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WTIC Posted - $34.50
Natural Gas - $12.20

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Feb. 27, 2003
Vol. 54 No. 259
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Forrest Pendleton

From Covenant...

Cogdell Hospital board will explore possibility of taking over local clinic

By Wade Warren
SDN Managing Editor

In anticipation of Covenant Healthcare Systems closing its clinic in Snyder, the Cogdell Hospital board this morning informally agreed to set the wheels in motion to take over operations of the facility.

The mention of the clinic followed the approval of a new management agreement with Covenant for the hospital.

"I feel it would be to our advantage to take over operations of the clinic," said board member Dr. Charles Church. "It's better to do something about it now rather than when we are forced to."

Church suggested the board begin talks with Covenant about the clinic as soon as possible since the physicians' contracts are expiring soon.

"It will be in our best interest to start talking with Covenant specifically about taking over the clinic," Dr. Church said.

Church said it was no secret that the clinic is currently losing money. "We have to look at all the options and do what we can afford to do."

Board chairman Carl Williams said there are two points he would like to interject on the clinic.

"We have to keep our doctors satisfied, and the clinic needs to stand alone," Williams said. "The hospital is not in a position to subsidize it."

Dr. Church reiterated what Williams said about the doctors.

"We need to do what we can to keep our doctors here," Church said. "We will back them anyway we can."

"We have to keep our doctors satisfied and the clinic needs to stand alone."

—Carl Williams, hospital board chairman

Dink Foree said it is important that the board begin talks with the doctors.

Dr. Church agreed, stating that he did not feel that any of the doctors wanted to move from Snyder.

Hospital CEO George Parsley said a March 17 strategic planning session would focus on the clinic, and that he and Williams have set meetings in April for the same purpose.

The concern about Covenant closing the local clinic stems from the fact that the healthcare system will close its Post facility Friday, and that facilities in Hobbs, N.M., Hale Center and Abernathy already have been closed.

Negotiations are underway in Andrews for a group of physicians to buy the clinic there from Covenant.

These closures follow Covenant announcing a $40 million budget shortfall at the end of last year, and that $30 million would have to be trimmed from this quarter's budget.

The management agreement was approved with little comment from the board other than Dr. Church stating there are few changes from the present agreement.

There are no monetary considerations other than the county reimbursing the CEO's salary and benefits. The past agreement included the chief financial officer's salary, but the new one does not.

"The main thing to remember is that the operation of the hospital remains with the local board," Dr. Church said.

One change is that Covenant has to have the board's authority before it can give the CEO an increase in salary.

"Since we have to reimburse the salary, it would be in our best interest to have that authority," Dr. Church said.

The contract is for three years and each entity has a 30-day out.

In other action items, the board approved the monthly financial statement and heard a report from Nick Blythe on the respiratory therapy department and the Rural Health Clinic.

Director of Nurses Cheryl Chance gave a report on the nursing staff.

"We are experiencing moderate staffing shortages," Chance said. "Our critical area now is in the OB unit as we are losing two nurses who are moving."

The board also heard the monthly medical staff report from Dr. Bid Cooper, and approved Wanda Kenner as the alternate administrator for the home health department.

The only point of contention in the meeting were in the minutes as Foree pointed out that they stated a new CFO would be employed at the approximate salary as Joe Wright who left last month.

"We got an email stating the new CFO's salary would be in the range of $76,000," Foree said. "This seems to be a lot more than what we were paying Joe and this is outside our salary scale and against our policy manual."

