt sunny	Los Angeles	65	48	sunny	San Francisco	56	43	sunny
Chicago	42	31	windy	Miami	80	69	pt sunny	Seattle	46	41	rain
Dallas	56	47	pt sunny	Minneapolis	33	24	cloudy	St. Louis	47	34	pt sunny
Denver	40	22	pt sunny	New York	46	34	mst sunny	Washington, DC	47	32	mst sunny

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Nov 23	Nov 30	Dec 8	Dec 16

UV Index

Tue 11/25	Wed 11/26	Thu 11/27
4 Low	4 Low	4 Low

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

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