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INSIDE

WT-Int. Crude - $32.76
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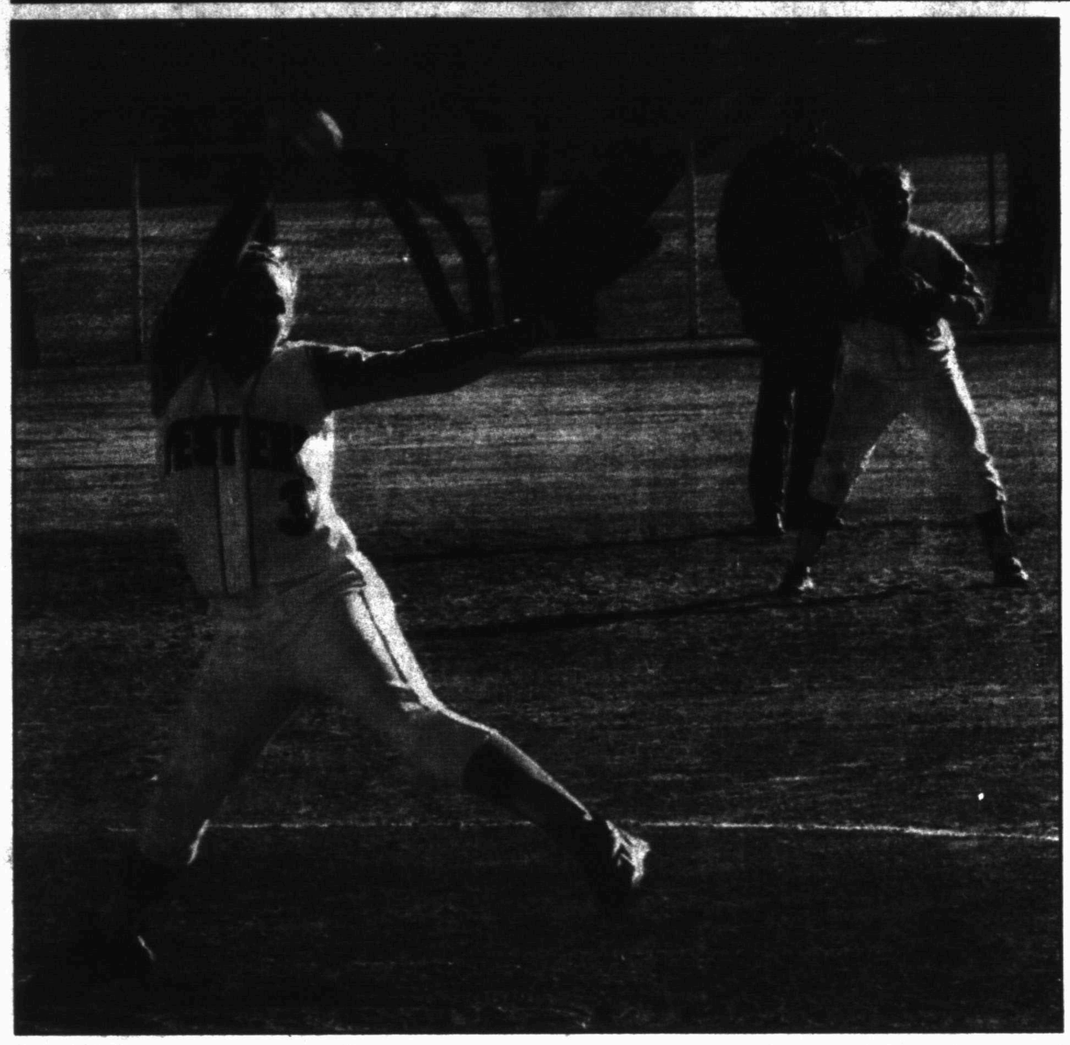
THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY

Feb. 4, 2003
Vol. 54 No. 239
10 Pages 50¢

Home of Linda Davis



OPENING DAY — Western Texas College hurler Amber House delivers a pitch in the second game of Monday's season-opening doubleheader against Cisco. The Dusters are 2-0 after claiming the twinbill. See story on page 5. (SDN Staff Photo)

City to start work on interlocal agreement

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

Mayor Francene Noah appointed a three-person committee Monday night to begin work on a new intergovernmental contract with Scurry County to replace the current document The mayor named Terry Martin to chair the committee that will include Noah and Ron Shaw.

The original agreement went into effect Oct. 1, 1993, and the only change since that date was in 1995 and it was related to the industrial park.

The agreement is designed to provide more efficiency and economy to the taxpayers of both governmental bodies.

As per the agreement, the city provides services such as the fire department and trash pickup in the county, while the county provides services such as the jail, law enforcement dispatch and emergency medical services.

Mayor Noah prefaced the brief discussion on the agreement saying, "I feel like the only negotiable concerns are services that fall outside the city's jurisdiction because any service available to county residents should also be available to the city residents because they also pay county taxes."

"A lot of things have changed and a lot of costs have changed since the original document was drafted," said Martin.

It is expected the committee will meet soon to begin work on the document and is expected to make reports at subsequent council meetings.

In matters related to the industrial park, the council voted to transfer the four remaining years of the original Lorber tax abatement to UCO Spinning LP, and renamed Lorber Lane to Baze Way.

The council approved the low bid of Young's Truck Center of Abilene for a sanitation vehicle in the amount of $107,891, and Wilson Motors' bid of $41,396 for two police vehicles, although it was not the low bid.

Dana Cooley, city attorney, explained that the city could accept Wilson's bid since it fell within three-percent of the lowest bid.

"It has to do with economic development and considering the number of people employed at Wilson Motors, this certainly falls within the guidelines," said Cooley.

On a split vote, the council approved the purchase of a pickup for the water department for $13,725 from Shamrock Chevrolet of Lubbock. Wilson Motors bid $14,510, but it exceeded the three-percent variance.

John Reed voted against accepting Shamrock's bid. "I'm still for buying everything locally, regardless of how much more."

The council also ordered the election for mayor and two council members at-large to be held May 3. The terms of Mayor Noah, Martin and Reed are expiring.

Noah also appointed Snyder National Bank senior executive vice president Jack Gorman Jr. to serve on the Colorado River Municipal Water District Board, replacing County Judge Rod Waller.

Resolutions also were approved regarding legislative changes related to electrical deregulation, and in support of the federal government's first responder program.

Mayor Noah presided and council members present were Martin, Reed, Shaw, James Ashley, Stephanie Ducheneaux and Vernest Tippens.

Columbia disaster...

Investigation board arrives in Texas for first-hand look

NACOGDOCHES (AP) — Members of the independent board investigating the Columbia disaster arrived via helicopter this morning to get a first-hand look at the debris scattered over the countryside.

"One of the first things we had to do is go out and look at some of the debris. It makes the accident more personal to us. This prevents it from becoming an abstract event," said retired Navy Adm. Harold W. Gehman Jr., chairman of the commission. "I know that we won't go out and solve the mystery this morning."

On Monday, investigators located the spacecraft's nose cone in a heavily wooded area of eastern Texas. A crew was to return to the site today to excavate the cone, found partially buried in a hole 20 feet across.

"It's basically the front of the nose cone," said Warren Zehner, an Environmental Protection Agency on-scene coordinator. "It's reasonably intact."

About 20 people connected to the independent board arrived in Nacogdoches aboard Blackhawk helicopters from Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana. Gehman said the commission has 20 teams of experts in various fields working independently.

"We have no timetable. Our first imperative is to get it right. But we also have three astronauts in space who are counting on us," Gehman said, referring to the international space station crew members who rely on the shuttle for their ride home. "We are not looking for anything in particular today, but any debris that is up range would be of great interest."

On Monday, NASA shuttle program manager Ron Dittemore said NASA is particularly interested in heat-protection tiles or other pieces that may have fallen from Columbia as far west as New Mexico, Arizona or California. The FBI is checking reports of possible debris in Arizona.

"It's like looking for a needle in a haystack," Dittemore said, referring to the 6-by-6-inch tiles. "But that is not going to keep us from looking for it."

Some 12,000 pieces of debris had been collected in the region by late Monday afternoon. Human remains have been reported at 15 locations in Nacogdoches County alone.

The pieces are being gathered from an area larger than West Virginia. The debris field stretches west to east 380 miles from Eastland to Alexandria, La., and north-south 230 miles from Sulphur Springs to metropolitan Houston.

It includes the big Toledo Bend Reservoir on the Texas-Louisiana state line, where divers using sonar are searching for what authorities believe is a car-size chunk.

"We'll be finding stuff months down the road. I'd say hunting season is when people will be picking stuff up, or we'll never find it at all," said Calvin Turner, chief deputy in Vernon Parish, La.

The nose cone is one of the largest and most recognizable parts found so far and could provide insight into how the shuttle disintegrated over Texas on Saturday, killing all seven astronauts aboard.

The cone was found a few miles from Hemphill, a town of about 1,200 people that has become a focus of the search. Embedded in a tree near the nose cone was what appeared to be a black tile.

Grand jury returns four indictments

Four indictments were returned by the Scurry County grand jury Monday.

Joshua Zane Arnold, 20, of 5683 W. Hwy. 180 was indicted for debit card abuse. He is accused of trying to use the debit card of Mariatta Jones on Dec. 23.

He remains in jail on a $5,000 bond.

James Edward Norman, 19, of 126 Milburn was indicted for the Aug. 3 offense of burglary of a habitation.

He is accused of burglarizing the home of Joe Rendon. Norman remains in jail on a $10,000 bond.

James Charles Talamo, 45, of Belton was indicted on the Sept. 27 offense of forgery.

He is accused of forging the name of Jacqueline Pearl on Sept. 27 on a Nebraska car title.

His bond is set at $5,000.

Jessica Kennedy, 28, of 4331 Reading St. in Abilene was indicted for the Dec. 31, 2001 offense of securing food stamps by deception.

Her bond is set at $5,000.

Ginning season ends

Scurry County's fields are stripped and the gins have halted as cotton season has wrapped up once again.

Bales tallied this year at all three gins came to 41,082 — almost double last year's total.

Jim Edmonds at Scurry County Gin said that almost three times as many bales were processed this year than last at his location.

Scurry County Gin, west of Snyder, finished the season with 5,007 bales, compared to only 1,890 bales last year.

"It was a much better year this time around," Edmonds said. "But on the other hand, it could always be better than this too."

Farmer's Co-Op, located east of Snyder, processed 19,330 bales this year. Last year's total was around 12,000.

The bale count at Inadale Gin was stronger as well with a total of 16,745 recorded. Just over 10,000 bales were ginned last year.

An unusually wet summer in 2002 led to the bumper crop, which suffered in October and November because of more rainfall.

Farmers were unable to get into their fields most of November, causing some of their crop to deteriorate.

County agent Greg Gruben has said the excessive moisture received throughout the county this year would benefit planting this spring.

CITY EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR — Purchasing agent Patricia Warren, right, was honored at Monday night's council meeting as the city's employee of the year. Making the presentation was Mayor Francene Noah. (SDN Staff Photo)

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "An optimist thinks it's the best possible world while a pessimist fear that it's true."

Come on, don't be bashful.

All you proud moms and dads and even grandparents — do a little bragging.

Snyder, Ira and Hermleigh have graduated scores of talented people and some of these "kids" are now grown and have accomplished much.

With your help, we can tell SDN readers where they are and what they've been up to.

Each Sunday a relatively new feature, "Whatever happened to..." is published. The response has been positive, and the staff has enjoyed writing them.

But like many features, SDN staffers need your help with facts and a current picture.

The folks who put these kinds of things on a resume, probably won't make headlines, but these are said to be real — real booboos.

—I have lurnt Word Perfect 6.0 computor and spreadsheet pogroms.

—Wholly responsible for two failed financial institutions.

—Reason for leaving last job: maturity leave.

—Failed bar exam with relatively high grades.

—I was working for my mom until she decided to move.

—Marital status: Single. Unmarried, Unengaged. Uninvolved. No commitments.

—I have an excellent track record although I am not a horse.

—I am loyal to my employer at all costs. Please feel free to respond to my resume on my office voice mail.

—I procrastinate, especially when the task is unpleasant.

—Personal interests: Donating blood, 14 gallons so four.

—Instrumental in ruining entire operation for Midwest chain store.