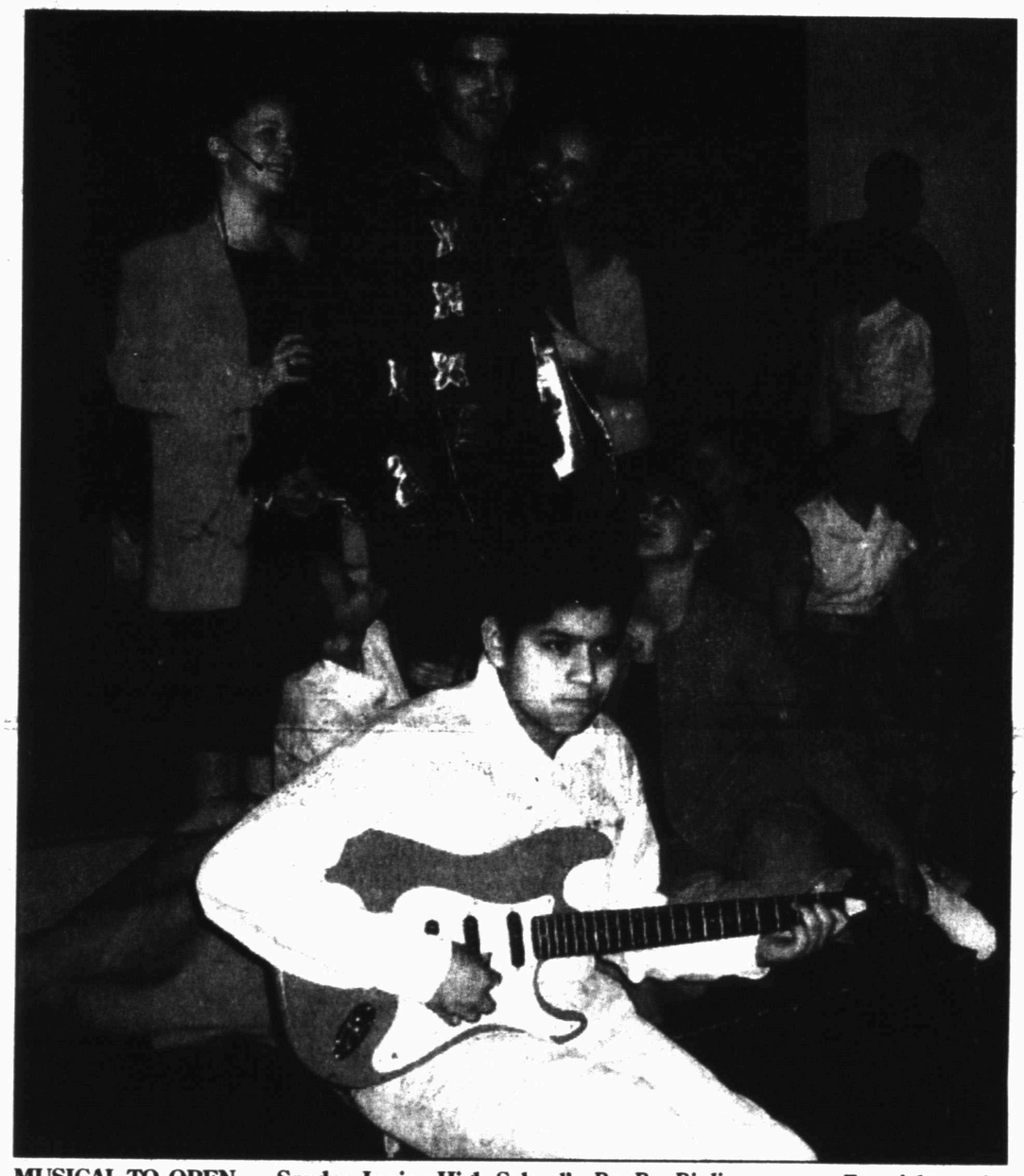
Parsley explained that in order to attract quality professionals to Snyder, the hospital had to pay more.

Foree also questioned why the new CFO would be eligible for a bonus, and why he would have three weeks of vacation time his first year here.

Once again, Parsley said those incentives were necessary to attract qualified candidates.

Both Parsley and Foree agreed that the hospital needed to address its compensation and salary scale.

Williams presided and all board members were present to include Foree, Dr. Church, Bill Voss, Terry Williams and Bo Robinson.



MUSICAL TO OPEN — Snyder Junior High School's *Bye Bye Birdie* opens at 7 tonight at the school auditorium. Students standing in the foreground are from left, Sydney Wright, Ramsey Herrera and Sarah Covington. Girls seated in front are from left, Allie Brewster, Terann Ragland, Courtney Tyrell and Devin Davidson. Jeremy Rodriguez is playing the guitar. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Junior high to debut production

Bye Bye Birdie, a joint production of Snyder Junior High School drama and choir departments, will debut at 7 tonight in the junior high auditorium.

Additional performances will be at 7 p.m. Friday, Saturday, Monday and Tuesday.

All seats are reserved and cost $5 each. Janeen Patterson is the drama director and Marci Dennis directs the choir.

The musical comedy by Mike Stewart and Charles Strouse revolves around Conrad Birdie, played by Ramsey Herrera, and his agent Albert Peterson, played by Cody Reed.

Birdie is a rock and roll superstar. His agent has gone into deep debt promoting Birdie's career.

Just when the singer's career really takes off and Peterson has a good chance to earn back his money, Birdie gets drafted.

To make matters worse, Peterson's longtime secretary and love interest, Rosie Alvarez, played by Jaedi Baze, decides to resign. She's waited eight years for him to give up the music business and that's long enough.

Peterson will do anything to keep Rosie from leaving him. He promises to quit the music business as soon as he can recover the money he has lost.

They stage a publicity stunt around Birdie's latest hit, *One Last Kiss*, but it goes awry. Peterson also will have to deal with his controlling mother, who doesn't know her son plans to marry Rosie.

Other cast members include Helen, Courtney Tyrell; Ursula Merkle, Sarah Covington; Kim MacAfee, Sydney Wright; Mrs. Doris MacAfee, Starla Early; Harry MacAfee, Levi Stahl, Mrs. Mae Peterson, Alyssa Davis; Hugo Peabody, Michael Mann; one girl, Kendra Tidwell and policeman, Brandon Robbins.

Others are three reporters played by Audrey Jones, Amanda Martinez and Alexis Urias; mayor, Kyle Sanchez; mayor's wife, Megan Delorea; Mrs. Merkle, Stacie Lee; Randolph MacAfee, Colton Brewster; Nancy, Laura Culwell; Gloria Rasputin, Lindsey Small; Mrs. Johnson, Brandon Robbins; and Maude, Casey Arnold.

Also in the cast are Alice played by Kaylee Lacik; Harvey Johnson, Craig Robertson; Deborah Sue, Shannon Mangis; and Suzie, Kaitlyn Greenlee.

Others are Corey Jaramillo, Jordan Derryberry, Cayelea Rhodes and Kirstie Davis.

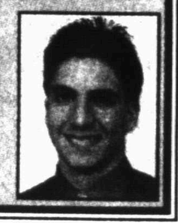
Various voices will feature Brandon Robbins as a trainman and train conductor; Kaitlyn Greenlee, Phyllis; Allison Sharrock, Penelope; Jeremy Rodriguez, Conrad's guitar man; Allie Brewster; Devin Davidson, two sad girls; and Courtney Tryell, doctor.

Members of the crew are Heather Derrington, Tasha Ball and Brandee Perez, stage managers; Jordan Payne, sound; Laura Flores, Krista Dorsett, Whitley Fulford and April Boyd, makeup; Jamie Arnold, Chad Goebel, Monica DuBois, Amy Sauceda, Felicia Guzman, Lucinda Guzman, set crew and props; Tyler Driggers, lights; and Kade Kruger, spotlight.

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN

by Brian Brisendine



One place that remains near the top of our list of must-see destinations is Augusta National Golf Club in Georgia.

We look forward every year to the granddaddy of all golf tournaments — The Masters.

The event draws the best in the game of golf and produces the highest television ratings of any PGA event. Part of the fun is seeing the fabled golf course and the towering pines that surround.

Unfortunately we think the focus this year will be on what's taking place outside the exclusive club's gates.

Protests of the weeklong event are in the works by Martha Burk's National Council of Women's Organizations.

Burk is lashing out against the males-only membership policy of the privately owned golf club and claims that playing golf with the boys is a moral right.

We see several holes in her shoddy argument. First and foremost, as mentioned before, the club is privately owned.

That means the folks running the place can allow whomever they desire to participate and vise versa.

If a guy owned a club and wanted to allow only right handed people to be members, he could do so.

And we have to wonder why Burk chose Augusta National to pick on. There are countless organizations throughout the U.S. with gender-specific memberships — for men and for women.

We're curious if she ever belonged to a sorority and if so, did she petition to allow men as members?

What about the Boy Scouts, and equally, the Girl Scouts. Both organizations are lauded as beneficial for youth, yet they remain separated by gender and in our opinion should stay that way.

As long as no public funds are involved, such as taxes or even government grants, we think every man and woman should be free to associate with whomever they wish.

As it turns out, Burk might not have as much support as she had hoped for. Two groups — WAMB (Women Against Martha Burk) and *The Burk Stops Here* — have requested permits to protest against her group's protest outside The Masters.

Even politicians are stepping in like U.S. Rep. Sue Burmeister, R-Augusta, who states, "I don't like it that I have Martha Burk coming down to my district and trying to force a private organization to do something they don't wish to do."

We also think Wendy McElroy, a published feminist, hit the nail on the head in a recent column.

She wrote "the 'right to golf' is both laughable and obscene. Laughable because this is what political correctness has been reduced to. Obscene because it is an offense to every woman or minority who has suffered genuine harm through discrimination."

We agree and we think it's ridiculous that major advertising sponsors are beginning to bow to the nutty group by threatening to pull their ads if the club doesn't bow also.

So far Hootie Johnson, head of Augusta National, hasn't budged under pressure.

We hope he stays the course and proves Burk wrong.

We'll be sure to tune in beginning April 7 to watch the magic that unfolds each year.

Our money is on Tiger winning his fourth green jacket.

ASK US

Q—Does Scurry County rank in the top ten oil producing counties in Texas?

A—Yes. Scurry was eighth in production in December with 845,975 barrels. Gaines County was first with 2,587,432.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Lillian Durst...

...has worked at Central for 31 years and currently serves as the curriculum aide. A resident of Snyder for 40 years, Lillian has five grown sons and two daughters, but only Don Durst lives in Snyder. She also has 24 grandchildren, 18 great-grandchildren and one great-great grandchild.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

The world of tomorrow belongs to the person who has the vision today.
—Robert Schuller

FEB 27 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Scurry Lodge 706 to meet

Scurry Lodge #706 AF&AM will have a called meeting at 7 tonight for work in the Fellowcraft and Master Degree. All Master Masons are invited.

Snyder Oaks family council

The family council of Snyder Oaks Care Center will meet from 6:30-7:30 this evening. The meeting is for resident's family members for a program presented by Brenda Elkins of the Area Agency of Aging.

Jim Rosson reception

There will be a farewell reception for Jim Rosson at East Elementary from 2-4:30 p.m. Friday in the front entryway. Cake and coffee will be served and everyone is invited.

Dunn game night

There will be a game night beginning at 7 p.m. Friday at the Dunn Community Center.

Chicken spaghetti fundraiser

Scurry County Anti-Drug Connection will host a chicken spaghetti fundraiser Friday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the First Baptist Church Family Life Center. Tickets are $6 for adults and $4 for children 6-12 and persons 50 and older. Carry-out orders will be available. Call 573-1141 or 574-1931 to purchase tickets or come by 2513 College Ave. Tickets also will be available at the door, and a door prize will be given.

Pancake breakfast

The annual Noon Kiwanis Club pancake breakfast will be from 7 a.m. until 1 p.m. Saturday at West Elementary. Tickets are $5 and may be purchased at the door or from any Kiwanis Club member.

Stanfield book fair

The Stanfield book fair will be held from 8 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. Monday through next Thursday. Sales will benefit the school library.

Stanfield parent council

Stanfield's parent council will have a short meeting at 6 p.m. Monday in the teacher's lounge (front hall) to discuss playground equipment.

Stanfield Muffins for Moms

In observance of Public School Week, Stanfield Elementary will host Muffins for Moms Tuesday beginning at 7:30 a.m., and Donuts for Dads beginning at 7:30 a.m. Wednesday.

American Legion garage sale

The American Legion will host a garage sale Saturday, March 8, from 9:30 a.m. until 4 p.m. at 1804 Ave. R. Proceeds will benefit Gateway Family Services and the American Legion building fund.

Withered flowers needed

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

Trees still available

The Soil and Water Conservation office still has several varieties of trees available at $1 each. These include Lace Bark Elm, Sand Plums, Russian Olive, Honeylocust, Amur Honeysuckle, Desert Willow, Pinyon Pine and Aromatic Sumac. Office hours are 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Relay for Life cookbooks

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

Relay for Life teams needed

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

WTC adult basic education classes

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

Cancer treatment transportation

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

Van wreck leaves two people dead and 13 hurt near Bowie

BOWIE (AP) — Two people were killed and 13 were injured this morning in a van wreck just outside of this North Texas town, authorities said.

Fifteen people were in the van when it apparently lost control and swerved off the road at 5:45 a.m. today, a spokeswoman at the Bowie Police Department told the Wichita Falls Times Record News.

Two people were pronounced dead at the scene, Bowie Memorial Hospital spokeswoman Joyce Crumpler said. The others were taken to the hospital.

Four critically injured passengers were transferred to United Regional 11th Street Campus in Wichita Falls, Crumpler said, with two more expected to follow later in the day. The others have been released, she said.

The wreck occurred near the intersection of State Highway 240 and U.S. 287 just outside of Bowie, about 60 miles northwest of Fort Worth. The cause of the accident is still being investigated, authorities said, though roads were in that area are still icy.

Crumpler said most of the victims were young adults.

2 children killed by cough syrup

AURORA, Colo. (AP) — A man accused of drugging his two young children with a lethal dose of over-the-counter cough syrup surrendered to police early today about two hours after telling a television station he had done nothing wrong.

Arapahoe County jail officials said Robert "Raffie" Henderson turned himself in shortly after midnight.

Late Wednesday, he had told KUSA-TV in Denver, "I'm going to turn myself in because, well, because I didn't exactly do anything wrong, and I'm not going to go running."

The station aired a brief segment of the interview at about 10:30 p.m. KUSA spokeswoman Pam Sullivan declined to say where the interview took place.

An arrest warrant accuses Henderson, 29, of two counts of child abuse resulting in death and two counts of second-degree assault. The four counts carry a combined penalty of 60 years in prison.

Authorities said Henderson, who worked nights as a taxi driver, gave his children cherry-flavored cough syrup after they complained of being sick the morning of Aug. 8.

Robert, 5, and Rhapsody, 4, were found dead in their beds several hours later by their mother, who attended nursing school during the day.

The label for the medicine, Smart Choice Nighttime Cold Medicine, warns parents not to give it to children younger than 12. Coroner Michael Dobersen ruled the two children's deaths were caused by the combination of the four drugs contained in the medicine.

Police said Henderson initially denied giving the children the medicine but admitted three days after their deaths that he gave them a "dark red" liquid from a plastic container in the family's medicine basket.

His wife, Fay Henderson, told authorities he cared deeply for their children and was never abusive.

"He loved them very much and he always had an interest in what was going on with them," she told police, according to an arrest affidavit.

Prosecutors declined to address specifics about the case. It was unclear from the arrest affidavit whether police believed Henderson wanted the children to die.

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Determined bride draws line at writing groom's thank-yous

DEAR ABBY: Thank you for your response to my "Angry Aunt in Akron," who complained because I haven't written thank-you notes for the wedding gifts my husband and I received from his family. (I was prompt in acknowledging those we received from mine.) This was per the agreement we had made before the wedding.

When mine were finished, I nagged to no avail. A few months later, his parents confronted me. I explained our agreement to split the chore, but my mother-in-law thought otherwise. She continued to argue that my husband "always had trouble when it came to writing." Throughout school his parents corrected his mistakes and typed his papers before he turned them in. In other words, instead of teaching him, they "fixed" things for him — and she blamed me for not doing the same.

Abby, I married a man, not a child. Marriage is a union, a joint venture between two people. You said it beautifully when you advised my aunt that "times have changed." They have! A woman's place isn't where it used to be, and a wife isn't a replacement for a mother. — **THANKFUL BRIDE IN MICHIGAN**

DEAR THANKFUL BRIDE: I said times were CHANGING; I didn't say that the change was complete. While many people agreed with my reply, almost as many did not. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: I disagree with you. Marriage is a partnership. While the groom is ill-mannered and negligent, I think the bride is being childish. If I waited for my wife of 33 years to do what some might consider "her job," our household would be a sorry state — and I'm sure plenty of times she'd say the same about me. If more young people adopted our philosophy, perhaps there wouldn't be so many divorces. — **GARY IN GRANITE CITY, ILL.**

DEAR GARY: I agree that a successful marriage takes a lot of giving on both sides. What I disagree with is the stereotype that writing thank-you notes is automatically "woman's work."

DEAR ABBY: Your reply to "Angry Aunt" was correct. I'm 54. In recent years I have received many thank-you notes from the groom. I agree that with both husband and wife working, it's only fair that both write them. My son is being married in three months. I plan on showing him the letter from "Angry Aunt" and also my reply. — **HAPPY AUNT B. IN NEW ORLEANS**

DEAR HAPPY AUNT B.: You'll be doing him and his bride a favor.

DEAR ABBY: I had the same problem. After weeks of watching my husband, "Roy," procrastinate, I realized that while they were "his" guests, we were one unit. People who thought poorly of him would also think poorly of "us."

Roy and I bring different strengths and weaknesses to our marriage, and perhaps my strength could help him with his weakness — so I came up with a plan: Roy had expressed interest in visiting a new French cafe. I agreed to go, but only if we took blank thank-you cards that Roy would write while I caught up on other post-wedding work. We shared a delightful bottle of wine, and the thank-yous went out the next day.

That bride needs to be creative about getting her new husband to send the thank-yous out, because, like it or not, his procrastination makes them both look bad. — **CHICAGO NEWLYWED**

DEAR NEWLYWED: C'est magnifique! Thanks for sharing your solution.

DEAR ABBY: After a recent wedding I attended, the bride wrote the notes to the groom's family and friends, and the groom wrote to the bride's. This made me feel more welcomed by the groom and let me know he wanted to communicate with his new bride's side of the family. A great way to incorporate into one family, don't you think? — **AMANDA IN BLOOMINGTON, IND.**

DEAR AMANDA: I do. And excellent public relations.

**

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

**

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Accomplice in quads' mom's death sentenced to 15 years

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — A man who pleaded guilty to solicitation of capital murder in the murder-for-hire slaying of the Florida mother of quadruplets has been sentenced to 15 years in prison in San Antonio.

Sammy Gonzales, 32, confessed to recruiting a cousin, Joey Del Toro, to kill Sheila Bellush at her Sarasota, Fla., home in November 1997. He is serving a 19-year sentence in Florida after pleading guilty to a similar charge. He will be returned to Florida to serve both terms simultaneously.

The sentencing by state District Judge Sharon MacRae on Wednesday likely brings to a close the criminal proceedings relating to the bloody slaying that made national headlines, the San Antonio Express-News reported.

Del Toro is serving a life sentence for killing the woman on behalf of her millionaire ex-husband, Allen Blackthorne.

As part of his plea agreement with prosecutors, Gonzales testified against Blackthorne, who was convicted in July 2000 of murder conspiracy and committing interstate domestic violence. He is serving a life prison sentence for arranging the Nov. 7, 1997, slaying.

"Without him, we wouldn't have been able to get to Blackthorne," said Bexar County First Assistant District Attorney Michael Bernard, who helped prosecute the case.

Date Book

Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003

Today is the 58th day of 2003 and the 68th day of winter.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1950, the 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, which limited the tenure of president to two terms, was ratified by Congress.

On this day in 1972, President Richard Nixon and Chinese Premier Chou En-Lai ended a week-long gathering and released a joint communique (the Shanghai Communique) that advocated normalizing relations between the two Cold War nations.

On this day in 1991, Allied troops liberated Kuwait following a 100-hour war against Iraq.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (1807-1882), poet and writer; Joanne Woodward (1930-), actress, is 73; Elizabeth Taylor (1932), actress, is 71; Ralph Nader (1934-), consumer advocate, is 69; Howard Hesseman (1940-), actor, is 63; Michael Bolton (1954-), singer, is 49.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1959, Bob Cousy of the Boston Celtics set a single-game record of 28 assists in a game against the Minneapolis Lakers.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "It is bad enough that people are dying of AIDS, but no one should die of ignorance." — Elizabeth Taylor

TODAY'S MOON: Between last quarter (Feb. 23) and new moon (March 2).

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events

LOTTO TEXAS

TEXAS LOTTERY

RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

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

The ticket was worth an estimated $9 million.

The numbers drawn Wednesday night from a field of 54 were: 5-7-14-16-42-45.

Saturday night's drawing will be worth an estimated $12 million.

Pick 3
(Day) 4-4-4
(Night) 1-2-8
Cash Five
2-5-15-21-23

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

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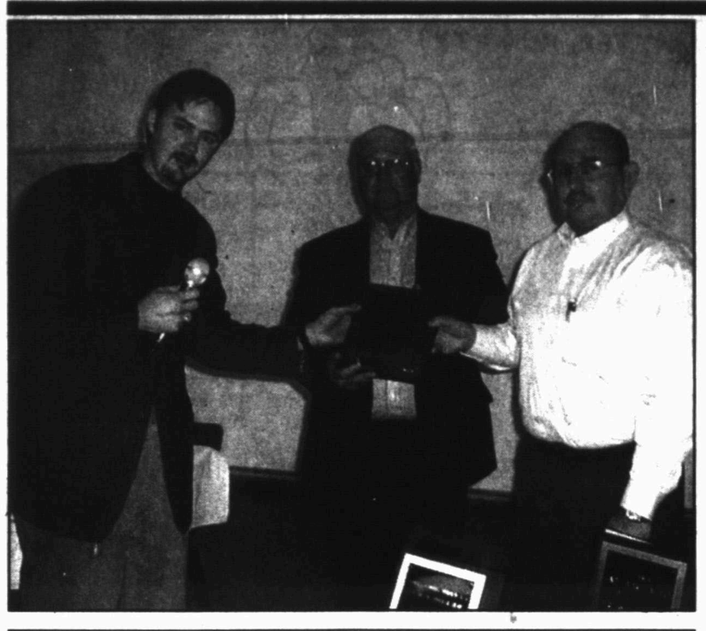
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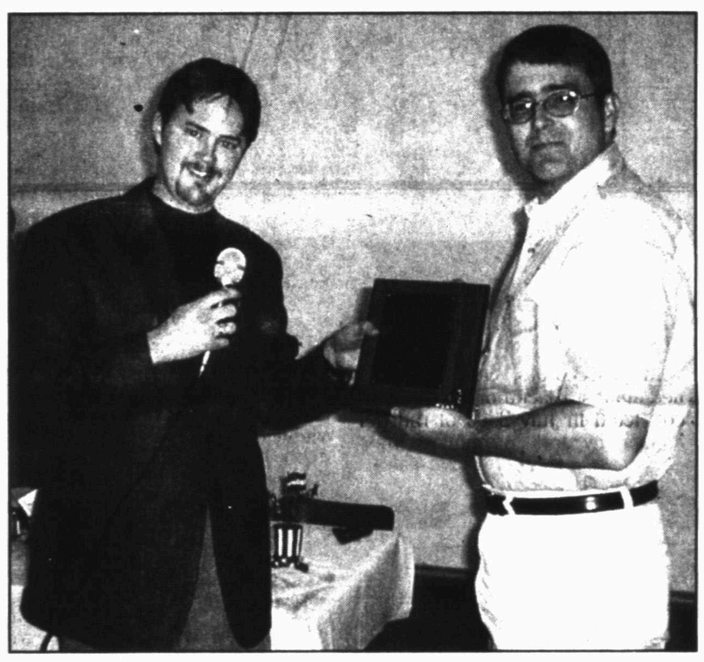
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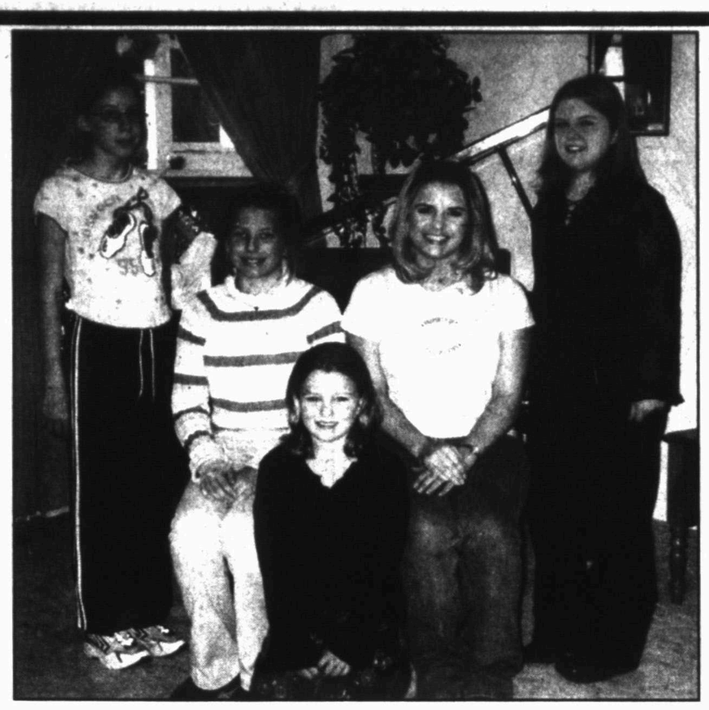
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JACK SMARTT AWARD — Recipients of the Scurry County United Fund Jack Smartt awards included Oncor, