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THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

MONDAY
March 8, 2004
Vol. 55 No. 268
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Ernest Peevy

For senior citizens...

Tax break on agenda for WTC board today

A possible tax break for senior citizens is on tonight's board agenda for Western Texas College.

Scurry County approved the tax freeze for residents over 65 and for the disabled, and the WTC board will consider similar action when it meets at 7 tonight.

The commissioners court voted in favor of the tax ceiling at its meeting on March 1 rather than call for a petition leading to a new election.

In the September general election, 82 percent of Scurry County voters were in favor of the tax freeze, which has been in effect for Snyder ISD for several years.

Additionally, the trustees will consider approval of revisions to the board policy for employment, contract, dismissal and salary pertaining to professional personnel. Action items also call for revisions to the 2003-2004 and approval of the 2004-2005 school calendar, and additions of the athletic complex and visitor center to the Johnson Controls contract.

In other business, the board will hear information regarding the 12th annual West Texas High School Art Competition.

JOINT PRIMARY

Citizens can vote Republican or Democrat in any of these polling places.

Voting Pct. #	Precinct Name	Voting Place
5	Fluvanna	Fluvanna Comm. Center
6	Union	Union Comm. Center
7	Northwest Snyder	Scurry County Library
8	West Central Snyder	School Admin. Building
9	Ira	Ira Comm. Building
10	Southwest Snyder	Towle Park Barn
11	Dunn	Dunn Comm. Center
12	Central/Southeast Snyder	South side of Coliseum
13	Hermleigh	Hermleigh Comm. Center
14	Loyd Mountain	Northeast Comm. Center
15	North/NE Snyder	North side of Coliseum
Commissioner Pct #1 Box 14, 15		Commissioner Pct #2 Box 5, 6, 7
Commissioner Pct #3 Box 8, 9, 10		Commissioner Pct #4 Box 11, 12, 13

Primary vote set for Tuesday

Early vote totals ended at only 444 for Tuesday's primary election, but a good turnout is hoped for by local election officials at polling places Tuesday.

"I want to encourage everyone to get out and vote tomorrow," said County Clerk Joan Bunch. "We've got a local race and the candidates have worked hard and they're expecting everyone to vote who did not vote early."

Magali Bernal and Jana Young are vying for the Republican nomination for Scurry County tax assessor-collector. The winner of Tuesday's election will be the new tax assessor-collector on Jan. 1 as there is not a Democratic candidate.

"The weather is supposed to be nice tomorrow, so please vote," said Bunch.

Bunch said voters should bring their registration cards to the polling locations, or some other form of identification.



Magali Bernal



Jana Young

"And remember, you can vote Republican or Democratic at any polling place," said Bunch.

Of the 444 early votes, 382 voted on the Republican ticket and 62 cast Democratic ballots.

Besides the one locally contested race, voters also have a choice in the District 11 state representative's race as Midland CPA Mike Conaway is vying for the post, as is Brownwood educator Bill Lester.

Polls open Tuesday at 7 a.m. and will remain open until 7 p.m.

A good weekend...





SHS ATHLETES IN ACTION—D'Angelo Davis, top, clears the bar at 6' during the annual Canyon Reef Relays Saturday. His performance and those of his teammates helped the Tigers capture top honors at the event. At right, Ashley Martinez delivers a pitch during a Lady Tigers' game in the softball tourney. Martinez and her teammates captured the first place trophy. Martinez only allowed one run in 22 innings during the tournament. (SDN Staff Photos by Bobby Allen)

Spellers participate in bee

Scurry County's top spellers joined their counterparts Saturday at the 53rd annual Lubbock Regional Spelling Bee.

Monica Clanton, West sixth grader, represented Snyder ISD. Hermleigh ISD sent seventh grader Casey Williamson to the regional bee.

Monica is the daughter of Anne Clanton and Monte Clanton. Casey is the daughter of Kelly and Dan Dacus of Hermleigh and James and Donita Williamson of Stanton.

Monica finished in 9th place out of the 30 spellers.

Though she was eliminated early in the competition, Casey's mother, Kelly, said this morning that her daughter felt good about the spelling contest and thought that she had done a good job.

Ira School did not participate in the 2004 spelling bee.

Rachel Wilson, an eighth grader at Borden County School, won the bee by correctly spelling "horologium," an instruments for measuring time.

She will next compete in the 77th annual Scripps National Spelling Bee June 1-3 in Washington, D.C.

Defense questioning begins in Terry Nichols jury selection

McALESTER, Okla. (AP) — Attorneys introduced Oklahoma City bombing conspirator Terry Nichols to prospective jurors today and asked them to give him a fair trial on state murder charges that could send him to death row.

Nichols, already serving a life sentence on federal charges, is accused of 161 counts of murder for the 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building.

"Make sure that he receives a fair trial from each of you," lead defense attorney Brian Hermanson said as Nichols stood at the defense table.

The defense began a second week of jury selection today by asking one prospective juror what she remembered seeing on television after the April 19, 1995, bombing.

"Mostly they were showing the building and the people scattering and running," the juror said. She also remembered co-conspirator Timothy McVeigh being accused of the crime.

McVeigh was convicted on federal murder charges and executed in June 2001.

Defense attorneys had predicted it could take weeks to seat a jury and that it would be nearly impossible to find fair and impartial jurors in the state because of pretrial publicity about the bombing and Nichols' 1997 conviction on federal charges.

Judge Steven Taylor predicted before the start of jury selection that the process would take a mere five to seven days. His estimate appears on target.

Hermanson said his questioning would take two days.

Last week, prospective jurors answered two rounds of judge's questions to ensure they were impartial and could approve the death penalty. Prosecutors wrapped up their examination of the panel Friday after just a few hours of questioning.

Once defense questioning concludes, each side will strike 12 of the 42 prospective jurors, leaving the 18 needed to serve.

Interviews start today at hospital

Interviews for a new chief executive officer for Cogdell Memorial Hospital by the board of managers begins today in the hospital boardroom.

At 5 p.m., the board will meet with James Robinson Sr. of Keller. At 7 p.m., the board will interview William Moore of Comanche.

On Tuesday, the board has interviews set with Donald Griffin of The Woodlands beginning at 5 p.m., followed by James Koulovatos of Lindsey, Okla., at 7.

Wednesday's interview will be with only one candidate as Larry Knetzer of Dumas has accepted a position elsewhere and has withdrawn. At 7 p.m., Carol Hanes of Linden will meet with the board.

Town-hall meeting today

A town-hall meeting is set for 7 p.m. today at the Ritz Theatre.

The meeting is sponsored by the Citizens Corp of Scurry County and the Snyder clean-up committee.

"The meeting is for the public and everyone is invited," emphasized Vicki Shroyer, executive director of the Snyder Chamber of Commerce.

Recovery efforts resume in water taxi accident

BALTIMORE (AP) — Recovery crews equipped with dogs, sonar equipment and helicopters focused on a 1,000-square-yard area of Baltimore Harbor today in the search for three people missing since a water taxi capsized during a sudden storm.

Divers were sent to investigate three objects detected in the search area that could be the missing passengers, Fire Department spokesman Kevin Cartwright said.

There was no word on how long it would take to determine if the objects are the missing passengers.

The Seaport Taxi pontoon boat overturned Saturday afternoon near Fort McHenry when the area was struck by a sudden storm with wind gusting to 55 mph. Of the 25 people on board, one died, and a man, a woman and a child were still missing.

"We have three people missing and we need to bring them home," Fire Department Chief William Goodwin said. "And that's what we're committed to doing."

The water temperature in the area had fallen to about 36 degrees this morning. That meant that the divers could only stay on the bottom for about 20 minutes at a time, Goodwin said.

They also would face zero visibility at times and treacherous debris on the bottom.

"This is an old harbor. It's not the Bahamas out there," Goodwin said.

Five people remained in hospitals today. An 8-year-old girl and a 30-year-old woman were in critical condition.

The boat and other water taxis had been trying to return to land because of the weather, the chairwoman of the National Transportation Safety Board said today.

Federal authorities were looking at the poor weather at the time of the accident, as well as the boat's condition and the actions of its two crew members, said Ellen Engleman-Conners, chairwoman of the NTSB. Both crew members survived.

In an interview today on CNN, she said she believed that a small craft advisory had been issued because of the weather.

ASK US

Q—When is the Lady Raiders first game in the Big 12 Tournament?

A—At 2:30 Wednesday against either Kansas or Baylor.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Jessica Grant...

...has lived in Snyder all of her life. She is married to Gary Grant and they have two children, Morgan, 3, and Noah, age 20 months. Jessica is the daughter of Daphne Blevins. Hobbies are spending time with her children, reading and church activities.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

Greed is a terrible thing — unless you're in on the ground floor.

—Yogi Berra

MAR 08 2004

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Band boosters

SHS band boosters will meet at 7 tonight in the band hall.

2004 Bulldog Yearbook

The last day to purchase a copy of the 2004 Bulldog yearbook is today. The cost is $26 with name on cover or $22 without. The yearbooks will be delivered in late August.

American Legion

American Legion will have a membership meeting at 7:30 tonight.

Bible study tapes

Bible videos air each week on Channel 2. To be shown at 7 this evening is "Beware of False Teachers," followed by "The Church as God's Holy Temple."

AA meeting

An AA meeting is held at noon every Tuesday at the Witherspoon house next door to the First Presbyterian Church. The meeting is non-smoking and closed. For more information, call 574-2656.

Writers Federation

The Doodlebug Writers Federation will meet at 11 a.m. Tuesday at the Golden Terrace Village community room, 1607 52nd, for a covered dish luncheon. Visitors are welcome.

Free income tax help

There is free help with income taxes every Wednesday from 9 a.m. until noon and 1-3 p.m. at the senior center at 2603 Ave. M.

What's up guidelines

Items for What's Up will be published twice at no charge, the day before and the day of the event. Events or activities requiring additional publicity will be referred to the advertising department where a special non-profit rate is available.

Stewart jurors swayed by assistant

NEW YORK (AP) — Jurors who convicted Martha Stewart of lying about a stock sale said they believed the key prosecution witnesses against the homemaking guru and were surprised that her team didn't mount a more aggressive defense.

They also said Stewart's reputation as a stickler for detail belied her claim that she did not remember receiving a message from her broker warning her the price of a stock she held was about to fall.

"That wasn't really believable. 'Cause this is a woman who pays attention to details," juror Rosemary McMahon told Dateline NBC in an interview with six jurors that aired Sunday.

A jury of eight women and four men deliberated 12 hours over three days before returning guilty verdicts Friday on all four counts against Stewart — conspiracy, obstruction and two counts of making false statements.

Stewart was expected to meet with her probation officer as soon as today.

All the charges relate to an accusation that Stewart lied to cover up the reason she sold 3,928 shares of ImClone Systems stock on Dec. 27, 2001 — avoiding a hefty loss when the company announced bad news the next day.

Prosecutors had offered Stewart a chance last April to plead guilty to just one of the four charges against her — making a false statement — in exchange for a probation sentence, Newsweek reported Sunday, quoting several unidentified sources close to the case. But a defense source told the magazine that prosecutors could not guarantee that Stewart would avoid jail time completely and Stewart refused the offer, Newsweek reported.

Jurors said while they spent days exhaustively going over the evidence, they always came to the same conclusion.

"We tried five ways to Friday to take it from different angles," juror Meg Crane said. "To work it through. And — and that was it. We were ... we just could not have done anything else."

Jurors said they were surprised the defense spent less than an hour presenting its side, after the prosecution took four weeks to make its case.

"We thought there was going to be more from the defense," said juror Jonathan Laskin, 48, a paralegal and translator. "We ... were hoping they would put up more of a fight or something. Or give us more to chew on. But it wasn't there."

Jurors said the most compelling testimony came from Stewart's assistant Ann Armstrong, who testified that Stewart sat down at Armstrong's desk to change a message from her broker, Peter Bacanovic, that informed her that he thought the ImClone stock price would start falling.

"She ultimately gave the testimony that was going to bring Martha down. That was a very important piece," said juror Chappell Hartridge.

Despite efforts by the defense to discredit the prosecution's star witness, Douglas Faneuil, jurors said they believed the testimony of the former Merrill Lynch assistant.

"We all agreed that he was very rehearsed, and we did take a long look at that," juror Laskin said. But, he added, "we ultimately felt that it (his testimony) was essentially credible."

Many jurors said they were stunned by longtime Stewart friend Mariana Pasternak's testimony that Stewart had told her she knew ImClone CEO Sam Waksal was selling his stock. Pasternak testified she remembered Stewart saying, "Isn't it nice to have brokers who tell you those things?" although she backed off that claim on cross-examination.

"We were like, 'Wow,'" juror Dana D'Allessandro said. "That blew me away."

Hartridge said, "It took down two people with one shot."

Bacanovic was convicted of obstruction, making false statements, conspiracy and perjury.

Jurors also said they weren't impressed by the courtroom visits of some of Stewart's celebrity friends, including Rosie O'Donnell and Bill Cosby.

"I felt, 'Are we being manipulated here in some way?'" Laskin said.

Both Stewart and Bacanovic have vowed to appeal.

Police, FBI are investigating vandalism at Lubbock mosque

LUBBOCK (AP) — Smashed windows, anti-Muslim graffiti, broken furniture and other destruction at a South Plains mosque are under investigation by the FBI and police early today following a weekend break-in that religious leaders say was a hate crime.

Imam Mohamed El-Moctar said his office at the Islamic Center of the South Plains was ransacked when he arrived for morning prayers on Sunday.

A fan dangled above an overturned shelf and broken chairs in the women's worship hall. El-Moctar pointed to a dent in the wall where he believed a chair had been thrown.

"This is the action of someone angry, very angry," he told the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

The mosque's spiritual leader said he found pro-American and anti-Muslim slogans written on the walls along with damage throughout the building.

"I feel sad about what happened," he said. " ... Our community is very peaceful, and our community is targeted not for anything they did, but for what they are and what they believe."

Police Lt. Jerry Brewer called the property damage at the mosque significant. Investigators believe the break-in occurred sometime between 10 p.m. Saturday and 6:20 a.m. Sunday by multiple suspects, possibly gang members.

In addition to breaking furniture and windows, the intruders took a sound system and a VCR. A donation box was also torn open, and the funds inside stolen. Pennies were left on the floor near the box.

Miles Burden, supervisor-in-charge of the Lubbock FBI office, told the newspaper that agents went to the mosque Sunday morning. FBI officials in Lubbock and Dallas did not immediately return calls to The Associated Press for comment.

El-Moctar said mosque leaders and members of the interfaith community representing various denominations in Lubbock had scheduled a joint news conference at 5:30 p.m. CST today at the center.

El-Moctar said the mosque had been vandalized before, but there had been no anti-Muslim graffiti.

Mosque leaders will review security at the building but aren't afraid to continue worshipping in the building, which opened in 1981, said El-Moctar. He said there are about 700 Muslims in the Lubbock area.

"This one action, it does not reflect the friendship of the people we know out here," he said.

Iraq war amputees given new life and limbs at Walter Reed

WASHINGTON (AP) — It was dark and drizzly in Baghdad on Nov. 25, and Army Staff Sgt. Maurice Craft was patrolling Highway 5 with two other soldiers. A bomb on the side of the road went off.

"I felt like I was being sucked out of the vehicle," Craft said. "The Humvee filled up with black smoke, and I just started yelling and screaming because from my waist down went numb."

Dazed, he looked at his mangled left leg, hanging lifelessly.

"I actually felt myself dying. I knew I was dying," said the 26-year-old paratrooper from Asbury Park, N.J. "Then, one of the soldiers grabbed me, and said, 'You need to make it. You've got a wife and kids back home. You can't die here.'"

Craft made it to the hospital at Baghdad International Airport. Doctors and nurses donated blood to save his life, but they couldn't save his left leg.

The father of two young girls learned of the amputation the next morning when he awakened to see his lieutenant, company commander and first sergeant standing next to his bed. "Will I ever be able to jump out of an airplane again," he asked them, and the men began to cry.

Now, 31/2 months later, that idea is not so far-fetched.

Craft is among dozens of amputees from the war sent to Washington's Walter Reed Army Medical Center, which ranks as a world leader in treating people with lost limbs. Some of the high-tech prostheses Walter Reed offers its patients could enable them to run, play sports — perhaps even jump out of airplanes one day.

"We view these patients as world-class athletes," said Col. Jonathan Jaffin, commander of the Walter Reed Health Care System. "Our goal is to restore them to world-class status, and that means that we're going to make sure we get them the very best in terms of prosthetics. We don't want to just settle for an adequate prosthesis."

Walter Reed is the first stop for most of the casualties from Iraq. Nearly 2,800 have been treated there.

Land mines and roadside bombs proliferate in the places American troops now find themselves. Modern body armor protects them from blasts that previously were fatal, but sometimes survival comes at a steep cost — loss of limbs.

Walter Reed is spending more money, and placing more of an emphasis, on enhancing amputee care. Officials also are seeking money from Congress to build a separate amputee care center on the 113-acre campus.

Chuck Scoville, program manager for the Army's amputee patient care program, said the new building is needed to help amputees develop the skills required to return to service, such as learning to navigate uneven terrain.

About 70 amputees from the war in Iraq have been treated at Walter Reed.

When they arrive, a team of 15 specialists, from surgeons to psychiatrists, start the rebuilding process. After the physical wound heals, the next stop for the patient is the prosthesis laboratory for the delicate process of fitting the new leg or arm.

Cutting-edge computer imaging is used to make the plastic socket that attaches the new limb to the body. The soldiers then are fitted with top-of-the-line artificial legs and arms.

The legs, made of graphite and titanium, are battery-powered prosthetics with built-in microprocessors to improve control of the swing motion, making it more stable than previous artificial legs, said Joseph Miller, a clinical and research prosthetist at the hospital.

One of the newer products — the "C-leg" — has computerized sensors that can read the strain applied to the leg 50 times a second, then make superfast adjustments to the user's stride to allow the leg to adapt quickly to different walking speeds.

Prosthetic arms have microprocessors, too, with myoelectric hands that can open and close with swifter, sharper movements that help amputees grab and grip as a normal hand would. The high-tech hands also look much more natural.

Each arm or leg can cost up to $100,000.

Paddy Rossbach, head of the Amputee Coalition of America, said the modern artificial limbs make the amputees' difficult transition a little easier.

"The materials used in today's limbs help you walk better, not just give you something to walk on," said Rossbach, whose Knoxville, Tenn.-based organization has counseled recovering soldiers at Walter Reed.

Craft was fitted with the C-leg a few weeks ago. He vividly recalls his first steps. Getting up out of his wheelchair "felt so good," he said.



BellSouth to sell Latin American operations to Telefonica wireless

ATLANTA (AP) — BellSouth Corp. agreed to sell its stake in 10 Latin American operations to a wireless unit of Spanish telecommunications giant Telefonica SA for about $4.2 billion in cash and an additional $1.5 billion in debt.

BellSouth, said it expects to record a gain from the sale to Telefonica Moviles in 2004. Meanwhile, Telefonica expects the deal to immediately add to earnings but doesn't expect any changes in dividend.

In a statement Monday, BellSouth said the purchase price is based on a total enterprise value of $5.85 billion for the interests changing hands. Combined revenue for the 10 Latin American companies was $2.5 billion in 2003.

Telefonica Moviles will acquire 100 percent of BellSouth's stakes in its operators in Argentina, Chile, Peru, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Uruguay, Guatemala, Nicaragua and Panama, making it the only cellular operator in all the key Latin American markets.

As reported earlier by The Wall Street Journal, Telefonica will become the largest wireless operator in Latin America following the deal. Telefonica will add 10.5 million customers and six countries to its portfolio. Total customer base will be 62.5 million after the deal, Telefonica said in a separate release.

Telefonica has so far invested about $47 billion in the seven Latin American countries.

events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Saturday's Lottery Numbers

Lotto Texas

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

Winning numbers drawn: 14-18-27-37-44. Bonus Ball: 37.

Number matching five of five, plus Bonus Ball: None.

Number matching five of five: 3. Prize: $16,018.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 12. Prize: $1,939.

Number matching four of five: 444. Prize: $112.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 405. Prize: $109.

Number matching three of five: 18,652. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 5,062. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 23,085. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Wednesday night drawing: $7 million.

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 2-20-25-30-31.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $46,075.

Winning ticket sold in: Beaumont.

Matching four of five: 136. Prize: $153.

Matching three of five: 4,134. Prize: $11.

Matching two of five: 41,573. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Monday night.

Pick 3

(Day) 9-1-1

(Night) 7-0-0

World Almanac

Monday, March 8, 2004

Today is the 68th day of 2004 and the 78th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: In 1942, during World War II, Dutch forces surrendered to the Japanese on Java after two months of fighting.

In 1957, Egypt reopened the Suez Canal to international traffic.

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan referred to the Soviet Union as an "evil empire."

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Oliver Wendell Holmes Jr. (1841-1935), Supreme Court justice/author; Cyd Charisse (1921-), actress/dancer, is 83; Lynn Redgrave (1943-), actress, is 61; Carole Bayer Sager (1947-), songwriter, is 57; Aidan Quinn (1959-), actor, is 45; Kathy Ireland (1963-), model, is 41.

TODAY'S SPORTS: In 1971, Muhammad Ali lost his world heavyweight boxing title to Joe Frazier.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "I'll be floating like a butterfly and stinging like a bee." — Muhammad Ali

TODAY'S FACT: Three U.S. presidents have won the Nobel Peace Prize: Theodore Roosevelt (1906), Woodrow Wilson (1919) and Jimmy Carter (2002).

TODAY'S NUMBER: 79.8 — Life expectancy of a baby girl born in the United States in 2001.

TODAY'S MOON: Between full moon (March 6) and last quarter (March 13)

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Wierd OK to Depp

NEW YORK (AP) — Johnny Depp isn't adverse to acting a little weird — even off camera.

The actor, whose role in "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl" earned him a Golden Globe and an Academy Award nomination, said he has disliked conformity since his career began.

Depp told the latest edition of Time magazine that in the 1980s he was so desperate to get out of playing heartthrob detective Tom Hanson on Fox's "21 Jump Street" that he purposely wore odd clothes and spoke in tongues on the set.

The producers, though, didn't buy the nutty routine.

"It was a weird thing not to be in control of your own image," he said.

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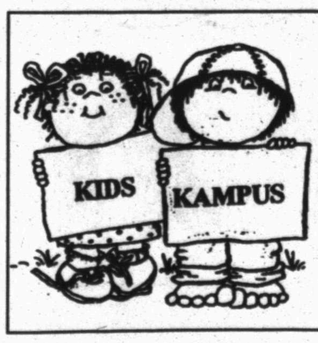
By mail in Scurry and adjoining counties, one year $88.80 balance of Texas and out of state $113.85.

Roy McQueen, Publisher

Wade Warren, Managing Editor

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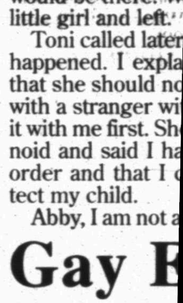
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PLANTS OF THE BIBLE — Maggie Ridgway of San Angelo presented *Plants of the Bible* last week at the Scurry County Museum. Her appearance was sponsored by the Snyder Garden Club. Ridgway is a nationally accredited master flower show judge and owner of Ridgway Florist & Greenhouses in San Angelo. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Fish oil to fortify fatty lunches

DALLAS (AP) — At some South Texas schools, a new plan for serving nutritious meals to children is a little fishy.

Old favorites like pork tamales, breakfast tacos with bacon and nacho cheese are injected with oil taken from a small, herringlike fish. The oil contains omega-3 fatty acids, which research has linked to positive health effects, including decreased risk of heart attacks.

But critics are skeptical of the benefits from adding a healthy fat to unhealthy foods. They say the quantity of omega-3 added to foods is too small to have any health benefit.

Earlier this month, Texas Agriculture Commissioner Susan Combs issued a new school nutrition policy with restrictions on fried and other fatty foods, setting rules for types of foods that can be served in public schools.

Advocates of fish oil say it's a way to make lunchtime healthier without getting rid of children's favorite foods.

"I'd say this is a milestone," Margaret Lopez, who leads the child nutrition program of the Texas Education Agency's Region I that includes districts in the Rio Grande Valley, told The Dallas Morning News.

However, others say they'd rather put their energies into teaching kids how to eat better than adding a bit of nutrition to fatty tamales.

"Why do we need to disguise and manipulate it?" asked Stacy Kennedy, a clinical nutritionist at Boston's Dana Farber Cancer Institute. "Why are we sneaking it in?"

Houston-based Omega Protein Corp., one of the nation's largest fish oil producers, saw Mercedes-based H&H Foods, a meat processor that is one of the Southwest's largest school lunch suppliers, as a potential partner. The idea was to fortify the tamales, tacos, cheese sauce and other foods that H&H produces for schools with Omega fish oil produced from menhaden.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 03-08-04
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♦ K 10 8 4
♣ Q 7 5 2

West
♠ K Q 6 5
♥ 6
♦ 9 6 3 2
♣ A 10 9 4

East
♠ A 10 4 3 2
♥ 10 9 5 3
♦ J
♣ J 6 3

South
♠ J 9
♥ A 8 7 4 2
♦ A Q 7 5
♣ K 8

Dealer: North
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
		Pass	Pass
1 ♥	Pass	2 ♣	Pass
4 ♥	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ K

Monday, March 8, 2004

Do not assume they're on your side

By Phillip Alder

When an expert opponent either gives you an unnecessary ruff-and-discard or appears to be trying to force you to ruff with dummy's trump honors, what conclusion might you draw?

Do not assume that he is on your side. Usually, he knows that the trumps are breaking badly and is trying fatally to weaken your holding there.

This deal occurred during the final of last year's Spingold Knockout Teams, the blue-ribbon event at the Summer Nationals, in Long Beach, Calif.

In both rooms, the contract was four hearts. North's two-club response was Drury, which promised a maximum pass with heart support. (Yes, if West risks a first-round takeout double, his side might reach the makable four spades.)

Both defenses began with three rounds of spades, the declarers ruffing the last in hand.

For the losing team, Alan Sontag immediately drew two rounds of trumps, getting the bad news. He continued with a club to his king, but West (Bjorn Fallenius) won with his ace and led a fourth round of spades, killing the contract.

Zia Mahmood, sensing the 4-1 trump split, led the club eight from his hand at trick four. West (Lew Stansby) "automatically" played low, and that was that. Declarer won with dummy's queen, cashed the K-Q-J of hearts, crossed to his diamond ace, pulled East's remaining trump, and ran the diamonds to get home. To defeat four hearts, West had to fly in with his club ace and lead another spade.

The winners were Cezary Balicki-Adam Zmudzinski, Bjorn Fallenius-Roy Welland, and Zia Mahmood-Michael Rosenberg.

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Today's chuckle

Unattended fryer starts blaze at firehouse

MELBOURNE, Fla. (AP) — Firefighters responding to emergencies here were in such a rush that they forgot to turn off a fryer in their kitchen. So the next emergency call involved a fire that started at their own station.



No one was injured in the blaze Thursday, because all four firefighters working at the time were out responding to several calls.

A Cocoa Beach firefighter was driving past and saw smoke escaping from the firehouse and called 911.

The firefighters from Station 72 then returned to fight the fire at their own station.

The building suffered a combination of smoke and fire damage, and the battalion chief has asked the city for a live-in trailer for the firefighters. He said the fire was accidental and no one would be reprimanded.

"We're human and this kind of relays that to the public, that we're just as human as them and we make our own mistakes," said Battalion Chief Robert Apel.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Mom is outraged by friend's bait-and-switch child care

DEAR ABBY: I am 28 years old and a survivor of childhood sexual abuse.

Recently, a friend I'll call "Toni" asked if my 5-year-old daughter, "Chris," could stay overnight with her 4-year-old son. I have always said no, but this time Chris wanted so badly to do it that I said yes.

Toni knows how protective I am. She assured me Chris would be safe in her care. So my husband and I went to a movie and dinner. Since we were in the neighborhood, we stopped by around 10 p.m. to check on our daughter. When we arrived, we found Toni had gone to a party and left the children with a teenage baby sitter.

The children were upstairs jumping on the bed and raising Cain. I was horrified that my child had been left with a stranger when my friend had assured me she would be there. We packed up our little girl and left.

Toni called later to find out what happened. I explained my feeling that she should not have left Chris with a stranger without discussing it with me first. She called me paranoid and said I have a mental disorder and that I can't always protect my child.

Abby, I am not asking for advice. I am asking for your opinion so that I can prove a point. I want to open other parents' eyes to the fact that in this day and age we must do whatever is in our power to protect our children — no matter whose toes we step on. — **PARANOID MOTHER**

DEAR PARANOID: I agree that parents must do everything they can to protect their children. However, that is not what your letter is really about. Your friend was wrong to lead you to believe she would be supervising your daughter when that wasn't the case. It was dishonest and unfair, and I don't blame you for taking your child home. I see nothing wrong with parents socializing with other adults and leaving their children with a responsible sitter. But parents should have the right to screen the sitter themselves if they wish.

**

DEAR ABBY: When my daughter returned to college after Christmas break, my live-in boyfriend, "Ollie," informed me that he considers her to be a "guest" in our home and that she had overstayed her welcome. I feel that since she is still in school and my dependent, my home is her home and she is welcome to spend her breaks with me. My other daughter starts college in the fall, and I don't want her to feel that she, too, is a "guest" when she comes home.

This has been eating at me, Abby. I love Ollie, but there are no "choices" between my children and him. I thought he liked my children. I want to talk to Ollie to find out why he feels this way, and I am prepared to ask him to move out if he is firm about this.

Am I justified in drawing the line? — **HURT AND CONFUSED**

DEAR HURT: You certainly are. Because your live-in appears to be both presumptuous and controlling, be glad that he spoke up now. A child coming home for a holiday vacation is hardly a major invasion. Consider very carefully what his attitude will mean for you in years to come. It is your daughters' home as well as yours, and he should not be dictating how long they should stay.

**

DEAR ABBY: I have two friends who divorced during the past year and now share custody of their children. During a recent argument, they began fighting over who gets to keep the church and the minister. So, Dear Abby, who does get custody of the minister? This is a new one on me. — **THE MINISTER IN QUESTION**

DEAR MINISTER: Do not allow yourself to be drawn into something so petty. Both parties should be able to attend your church if they wish; there is usually more than one service on Sunday and separate sections in which to sit if they should happen to show up at the same time.

If they cannot agree to behave like civilized adults, then whichever one joined the church first should remain.

**

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

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COPYRIGHT 2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Gay Episcopal Bishop takes over as head of New Hampshire diocese

CONCORD, N.H. (AP) — Seven months after his confirmation rocked the Episcopal community, V. Gene Robinson officially became the ninth Bishop of New Hampshire and the first openly gay bishop in church history.

In his sermon Sunday during the investiture ceremony, Robinson said one definition of leadership is to find a parade and get in front of it. Robinson said he is just trying to stay in front of the parade and not get run over.

"Journeys of faith, you know, are a risky business," he said. "God is always calling us out of our comfort zones."

The investiture ceremony does not carry the same weight as Robinson's consecration last year, but it gave a capacity crowd of more than 700 the chance to welcome the new leader of the Diocese of New Hampshire with whoops, cheers and a standing ovation. Bells rang out from the church tower.

Bishop Douglas Theuner, who officially retired Sunday, handed Robinson the ceremonial staff that transferred the diocese into his hands. They had shared power since Robinson was made a bishop.

"May the Lord stir up in you the flame of holy charity and the power of faith that overcomes the world," the Rev. David Jones, rector of St. Paul's Church, said in the ceremony.

Robinson is the first openly gay man to be elected as a bishop in the national Episcopal church, as well as the worldwide Anglican Communion of which it is a part. His consecration drew protesters and triggered angry responses from many corners of the world.

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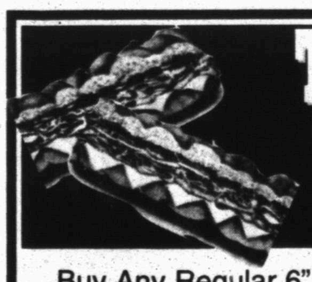
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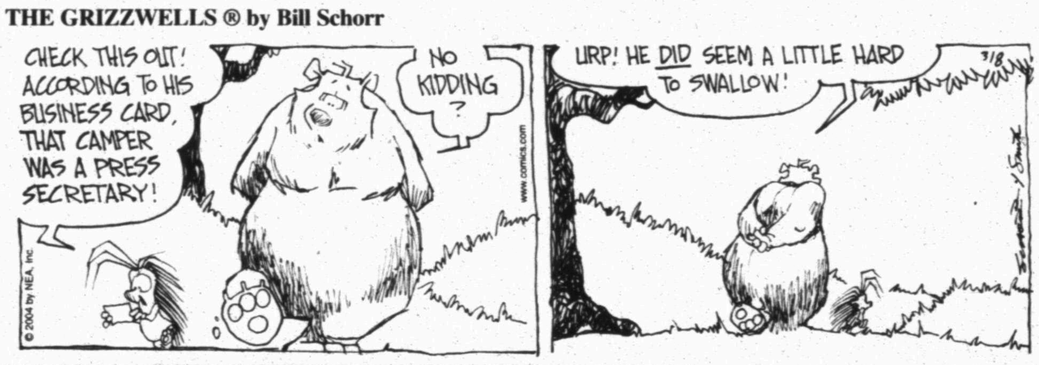
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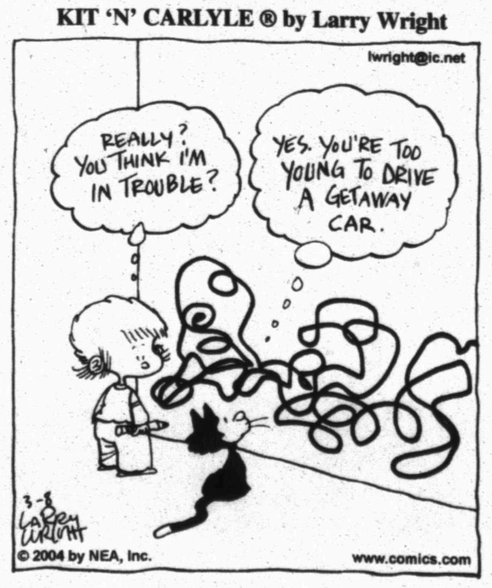


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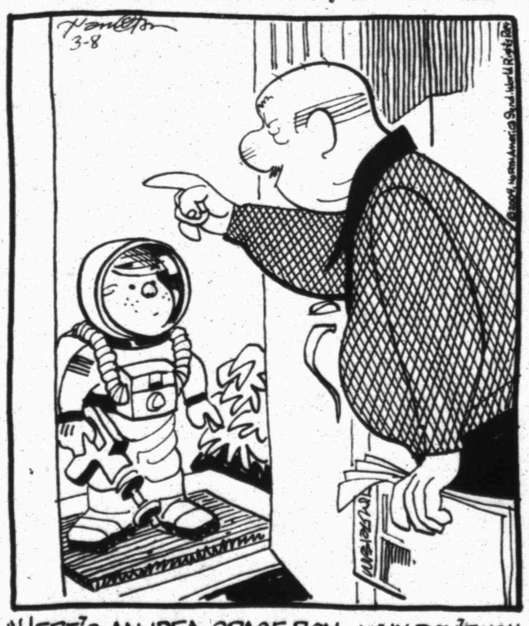
"My daughter tells me you're hoping for a career in shipping."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 PC "brain"
4 Skirt edges
8 Flightless bird
11 Desire
13 Osaka sashes
14 Wrestling pad
15 Confide in
16 Slightly (2 wds.)
17 401(k) cousin
18 Watching secretly
20 Foot part
21 Calendar square
22 Bear's refuge
24 — Sound, Wash.
27 Court clown
30 Pre-owned
31 Dogpatch cartoonist
32 Tar
34 UPN rival
35 Isn't able to
36 Have lots of status
37 Take for granted
39 Grew dim
40 Imitate
41 Koan discipline
42 Ancient poet
45 Lead-ins
49 Feedbag morsel
50 Light giver
53 Gutter site
54 Part of UK
55 Ambush
56 Mild expletive
57 Hi-fi records
58 Withhold
59 Urban trains

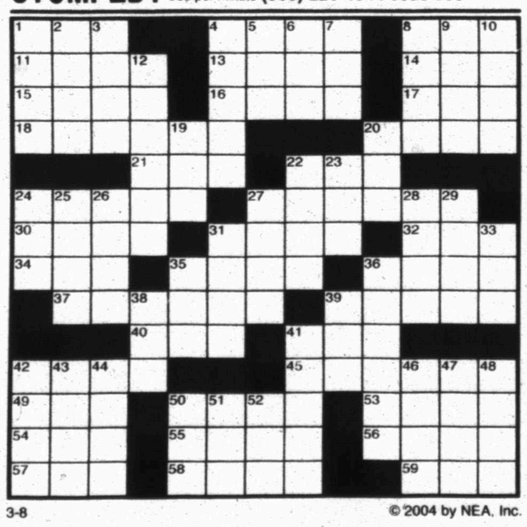
DOWN

1 Slices
2 Boarding school
3 Like gargoyles
4 Submarine
5 Recede
6 Caesar's 1,002
7 Mach 1 exceeder
8 Bahrain VIP
9 Painter — Chagall
10 Ogden locale
12 Omitted syllables
19 "Unforgettable" singer
20 Aardvark snack
22 Govt. branch
23 Parapsychology topic
24 — a lid on it!
25 Annapolis inst.
26 Understands
27 Ms. Goodall
28 Maj. Hoople's word
29 Habitual
31 Visited
33 Cot or crib
35 Half quart
36 Carried on
38 Mournful
39 Wetland
41 Energetic
42 Heat up
43 Sr. group
44 Hwys.
46 Cooked just slightly
47 Elongated circle
48 Mounts gemstones
50 Inc. cousin
51 Still exist
52 Bridegroom

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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SPORTS

Snyder boys dominate Canyon Reef Relays; girls a strong 2nd

By Bobby Allen
SDN Sports Editor

The Snyder boys track and field team dominated the field at the Canyon Reef Relays Saturday, raking the meet with 199 points —79 more than second place Lamesa. Seminole helped round out the 3-3A sweep with a third-place finish.

The varsity boys claimed the top spot in seven events, including the 200 meter, 1600m, 3200m, 300m hurdles, 4x100m relay, 4x200m relay and the long jump.

Justin Boyd took the gold in the 200M sprint with a time of 23.46, the same time he ran in the preliminaries. Jesus Juarez (24.63) was fourth in the event.

Arthur Hernandez and Jeremy Torrez finished one and two in the 1600m, with Hernandez coming in at 5:07.07 and Torrez crossing the line at 5:07.49.

The Tigers also dominated the 3200m run, taking three of the top five spots.

Josh Muniz dusted off the field with an 11:10.25, and Torrez was second with an 11:39.05. Tiger Steven Martinez finished fifth with a time of 12:36.89.

Zach Cain claimed the 300M hurdles with a 41.61, a full second faster than the second-place hurdler from Seminole. Garrett Pinson was second (16.66) in the 110m hurdles and third (43.14) in the 300m hurdles.

Malcome Wells easily won the long jump, leaping two feet farther than the next competitor with a distance of 21-1. D'Angleo Davis (19-3.75) was fourth and Juarez (18-2.75) was fifth.

Davis was second in the high jump with a height of 6-0, and also was fourth in the triple jump with a leap of 36-9.50.

The relay teams smoked the field, with the 4x200 team of Jeff Bruton, Wells, Cain and Boyd clocking in at 1:31.52 — a full four seconds faster than the team from Seagraves.

The 4x100 team of Boyd, Bruton, Wells and Juarez topped the team from Lamesa by .2 seconds, breaking the tape at 44.66 seconds.

The 4x400 relay team of Chris Vera, Davis, Pinson and Cain was fourth (3:47.76).

Wells (10.95) and Juarez (11.48) were second and fifth, respectively, in the 100m dash.

Eder Borrego (54.29) was second in the 400m run and Davis (58.37) was fifth.

Arthur Hernandez took third in the 800m run, crossing the line at 2:10.89.

Snyder took three of the top six spots in the shot put.

Demetrius Brandon fell two feet shy of Seminole's Roger DeLeon with a heave of 45-10.50. Antwoin Cobb was fifth at 42-10, and Zach Garcia (41-4.75) earned a point for sixth.

Brandon also was runner up in the discus with a throw of 120-3. Johnny Vasquez was fifth with a measurement of 113-11.

After tallying just 33 points at last year's Relays, the Snyder varsity girls' track program took an enormous jump Saturday, recording 128 points and a strong second-place spot behind winner Seminole.

2003 state qualifier October Wells was first in the 100m and 200m sprints.

She posted a time of 12.74 in the 100 and 27.72 in the 200, as the Lady Tigers dominated both events.

Dominique Braziel was third in the 100m, finishing in 13.82, while Sequoya Powell was fourth with a 14.06.

Nicki Traylor came in just behind Wells in the 200m dash, clocking in at 28.96.

The girls team also won the gold in the 4x100m relay, as the team of Starla Bruton, Heather Holmes, Wells and Traylor edged Seminole with a time of 52.97.

Anna Henson had a strong day in the throwing events, grabbing the runner-up spot in both the discus (94-5) and the shot put (31-9).

Brianna Burk (74-3) and Kaitlyn Greenlee (71-11) also earned points for Snyder in the discus, taking fifth and sixth, respectively.

Candace Chandler took the silver in the 400m with a 1:05.15, Stacey Williamson (6:25.09) earned the bronze in the 1600m run and Jordan Stansell (52.85) took the bronze in the 300m hurdles.

The girls 4x200m relay team also earned a bronze medal, while the 4x400 team finished behind Seminole for the silver.

Casey Gregory (2:53.68) gave Snyder a point in the 800, and as did Ricia Gordon (15:21.69) in the 3200m run.

Sarah Henson also earned a point with a heave of 27-0 in the shot put.

The Snyder JV girls collected 83 points for second place behind Greenwood (94).

Sarah Traylor (14.00) and Whitney Fulford (14.02) were one and two in the 100m dash, and reversed that showing in the 200m — Fulford (29.97) was first in that sprint and Traylor (30.29) was second.

Fulford (12-8.50) won the gold in the long jump, and Traylor (12-6.50) claimed the silver in that competition.

The JV girls took the top three spots in the shot put, with Aeryal Peoples earning the gold with a distance of 25-10.25. Natalie Martinez (24-10) was second and Mica Tippens (22-0) was third.

Amanda Rios (69-4) was fourth in the discus, and Tippens (57-0) was sixth.

The JV boys took fourth place in the Relays with 86 points.

Ricky Sanchez earned the only gold for the junior Tigers, besting the second-place finisher in the long jump by more than a foot with a leap of 17-9.

The 4x400 relay team (3:58.59) earned the bronze, 4x100m relay team was fourth with a time of 48.21 and the 4x200 team (1:43.38) also was fourth.

Other JV boys with top six finishes were Levi Stahl (35-11.50), second in shot put; Tyler Driggers (99-7.50), fourth in discus; Donald Jeffrey (98-8), fifth in discus; Courtney Taylor (6:14.36), sixth in the 1600; Trent Early (13:52.15), fifth in the 3200m; Matt Reigh (58.28), third in the 400; Brent Burleson (26.03) fourth in the 200; Cody Reed (2:27.56), fourth in the 800 and fifth in the long jump with a distance of 32-9.50.

Team Standings
Varsity Boys
1) Snyder 199; 2) Lamesa 120; 3)Seminole 99; 4)Greenwood 69; 5) Seagraves 59; 6) Merkel 28; 7) Roby 1.
Varsity Girls
1)Seminole 188; **2) Snyder 128**; 3) (tie) Lamesa 78, Greenwood 78; 5) Merkel 74; 6) Roby 22
JV Girls
1) Greenwood 94; **2) Snyder 83**; 3) Roby 76; 4) Seminole 18; 5) Merkel 12.
JV Boys
1) (tie) Seminole 126, Greenwood 126; 3) Merkel 123; **4) Snyder 86**; 5) Roby 74; 6) Seagraves 41; 7) Lamesa 22

Netters book trip to state

The Snyder netters stunned the field at the regional team tennis tournament at Levelland last weekend, out-dueling Fort Stockton, 10-9, in the third place match to secure a spot in the state team tournament.

""We have come a long way to get to go to state," head tennis coach Ted Phillips said. "We only had five kids back out of 16 that went to state last year."

Snyder opened the tournament with a 16-3 rout of Monahans, with the Tigers sweeping the Lobos in boys singles and in both doubles divisions.

Andra Dunham, Stephanie Williams and Nikki Timora claimed straight-set wins in girls singles, and Megan Crisp came back after dropping the first set to win her match.

The boys dominated Monahans, with Tanner Reed, Joe Ynguanzo, Matt Hale, Austin Lyle, Kenny Alcala and Wesley Price all securing straight-set triumphs.

Snyder fell in the next round to Sweetwater, 13-6, before the showdown with Fort Stockton.

Number ones Dunham and Reed won their matches with the Mustangs. Both went undefeated in the tournament.

It was the girls singles that helped push Snyder past Fort Stockton, with five of the six entries winning.

Dunham, Williams, Timora, Crisp and Jacy Beccue each won in straight sets.

Reed took the only singles match, while the teams split the boys and girls doubles, and Snyder took the mixed doubles.

"We had to work hard against Fort Stockton," Phillips said. "This year, getting to state was our goal. We just want to get down there and play well."

There will be 16 teams at the state tournament, with four rounds.

Last year, Snyder was fifth in the state in team tennis.

The netters open the tournament at 9 a.m. Friday in Waco.

Ladies win Snyder tourney

The Lady Tigers won the Snyder softball tournament for the second year in a row, topping Monahans, 2-1, in an extra-inning affair in the championship game.

Ashley Martinez won her third game of the tournament, and had to battle the Lobos down to the wire to earn it.

"I felt pretty confident — I was ready to win," Martinez said. She said repeating as the tournament champions was important, no matter how tough it was to do it.

"It was a little iffy there at the end, but we proved we could come together as a team," said the senior hurler, who allowed just one run in 22 innings in the tournament, after blanking Levelland and Midland High JV in her first two starts.

The Lady Tigers were down 1-0 in the top of the seventh, when freshman Terann Ragland crushed a two-out, two-strike triple to drive in Kelsi Johnson and tie the game.

Laura Clanton then drove in Heather Zajicek for the game-winner in the top of the eighth.

Kelsi Johnson shut down Greenwood, 6-1, in the semifinal game, as head coach Darren Pool altered his rotation to give a different look to both Greenwood and Monahans.

Johnson had pitched against Monahans, and Martinez threw against Greenwood earlier this season.

"We battled back, and our defense helped out a lot," Pool said. "All weekend we hit well. It was our best and most consistent softball of the year, and it's coming at the right time."

Pool also got some personal revenge on the team that knocked his Kermit squad from the playoffs in 2002.

"It's a great win for the girls and a great win for me personally. This is just a great group of girls," he said.

Boys golf 10th at Andrews

The Snyder boys golf team secured a top-10 finish at the Andrews Tournament, overcoming a tough field and high winds in the first round to end the tournament with a 331-318 649.

Lubbock Monterey captured the tournament trophy with a 310-295 605, and Midland Lee A was second with a 609.

District rival Seminole finished sixth.

"It was a very strong field," head coach Ricky Hunter said. "The wind was howling the first day, but our scores were a little bit high. We played a little closer to our potential on Saturday."

Every golfer improved on his first-round total with the exception of Wyl Wiggins, who paced the team with an 80 in both rounds for a team-best 160.

Jay Weaver carded an 85-78 163, while Alan Gray and Jake Cottrell each stroked a 164.

Gray shot an 83 in the first round and an 81 on Saturday, and Cottrell fired an 84-80.

Blake Seale shaved nine strokes off his first round total to conclude the tournament with a 91-80 171.

"We are learning a little bit more about ourselves and our district and regional competition each week," Hunter said. "District should be pretty interesting. There are several solid teams and only two get to advance to the regional tournament. We will have to play our 'A' game if we expect to advance."

The varsity boys get their final pre-district tune-up this weekend at San Angelo before opening district March 30 at Sweetwater.

The second round of district will be in Snyder April 5, Denver City hosts the final round April 13.

Girls catch regional preview at Midland

The Snyder girls garnered third place in the Midland golf tournament, carding a 372-358 730.

Despite shaving 14 strokes off their first-round leading total, the girls dropped behind Pecos, which shot a 350 on Saturday, and tournament-champion Monahans, which improved by 39 shots on the second day.

"We have been in the lead or at least very close to the lead after the first day in several tournaments this year," head golf coach Ricky Hunter said. "We must learn how to finish. All of our tournaments are at least 36 holes, but we have only been playing solid for 18 holes."

Brooke Jackson led the way for the Lady Tigers with an 86-85 171.

Cami Trout shot a 96-87 183, while Christi Williams had the biggest improvement between rounds with a 101-87 188.

Ashley Luecke carded a 91-100 191, while Shannon Mangis stayed consistent with a 99-99 198.

Hunter said the Midland tournament offered a good idea of what the regional tournament will look like.

The girls will be in Andrews this week for the last non-district tourney, and will open district play April 1 in Lamesa.

Tigers rebound with blowout wins Saturday

After suffering their first loss of the season under controversial circumstances Friday, the Tigers responded with a pair of convincing wins Saturday at the Frenship baseball tournament.

A game-ending interference call left the Tigers (5-1) on the short end of a 4-3 contest with Perryton Friday. Snyder rebounded by easily topping Borger and Plainview.

In the first game Saturday, the Tigers staked a 5-0 lead after two innings to get by Borger, 8-4.

Jordan Dea continued his torrid spring, going 2-4 with a three-run bomb and five RBIs.

Dustyn Williams got the victory in his first start of the year, allowing three runs on five hits through 4 1-3 innings.

Blake Grimmett, who added an RBI single, worked the final 2 2-3 to close it out.

Bradley Price had an RBI double in the opener.

The Tigers really poured it on the nightcap, stomping Plainview, 14-2, as the team pounded out 12 hits and starter Ryan Mitchell and Collier combined on a three-hitter.

Five Tigers had a multiple hit game against Plainview, with Price collecting two RBI and two hits. Grimmett, Dea, Eric Martinez and Isaac Ramon also had two hits each.

Mitchell worked the first four innings, giving up just one hit and one unearned run while striking out two.

Collier came in for the final three, giving up two hits and an unearned run while striking out seven batters.

"I felt really good about the way we played," head coach Charles Bollinger said. "We hit the ball hard and our defense and pitching were good all day."

The Tigers travel to Levelland Tuesday for a 4 p.m. game.

Boys State Pairings

Pairings for the University Interscholastic League state boys' basketball tournament March 11-13 in Austin:

Class 5A
Friday
Semifinals
Cedar Hill (34-1) vs. Victoria Memorial (33-5), 3 p.m.
Houston Milby (37-0) vs. Klein Collins (26-10), 7 p.m.
Championship
8 p.m. Saturday
Class 4A
Thursday
Semifinals
Dallas Lincoln (31-5) vs. Austin Johnson (30-5), 7 p.m.
Lubbock Estacado (33-4) vs. Houston Jones (29-5), 8:30 p.m.
Championship
4 p.m. Saturday
Class 3A
Thursday
Semifinals
Kountze (34-2) vs. Corpus Christi West Oso (27-10), 2 p.m.
Midland Greenwood (28-4) vs. Gainesville (21-6), 3:30 p.m.
Championship
10:30 a.m. Saturday.
Class 2A
Friday
Semifinals
Shallowater (29-5) vs. Clarksville (28-6), 9:30 a.m.
Argyle (32-3) vs. Hitchcock (22-9), 11 a.m.
Championship
2:30 p.m. Saturday
Class A Division II
Thursday
Final
Normangee (35-2) vs. Morton (28-6), 8:30 a.m.
Class A Division II
Thursday
Final
Lenorah Grady (34-1) vs. Neches (30-4), 10 a.m.
Class A Texas Cup
Saturday
Div. I champion vs. Div. II champion, 9 a.m.

National Hockey League

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Philadelphia	35	17	12	6	88	201	161
New Jersey	35	20	11	2	83	169	137
N.Y. Islanders	30	25	10	3	73	190	177
N.Y. Rangers	24	33	7	5	60	180	207
Pittsburgh	15	44	6	4	40	150	267

Northeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Toronto	37	20	9	3	86	198	175
Ottawa	36	18	9	5	86	226	151
Boston	32	16	14	7	85	175	157
Montreal	36	26	6	2	80	179	160
Buffalo	30	31	6	1	67	176	187

Southeast Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Tampa Bay	39	17	7	5	90	204	156
Florida	24	28	14	3	65	152	177
Atlanta	27	32	7	3	64	186	212
Carolina	21	29	13	4	59	127	166
Washington	21	37	8	2	52	158	203

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Central Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Detroit	39	17	9	2	89	213	152
Nashville	33	25	8	2	76	180	181
St. Louis	31	26	9	2	73	158	169
Columbus	20	36	8	4	52	146	196
Chicago	18	35	9	6	51	158	206

Northwest Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
Colorado	34	17	12	5	85	199	163
Vancouver	36	20	8	4	84	197	158
Calgary	34	26	5	3	76	167	152
Edmonton	28	27	11	2	69	182	176
Minnesota	21	26	19	2	63	145	153

Pacific Division

	W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA
San Jose	33	18	11	6	83	173	149
Dallas	35	22	11	0	81	160	145
Los Angeles	25	19	16	7	73	175	175
Anaheim	25	27	9	8	67	155	175
Phoenix	20	27	16	5	61	169	205

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

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE

Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New Jersey	38	24	.613	—
New York	29	35	.453	10
Boston	28	36	.438	11
Miami	27	36	.429	11½
Philadelphia	25	38	.397	13½
Washington	20	41	.328	17½
Orlando	18	47	.277	21½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Indiana	47	16	.746	—
Detroit	41	25	.621	7½
Milwaukee	33	29	.532	13½
New Orleans	33	30	.524	14
Cleveland	27	36	.429	20
Toronto	27	36	.429	20
Atlanta	20	42	.323	26½
Chicago	18	44	.290	28½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

Midwest Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	44	19	.698	—
San Antonio	42	21	.667	2
Dallas	39	23	.629	4½
Memphis	39	24	.619	5
Houston	36	26	.581	7½
Denver	33	31	.516	11½
Utah	31	32	.492	13

Pacific Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Sacramento	46	16	.742	—
L.A. Lakers	41	21	.661	5
Portland	30	33	.476	16½
Seattle	27	36	.429	19½
L.A. Clippers	26	36	.419	20
Golden State	25	36	.410	20½
Phoenix	21	42	.333	25½

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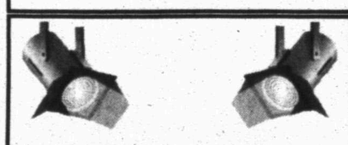
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Need dependable child care for after school and holidays. 573-6061 after 6p.m., or 574-7340 ask for Wanda.

Need students for summer jobs at Fun Valley Family Resort in South Fork, Colorado. Jobs available: office, housekeeping, dining room, horse wrangler, kitchen & others. Salary, room, board, bonus. Write:
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THIS IS WHERE ALL THE ACTION IS!
The Snyder Daily News
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Nine arrests were made over weekend

•Arrests

Nine arrests were made in Scurry County over the weekend.

At 7:12 p.m. Saturday, a 25-year-old man was taken into custody in the 500 block of 33rd St. charged on a warrant for failure to appear and bond jumping.

A 24-year-old man was arrested at U.S. 84 and Business 84 at midnight Saturday and charged with possession of marijuana, under two ounces, and misdemeanor drug paraphernalia.

A caller reported from the VFW at 12:52 a.m. Sunday a man who was refusing to leave the building. Officers arrested a 31-year-old man for public intoxication.

At 12:56 a.m. Sunday, DPS troopers arrested a 56-year-old man on Hwy. 208 near Snyder for misdemeanor DWI, open container and unlawfully carrying a weapon by a licensed holder.

Three people were arrested on U.S. 84 near the city limits at 3:26 a.m. Sunday. A 42-year-old woman, a 43-year-old man and a 27-year-old man were charged with misdemeanor possession of marijuana.

At 9:44 p.m. Sunday a 31-year-old man was arrested on a Lubbock County warrant for bond forfeiture on a DWI charge.

At midnight Sunday 20-year-old man was taken into custody at Hwy. 208 and Brick Plant Rd. and charged with no driver's license.

•Attempted suicide

Two attempted suicides were reported in Snyder.

A caller requested an ambulance to a home on Eastridge at 10:11 p.m. Saturday after his mother had taken an unknown amount of pills.

At 10:09 p.m. Sunday an ambulance was requested to a home on 36th Place. The caller said a 35-year-old man had overdosed on some pills.

•Stolen vehicle

At 3:14 a.m. Sunday, a 1991 Chevrolet pickup was reported stolen from 3010 Ave. U.

•Burglary

At 9:27 a.m. Saturday a representative of Lemay Oil Company reported an assortment of tools stolen from a storage building at 12595 CR 3119.

At 7:24 p.m. Sunday a caller reported a burglary at the home of his ex-wife at 1908 30th St. A list of items will be submitted when the resident returns.

•Theft

A caller reported at 11 a.m. Saturday the theft of an air conditioner unit from rental property at 1607 Eighth St. The caller advised that the unit possibly belonged to the ex-renters.

•Found property

An officer located two bicycles behind Snyder Bowling Lanes at 10 a.m. Sunday. The owner later claimed the bicycles.

At 9:03 p.m. Saturday, deputies located a four-wheeler on Tobaso Dr. in Round Top Acres. The owner later claimed the four-wheeler at the sheriff's department.

•Disturbance

A caller reported at 1 a.m. Sunday a fight involving several subjects outside the VFW. Officers checked the area and were unable to locate a fight. At 1:13 a.m. another call was received reporting a disturbance between three subjects in the parking lot. Everything was in order upon officers' arrival.

At 9:55 p.m. Saturday a caller reported a fight on Muriel Dr. behind Western Crest Apartments. Three men had been involved in a disagreement earlier, but all was in order upon officers' arrival.

•Family disturbance

At 5:30 a.m. Sunday a caller reported a family disturbance at a home on 31st St. Officers made contact with two intoxicated subjects who advised they would stop fighting and go to bed.

A caller requested officers at 10:52 p.m. Sunday to a home on 37th St. She advised her husband was intoxicated and would like to get help for him. The caller was advised of the proper steps and everything was in order upon departure.

•Suspicious persons

A caller reported at 10:25 p.m. Saturday three subjects loitering around her car at Long John Silver's. Officers made contact with the subjects who were told to leave the area.

Remembers hockey game

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — When upstart American hockey players beat the mighty Soviet team at the 1980 Winter Olympics, there was a future star in the stands — Viggo Mortensen.

"I was on winter break from college, and I volunteered to be a translator for the Scandinavian teams," the actor told The Orange County Register. "I only did it to get free hockey tickets."

Mortensen said he saw the gold-medal game between the Americans and the team from Finland, but it was the previous game — the "Miracle on Ice" game — that is burned into his memory.

Nitrition by Ed Blonz, PH.D.

The facts on aging and nutrition

DEAR DR. BLONZ: My question is in regard to the effects of aging on nutrient absorption. I know there are recognized daily allowances for vitamins and minerals, but do these apply to the elderly? I mean, if the aged do not nutritionally absorb as well as those who are younger, should they not ingest a higher amount of nutrients to offset this? Thank you. — **D.E., via e-mail**

DEAR D.E.: The definition of aging and what it means to be old continues to change. The average age in our country has been gradually creeping up, and larger segments of the population are living longer, doing more, and enjoying better health then ever before. As the years pass, however, there is no denying that our ability to function starts to decline, and the digestive system does not go unscathed. Indeed, we become less efficient at absorbing the nutrients we need. Other health issues can also complicate the picture, including difficulty chewing, a decreased sense of smell and taste, reduced vision and mobility, loneliness, depression and income limitations. My intention here is not to paint a depressing picture of the senior years, but to help understand what can go wrong so that we can take special steps to have the foods we eat serve as essential health allies.

Sensible dietary advice continues to focus on eating healthful foods without getting into a rut by eating the same foods every day. The idea is variety so that your body has access to many different nutrients. It is best to focus on fresh vegetables and fruits, low-fat dairy products, lean meats, nuts and seeds, legumes and whole grains. These foods are rich in healthful nutrients and high in fiber — just what the body needs.

Other strategies:

— When cooking, keep nonfat, dry-milk powder nearby and sprinkle it in your food; this makes for a great source of protein, calcium and vitamin D.

— If possible, cook foods in multiple portions, putting the extra in the freezer for future meals. This gives you greater control by lessening your reliance on unbalanced fast foods or expensive single-portion meals.

— Take advantage of the salad bars at supermarkets and restaurants; it's a great way to put together a nutritious meal without waste.

— Because the sense of thirst diminishes with age, make a point of drinking at least six cups of water or water-based beverages daily.

If you're not able to eat a healthful diet, consider taking a vitamin and mineral supplement. While it's always preferable to get your nutrients from food, this may not be possible. Recent research has found that seniors are at a higher risk for a number of nutrient deficiencies, including vitamin B-12, vitamin D, calcium, iron and dietary fiber. The bottom line is that it's better to get the nutrients from a supplement than not at all.

If you decide you need a supplement, check with your physician first about the effects it might have on any existing health conditions or prescription medications. Find out if you might benefit from additional amounts of certain vitamins or minerals. When shopping for a supplement, look for an all-purpose type that contains minerals as well as vitamins. You should take your supplements with a meal to ensure better absorption.

It is altogether normal to put on a little weight as you age. This could be due, in part, to the fact that human metabolism goes through radical changes as we pass through mid-life to our senior years. The need for calories diminishes because of a continually decreasing number of active, calorie-burning cells. Staying active helps, as exercise burns calories and slows down the rate at which our metabolism decreases with age. Another bonus is that exercise keeps bones strong and helps maintain flexibility in the joints. Activities such as a daily brisk walk or any other weight-bearing exercise may be all that's needed. By combining exercise with a good diet, you'll be able to keep your energy needs high and cut that creeping weight down to size.

Eating well can also help keep you out of the hospital. If you do get sick, it can pay off in faster wound healing, fewer surgical complications and shorter hospital stays. This is of critical importance in today's climate of diminishing funds for health care.

Finally, nutrition will never be an antidote for aging, but great food and an active lifestyle can help you enjoy all the healthy years your body can provide.

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

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

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Song on video doesn't embarrass singer

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Kelis' eyebrow-raising video for the song "Milkshake" hasn't left the R&B singer feeling embarrassed.

"I just don't take myself so seriously. I don't mean everything verbatim. So there's nothing to be embarrassed about," she told the San Francisco Chronicle. "People also have to understand I'm an artist and it doesn't necessarily mean that's how I am 24/7. It's just a video."

The video for "Milkshake," taken from her latest album, "Tasty," features Kelis tantalizing diner patrons with her sultry sashaying and suggestive poses. The milk shake theme is echoed on the back cover of her album — a photo of the singer in her underwear sitting atop a giant milk shake.

"It's a fantasy. I can't really sit on an enormous milk shake. It's not possible," she said.

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE OF RATE REVIEW, RATE CHANGE REQUEST AND STATEMENT OF INTENT

Notice is hereby given that Cap Rock Energy Corporation ("Cap Rock") intends to change rates for electric utility service effective March 30, 2004, or as soon thereafter as permitted by law. Based upon a test year ending September 30, 2003, the increase requested over adjusted test year revenues is $10,202,700 or 14.45%. The changes are applicable to all areas, all customer classes, and all customers served by the Cap Rock.

On October 24, 2003, the Staff of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission) filed a petition to inquire into the reasonableness of the rates being charged by Cap Rock. That proceeding has been designated as Docket No. 28813. Although Staff contends that some of Cap Rock's rates are too high, the inquiry could reveal that rates for some customer classes or some service areas need to be increased. Therefore, the Staff inquiry could result in increased or decreased rates for some customers. Affected persons may intervene in this proceeding, as detailed below, to address the rates being charged by Cap Rock.

In response to the Staff inquiry, on February 24, 2004, Cap Rock filed a rate filing package and a request to increase its rates in Docket No. 28813. Additionally, Cap Rock stated that it intends to change its service rules and regulations including rules relating to obtaining service, line extension and line extension charges, the provision of electric service, service fees, and discontinuance of service. Cap Rock intends to charge uniform system-wide rates to customers in each of Cap Rock's divisions. As a result, the McCulloch Division will no longer have separate tariffs after September 1, 2004.

The specific rates that Cap Rock proposes to charge, the proposed tariff revisions, and a copy of the rate filing package may be reviewed during normal business hours at Cap Rock's offices at (1) 500 West Wall Street, Suite 400, Midland, Texas 79701 (Cap Rock's Headquarters); (2) 1400 W. Business Interstate 20, Stanton, Texas 79782 (the Stanton Division); (3) 1825 South Highway 208, Colorado City, Texas 79512 (the Lone Wolf Division); (4) Highway 69 South, Celeste, Texas 75423 (the Hunt-Collin Division); and (5) 326 E. U.S. Highway 190, Brady, Texas 76825 (the McCulloch Division). Additionally, copies may be viewed at the Commission's offices in Austin, Texas.

Persons who wish to intervene in or comment upon these proceedings should notify the Commission as soon as possible, as an intervention deadline will be imposed. A request to intervene or for further information should be mailed to the Public Utility Commission of Texas, P.O. Box 13326, Austin, Texas 78711-3326 and should reference the specific Docket No. involved. Docket No. 28813 will address whether Cap Rock's current rates are reasonable; whether they should be revised; and whether Cap Rock's proposed tariff changes should be approved or modified. Further information about this proceeding may also be obtained by calling the Public Utility Commission's Public Information Office at (512) 936-7120, or (888) 782-8477. Hearing-and-speech-impaired individuals with text telephones (TTY) may contact the Commission at (512) 936-7136. **The deadline for intervention in the proceeding is April 9, 2004,** 45 days after the date Cap Rock's statement of intent was filed with the Commission.

Markets

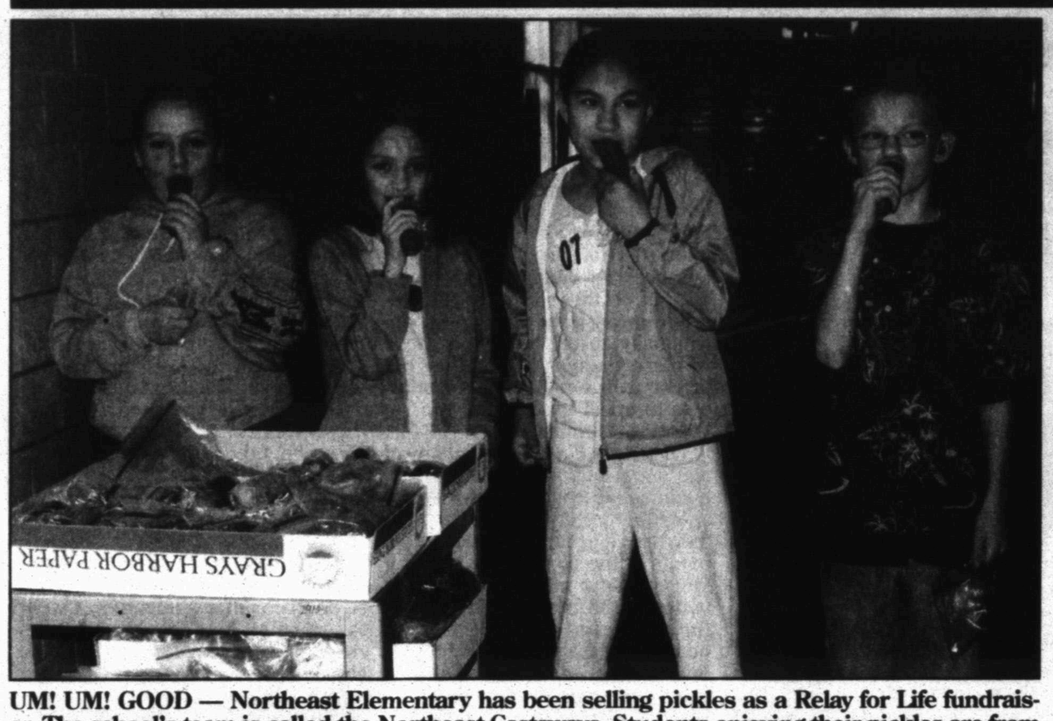
Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	15.46	15.12	15.13	—.25
AT&T Corp	20.50	19.96	19.97	+.03
Albertsons	24.64	24.51	24.53	—.04
Alltel	53.16	52.60	52.62	—.63
AmEl Pw	34.21	33.50	33.91	—.14
AndarkPtr	53.36	52.63	52.70	+.24
ATMOS Egy	26.98	26.87	26.88	+.02
Aviall	15.85	15.70	15.70	—.01
BP PLC	50.41	50.15	50.18	+.08
BakerHughes	37.90	37.36	37.44	+.15
Bank of Amer	82.87	82.26	82.60	—.14
BellSouth	29.80	28.71	28.77	—.07
BurlNoSFe	31.21	30.97	31.19	—.07
Caterpillar	78.10	77.11	77.94	+1.57
CenterPoint	11.44	11.27	11.36	—.06
ChevronTex	91.15	90.27	91.04	+.82
Citigroup	50.44	50.06	50.18	+.18
CocaCola	50.25	49.91	50.05	—.05
ColgatePal	56.61	56.18	56.46	+.11
CrnclMetals	31.20	30.90	31.04	—.19
ConocoPhill	71.41	70.52	71.24	+.91
Cooper Inds	54.59	54.05	54.27	—.88
DaimlrChry	45.54	45.34	45.37	—.01
DeltaAirLines	9.14	8.97	9.04	—.08
Dillards Inc	18.56	18.32	18.36	—.02
DowChem	42.48	42.05	42.22	—.09
DuPont	44.52	44.19	44.24	—.40
EastmanChem	41.76	41.40	41.75	+.18
EstKodak	27.79	26.70	26.91	—.88
EDS Corp	20.00	19.77	19.88	—.03
Entergy	58.99	58.50	58.83	+.25
ExxonMobil	42.74	42.48	42.61	+.12
FootLocker	26.19	25.80	25.97	+.21
GenDynam	91.00	89.55	90.21	—.47
GenElec	32.50	32.20	32.31	—.46
GenMills	47.52	47.23	47.43	—.17
GenMotors	48.46	48.08	48.16	—.22
GaPacific	34.43	33.89	34.29	+.37
Goodrich	28.90	28.25	28.36	—.25
Goodyear	8.59	8.30	8.38	—.10
GtAtlPac	8.15	7.90	7.98	—.05
Halliburtn	31.99	31.75	31.84	+.33
Hanson PLC	39.90	39.55	39.55	—.55
HarteHanks	22.45	22.23	22.32	—.01
HomeDepot	37.47	37.10	37.25	—.20
HoneywellIntl	35.24	34.82	34.92	—.04
IBM	96.88	95.80	95.84	—.61
IntlPaper	44.46	43.87	44.36	+.33
JohnsonJn	54.00	53.35	53.57	+.44
KinderMorg	62.47	61.88	61.89	—.86
Kroger Co	19.30	19.10	19.19	—.01
LockheedM	45.80	44.85	45.08	+.03
Lowes Cos	55.56	55.00	55.02	—.45
Lubys	6.89	6.51	6.83	+.46
LucentTech	4.14	4.04	4.11	+.01
MarathonOil	35.80	35.40	35.56	+.24
MayDeptStr	35.34	35.05	35.08	—.31
Medtronic	50.24	49.20	49.51	+.96
Motorola	18.18	17.91	17.97	—.11
NCR Corp	45.98	45.50	45.71	+.15
Navistar	47.89	47.05	47.57	—1.15
PNM Rescs	30.74	30.51	30.56	+.06
Penney JC	33.40	32.95	33.38	+.24
PepBoys	26.30	25.75	26.17	+.37
PepsiCo	52.30	52.01	52.18	—.04
PhelpDodge	86.21	84.75	84.85	—1.33
PilgrimsPride	20.52	20.21	20.29	—.19
Praxair s	37.20	36.90	37.16	—.17
ProctGamb	102.80	101.73	102.69	+.93
RadioShack	34.95	34.52	34.54	—.44
RoyalDut	50.65	50.29	50.40	+.17
SBC Comm	25.50	25.02	25.17	+.15
SaraLee	22.40	22.30	22.31	—.01
Scripps EW	99.03	98.65	98.68	—.22
SearsRoeb	47.65	47.19	47.27	—.19
SherwinW	35.88	35.57	35.86	+.17
SouthernCo	30.77	30.62	30.63	
SwstAirl	14.53	14.40	14.45	—.03
SprintFON	18.98	18.79	18.97	+.12
SprintPCS	9.55	9.38	9.54	+.07
Sunoco Inc	64.48	63.31	63.32	+.24
TXU Corp	28.20	27.91	27.95	—.24
TempleInland	66.34	65.71	66.29	+.68
TexInd	35.50	35.12	35.30	+.10
TexasInst	31.89	31.25	31.27	—.20
Textron	56.22	55.95	56.11	—.09
TimeWarner	17.33	17.11	17.30	+.15
TrinityInds	29.43	28.71	28.81	—.51
TylerTech	9.75	9.52	9.56	—.08
UnionPacif	61.87	61.44	61.87	+.34
USSteel	38.08	37.75	37.98	—.02
UnitedTech	91.19	90.19	90.73	+.83
Unocal	39.10	38.71	38.88	+.21
VerizonComm	39.34	39.06	39.32	+.34
WalMart	60.69	60.02	60.58	+.34
WellsFargo	58.80	58.34	58.75	+.36
WstnGasRs	51.50	51.06	51.06	—.28
WinnDixie	6.65	6.00	6.46	+.03
Xerox Cp	14.28	14.08	14.19	+.01
YumBrands	38.18	37.75	37.76	—.52

MAR 08 2004

Best Available Copy



UM! UM! GOOD — Northeast Elementary has been selling pickles as a Relay for Life fundraiser. The school's team is called the Northeast Castaways. Students enjoying their pickles are from left, Caitlin Caffey, Heather Crawford, Alexia Hernandez and Brayden Culwell. They are in Elizabeth Conger's class. Other fundraisers include crazy sock day and a bake sale. Future fundraisers will include hat day and pie throw and sponge throw. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Texas homeowners still waiting for promised insurance breaks

DALLAS (AP) — Texas homeowners are still saddled with high insurance premiums nine months after state lawmakers passed reforms aimed at reducing rates and making it easier to obtain coverage.

Average premiums have decreased by about 4 percent from early 2003, the Texas Department of Insurance said. That figure is well under the 12 percent to 18 percent reduction that was predicted when the insurance reforms were signed into law in June.

"We have heard some people say their rates have stabilized or decreased slightly, but we're also hearing from a lot of people whose insurance rates are still going up," said Dan Lambe of Texas Watch, a consumer group active in insurance issues.

Other homeowners have been forced to buy coverage through a state plan that offers minimal protection because State Farm Insurance, the largest insurer in Texas, is still not selling policies to new customers. The company instituted that policy in September 2001 to combat soaring mold-damage claims.

Farmers Insurance, meanwhile, has limited its agents to 10 new policies a month.

Both companies also are continuing a legal battle against an Insurance Department effort to roll back their rates, which were deemed excessive last year.

Insurance Department spokesman Jim Hurley said the ongoing battle is disappointing.

"The longer they drag this out, the longer it will take for their customers to receive the savings they should have been getting," Hurley told The Dallas Morning News.

But both insurers said their rates are necessary to cover losses and other expenses.

"The reductions being sought by the Insurance Department are excessive," Farmers spokeswoman Michelle Levy said. "Our rates have not changed since 2002, when we announced a 6.8 percent reduction."

Backers of the new law insist the reforms need more time to turn things around.

An Insurance Department study estimated that a typical premium now costs $1,390. That is about 4 percent lower than in early 2003 but well above the typical $1,000 in annual premiums in 2000.

The study said the figure would be $100 lower if State Farm and Farmers had agreed to reduce their rates.

Name is not yet cleared

HOUSTON (AP) — A man freed from prison last year after new DNA tests showed he did not commit the rape he was convicted of in 1998 is still trying to get his record cleared, his attorneys said.

David Dow, director of the Texas Innocence Network, is trying to clear Josiah Sutton's name through a court order to vacate the conviction, as well as a governor's pardon based on innocence, the Houston Chronicle reported.

State District Judge Joan Huffman is scheduled in mid-April to hear arguments on vacating the conviction of Sutton, 22.

After serving 41/2 years, Sutton was freed on bond days after an initial retest excluded him as a contributor to the DNA evidence in his case. A second test also excluded Sutton, who had been sentenced to 25 years in prison.

Sutton is among hundreds being retested after a state audit found a lack of training of lab employees, insufficient documentation and possible contamination of DNA samples at the Houston Police Department.

Dow is asking Huffman to recommend to the Criminal Court of Appeals that the conviction be overturned on the basis of innocence and prosecutorial misconduct.

"This is a case where the DA's office should have said, 'We made a mistake and we want to work with Josiah Sutton as quickly as we can and fix things,'" Dow said.

Dow is asking for a pardon for innocence, which clears the criminal record, restores rights and allows for state reparations of up to $25,000 per year in prison.

The other type of pardon, a full pardon, restores the rights taken away by the conviction, but the conviction remains on the person's criminal record.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Tuesday, March 9, 2004

In the year ahead, there will be situations that arise from time to time where you'll be able to take advantage of opportunities that are not apparent to others. It will be your insights that will give you an edge.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Changes initiated by others today could work out to your benefit, so even if they are done in hopes of benefiting someone else, there's no need to get upset. You'll come out ahead as well.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Although you normally prefer to do things totally independent of others, you can't always do so. Today, when you discover you need a partnership arrangement, you won't hesitate to acquire one.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Chances are you, better than most, will appreciate this day and take advantage of the opportunities it gives you to catch up on or get a little ahead on projects where your work is concerned.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Should an opportunity present itself, take time out today to enjoy participating in a pleasurable pursuit. It shouldn't interfere with anything vital, and besides, you're entitled to enjoy yourself.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You won't mind giving family matters priority over your other interests and affairs today. In reality, you'll derive much pleasure from doing something extra for those you love.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — The resourcefulness stirring within you invites some kind of intellectual challenges today. Don't hide your light under a bushel; emphasize your mental talents, not your muscles.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Chances are you'll have an easier time than usual keeping your financial affairs in balance today. But what's even better is that by being prudent now you'll be able to enjoy something finer later.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Your natural leadership qualities will be more pronounced today than those of your peers or associates. Exercise your initiative when you are involved with others.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — This can turn out to be a very productive day for you if you're able to find or establish an environment that is totally free from outside interferences. Lock your office door.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Take the time to reflect on your future hopes for goals and accomplishments and then lay out a game plan as to how to bring them about. Your farsightedness will help initiate the feat.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — An ability to sense the pulse of the environment about you is your greatest asset today. Use it positively to promote your goals, whether they are in your business or personal life.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — Trust your judgment and be confident in letting it direct your course of action today. If you believe you have a good idea, don't let anybody dissuade you from putting it to the test.

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Stiller admired Glaser

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Forget Hutch. Actor Ben Stiller wanted to be more like Starsky.

"I loved 'Starsky & Hutch' and was very inspired, growing up, by Michael Paul Glaser," Stiller said of the actor who played Dave Starsky on the series. "I thought he was so cool."

So when Stiller agreed to bring "Starsky & Hutch" to the big screen, the actor instantly knew which TV cop he wanted to play. As for his on-screen partner, he had only one guy in mind: Owen Wilson as Ken "Hutch" Hutchinson, the role originally played by David Soul.

The two have starred in five previous films, including the off-kilter buddy flick "Zoolander."

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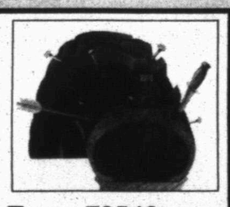
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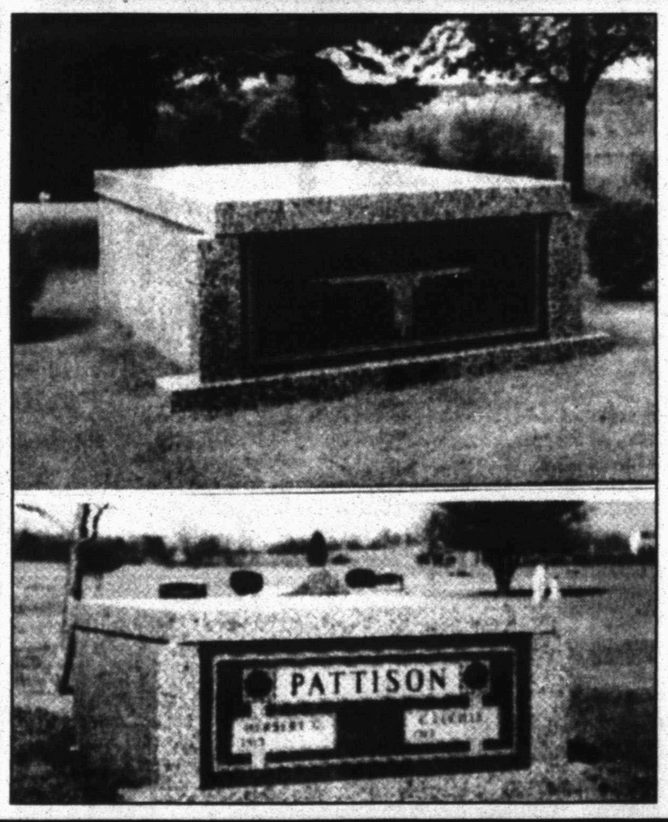
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BUSINESS CARD DIRECTORY

Spotlight



Hillside Monument
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Hillside Memorial Gardens, located on the Colorado City Highway, has been serving Snyder and the Scurry County area for many years.

Hillside Memorial Gardens is a perpetual care cemetery governed by the State Banking Department. The one price you pay for perpetual care is the only one you ever have to pay.

Lots at Hillside Memorial Gardens are reasonably priced and they offer a Pre-Need Financial Plan of only 20 percent down and small monthly payments without interest or carrying charges.

Granite and bronze memorials are available at Hillside Monument Works and Greg Graves goes to great lengths to see that the finished product is one that reflects the individualism of the loved one for whom it is created.

W.C. and Greg Graves realize they provide an important service to the community and work hard to maintain the trust and confidence of the people. Give them a call at 573-5251 and they will be happy to counsel with you concerning your present or future needs.

Best Avail

National

Justi to as

WASHINGTO team of 50 Jus prosecutors, in support staff is beginning this assemble war against former dam Hussein a former regime, said Saturday.

The goal of th through thousa evidence and pr for Iraqis to use tually bring Sad in his administra crimes tribunal want the world t as an Iraqi proce by Americans o ers.

Obesi

DEAR DR. G er, 39, weighs 450 great difficulty everyday activitie and groceries d apartment. He h high blood pressu

Recently, he a doctor about havi surgery. The ph him off and told diet. I am outrag has been overwei 2 years old. And a say is get on a telling a heroin ad kick the habit by drugs anymore. C

DEAR READ not. I'd have to brother's 37 years eating or conside potentially danger

There is a troub the developed wo any ailment or cured by medicin has removed the sibility for good individual and give maceutical indust ion, this is wrong.

Best Available Copy

Justice officials head to Iraq to assist in war crimes trials

WASHINGTON (AP) — A team of 50 Justice Department prosecutors, investigators and support staff is going to Iraq beginning this weekend to assemble war crimes cases against former President Saddam Hussein and others in his former regime, a senior official said Saturday.

The goal of the effort is to sift through thousands of pages of evidence and provide a roadmap for Iraqis to use when they eventually bring Saddam and others in his administration before war crimes tribunals. U.S. officials want the world to view the trials as an Iraqi process, not one run by Americans or other foreigners.

The U.S. team includes main Justice lawyers, FBI agents, U.S. Marshals Service members and others involved in the federal criminal justice system, said a senior Justice Department official.

"It's one piece of the international effort to assist the Iraqis in putting together these proceedings," said the official, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "They are learning how to put together a legitimate legal system."

The Iraqi Governing Council has already set up tribunals consisting of three panels of five judges each, with nine other judges to serve on an appeals panel. The timetable for a trial of Saddam, who was captured by U.S. forces on Dec. 14, is not yet clear, nor are the charges that might be brought.

The Justice Department team will be assigned to a new Regime Crimes Adviser's Office run by the Coalition Provisional Authority, which is headed by U.S. administrator L. Paul Bremer. The office will also include legal officials from other countries, including Great Britain, Spain and Poland, the Justice official said.

The White House, via national security adviser Condoleezza Rice, gave the Justice Department the lead on the effort over other agencies, said Trent Duffy, a spokesman for President Bush.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Obesity may need medical attention

DEAR DR. GOTT: My brother, 39, weighs 450 pounds. He has great difficulty with normal, everyday activities. He has pizza and groceries delivered to his apartment. He has diabetes and high blood pressure.

Recently, he asked his HMO doctor about having gastric bypass surgery. The physician brushed him off and told him to get on a diet. I am outraged. My brother has been overweight since he was 2 years old. And all his doctor can say is get on a diet? That's like telling a heroin addict that he can kick the habit by simply not using drugs anymore. Can you help?

DEAR READER: Probably not. I'd have to overcome your brother's 37 years of inappropriate eating or consider substituting a potentially dangerous operation.

There is a troubling tendency in the developed world to insist that any ailment or disease can be cured by medicine. This attitude has removed the personal responsibility for good health from the individual and given it to the pharmaceutical industry. In my opinion, this is wrong. Each of us must take responsibility for our actions affecting health, be they morbid obesity (your brother's problem), drug abuse, alcoholism or any other harmful behavior.

I am sorry that the HMO doctor was so insensitive. He needs to take a good-manners pill.

I believe your brother needs to have his problems aggressively addressed. I suggest that he consider being admitted to the metabolic unit in a teaching hospital, where he will be examined, counseled, treated, and evaluated for gastric bypass surgery. This last option is certainly a possibility, but your brother first has to be willing to alter his attitude, behavior and eating habits. While this approach may seem too daunting to consider, it is only through professional intervention that your brother can save his own life.

Although a humorist once said that a doctor's primary responsibility is to entertain people until they die, there is clearly a pressing need for your brother to get help — and now, before it's too late.

To give you related information, I am sending you a copy of my Health Report "Losing Weight" which includes my no flour, no sugar diet. 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.

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm 76 and my doctor, citing health dangers, recently took me off Premarin. Since then I have been experiencing hot flashes. Is this possible at my age?

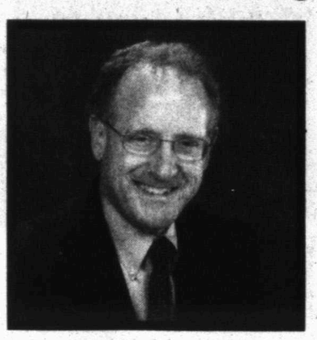
DEAR READER: Apparently. Although most post-menopausal women who stop hormone replacement therapy (HRT) will not have consistently troublesome consequences (such as hot flashes), some do. In most cases, this symptom will resolve with time as your body adjusts to a lack of estrogen. Your doctor was being prudent in discontinuing your HRT. Be patient.

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

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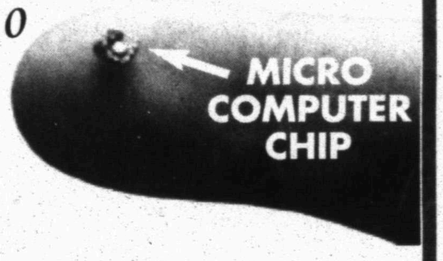


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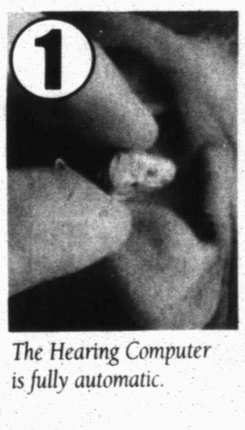
Free Demonstrations–One Day Only–Wednesday, March 10



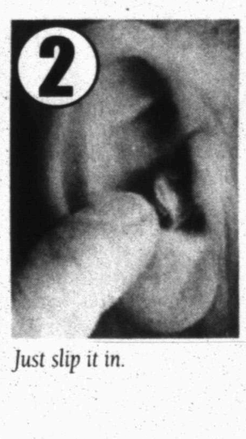
Imagine a hearing aid that automatically adapts to your surroundings and reflects your specific lifestyle. Imagine a hearing aid that is so pleasant to wear that it gives a new meaning to the phrase "customer satisfaction." *Well, imagine no more* – With this breakthrough technology from **STARKEY**, the world's largest hearing aid manufacturer, comes the first hearing aid ever developed to address your most important needs. Not only does it fit your individual hearing loss, it fits the way you live. If you hear, but are having trouble understanding conversation, you owe it to yourself to take advantage of the free demonstrations offered this week. Call Livingston Hearing Center today for a no-obligation appointment.

ON SPECIAL SALE NOW!

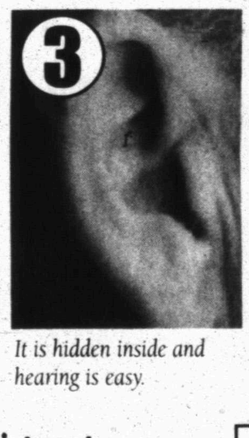
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Pamela Smith,
Licensed by the Texas Department of Health

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Court won't rule on scout discrimination

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court refused today to hear an appeal from the Boy Scouts over what the organizations claims is discrimination because of its policy against hiring gays.

The case revisited the gay rights fight surrounding the high court's ruling four years ago that the Boy Scouts have the right to ban openly homosexual scout leaders. This time, the question was whether states may treat the Scouts differently than other organizations because of that policy.

The Scouts asked the justices to hear a case from Connecticut, where officials dropped the group from a list of charities that receive donations through a state employee payroll deduction plan.

That's unconstitutional discrimination, the Boy Scouts argued.

"To exclude the Boy Scouts from a forum based on their values they hold and the conduct they require of their members is to exclude Boy Scouts based on viewpoint and identity," lawyers for the Scouts argued in their Supreme Court appeal.

The Scouts took in about $10,000 annually from the employee charity campaign, the filing said.

The Boy Scouts, based in Irving, Texas, are pursuing a similar court fight in San Diego, where city officials want to evict the group from a park where the organization runs a youth aquatic center. The Bush administration sided with the Scouts in that case last week.

Connecticut officials also raised the issue of discrimination to explain why the Scouts were dropped from the State Employee Campaign Committee in 2000.

A state human rights commission had found that including the Boy Scouts of America in the employee donation program would violate Connecticut's gay rights law, state Connecticut attorney General Richard Blumenthal argued to the high court.

The gay rights law prohibits the state from "becoming a party to any agreement, arrangement or plan which has the effect of sanctioning discrimination," the state's legal filing said.

A federal appeals court ruled last year that Connecticut did not violate the Scouts' First Amendment rights. The Connecticut policy was intended more to protect gays than to silence the views of groups like the Scouts, the court said in upholding then ruling of a lower federal judge.

The American Legion, Campus Crusade for Christ and numerous other organizations filed friend-of-the-court briefs supporting the Boy Scouts.

"Permitting this decision to stand would open the door for other governmental action that seeks to advance a political agenda by forcing those who oppose it to relinquish their constitutionally protected views, beliefs and practices in exchange for a government benefit that was otherwise available," lawyers a Catholic public interest law firm, the Thomas More Law Center, argued.

After meeting with probation officer today...

Stewart thanks viewers and readers

NEW YORK (AP) — Martha Stewart thanked viewers of her television shows and readers of her magazines and Web sites for their support today, making her first public remarks since being convicted of lying about a stock sale,

"I just want to thank everyone for their support," Stewart said, just before she was driven away from a Manhattan courthouse where she met with a probation officer for about an hour.

Stewart stepped out of a sport utility vehicle just before 11 a.m. at the courthouse in lower Manhattan. Stewart, accompanied by her lawyers, did not speak to reporters. She left about an hour later, making brief remarks.

Her meeting with a probation officer came on the same day as stock in her namesake empire continued to slide and the board of her company was gathering to discuss life without the domestic diva.

The board of directors of Stewart's company, Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., was to meet today to discuss her fate, according to a source close to the company who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Stewart stepped down from her role as chief executive and chairman of the board in June after being indicted but remains as chief creative officer and a member of the board.

With her conviction, the government will likely press to have Stewart removed from the board, but the big question is how involved in the company she will be. Stewart's name, now tainted by a conviction, is stamped on a wide variety of products, from TV shows to magazines and merchandise.

Bush criticizes Kerry on national defense

CRAWFORD (AP) — President Bush is accusing John Kerry of having proposed big cuts in intelligence spending just two years after the first attack on the World Trade Center, part of a re-election effort to depict his Democratic rival as weak on national security and the war against terrorism.

Bush, who was traveling to Dallas for a fund-raiser today, planned to call attention to a 1995 bill that Kerry sponsored to trim intelligence spending by $1.5 billion over five years. The cut was part of what Kerry called a "budget-buster bill" to strip $90 billion from the budget and end 40 programs that he said were "pointless, wasteful, antiquated or just plain silly."

Kerry's proposal, which followed the collapse of the Soviet Union and calls for a peace dividend after decades of spending to thwart the Cold War opponent, failed to attract any co-sponsors and did not come up for a vote.

Republicans hope to raise doubts about Kerry's ability to fight and win the war against terror, suggesting that his rhetoric does not match his 20-year record in the Senate. To fend off such criticism, Kerry has relied in large part on his decorated Navy service in Vietnam.

On Sunday, Kerry accused Bush of "stonewalling" separate inquiries into the events leading up to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, as well as into the intelligence that suggested Saddam Hussein was hiding weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. The Bush campaign contended the president has cooperated fully with investigators.

The president was attending two Texas fund-raisers on Monday, including the popular Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Texas, the state that vaulted him to the presidency, remains a bedrock of Bush's political support. It has sent his re-election campaign in excess of $13.2 million, more than any other state, according to the Center for Responsive Politics, a campaign watchdog group. Dallas is among the top five metropolitan areas by volume of donations to his campaign.

Bush's trips come two days after Kerry, his likely Democratic opponent in November's election, campaigned in Houston and accused him of leaving a "four-year trail of broken promises."

For senior citizens...

In Florida, Kerry raps Bush, Congress about health care

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (AP) — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry accused President Bush of breaking promises to senior citizens and called the prescription drug package approved by Congress a billion-dollar giveaway to drug companies as he campaigned today in health-conscious Florida.

"Our seniors deserve the best care America has to offer," Kerry said. "What they do not deserve is another four years of broken promises and failed policies from George W. Bush."

Speaking to about 500 people at a town-hall meeting, Kerry drew loud cheers when he declared, "I will never privatize Social Security."

The Massachusetts senator was courting the vast elderly population in Florida while sweeping across the politically crucial state. He repeatedly mentioned the disputed 2000 election, which decided the race for president between Bush and Al Gore, saying he is putting together a legal team to monitor voting and vote counting in Florida in November.

Kerry, who had stops in Hollywood and West Palm Beach before ending his day in Tampa, said 2.8 million people in Florida lack health care and 315,000 people pay more than they should for prescription drugs.

"We'll make sure that those without drug coverage aren't left out in the cold," he said. "I'm going to give you something that works and doesn't give the insurance companies millions of dollars."

As Kerry campaigned, his aides were speaking regularly by phone with former rivals John Edwards and Howard Dean. Kerry will meet with Dean in Washington on Wednesday, aides said, to discuss what role Dean can play in the campaign. Dean could be a valuable ally because of his huge Internet-based financial network.

Throughout a four-day Southern tour, Kerry has blamed Bush's trade policies for job losses. He has continued to criticize Bush on national security issues, raising questions about the handling of probes into terrorist attacks as well as intelligence suggesting weapons of mass destruction were in Iraq.

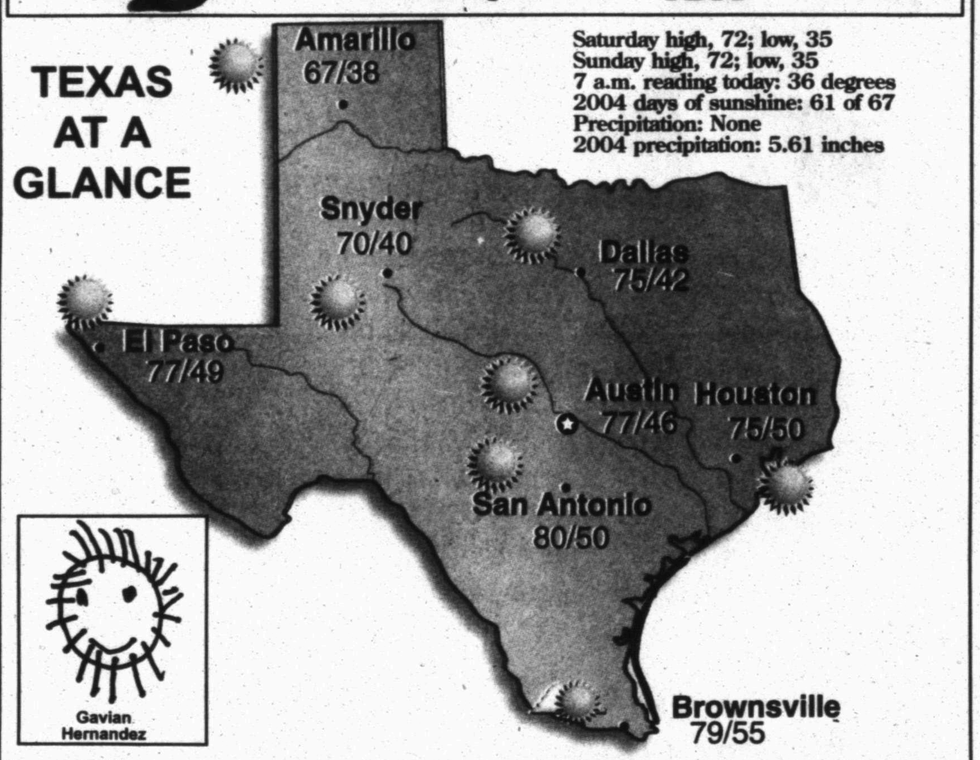
"The American people deserve an answer now as to why we had intelligence failures and what the security needs of our nation are," Kerry, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee, said Sunday. He accused Bush of "stonewalling" separate probes into those issues, pointing to complaints by members of a federal commission investigating the attacks that Bush was resisting their efforts to get documents and question witnesses.

Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Tue 3/9	Wed 3/10	Thu 3/11
70/40	69/42	55/40
A mainly sunny sky. High near 70F. Winds NE at 10 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy. Highs in the upper 60s and lows in the low 40s.	More clouds than sun. Highs in the mid 50s and lows in the low 40s.
Sunrise 7:01 AM, Sunset 6:48 PM	Sunrise 7:00 AM, Sunset 6:48 PM	Sunrise 6:59 AM, Sunset 6:49 PM

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Saturday high, 72; low, 35
Sunday high, 72; low, 35
7 a.m. reading today: 36 degrees
2004 days of sunshine: 61 of 67
Precipitation: None
2004 precipitation: 5.61 inches

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	72	44	sunny	El Paso	77	49	sunny	Midland	73	44	sunny
Amarillo	67	38	sunny	Fort Stockton	74	46	sunny	Raymondville	80	52	sunny
Austin	77	46	sunny	Gainesville	71	38	sunny	Rosenberg	77	49	sunny
Beaumont	73	47	sunny	Greenville	72	39	sunny	San Antonio	80	50	sunny
Brownsville	79	55	mst sunny	Houston	75	50	sunny	San Marcos	78	46	sunny
Brownwood	77	44	sunny	Kingsville	81	51	sunny	Sulphur Springs	72	39	sunny
Corpus Christi	78	53	sunny	Livingston	73	43	sunny	Sweetwater	73	44	sunny
Corsicana	74	41	sunny	Longview	69	40	sunny	Tyler	69	40	sunny
Dallas	75	42	sunny	Lubbock	70	39	sunny	Weatherford	73	39	sunny
Del Rio	81	52	sunny	Lufkin	72	43	sunny	Wichita Falls	70	38	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	54	28	rain	Houston	75	50	sunny	Phoenix	88	61	sunny
Boston	36	29	pt sunny	Los Angeles	78	59	sunny	San Francisco	69	55	windy
Chicago	40	31	pt sunny	Miami	70	53	mst sunny	Seattle	55	37	rain
Dallas	75	42	sunny	Minneapolis	41	36	pt sunny	St. Louis	48	32	mst sunny
Denver	66	37	sunny	New York	37	30	flurries	Washington, DC	44	33	cloudy

Moon Phases

Full	Last	New	First
Mar 6	Mar 13	Mar 20	Mar 28

UV Index

Tue 3/9	Wed 3/10	Thu 3/11
7	7	6
High	High	Moderate

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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Births

Matt and Becky Cross of Snyder announce the birth of a daughter, Victoria Nicole, born at 2:55 p.m. March 6 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. She weighed 8 pounds and is the sister of Samuel and Antonio Cross.

Paternal grandparents are Fred and Ann Cross of Snyder and maternal grandparents are Ben Rodriquez and Julia Lewis, both of Snyder.

—

Yolanda Lopez and Santana Ramirez, both of Snyder, announce the birth of a son, Santana Alfredo Ramirez, born at 8:48 a.m. March 4 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital. He weighed 7 pounds, 6 ounces.

Paternal grandparents are Santana and Rosa Ramirez of Del Rio, and maternal grandparents are Eleanor Ibarra and Pete Lopez of Snyder.

HISD OKs teacher contracts

Hermleigh ISD's trustees met last week and approved several action items including renewing all teachers' contracts.

Supt. Marvin Beaty said the resignations of English teacher Eric Simpson was approved by the board, as was the resignation of computer teacher Ron Roberts.

Christy Brewer's contract for teaching English was approved.

Beaty said a recent land survey determined that the school district owns approximately three acres of land that no one was aware it owned, and is now being farmed by an individual.

"We've got projects ongoing and we just needed to be sure where our boundaries were," said Beaty.

"We'll meet with those who are affected and work out a deal that is everyone's best interest," said Beaty.

Also approved were the textbook committee and the setting of the May 15 election.

A budget amendment was tabled and it is expected to be acted on at a March 25 called meeting.

Trustees also heard a report from Beaty concerning athletic facilities and needed equipment for various sports programs.

A priority list is to be compiled and the list is expected to be acted upon at the board's next meeting.

Obituaries

Mary Turner

1916-2004

Mary Marie Turner of Snyder died Monday, March 8, in Kristi Lee Manor in Colorado City.

Services for Mrs. Turner, 87, are pending at Wright Colonial Funeral Home.

Survivors include a daughter, Florabell Stephens of Snyder.

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