—Marital status: Often.

—Children: Various

—Finished 8th in class of 10.

—References: None, I've left a path of destruction behind me.

—The company made me a scapegoat, just like my three previous employers.

Reason for leaving last employment: Co-workers never like me.

—Please don't misconstrue my 14 jobs as job-hopping. I have never quit a job.

ASK US

Q—How and when did Covenant of Lubbock become the owner of our hospital?

A—Covenant Health Systems does not own the local hospital. Cogdell Hospital has a management agreement with Covenant.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR

Mary Talley...

...has been a Snyder resident seven years. Her husband, Jack, is area maintenance manager for TxDOT. The couple have two daughters, Stacey of Austin and Amy of Llano. Mary enjoys gardening and crafting, but her real passion lies in raising her registered boer goats.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Have you had a kindness shown? Pass it on.

—Henry Burton

FEB 04 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Scurry Lodge #706

Scurry Lodge #706 will meet tonight at 7:30 p.m. All master Masons are welcome.

Stanfield parent council

The Stanfield parent council will meet at 6 this evening in the teachers' lounge in the front hallway. The upcoming book fair will be discussed. All parents are invited to attend.

Snyder FFA booster club

The Snyder FFA booster club will meet at 7 tonight in the SHS ag building. Officers will meet at 6:30 p.m.

Snyder Bass Club

Snyder Bass Club will meet at 7 this evening in the Kinder Morgan office on East Hwy. 180.

Hospice volunteer training

Hospice volunteer training with Odyssey Healthcare will be held Wednesday and also Feb. 12-13. Volunteers must attend all three sessions from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church.

West yearbook deadline

This is the final week to purchase yearbooks at West Elementary.

Senior FFA student reception

Wilson Motors will host a reception for senior FFA students from 5-7 p.m. Wednesday at the dealership for the signing of scholarship applications. Parents are invited to attend.

FBC services televised

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

Hermleigh Booster Club

The Hermleigh Booster Club will meet at 7 p.m. Thursday in the school cafeteria. All parents are urged to attend.

GED pre-registration and testing dates

Mandatory pre-registration for the GED test will be from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Thursday at the GED testing center at Western Texas College, building 7B. The math segment of the GED will begin at 8 a.m. on Friday. For more information about the GED test call Molly Kattes at 573-2919 or Emily Hataway at 573-8511, ext. 297, or 574-2112. It is recommended that candidates receive some preparation before attempting the test.

Krispy Kreme donuts

Price Daniel Unit employees are selling Krispy Kreme donuts. To pre-order, call 573-1114 by Friday and ask for Mrs. Merritt or Mrs. Cheyne. Orders will be picked up beginning at 7:30 a.m. Monday in the Wal-Mart parking lot.

Country and Gospel music

Country and Gospel music will begin at 6 p.m. Saturday at the Senior Citizens Center.

8th grade parents meeting

There will be a meeting of all Snyder 8th grade parents to plan an end-of-school party. The meeting will be held at 3 p.m. Sunday at 3300 Ave. U. Anyone interested is invited. For more information call Cindy Brewster at 573-6337, Carlene Lee at 573-2709 or Tina Stansell at 573-4157.

Retired teachers meeting

Snyder Retired Teachers Association will meet at noon Monday at the Shack. Program, "What About Music," will be presented by Emily Hataway.

Support groups

Adult family violence support group and children's family violence support group meets at 6:30 p.m. every Monday at Gateway Family Service. For information call 573-1822.

FBC support groups

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

Relay For Life captain to meet

Team captains for the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life will meet at 5:30 p.m. next Tuesday in the teachers' lounge at Stanfield Elementary.

Hospice memorial service

A memorial service for families who lost someone during 2002 will be held at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 18, in the First Presbyterian Church.

Relay for Life cookbooks

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

Relay for Life teams needed

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

2003 Ira annuals available

The 2003 Ira Bulldog annuals may be purchased until Monday, Feb. 17. Cost is $26 with name on cover or $22 without. Contact the school to purchase one.

WTC adult basic education classes

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

Choir trip planned

SHS choirs are also planning a trip to Boston on Easter weekend, April 17-21. There are six available positions for anyone who wants to make the trip. For more information, call Ronda Haire, choir director, at 573-6301.

Record producer is arrested in shooting

ALHAMBRA, Calif. (AP) — Acclaimed music producer Phil Spector was arrested for investigation of murder after police found a woman shot to death at his castle-like mansion, authorities said.

Spector, 62, whose "wall of sound" technique transformed 1960s pop music, was freed Monday night after posting $1 million bond. He had been arrested before dawn after the body of 40-year-old Lana Clarkson was found, Los Angeles County sheriff's Deputy Richard Westin said.

Clarkson was believed to have been a TV and film actress. Authorities wouldn't comment on her occupation or what her relationship was to Spector.

Los Angeles County sheriff's Lt. Daniel Rosenberg said Clarkson was found in the foyer of the mansion, which is 15 miles northeast of Los Angeles. He said deputies found the weapon used in the slaying but declined to say where in the house it was located.

The call reporting that shots had been fired came from inside the residence, Rosenberg said. Authorities towed away a black Mercedes-Benz.

"I heard the boom, boom, boom. It was about three or four shots," neighbor Terrie Arias told Los Angeles television station KNBC. "I just ignored them because I never thought it was a shooting."

Spector lived alone and didn't have a girlfriend, according to close friend Marvin Mitchelson, a prominent Los Angeles attorney. According to records, Spector bought the house in 1998 for $1.1 million.

Mitchelson said he and Spector had been trying to put together a movie about Spector's life.

"His mental state has been great — very rational, very together, super intelligent, a very funny man," the attorney said.

Attorney Robert Shapiro, whose clients have included O.J. Simpson, was representing Spector. "I don't know answers to any of this," Shapiro said by telephone from the Alhambra Police Department before Spector's release.

Spector's "wall of sound" effect involved overdubbing scores of musicians to create a full, dramatic sound. The technique, which combined instruments, vocals and sound effects, changed the way pop records were produced.

It brought fame to singing groups like the Ronettes and the Crystals and resulted in a string of '60s hits, including the Crystals' "Da Doo Ron Ron" and "Then He Kissed Me"; the Ronettes' "Be My Baby" and "Walking in the Rain;" and Darlene Love's "Christmas (Baby Please Come Home)" and "(Today I Met) the Boy I'm Gonna Marry."

Spector's second wife was Ronnie Bennett, lead singer of the Ronettes. They divorced in 1974. He has five children from his marriages.

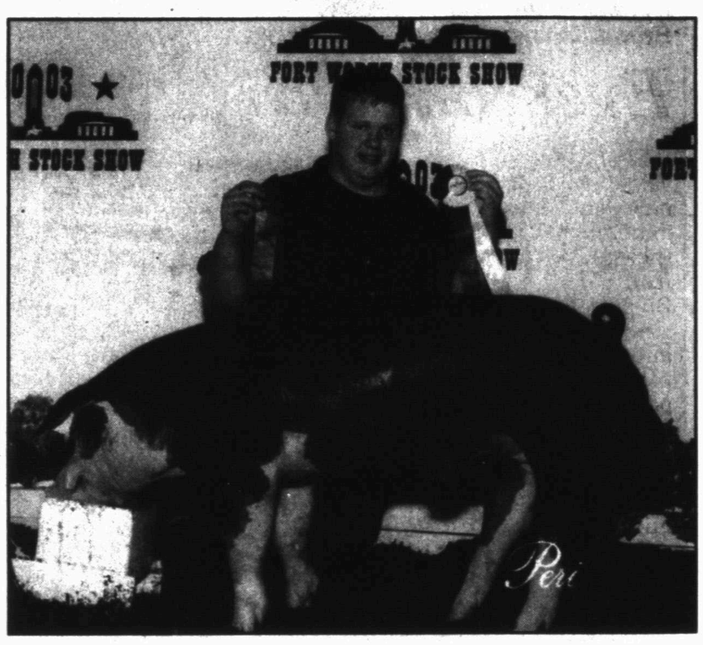
Spector's last major album was a 1980s collaboration with the Ramones, "End of the Century."

"I don't think he would hurt a fly. Until anything happens, you're innocent until you're proven guilty. I don't think Phil had it in him to murder anybody," Marky Ramone, drummer for the Ramones, told the Fox News Channel.

A 1995 biography by Rolling Stone magazine said the producer at times displayed near-psychotic and abusive behavior.

"It had to stop," Spector said of his behavior in a 1977 Los Angeles Times interview. "Being the rich millionaire in the mansion and then dressing up as Batman. I have to admit I did enjoy it to a certain extent. But I began to realize it was very unhealthy."

THIRD PLACE — Remington Bloom exhibited the third place pig in the white O.P.B. Barrow Class Thursday at the Fort Worth Livestock Show and Southwestern Exposition. Previously, the pig was named reserve breed champion at the Snyder FFA livestock show. (Contributed Photo)



RESERVE CHAMPION — Ricky Early of Snyder exhibited the reserve champion male in the open breeding spotted swine show at the Fort Worth Stock Show. (Contributed Photo)

Hispanic civil rights group criticizes new NBC series

LOS ANGELES (AP) — "Kingpin," a new TV drama about a drug cartel run by a Mexican family, was criticized by a civil rights group as a slap against Hispanics that will reinforce prejudices.

The League of United Latin American Citizens said Monday it was "very disappointed with NBC's decision" to air the series, which premiered Sunday.

"'Kingpin,' which portrays Hispanics as drug dealers, murderers and unpatriotic American citizens, opens the door to more negative feelings toward Latinos in our community," the group said in a statement.

The network had no immediate comment, a spokeswoman said Monday.

Measured concerns about "Kingpin" were voiced by Lisa Naverrete of the National Council of La Raza, another civil rights organization.

"I'm not comfortable with making a final judgment on the show after seeing just one episode," Naverrete said Monday.

While lauding the employment opportunity "Kingpin" offers for Hispanic actors and writers, she questioned why the only Latino-themed drama on network TV should be about what she called the "cliche" of drug dealers.

"There are no balancing images" showing Hispanics in another light, Naverrete said. "If it was one of several shows on TV about Latinos, I wouldn't have such concerns."

The heavily promoted "Kingpin" focuses on Miguel Cadena (Yancey Arias), a Stanford-educated Mexican angling to head his extended family's drug-trafficking operation while grappling with guilt over his criminal activities.

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Wade Warren, Managing Editor
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events

LOTTO TEXAS™
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RESULTS

Monday's Lottery Numbers
Pick 3
(Day) 7-5-1
(Night) 2-5-1
Cash Five
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will host a reception for
Senior FFA Students
at the dealership
February 5, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
for the signing of
Scholarship Applications
Parents are invited to attend

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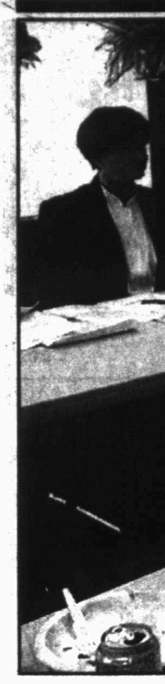

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UNITED WAY DIRECTORS MEET — Directors for Scurry County United Way met Monday at the UW office located west of City Hall. Plans were made to conclude the 2003 campaign with an awards luncheon set for Feb. 24 at the woman's club. From left are Dee Blackwell, Christy Brown, Dalinda Roberts, Trent Driggers, and Ann Smartt. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

United Way makes plans to end 2003 campaign

Twenty Scurry County United Way directors and agency representatives met Monday to plan the awards banquet, review the revised by-laws and made plans to close the 2003 campaign.

United Way is short of its goal of $85,000 with donations and pledges totaling 95.7 percent. During the meeting time, it was reported $81,373.69 had been turned in with some packets still outstanding. Plans were made by the packet distribution team, headed by Peggy Vernon, to contact those businesses and soon close this year's campaign.

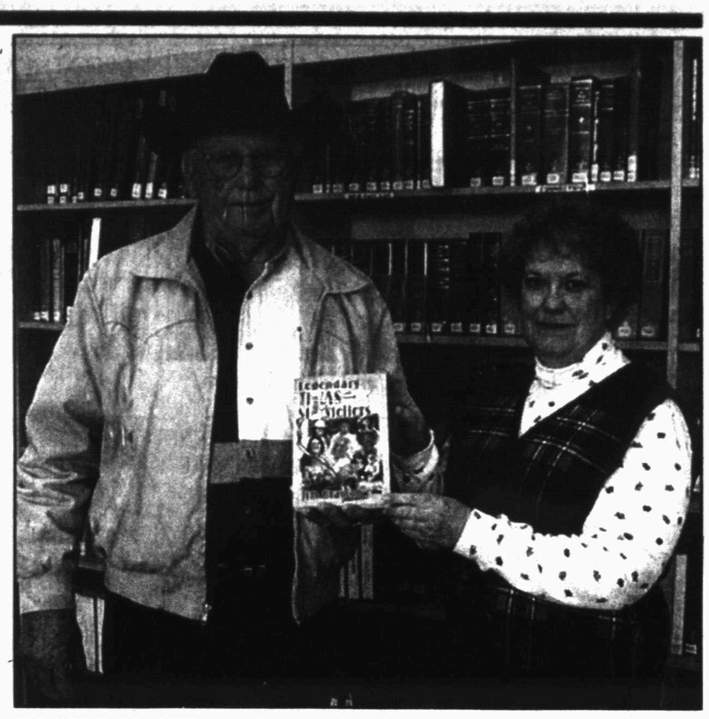
The by-laws document was updated and corrected by a committee headed by Christy Brown. A final form will be read and voted on following the awards banquet on Feb. 24 at the Martha Ann Woman's Club.

Directors are hopeful the $3,626.31 will be donated and they can announce that the goal has been met. The funds will help operate the Scurry County Boys and Girls Club, Snyder Child Day Care Center, Gateway Family Services, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Snyder Area Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse, Scurry County Food Cupboard, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Scurry County Youth Outreach and the Snyder Volunteer Fire Dept.

The December allocations to agencies totaled $74,025.

Serving on the awards committee are Barbara McGee, Peggy Vernon and Dalinda Roberts.

The nominating committee for next year's officers are Kent Wright, Stephen Covey, Carl Burleson and Ann Smartt. All officers are elected for terms of one year and serve until their successors are elected and qualified. Maximum term limit is four years.



BOOK DONATED — Janie Romine, Scurry County librarian, holds a copy of *Ledendary Texas Storytellers* donated to the library in McMullan's honor by the Scurry County Historical Commission. McMullan is a past chairman of the commission. The commission also has donated a directory of graves in Snyder Cemetery to the library. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Everyone loves to get a valentine

Everyone loves to get a valentine, especially in a fun, new way. Your kids can send extra-special greetings with these Valentine's Day ideas from "The Children's Busy Book" (Meadowbrook Press).

—Dip a toothpick in lemon juice and write a message on plain white paper. Iron the paper to reveal the message.

—Tape several Popsicle sticks side by side to form a square. Write a message on one side. Remove the tape and mix up the sticks so your valentine will have to put the puzzle back together to read the message.

—Roll up small valentine cards and insert them into balloons with some confetti. Blow up the balloons and pop them to reveal the valentines inside.

—Blow up a red, pink, or white balloon and hold the opening shut. Write on the balloon and then let the air out. Blow up the balloon again to see the message.

For more information call (800) 338-2232, ext. 110

To a toddler, everyday is a holiday. But Valentine's Day offers a special chance to celebrate.

"Toddlers can take part in the day too," says Trish Kuffner, author of "The Toddler's Busy Book: 365 Creative Games and Activities to Keep Your 1½ to 3-Year-Old Busy" (Meadowbrook Press).

"Instead of cards, say it with treats," Kuffner says. "And best of all, you can make the sweets together. It's a great way to bond with your little one."

From her book, Kuffner offers these recipes for adults to make with their toddlers on the day that celebrates love.

VALENTINE COOKIES

Prepare a batch of rolled cookie dough ahead of time. Let your toddler help with the simple parts of the recipe.

Roll the dough out and use a heart-shaped cookie cutter to shape the dough. Bake as directed and let cool. Ice with pink icing and decorate with sprinkles or other candy.

EDIBLE VALENTINES

Use frosting to glue candy hearts to graham crackers. Serve as edible valentines.

VALENTINE CUPCAKES

Wash and dry enough marbles so there's one for each cupcake. Line a muffin tin with paper baking cups. Place one marble in each section between the side of the paper cup and the tin.

The marbles will mold the baking cups into heart shapes. Pour in the batter. Bake according to the instructions. Cool and decorate with frosting, sprinkles and other candies.

SWEETHEART SANDWICHES

Mix softened cream cheese with a drop or two of red food coloring. Add more food coloring, one drop at a time, if you want a darker color. If you like, flavor the cream cheese with honey and/or cinnamon.

Spread the colored cream cheese on slices of bread. Use cookie cutters to shape heart-shaped sandwiches.

These and many other activities are described in Kuffner's book "The Toddler's Busy Book: 365 Creative Games and Activities to Keep Your 1½ to 3-Year-Old Busy."

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 02-04-03
♠ Q 10 4 3
♥ A 9
♦ Q J 6
♣ A 7 4 3

West
♠ 6
♥ J 8 7 5 2
♦ 9 5 4
♣ K Q 10 8

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

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

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
1 ♠	Pass	3 NT	Pass
4 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♣ K

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003

More on minimum opening bids

By Phillip Alder

Who said this? "Dentopedalogy is the science of opening your mouth and putting your foot in it. I've been practising it for years."

We are looking at opening the bidding with one of a suit when you are holding minimum point-count. Yesterday, I mentioned suit quality. If the suit you will name is poor, pass. But if your suit is good, then consider your rebid. Run through the three non-jump suit responses that partner might make. Do you have any rebid problems? If not, open.

Look at today's South hand. Would you open? Would you open if the spade five were the heart five? Next, you reach four spades. How would you plan the play after West leads the club king?

With the given hand, I would always open one spade because I can comfortably rebid two hearts over a response of one no-trump, two clubs or two diamonds, and I can raise two hearts to three. But with four spades and five hearts, I would pass. My heart suit is poor, and if partner responded two of a minor, I would have to rebid K-6-5-4-3 — ugh! (You cannot rebid two spades, because that is a reverse, which promises extra values.)

North's three-no-trump response was, by partnership agreement, a game-forcing spade raise.

In four spades, you should ruff two hearts in the dummy. Win with dummy's club ace, cash the heart ace, play a heart to your king, ruff a heart high, return to hand with a trump, ruff the last heart high, draw trumps, and claim.

The opening comment was made by Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, in a 1960 address to Britain's General Dental Council.

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Births

Christopher Mark X'Zavier Mireles was born at 10;37 p.m. on Jan. 21 in Covenant Birthing Center in Lubbock to Jennifer Mireles and William Talamantez of Hermleigh.

Christopher weighed seven pounds, seven ounces and was also welcomed by a sister, Vanessa Gomez.

Paternal grandparents are Gloria Rodriquez of Snyder and Ted and Janie Mireles of Hermleigh.

Spacey named director

LONDON (AP) — Oscar-winning actor Kevin Spacey will soon be named the new artistic director of the Old Vic Theater, a newspaper reported.

The London Times said the announcement, which it labeled as a surprise, would be made as early as Wednesday, with the support of the Elton John, chairman of the Old Vic Theater Trust.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

Weight Watchers meeting; Colonial Hill Baptist Church; for more information call Kathy at 573-1289 during the evening; weigh-in is at 5:30 p.m.

ABCL Open Pairs Duplicate Bridge; Snyder Country Club; 7 p.m.

Snyder Fire Dept. Auxiliary; Central Fire Station; 7 p.m.

Beginners' AA open meeting; Snyder Park Club, 1212 37th Street; 573-8268, 574-1292 or 573-1141; 7 p.m.

Al-Anon open meeting; Park Club in Winston Park, 37th and Ave. M; for more information call 573-3733, 573-2101 or 573-1141; 8 p.m.

TOPS TX56 (take off pounds sensibly); weigh-in and meeting 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.; Trinity United Methodist Church. For more information call Phillis Leatherwood at 573-6105.

WEDNESDAY

NA Just For Today, open meeting; Park Club; for information, call 573-1438; 8 p.m.

THURSDAY

Snyder Garden Club; Scurry County Library; "Landscape Design" by Patsy Huckabee, master gardner, master flower show judge, emeritus; 4 p.m.

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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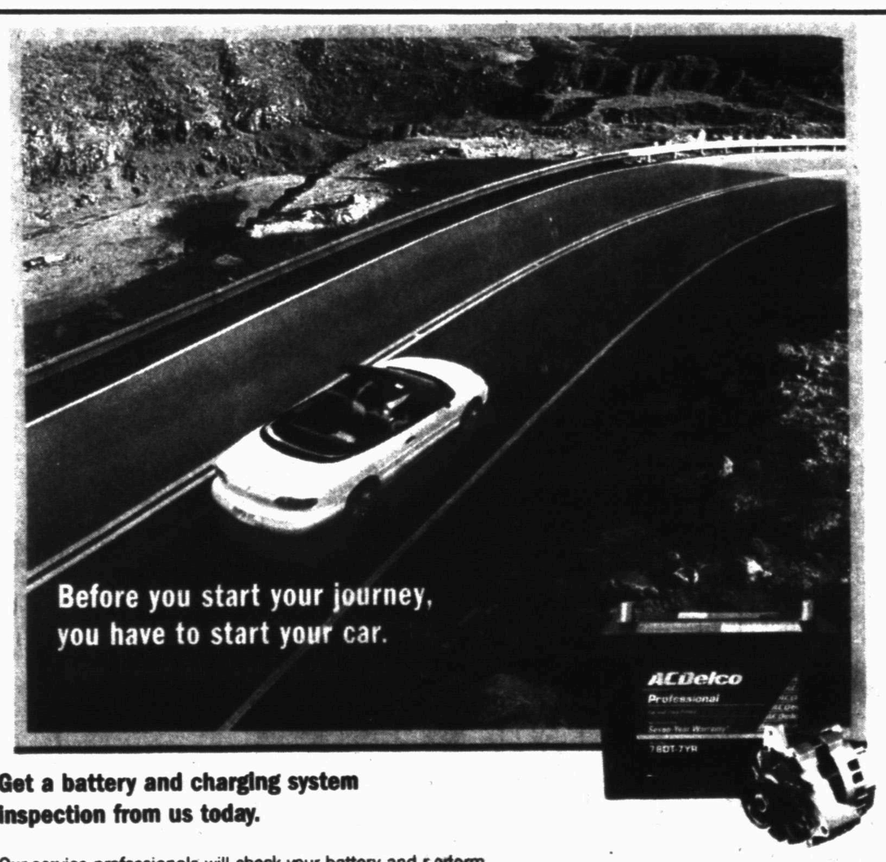

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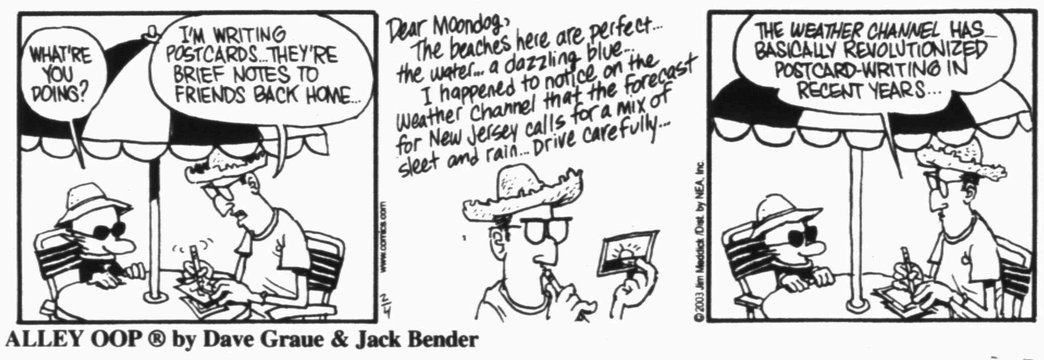

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"The good news is, I've saved you five bucks at the car wash tomorrow."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Twitch
4 Ooh companion
7 Called up
11 Actress — West
12 Huff
14 Bahrain VIP
15 Vanity
16 Ex-frosh
17 Large lizard
18 Snacked
20 Abridged
22 Amerind
23 Woolly animal
24 Connery and O'Casey
27 Quiz-show hosts
30 Symphony or tome
31 Jade
32 Ship's record
34 Accomplished
35 Chores
36 Greek goddess
37 Movies
39 Budged
40 Mind-reader's letters
41 Knock sharply
42 Beethoven piece
45 Good to eat
49 Smell
50 Den furniture
52 Before Sept.
53 Whitewash component
54 Go in the pool
55 Third-rate newspaper
56 Antler wearer
57 Summer in France
58 Motor coach

DOWN

1 Fed. agents (hyph.)
2 Othello's foe
3 Business VIPs
4 Good qualities
5 Battery terminal
6 Diet target
7 Government
8 During
9 Pharaoh's river
10 Degree holder
13 Lunchbox partner
19 Barbarians
21 Delicate
24 Grassy surface
25 DeMille film
26 Car import
27 Napoleon's island
28 Ht.
29 Peeved
31 Direction finder
33 Wander about idly
35 Kid around
36 Kachina maker
38 Closer
39 Bovary's title
41 Equip again
42 Marketed
43 Fat cat's victim
44 Iditarod terminus
46 Cutting remark
47 Occasion for leis
48 Custard base
51 Have a mortgage

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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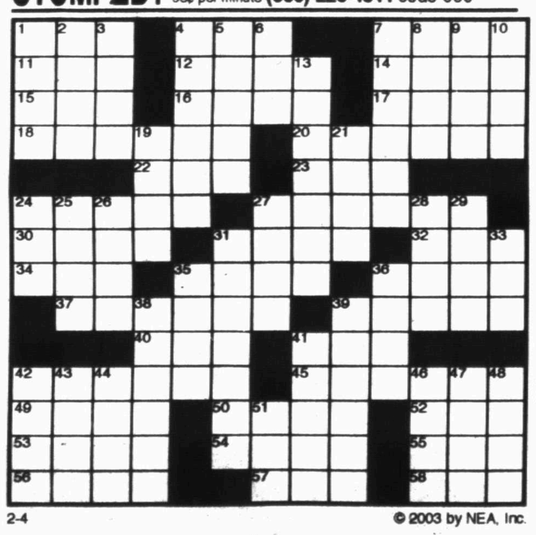

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

SPORTS

FIELD DAY — Western Texas College shortstop Tabitha Rodriguez scoops up a grounder during the second game of Monday's season-opening doubleheader. The Dusters won both game by scores of 8-0 and 11-2. (SDN Staff Photo)

Lady Dusters wallop Cisco on opening day

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

According to Western Texas College head softball coach Rodney McNeill, the Lady Dusters had a case of the first game jitters in their season opener against Cisco Monday.

You'd never know it by looking at the scoreboard.

Pitcher Patricia Gonzales struck out eight batters and allowed just two hits through five innings in an 8-0 triumph in the first game of the doubleheader.

"Our whole team was nervous early this being the first game in uniform," he said, adding that the team consists of freshmen who were playing in their first meaningful college contest. "As the game went on we settled in and started to do the things we do in practice when no one is watching."

The Dusters led 3-0 heading into the fifth inning, when first baseman Crystal Martinez crushed a grand slam to end the game.

The NJCAA mercy rule was enforced after five innings as the Dusters went up by the requisite eight runs.

Second baseman Katy Moore went two for three with two doubles, and center fielder Amber Taylor swiped three bases while going two for three.

McNeill said the defensive effort was top notch, as the team committed two one error in the two games, compared to five for Cisco.

The second game saw Amber House pitch almost as effectively as Gonzales, securing a 10-2 win to capture the opening day sweep.

House allowed 3 hits and struck out 3, as the Dusters' bats got hot in the second game.

"We were tentative offensively at first," McNeill said. "But we swinging the bat well as the day went on."

The team recorded 11 hits and did not strike out once in the game, as the mercy rule was once again applied.

Brandy Jordan went three for three with a triple and two singles.

"This is a great confidence builder," McNeill said. "So many times you let teams with less talent make a game of it, but the girls took care of business, and didn't give them a chance to get into it."

Taylor, who stole four bases in the two games, reaggravated an ankle injury during the second game, and was replaced in center by right fielder Candace Dupree.

McNeill said Taylor's status would be evaluated, but he was leaning toward sitting her in the next game.

"She wants to play, but I don't want her to re-injure it and we lose her for conference," he said.

The team will play Western Oklahoma at 2 and 4 p.m. Saturday.

Sports Briefs

Baseball booster club

The baseball booster club will meet Wednesday in the film room at 7: 30 p.m.

Little League accepting applications

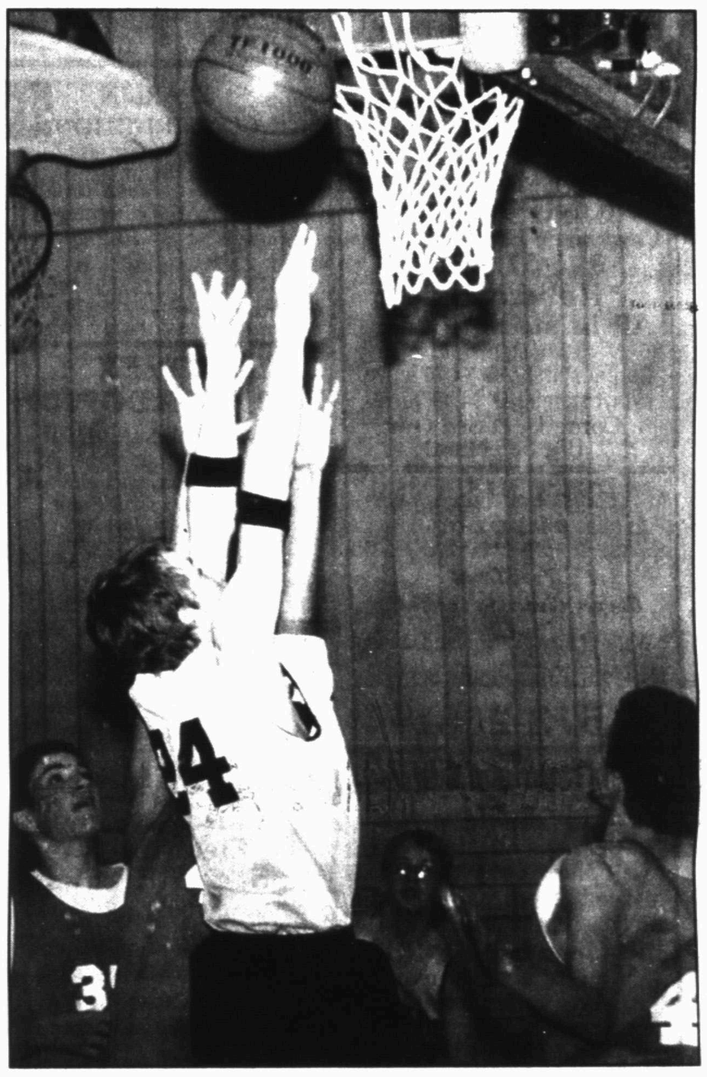
Snyder Little League will be accepting applications for manager and coach positions for the eight-and nine-year-old major and minor leagues.

Applications may be picked up at Farmers Insurance at 2517, and must be turned in no later than Feb. 10.

No late applications will be accepted and please no phone calls.

WTC basketball tournament

The Western Texas College Student Government Association will host an Outsiders Basketball Tournament Feb. 28 and March 1 at the WTC Gym. The entry fee is $100 per team, and there is a limit of 10 players per team. The deadline to sign up is Feb. 26. For more information or to sign up, call Kendra at 573-8511 ext. 674 or Casey at 573-8511 ext. 509.



IN REACH — Seventh-grader Cody Burney puts in an easy jumper int he first quarter Monday. The Gold team beat Sweetwater, 47-33, to stay undefeated. (SDN Staff Photo)

Jr. High girls conclude seasons

The Snyder Jr. High girls basketball squads finished the season Monday, with three of the four teams laying a beating on host Sweetwater.

The eighth-grade Gold team dominated the jr. Lady Mustangs in all facets of the game, securing a 50-14 victory by holding Sweetwater to three first-half points.

Terann Ragland put an exclamation point on her season with 17 points, four steals, three assists and two rebounds.

Katie Crenwelge drained 14 with two steals, and Jordan Stansell cleared the glass with eight boards while scoring 10 points.

Candace Chandler had seven rebounds and five points, while Brianna Bernal added four points while snatching two steals.

The Gold team finished with a sterling 16-2 record.

The Black squad blanked Sweetwater in the first period of its contest en route to a 40-15 triumph.

Courtney Tyrrell led all players with 10 points, and she swiped two steals and hauled in four rebounds.

Jaede Baze grabbed five boards and tallied eight points, as the team outscored Sweetwater 35-10 through the first three periods.

Every player lit up the scoreboard in the tilt. Sydney Wright notched six points, two boards and a steal.

Ashley Luecke, Teisha McGlouthin, LaCree Tippens and Amanda Rios each knocked in three points.

Luecke also recorded four rebounds.

Tana Sullenger and Jessica Yanez both hit a field goal in the contest.

The seventh-grade Gold team emphatically ended its 16-2 campaign Monday with a 40-14 whipping of Sweetwater.

Leading 22-10 at the end of the first half, the seventh-graders shutout their counterparts in the third quarter to take a 31-10 edge into the final stanza.

Audrey Jones posted 12 points and collected 10 rebounds, and Cayelea Rhodes canned 11 and stole four balls in the win.

Alex Urias had two key steals and six points, and Amanda Martinez banked in three points and added a steal and a board.

Devin Davidson, Jordan Derryberry, Kelly Holdren and Allison Sharrock netted two points each.

The seventh-grade Black cagers were not as fortunate as the rest of the jr. high teams, dropping a close, 23-19, tilt to Sweetwater. Snyder was outscored, 9-2, in the fourth quarter after leading for the first three periods.

Ashlei Lopez lit up the scoreboard for eight points and secured four rebounds.

Alexis Castillo had four steals, and paced the squad with five boards. She also netted two points.

Allison Cox posted four points, grabbed three and pulled down three rebounds.

Christina Villa scored three, and Jessica DeLeon added two.

7th Gold remains undefeated

The seventh-grade boys Gold team ran its season record to a perfect 12-0 in thumping the visiting jr. Mustangs, 47-33.

The club dominated the boards against Sweetwater, and was paced by Lance Day's game-high 11 points.

Cody Burney put in 9 points in the paint, and Dustin Murdock cashed in for seven.

Six points from Tyler McCormack aided the team, which will participate in the Lamesa tournament Thursday and Saturday.

Brent Bollinger and Ryan Claxton recorded five points each, while Blaine Knipe and Colton Brewster hit for two apiece.

The Black squad won a 37-35 tilt over Sweetwater in the first game.

After leading most of the game, Snyder allowed Sweetwater to tie it at 34-all late in fourth quarter before pulling out the victory.

Travis Hatfield paced all players with 12 points.

Layton Westmoreland and Chad Franks contributed productive minutes, posting seven and six points respectively.

Caden Billingsley and James Simmons notched four each.

Craig Robertson and Josh Ornealas added two apiece for the jr. Tigers, who will play in the Snyder "A" tournament Thursday and Friday.

Frosh get by Sweetwater

The Snyder freshmen Tigers grabbed the lead of Monday's game when it mattered most.

Trailing the entire game, the Tigers climbed back into the tilt with a 20-point fourth quarter to claim a 51-50 triumph over arch rival Sweetwater.

Garrett Pinson led all players with a game-high 28 points.

Jason Cave added 10, and Dustin Williams posted six.

Snyder's free throw struggles contributed to the early deficit, as the team hit but five of 14 attempts.

Coach Tommy Doyle said the team's play has progressively improved over the course of the season.

The freshmen topped Lamesa Friday, 59-54, with a balanced scoring attack and a 72 percent success rate from the charity stripe.

Pinson paced the team with 11, and Blake Scott and Williams knocked in 10 each.

Chris Smith pumped in nine, while Jason Cave and Bryan Clifton recorded eight in the win.

Cade Simpson notched three to round out the scoring for the freshmen, who will end their season Friday at 6 p.m. in Denver City.

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Anadarko Petroleum Corp., P.O. Box 2497, Midland, TX 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Clearfork/Glorieta Formation, Henderson-Sterling Lease, Well Number(s) 9 & 11. The proposed injection wells are located 10.9 Miles SW of Snyder in the Sharon Ridge Field, in Scurry County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2300 to 3300 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

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Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Anadarko Petroleum Corp., P.O. Box 2497, Midland, TX 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Glorieta/Clearfork Formation, D.O. McClure Lease, Well Number 3. The proposed injection well is located 4 Miles East of Ira in the Sharon Ridge Field, in Scurry County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2200 to 3200 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR FLUID INJECTION WELL PERMIT

Anadarko Petroleum Corp., P.O. Box 2497, Midland, TX 79702 is applying to the Railroad Commission of Texas for a permit to inject fluid into a formation which is productive of oil and gas.

The applicant proposes to inject fluid into the Clearfork/Glorieta Formation, Henderson-Sterling Lease, Well Number 9. The proposed injection well is located 10.9 Miles SW of Snyder in the Sharon Ridge Field, in Scurry County. Fluid will be injected into strata in the subsurface depth interval from 2300 to 3300 feet.

LEGAL AUTHORITY: Chapter 27 of the Texas Water Code, as amended, Title 3 of the Texas Natural Resources Code, as amended, and the Statewide Rules of the Oil and Gas Division of the Railroad Commission of Texas.

Requests for a public hearing from persons who can show they are adversely affected, or requests for further information concerning any aspect of the application should be submitted in writing, within fifteen days of publication, to the Environmental Services Section, Oil and Gas Division, Railroad Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 12967, Capitol Station, Austin, Texas 78711 (Telephone 512/463-6792).

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF SCURRY §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of YSIDRO C. ESTRADA, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,784:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the estate of YSIDRO C. ESTRADA, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by ROD WALLER, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 30th day of January, 2003, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to Angel Estrada, 2016 FM 644, Snyder, TX 79549, within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 30th day of January, 2003.

(s)ANGEL ESTRADA
Independent Executor
of the estate of
Ysidro C. Estrada,
deceased

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF SCURRY §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of EURA SNEED BECKHAM, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,776:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the estate of EURA SNEED BECKHAM, deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by ROD WALLER, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 30th day of January, 2003, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to James Thomas Beckham, 2512 31st, Snyder, TX 79549, within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 30th day of January, 2003.

(s)JAMES THOMAS BECKHAM
Independent Executor
of the estate of
Eura Sneed Beckham,
deceased

ALWAYS A WINNER THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS CLASSIFIEDS

Legal Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF SCURRY §

To those indebted to, or holding claims against the estate of ANN MARY PENDLETON, deceased, Probate Case Number 5,782:

The undersigned, having been duly appointed Independent Executor of the estate of ANN MARY PENDLETON , deceased, late of Scurry County, Texas, by ROD WALLER, Judge of the County Court of said county, on the 30th day of January, 2003, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said estate to come forward and make settlement, and those having claims against said estate to present them to Robert Forrest Pendleton, 4109 Kerrville, Snyder, TX 79549, within the time prescribed by law.

Executed this 30th day of January, 2003.

(s) ROBERT FORREST PENDLETON
Independent Executor
of the estate of
Ann Mary Pendleton,
deceased

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Green Emerald ring, possibly at Beall's. $500 reward offered. 806-629-4247

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*__2001 Pontiac Sunfire__ 2DR, Auto 37K
*__2001 Suzuki Esteem__ 4DR, 5spd 18K
*__2001 Ford Focus SE__ 4DR, Loaded 31K
*__2001 Ford Mustang__, Red, Loaded 17K
*__1999 Ford Escort ZX2__ 2DR, Auto 38K
*__1998 Chev. Cavalier Conv__ 2DR, Auto 64K
*__1994 Chev.__ 1/2 Ton Ext. Cab Silverado
*__1996 Chev.__ 1/2 Ton Reg Cab 4x4, Loaded 56K
*__1999 Ford Ranger__ S Cab 6cyl 5spd 42K
*__2000 Ford Ranger__ Reg Cab, Auto 53K
*__2001 Dodge__ Quad Cab 1/2 ton, Auto 28K
*__2002 Ford__ Super Crew Lariat, Loaded 15K
*__1999 Toyota__ Rav 4, 2WD, Loaded 38K

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Will move furniture.
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Best Home Care in Big Spring is seeking RN for supervision of branch office to be located in Snyder. Please fax resume to 915-268-9924, or call 800-750-3851 to schedule an interview.

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MANAGER position available at East Hwy DQ of Snyder. Looking for friendly, customer service leader. Above average base pay for above average person with bonus incentive. Non smoking environment. Drug test required. Call District Manager, Dixie Neves, 915-725-3379.

Now hiring part-time help, CASHIER/COLLECTOR. Applications will be taken thru February 14, 2003. Starting pay $7.50/hr. Apply in person at 511 Coliseum Drive, Snyder.

Snyder Oaks Care Center is now taking applications for LVN's on all shifts. Starting pay is $14.50 hr. plus we pay 3/4 of your health insurance. Call Kellie or Darla at 573-9377 if interested or apply in person at 210 E. 37th St.

Taking applications for housekeeping. Apply in person at Days Inn, 800 E. Coliseum Dr.

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Must have CDL–Hazmat endorsements, clean driving record and pass drug test.
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Requirements:
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(Apply In Person, NO CALLS)

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Sunoco Partners Marketing & Terminals L.P. is seeking applicants for drivers in the Clairemont area. The successful candidates will transport oil from lease sites to pipeline storage tanks and perform minor repairs to unit. Gauge and test product, use hand-held computer to complete transactions and interface with wide range of customers.

Candidate must be at least 21 years of age, possess a CDL with air brake, tanker, and hazardous material endorsement. No more than two moving violations in the last five years and have a high school diploma or equivalent. Must be able to pass a DOT medical exam. Sunoco offers medical and dental insurance, 401K, and a generous hourly wage for qualified persons.

If interested, please call Sunoco at 915-672-4888 for an application packet. EOE, M/F, D/V

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CLASSIFIEDS

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Utah family announces new reward

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — The parents of Elizabeth Smart announced a new reward Monday for information about their missing 14-year-old daughter and asked for help in their search for a handyman known only as "Emanuel."

The parents released a sketch of "Emanuel," a man they said worked around their home two years ago. The late Richard Ricci, who remains a suspect, was also a handyman who worked for the Smarts.

Elizabeth's sister, Mary Katharine, came to her parents recently and said "Emanuel" bore some resemblance to the man who took Elizabeth from their room at gunpoint eight months ago.

Elizabeth's parents, Ed and Lois Smart, announced a new reward of $10,000 for anyone who comes forward with information that exonerates Ricci. Ed Smart explained that he wants to flush out any information about the abduction, even if tips rule out the police's top suspect.

Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	2.95	2.74	2.78	—.17
AOL TimeWrn	11.35	10.97	11.02	—.53
AT&T Corp rs	19.02	18.39	18.48	—.54
Albertsons	21.25	21.02	21.04	—.45
Alltel	46.38	45.65	45.70	—1.30
AmEl Pw	23.50	23.17	23.22	—.43
AndarkPtr	45.40	44.50	45.21	—.09
ATMOS Egy	22.25	22.04	22.10	—.06
Availl	8.00	7.79	7.90	+.08
BP PLC	38.90	38.62	38.85	+.04
BakerHughes	30.98	30.14	30.90	+.22
Bank of Amer	70.04	68.50	68.91	—1.12
BellSouth	24.04	23.60	23.90	+.10
BurlNoSFe	26.23	25.65	25.80	—.10
Caterpillar	44.26	43.35	43.48	—.77
CenterPoint	7.24	7.04	7.11	—.33
ChevronTex	65.00	64.24	64.83	—.82
Citigroup	34.50	33.47	33.50	—1.15
CocaCola	40.18	39.70	39.87	—.28
ColgatePal	51.90	50.60	50.94	+.19
CmclMetals s	14.66	14.52	14.52	+.08
ConocoPhill	49.77	48.93	49.76	+.18
Cooper inds	37.40	36.95	37.08	—.18
DaimlrChry	31.50	30.75	30.80	—.69
DeltaAirl	9.00	8.55	8.90	—.10
Dillards inc	15.11	14.87	14.95	—.15
DowChem	28.62	28.03	28.38	—.29
DuPont	37.81	37.32	37.42	—.74
EastmanChem	33.76	33.40	33.73	—.17
EstKodak	31.65	31.23	31.28	—.32
EDS Corp	17.09	16.70	16.94	—.07
Entergy	46.45	45.72	46.04	+.19
ExxonMobil	34.51	33.85	34.02	—.61
FootLocker	10.40	10.25	10.25	—.13
GenDynam	66.23	65.50	66.00	+.12
GenElec	23.35	22.87	23.06	—.59
GenMills	44.95	44.29	44.69	—.33
GenMotors	36.77	35.82	35.90	—.86
GaPacific	15.90	15.52	15.66	—.52
Goodrich	17.20	16.75	17.18	—.14
Goodyear	5.15	4.64	4.66	—.51
GtAtlPac	5.25	5.10	5.12	—.18
Halliburtn	19.00	18.62	18.93	+.03
Hanson ADS	22.25	22.00	22.00	+.14
HarteHanks s	18.24	18.05	18.13	—.17
HomeDepot	21.39	20.85	20.94	—.44
HoneywellIntl	24.01	23.65	23.94	—.29
IBM	78.18	76.39	76.42	—1.76
IntlPaper	35.65	35.20	35.41	—.14
JohnsonJn	53.00	51.75	51.75	—1.59
KinderMorg	46.07	45.59	46.04	+.09
Kroger Co	14.92	14.74	14.81	—.17
LockheedM	50.40	49.50	50.30	+.75
Lowes Cos	35.30	34.54	34.68	—.62
Lubys	1.85	1.63	1.79	—.06
LucentTech	1.80	1.74	1.75	—.09
MarathonOil	21.51	21.08	21.46	+.06
MayDeptStr	20.61	20.02	20.06	—.54
Medtronic	43.76	42.56	42.79	—1.69
Motorola	8.04	7.81	7.81	—.19
NCR Corp	18.77	18.52	18.55	—.45
Navistar	25.20	24.52	24.60	—.20
PNM Rescs	21.44	21.20	21.33	—.10
Penney JC	19.55	19.10	19.32	—.22
PepBoys	10.32	10.11	10.19	—.23
PepsiCo	40.95	40.45	40.52	—.22
Pharmacia	41.50	40.70	40.83	—1.02
PhelpDodge	35.83	34.70	35.12	+.11
PilgrmPrd B	7.70	7.16	7.26	—.33
Praxair	54.42	53.59	54.17	—.50
ProctGamb	85.63	84.53	84.92	—.80
RadioShack	20.31	19.70	19.77	—.53
RoyalDut	41.77	41.45	41.62	—.21
SBC Comm	25.65	25.25	25.60	+.32
SaraLee	20.72	20.09	20.53	+.44
Scripps EW	80.76	79.51	79.59	—1.41
SearsRoeb	26.41	25.65	25.87	—.53
SherwinW	27.21	26.49	26.71	—.50
SouthernCo	28.76	28.44	28.51	—.31
SwstAirl	12.62	12.41	12.59	—.08
SprintFON	12.42	12.02	12.05	—.45
SprintPCS	3.75	3.62	3.66	—.11
Sunoco Inc	33.05	32.25	32.90	+.91
TXU Corp	18.80	18.40	18.55	—.35
TempleInland	43.50	42.85	43.34	—.41
TexInd	22.60	22.21	22.57	—.03
TexasInst	15.86	15.54	15.56	—.29
Textron	38.54	37.98	38.44	—.28
TrinityInds	17.17	17.00	17.07	—.10
TylerTech	3.95	3.82	3.82	—.07
UnionPacif	56.59	56.01	56.28	—.34
USSteel	13.76	13.30	13.30	—.93
UnitedTech	64.40	63.26	63.96	—.89
Unocal	27.88	27.55	27.86	—.18
VerizonComm	38.95	38.10	38.33	—.40
WalMart	49.21	47.03	47.15	—.92
WellsFargo	47.75	46.65	46.92	—.82
WstnGasRs	34.36	33.85	34.35	+.10
WinnDixie	13.65	13.40	13.41	—.24
Xerox Cp	8.88	8.66	8.75	—.15
YumBrands s	23.65	23.00	23.50	—.27

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FEB 04 2003

Report: States' finances worsen despite cuts

WASHINGTON (AP) — The already grim financial health of state governments is worsening, with tax revenues falling and budget gaps widening during the first half of the current fiscal year.

Most states are considering tax increases, as well as more cuts to bridge the difference between weak tax revenues and the money needed to run government.

But a report by the National Conference of State Legislatures being released today concludes there is "no immediate end in sight" to severe budget troubles.

Among the dismal findings in the report, compiled from data collected during the first six months of the fiscal year that began July 1:

—The collective budget shortfall for state governments jumped nearly 50 percent between November and January, rising from $17.5 billion to $25.7 billion, despite scaled-back spending plans.

—Next year's projected shortfall is $68.5 billion, a nearly 40 percent jump from this year's estimate of $49 billion.

—Thirty-six states reported current gaps between income and spending; 19 states were missing money equal to 5 percent or more of their total budgets.

"The numbers are staggering," said Corina Eckl, head of the bipartisan conference's fiscal program. With estimates for 2004 incomplete for 11 states, the gaps probably will be even larger when final numbers are in, she said.

The report came a day after President Bush gave Congress his $2.3 trillion spending plan for the 2004 fiscal year starting Oct. 1. In response to the states' requests for more federal aid, particularly for Medicaid and for new anti-terrorism initiatives, Bush proposed to give states more latitude in spending federal money for Medicaid, which provides health coverage for the poor, and for Head Start preschools in low-income neighborhoods.

His budget projects federal grants to state and local governments to rise nearly 4 percent next year to $398.8 billion, about 18 percent of the federal budget. More than $18 billion of the increase, however, is in mandated benefit programs such as Medicaid. For discretionary grant programs, Bush is asking Congress to cut what it appropriates for state and local governments to $154.1 billion, compared with $157.8 billion this year.

States already have taken sweeping actions to deal with their plight, from massive layoffs of state workers in Connecticut to early prison releases in Kentucky. To bridge budget gaps, many states used their rainy-day funds, other money from the nationwide settlement with the tobacco industry.

For all but four states, the 2003 fiscal year began in July. Twenty-nine states so far imposed across-the-board budget cuts, with eight states laying off workers. Others cut programs in elementary and higher education, Medicaid and corrections.

Projections for tax revenues, the fuel that runs state programs and services, were too high in at least 30 states, even though all scaled them back as the economy worsened.

Next year promises to be worse, the report found. Again, 36 states reported they expect a shortfall next year, and half of them said it would equal at least 10 percent of their budget.

The problems stretched nationwide. In California, a conservative estimate of next year's gap equaled 30 percent of the budget; in New Jersey, the budget shortfall equaled 18.5 percent. Minnesota's is 15 percent.

"It's a struggle just to provide essential state services ... just what's absolutely critical," said Kansas state Sen. Steve Morris.

His state faces an estimated $750 million shortfall next year, NCSL said.

Inmate convicted in athiest plot dies in prison

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A prosecutor says the man convicted in the extortion plot that ended in the slaying of atheist activist Madalyn Murray O'Hair has died in prison.

David R. Waters had suffered from poor health since his sentencing on a federal extortion charge in O'Hair's death.

Assistant U.S Attorney Gerald Carruth of Austin, who prosecuted Waters and once described him in court as "a depraved recidivist," learned of his death Monday.

"We always have believed and still believe that Mr. Waters was the mastermind of this plot," Carruth said. "After he agreed to plead and show us where the bodies were, it allowed us to finally put the case to rest."

The newspaper reported that Waters succumbed to lung cancer last week at the Federal Medical Center in Butner, N.C. A prison spokesman declined early today to comment to The Associated Press.

Waters, who was 55, admitted in early 2001 that he did "threaten and commit physical violence" in 1995 to O'Hair, 76; her son, Jon Garth Murray, 40; and her granddaughter, Robin Murray O'Hair, 30. Robin Murray O'Hair was also the adopted daughter of Madalyn Murray O'Hair.

The three disappeared in 1995 from San Antonio along with $500,000 in gold coins.

A former office manager for O'Hair, Waters led investigators in 2001 to their dismembered bodies in a shallow grave on a remote Hill Country ranch about 120 miles west of San Antonio.

Waters was sent to North Carolina in late December from Leavenworth, Kan., where the Peoria native was dying of hepatitis. He was serving 20 years for the O'Hair crimes.

"It really does close the books on the whole sordid affair," said Bill Murray, O'Hair's lone surviving child and a professed born-again Christian. "Everyone's soul is salvageable, but there are people who give themselves up to evil, and never really make an attempt to right themselves, and Waters was one of those individuals."

O'Hair, who rose to prominence in the 1960s for her role in battling prayer and Bible reading in public schools, called herself the most hated woman in America. In 1963, the U.S. Supreme Court responded by banning organized prayer in public schools.

Ann Rowe Seaman of Los Angeles, who is writing a biography of America's most famous atheist, said she met with Waters four or five times in prison over the past two years and exchanged numerous letters with him.

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Today's chuckle

Telemarketer discovers son when he calls

VISTA, Calif. (AP) — When Riverside County telemarketer Al Kinkade began a call to Daniel and Kellie Kinkade, he mentioned that they share a surname.

After a little small talk, Kellie realized that her 27-year-old husband is Al Kinkade's son.

"Dan, it's your father!" she shouted.

"Give me the phone," her husband replied. "You're messing with me."

"I just about fell out of my chair," Al Kinkade said. Kinkade, 49, had called to solicit a donation to a police and sheriff's Explorer Scout program.

Father and son compared notes and every question had the right answer.

Did Al work as a security guard in 1975? Yes.

Did Dan's mother Shirley Jean Weaver drive a blue 1969 Chevy Nova? Yes.

The Vista couple began searching seven years ago for Dan's father. All they had was his full name, Alfred Robert Kinkade, and two photographs of him with Dan's mother. She died of colon cancer at age 39 when Dan was 9, and Dan was raised by an aunt and uncle in Los Angeles.

Al Kinkade had been hard to find because of years of substance abuse that led to homelessness. He decided to go sober on April Fool's Day in 1998.

Father and son now talk daily by phone. They have also gotten together, and Al met his 4-year-old granddaughter, Sierra.

Date Book

Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003

Today is the 35th day of 2003 and the 45th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1861, the Apache Wars, which lasted for 25 years, began at Apache Pass, Ariz., in response to the arrest of Apache Chief Cochise for raiding a ranch.

On this day in 1948, Ceylon (now known as Sri Lanka) gained its independence from Great Britain.

On this day in 1985, 21 countries signed a United Nations document titled "Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment." Torture was defined as "any act by which severe pain or suffering, whether physical or mental, is intentionally inflicted" to obtain information. Though the United States signed the document, it has yet to complete the necessary final step of ratification.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Thaddeus Kosciusko (1746-1817), Revolutionary War figure; Charles Augustus Lindbergh (1902-1974), aviator; Rosa Lee Parks (1913-), civil rights leader, is 90; Betty Friedan (1921-), writer, activist and feminist, is 82; Alice Cooper (1948-), singer, is 55; Clint Black (1962-), country singer, is 41.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1969, John Madden was named head coach of the Oakland Raiders.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Memories of our lives, of our works and our deeds will continue in others." — Rosa Parks

TODAY'S MOON: Between new moon (Feb. 1) and first quarter (Feb. 9).

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren

Religious message in holiday treats can be politely refused

DEAR ABBY: Your advice to "Happy Hindu in the Bible Belt," whose Christian friends tuck religious pamphlets into holiday boxes of baked goodies in an effort to convert her, was off base. You advised her to ignore the brochures and enjoy the goodies — unless she had lost her appetite — in which case she should donate the treats to a shelter or take them to the office.

I disagree. That lovely lady should politely tell her friends that she likes her own religion and ask them to please stop with the religious literature. If they continue, she should end the friendship. If converting her is more important than her friendship, there IS no friendship. — **BEEN THERE, TOO, IN BEND, ORE.**

DEAR B.T.T.: Your answer is better than mine. Interestingly, "Happy Hindu's" problem appears to be widespread. That letter brought in a bushel of mail. Read on:

DEAR ABBY: I am Jewish. A friend from college kept sending me "Jesus Loves You" Christmas cards. I told her it hurt my feelings that she didn't respect my beliefs. I made it clear that I am Jewish and will always remain Jewish, as it is my religious and cultural background.

Like "Hindu," I know that some of these gestures are well-intentioned, but I would never dream of sending my friend Hanukkah cards. I send cards that say "Season's Greetings" or "Happy Holidays." It's good to learn about other people's beliefs and be open to them — but not when they're forced on you. — **JILL IN SACRAMENTO**

DEAR JILL: I regret that I did not advise "Happy Hindu" to be as outspoken and upfront as you and "Been There."

DEAR ABBY: Your answer to "Happy Hindu" offended me as a Christian. If the circumstances were different, would you tell me to ignore my Buddhist friends, but enjoy their treats if I didn't gag first? Why is evangelical Christianity the only religion we shouldn't tolerate? **— MARY S., ELLIJAY, GA.**

DEAR MARY S.: It's not. Anyone who proselytizes is treading on "sacred ground." It's regarded as offensive, even if it is heartfelt.

DEAR ABBY: Hard as it is to live with some evangelicals, they are easier to take than people who feel justified in resorting to violence against those they feel are "lost." You have to understand that with evangelicals, it is an article of faith, and it's their Christian duty to preach their version of the Gospel, especially if they care about you and are genuinely concerned about your soul. — **DOLLY IN LACEY, WASH.**

DEAR DOLLY: I am aware of that. A devout and very sweet lady once told me she was "sad" because she loved me and knew she wouldn't see me in heaven. I asked her why. She said, "Because you haven't been saved!" Once I got over the shock that her heaven was segregated, I assured her that even though I might not be in hers, she would definitely be in mine, so please not to worry any further.

DEAR ABBY: Many people have stopped me on the street or come to my door with religious tracts, so I had cards printed with the following: "I never told my own religion nor scrutinized that of another. I never attempted to make a convert, nor wished to change another's creed. I am satisfied that yours must be an excellent religion to have produced a life of such exemplary virtue and correctness. For it is in our lives, not from our words, that our religion must be judged." (Thomas Jefferson to Mrs. H. Harrison Smith, 1816) — **KAYE IN N.Y.C.**

DEAR KAYE: I agree with his timeless and profound conclusion.

**

Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

To order "How to Write Letters for All Occasions," send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Letter Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

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Dale Huff, Minister

What Difference Can I Make?

The forces at work in the world seem far beyond our control. "What difference can I make in a world as big and as complicated as our world today?" "After all, I am pretty small and insignificant in the whole scheme of things." These statements express reasonable feelings. The Bible, however, gives us a different picture. Jesus said:

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden... Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in heaven.
Matthew 5:14-16

Jesus teaches us that we can make a difference. He certainly made a difference himself. Born of humble parents, Jesus grew up in a seemingly insignificant corner of the world. But Jesus devoted himself to doing the will of His heavenly Father. Because of that will he gave Himself as a sacrifice for sin when he died on the cross. Jesus changed things for all time and eternity as He humbled himself and did the will of His father.

Jesus invites us to follow Him. We too must go the way of the cross just as Jesus did. In His teaching he said:

If anyone wishes to come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross and follow me. *Matthew 16: 24*

If we are willing to do the will of our heavenly Father, accepting whatever goes with it, we will make a difference. Just like the ripples go out from a splash when we throw a rock in a pond, lives are changed when someone decides to truly follow Jesus. If we make that decision, we will make a difference in the world. We will be a light in the world.

Dale Huff

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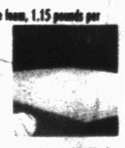

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Texas House, Senate to attend memorial service

AUSTIN (AP) — The Texas House and Senate planned to take today off so legislators could attend a memorial service in honor of the seven astronauts killed aboard the space shuttle Columbia.

A service was planned at the Johnson Space Center near Houston. Gov. Rick Perry, House Speaker Tom Craddick and Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst as well as several state lawmakers plan to attend.

Both legislative chambers approved resolutions Monday honoring the loss of Columbia and its crew.

"We've read the names and we've prayed over some mighty fine special Texans," said Rep. Jim McReynolds, a Lufkin Democrat who heard the explosion from his East Texas home.

SICK KIDS

About 1,400 chronically ill Texas children suffering from diseases such as cerebral palsy and muscular dystrophy would go without medical treatment under proposed budget cuts at the Texas Department of Health.

The Children with Special Health Care Needs program provides health care to 4,000 chronically ill children who would otherwise go without treatment.

In October, the health department stopped enrolling children in the program despite having the money to pay for their care. A waiting list with 1,400 names was created.

The health department has a projected $12.8 million surplus in the program, including a $4 million federal grant.

Gov. Rick Perry has ordered state agencies to cut their budgets by 7 percent as a way to help close a $1.8 billion budget deficit this fiscal year. Another shortfall of at least $8.1 billion is projected through 2005.

Because of the budget problems, the $12.8 million money will be returned to lawmakers to plug the 2003 hole.

"You still have the children sitting on the waiting lists," said Rep. Garnet Coleman, D-Houston. "Children are being denied services to pay for the budget."

"No new taxes" is a popular phrase around the Texas Capitol these days.

But a state property tax and state income tax are among the many options lawmakers must consider if they're going to fix the ailing Robin Hood school finance system, House Education Chairman Kent Grusendorf said Monday.

"We have to put everything on the table," said Grusendorf, a Republican from Arlington. "Most experts agree that a permanent solution cannot happen without having tax restructuring."

Tax restructuring is a term used by some politicians to describe changes to state tax laws, which prohibit a state property or state income tax.

Grusendorf's education committee begins work today on a bill that would end Robin Hood by 2005.

Public schools in Texas are funded primarily with local property taxes and state and federal money. The school finance system takes money from property rich districts and gives it to poorer schools.

DOCTORS' WARNING

A coalition of physicians on Monday warned of potentially disastrous trends involving the cost of running a medical practice.

Members of the Primary Care Coalition said during a noon news conference at the Capitol that soaring costs of liability insurance and a lack of prompt pay from insurance companies are driving quality physicians away from practice.

Business costs, insurance and the "cat and mouse games of slow pay, no pay tactics employed by health plans, you've got a small business nightmare," said Roland Goertz, Chair of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's Family Practice Advisory Committee.

"It is simply not financially feasible to deliver care under these circumstances."

HOMELAND SECURITY

With the nation inching closer to war with Iraq, Texas lawmakers should use the first legislative session since the 2001 terrorist attacks to improve homeland security, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst said.

He said the state's response to the Columbia shuttle disaster showed how well Texas can respond to an emergency.

"Our response on Saturday was nothing short of awesome," Dewhurst said. "I think we've made very good progress in this state. But we could always do more."

AND

Sen. Eddie Lucio, D-Brownsville, filed a bill that would allow juries to sentence capital murder defendants to life in prison without parole. Current law allows only two penalties: a death sentence or life in prison with the possibility of parole after 40 years.

A similar version passed the Senate two years ago but died in the House without a final vote.

QUOTE OF THE DAY:

"As we all move forward, may we never forget their bravery, their sacrifice and their commitment to bettering all mankind." — Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, after leading the Senate in a moment of silence to remember the Columbia astronauts.

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Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.

Prednisone therapy for polymyalgia

DEAR DR. GOTT: Two months ago I injured my back at work and developed polymyalgia rheumatica. My doctor wants to put me on prednisone, but, because of the side effects, I am reluctant to take it. Would the medication bring about a cure or just help the pain of inflammation?

DEAR READER: Polymyalgia, an autoimmune disease marked by chronic inflammation of muscles (and, sometimes, arterial linings), is probably unrelated to your back injury, which should be treated independently. The cause of polymyalgia is unknown, but the pain and stiffness associated with it can be quite severe, even disabling. Therefore, your physician has made an appropriate recommendation. Therapy with prednisone, a type of steroid that combats inflammation, should result in prompt relief of symptoms.

However, as you pointed out, the use of the drug carries risks, including cataracts, osteoporosis, diabetes and deficient immunity. To a large degree, these side effects are dose-related.

You will need to decide whether to proceed with the prednisone. To help you, your doctor should provide an in-depth analysis of the risks of not taking the medicine, as well as the risks of taking it. For example, side effects are uncommon until prednisone has been administered continuously for several weeks; therefore one of your options is to use it intermittently, as needed for pain. Consider using the lowest possible dose that is effective. Or perhaps try taking it on alternate days (or less frequently), which will further reduce the risks.

Prednisone will reduce inflammation and pain. Although it need not be taken indefinitely once the initial bout of polymyalgia has ended, some patients require periodic cycles of therapy, and still fewer need to take prednisone for months or years.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Managing Chronic Pain." 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: My mother has extremely high blood pressure. Her doctor refills her prescriptions constantly, yet she hasn't had a physical examination in about two years. He knows she is a heavy drinker and smoker, and I think he should be keeping closer tabs on her.

DEAR READER: I agree with you.

First of all, there are many modern drugs that can successfully lower blood pressure. Thus, there is really no excuse for your mother's to remain high — unless she is non-compliant in taking her medicine.

Second, excessive alcohol consumption often aggravates hypertension, so if this is part of your mother's problem, it needs to be addressed.

Third, I don't understand how the doctor can keep current about your mother's medical problems unless he sees her and examines her from time to time.

As a general rule, hypertensives should — in my opinion — be examined at least once or twice a year if they're stable, more often if they're not. Ask the doctor about this, and if he seems disinterested, consider making a change.

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Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Wednesday, Feb. 5, 2003

A number of wonderful situations that you never thought could happen to you might become realities in the year ahead. Be optimistic. It pays to never give up on your dreams, hopes or wishes.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Be optimistic regarding your involvements with others. Exciting news could come your way today pertaining to some type of partnership arrangement you have with several people.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Through the good auspices of another, something is stirring that will have a positive effect upon your earning abilities. A raise, promotion or opportunity could be at hand.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Any new social contacts you make today could end up being more significant than usual, so take advantage of any opportunity you get to go places where you can make fresh contacts.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Something that has been bothering you lately can be successfully concluded today all because of a lucky break that happens your way. You'll be greatly relieved.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — You're entering a period where friends and associates could be quite lucky for you concerning the realization of your hopes and wishes. One big one could be fulfilled today.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — A lucky happenstance could occur today that will have a positive effect upon your material well-being. For many Cancers, the amount involved could turn out to be rather substantial.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Conditions in general could be particularly happy for you today. It actually may turn out to be a red-letter day.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — This is one of those unusual days when Lady Luck is lurking in many places. It could be your good fortune to be in the right spot at the right moment when benefits are being handed out.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Your open-mindedness and non-judgmental attitude will ingratiate you to all who you encounter today. One of them will be in a position to grant you a big favor.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — The bigger the issues you have to encounter today, the better you'll be able to handle them and the greater the rewards will be. When the stakes are meaningful, your deft touch will serve you well.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Methods and procedures that proved successful for you in the past will prove to be especially beneficial when applied today. Cash in on your experiences, talents and skills.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Be optimistic regarding your present involvements, because starting today, conditions that affect your well-being and happiness should start to take a turn for the better.

Aquarius, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph year ahead predictions by mailing $1.25 to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to state your zodiac sign.

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Hazardous waste workers help with debis

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A South Texas company has sent 10 hazardous waste specialists to East Texas to help search, find and secure debris from the space shuttle Columbia, which broke apart re-entering the earth's atmosphere.

Thousands of pieces of flaming debris plummeted to earth Saturday morning in Southeast Texas and western Louisiana.

On Sunday, Chemical Response and Remediation Contractors Inc., a Harlingen company, sent four hazardous waste operation and emergency response technicians to Palestine, about 100 miles southeast of Dallas, and on Monday sent six more to Lufkin, 170 miles southeast of Dallas, company owner David Hanawa said.

Several hundred responders from about a dozen federal agencies are clearing the area.

Ex-fed prison warden to head county jail

BROWNSVILLE (AP) — A retired Federal Bureau of Prisons warden has been hired to head the Cameron County Jail, target of numerous investigations recently.

Cmdr. Michael Tweedy, 54, had moved to Harlingen to be with family in retirement, but the chief jailer offer brought him out of retirement.

"I was not really ready for retirement," Tweedy said in Tuesday's editions of The Brownsville Herald.

Cameron County Sheriff Conrado Cantu selected Tweedy on Monday. Tweedy will assume his duties on Feb. 24.

He succeeds former Texas Department of Public Safety Capt. Hector Ramos, who gave up the job in January after holding it for only a week.

The jail has been the site of numerous sex allegations, drug busts and investigations focusing on thousands of dollars missing from jail inmate accounts.

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Snyder Oaks Corner

Ruth Eades

Ruth Eades is 83 years old. She was born in Scurry County and has been a resident of Snyder Oaks since July 19, 1997. Mrs. Eades worked as a cafeteria worker for Snyder Independent School District for 27 years. She has one daughter and two grandchildren. She is a long time member of the First Baptist Church, Snyder.

Mrs. Eades enjoys music, bingo and the church services held at the nursing home. Mrs. Eades is a pleasant person to be with and we're proud to have her at Snyder Oaks.

Snyder Oaks Care Center
210 E. 37th St. 573-9377

FEB 04 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

GOP budget criticized for deficit projection

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Bush's $2.23 trillion budget for 2004 and its call for new tax cuts was criticized by Democrats and got a mixed reaction from Republicans today as the White House began defending its proposal on Capitol Hill.

A day after Bush introduced the plan, White House budget chief Mitchell Daniels defended its $1.3 trillion in 10-year tax cuts for reviving the economy in an appearance before the House Budget Committee.

The plan also projects deficits of $307 billion this year and $304 billion next year — surpassing the record $290 billion deficit of 1992 under the first President Bush.

"This is a tough pill to swallow," Rep. Gil Gutknecht, R-Minn., told Daniels in complaining about the huge deficits and the plan's call for 4 percent growth in overall spending, which he said was too high.

Gutknecht also said that with sizable deficits forecast for the foreseeable future, he's having a hard time defending its proposed tax cuts. They include $695 billion in cuts over 11 years in corporate dividend taxes and other levies, and making permanent the $1.35 trillion tax cut enacted in 2001 that will expire after 2010.

"It's very difficult for us to justify borrowing another $1 trillion or whatever the number is in order to say yes to all these national priorities," Gutknecht said.

The White House blames the weak economy and the fight against terrorism for the shortfalls and says the red ink can be managed.

"In fact, given a sputtering economy, it reflects appropriate economic policy, as the president decided in advocating a bold economic plan," Daniels said.

Rep. John Spratt of South Carolina, top Democrat on the budget panel, said by driving up deficits, Bush was passing on huge federal debts to future generations.

"I don't see any effort here to develop a plan that will get us out of the hole that's being dug," Spratt told Daniels, adding, "Where's the solution?"

The White House has said only economic growth and spending restraint can balance the budget again, a stance Republicans on the committee rallied behind.

"What matters is that we don't lose control of spending," said budget panel Chairman Jim Nussle, R-Iowa. "We must not commit to strategies that win popular support today, only to balloon in costs that will be imposed on our own children."

Some Republicans in the Senate, where the GOP has a thin two-vote majority, were more guarded.

Sen. Charles Grassley, chairman of the Senate Finance Committee, said he was focused on finding "tax policies that can deliver the most immediate bang for the buck."

Patterson announces quarterly earnings, buys 7 more rigs

Patterson-UTI Energy Inc., headquartered in Snyder, today reported net income of $1.8 million, or $0.02 per share, for the quarter ending Dec. 31 and also announced the acquisition of seven more drilling rigs.

The $1.8 million net compared to net income of $18.7 million, or $0.24 per share, for the same three-month period in 2001.

Revenue for the last quarter of 2002 was $140.9 million, versus $174.7 million for the comparable three months in 2001.

Net income for 2002 was $2.2 million, or $0.03 per share, compared to net income of $164.2 million, or $2.07 per share in 2001. Revenue for the year was $528 million, versus $990 million for 2001.

Net income for the year includes a charge of $4.7 million ($2.8 million after tax) due to the financial failure in 2002 of a workers' compensation insurance carrier that had provided coverage for the firm in prior years. Net income for 2001 includes a charge of $13.1 million ($8.1 million after tax) incurred in connection with the UTI Energy merger.

Cloyce Talbott, Patterson-UTI chief executive officer, said, "The gradual increase in demand that we experienced in the third quarter continued in the fourth quarter, and has accelerated in the first month of 2003.

"Our average rigs operating for the fourth quarter increased to 140, including eight in Canada, compared to 127 average rigs in the third quarter, including four in Canada.

The CEO also announced that Patterson-UTI, the second-largest operator of land-based drilling rigs in the U.S., will now give monthly reports on average drilling days.

For the month of January 2003 Patterson-UTI had 163 average rigs operating, including 15 in Canada.

Talbott added, "Our policy of retaining our most experienced field personnel and refurbishing our equipment during the downtimes has begun to pay off as we had anticipated. Because of this practice we have been able to respond quickly and efficiently to the improving industry conditions."

Mark S. Siegel, Patterson-UTI Energy chairman, said, "We achieved positive results in what was clearly a down year for our industry. We generated approximately $100 million in EBITDA and our balance sheet at year-end was even stronger than it was when the year began. As of Dec. 31, we had no long-term debt, $168 million in working capital and more than $80 million in available cash, allowing us to continue to be prudent and patient buyers when appropriate opportunities arise, as was the case with the acquisitions we are announcing today."

Patterson-UTI also announced that it has entered into agreements to acquire seven additional land-based drilling rigs, six of which are marketable, along with a yard, top drive, spare drilling equipment and inventory, for a total of $16.5 million in cash.

The acquisitions increase the company's rig count to 331. Four of these rigs will be marketed in Utah, increasing the firm's marketable rigs in the Rocky Mountain region to nine. The remaining rigs will be deployed in South and East Texas. The Utah transaction has been completed, and the acquisition of the Texas rigs should occur before the end of February.

For the month of January, Patterson-UTI reported a total of 5,063 drilling days, or an average of 163 drilling rigs operating including an average of 148 rigs in the U.S. and 15 rigs in Canada.

Obituaries

Irma Haddox

1918-2003

Irma Deen Haddox, a native of Scurry County, died Monday, Feb. 3, after a lengthy illness.

Funeral service for Mrs. Haddox, 84, is set for 3 p.m. Wednesday in the Ira Church of God with her son, the Rev. Bobby Haddox, officiating. Burial will follow in the Ira Cemetery under the direction of Community Memorial Funeral Home of Abilene.

Born Aug. 12, 1918 in Ira to Bill and Mintie (Barnett) Giddens, she was a 1937 graduate of Ira High School, the first class to wear a cap and gown at Ira.

She worked for many years at the café in Ira as a cook and later owned and operated the café, Deen's Place until her retirement in 1983.

Mrs. Haddox lived in Ira until 1995 at which time she moved to Colonial Oaks Nursing home in Cross Plains to be near her daughter. When the nursing home closed in 2002, she moved to Coronado Nursing Center in Abilene. She was a member of the Ira Baptist Church.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a brother, Winfrey Giddens; two sisters, Ruby Brooks and Mayme Giddens; a granddaughter, Michelle Arnold; and a son-in-law, John Arnold.

Survivors include three children, Deena Levoy Arnold of Livingston, James and Deborah Griswold of Hawley and the Rev. Bobby and Lori Haddox of Welty, Okla.; eight grandchildren, David and Jeff Arnold, Stephen, Timothy and Michael Curry, LaTrisha Clark and Lee and Wesley Haddox; 14 great-grandchildren; and three step-grandchildren; and two sisters, Edna Branin of Jal, N.M., and Anna Perry of Lake Charles, La.

Memorials may be made to the Hospice of the Big Country, 4601 Hartford in Abilene, 79605; or to the United Way of Abilene, Box 82 in Abilene, 79604.

David Harveson

1969-2003

LUBBOCK — David Andrew Harveson, the husband of Joy Harveson, died Saturday, Feb. 1, in St. Luke's Hospital in Houston after a lengthy illness.

Mr. Harverson

A remembrance service for Mr. Harveson, 33, is set for 7 p.m. Wednesday in the Sanders Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral service is set for 11 a.m. Thursday in the Sanders Memorial Chapel with the Rev. Buddy Payne, pastor of Snyder's First United Methodist Church, officiating. Cremation services are under the direction of Sanders Funeral Home.

Born April 17, 1969 in Fort Worth, he was a 1987 graduate of Lubbock's Monterey High School and graduated from Texas Christian University in 1992 with a bachelor of science degree.

He married Joy McSpadden on Jan. 28, 1995 in Snyder and was a pharmaceutical representative.

He was preceded in death by his father, Herold Harveson; and his father-in-law, Dr. W. B. McSpadden.

Survivors include his wife, Joy Harveson of Lubbock; his mother, Judy Harveson of Lubbock; two sisters, Melissa Barthold and Amy Duggan, both of Lubbock; two brothers, Louis Harveson of Alpine and Ben Harveson of Fort Worth; his mother-in-law, Vera McSpadden of Snyder; and nine nieces and nephews.

The family will receive friends from 6 to 7 p.m. Wednesday at Sanders Funeral Home.

The family suggests memorials to the Texas Heart Institute, Box 20345 in Houston, 77225-0345.

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

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

Reward offered

BERLIN (AP) — German police offered a $4,600 reward today for clues in the shooting of a U.S. soldier who was wounded by gunfire when he stopped to clean ice from his windshield.

The 26-year-old soldier was struck in the left hand and leg on his way to the barracks in Schweinfurt 60 miles east of Frankfurt early Monday morning. He was in stable condition after undergoing surgery.

Police had no leads on a motive or suspect, but both German authorities and the U.S. military have said there is no indication that it was a terrorist attack. Authorities questioned the soldier today but said he was unable to describe an attacker.

German police working with U.S. Army investigators found spent cartridges at the scene of the shooting and were questioning drivers along the road where the soldier had pulled over.

The soldier is assigned to the 15,000-strong 1st Infantry Division, the U.S. Army's oldest. It has recently begun deploying 1,800 soldiers.

Three injured in accident

Accident

Emergency personnel responded to a two-vehicle accident at 14th Street and College Ave. at 5:30 p.m. Monday.

Involved were a 1977 Chevrolet pickup driven by Trey Don Goswick, 18, of 602 N. Ave. Q and a 1992 Buick driven by Valerie Shaw, 51, of 453 Willis in Hermleigh.

Shaw and two passengers, Mathew Shaw, 17, and Emma Shaw, 15, both of the same address, all were transported by Snyder EMS to Cogdell Hospital.

Mathew and Emma were treated and released, but Valerie was transported to University Medical Center in Lubbock and was listed in satisfactory condition this morning.

Threats

A man requested an officer at 10 a.m. Monday and reported he was being harassed by another subject. Deputies advised they would attempt to contact the subject and also that a close patrol would be maintained.

Close patrols

A close patrol was requested at the railroad crossing at 20th Street and Ave. I Monday after unknown subjects placed old tires on the tracks and cut some wires on the crossing arms.

A man reported his neighbor's kids repeatedly going onto his property and requested a close patrol until he could hang no trespassing signs.

A woman in the 2000 block of 37th Street reported possible shots fired at 10:20 p.m. Monday. Officers checked the area and began a close patrol. At 2 a.m. today, a woman requested a close patrol after hearing someone walking in her alley in the 500 block of 32nd Street.

Gas drive off

A clerk at Town and Country East reported a gas drive off worth $20 at 6:10 p.m. Monday.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Wed 2/5	Thu 2/6	Fri 2/7
53/31	43/16	32/20
Cloudy. High 53F. Winds SSE at 5 to 10 mph.	Overcast. Highs in the low 40s and lows in the mid teens.	Light wintry mix. Highs in the low 30s and lows in the low 20s.
Sunrise 7:36 AM, Sunset 6:20 PM	Sunrise 7:35 AM, Sunset 6:21 PM	Sunrise 7:34 AM, Sunset 6:22 PM

WEST TEXAS STATE BANK
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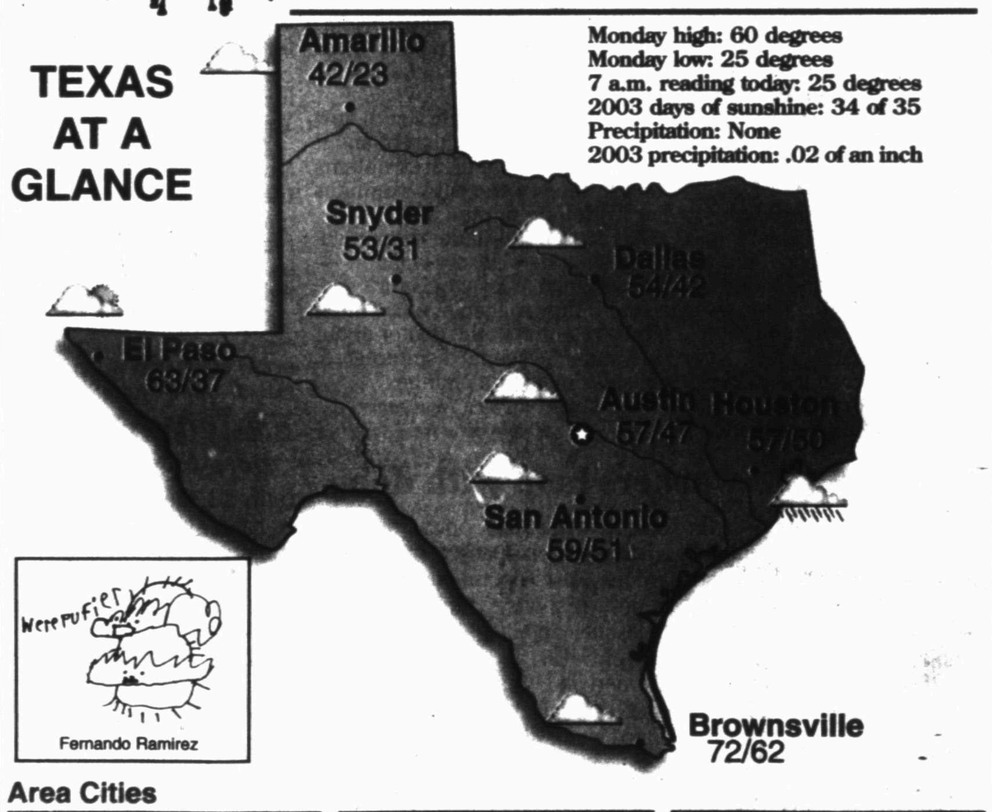
TEXAS AT A GLANCE

Monday high: 60 degrees
Monday low: 25 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 25 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 34 of 35
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: .02 of an inch



Fernando Ramirez

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	54	38	cloudy	El Paso	63	37	pt sunny	Midland	60	37	cloudy
Amarillo	42	23	cloudy	Fort Stockton	65	40	cloudy	Raymondville	71	57	cloudy
Austin	57	47	cloudy	Gainesville	49	33	cloudy	Rosenberg	58	50	rain
Beaumont	57	48	rain	Greenville	50	35	cloudy	San Antonio	59	51	cloudy
Brownsville	72	62	cloudy	Houston	57	50	rain	San Marcos	58	48	cloudy
Brownwood	56	40	cloudy	Kingsville	67	56	rain	Sulphur Springs	51	38	cloudy
Corpus Christi	63	56	rain	Livingston	56	45	rain	Sweetwater	55	36	cloudy
Corsicana	54	41	cloudy	Longview	54	41	cloudy	Tyler	56	45	cloudy
Dallas	54	42	cloudy	Lubbock	52	27	cloudy	Weatherford	51	32	cloudy
Del Rio	65	51	cloudy	Lufkin	57	46	rain	Wichita Falls	50	32	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	49	33	pt sunny	Houston	57	50	rain	Phoenix	68	42	pt sunny
Boston	33	17	windy	Los Angeles	72	46	pt sunny	San Francisco	64	41	sunny
Chicago	20	10	pt sunny	Miami	77	63	cloudy	Seattle	51	33	pt sunny
Dallas	54	42	cloudy	Minneapolis	17	3	cloudy	St. Louis	30	20	pt sunny
Denver	29	7	sn shower	New York	35	21	windy	Washington, DC	40	23	mst sunny

Moon Phases

New	First	Full	Last
Feb 1	Feb 9	Feb 16	Feb 23

UV Index

Wed 2/5	Thu 2/6	Fri 2/7
Minimal	Low	Minimal

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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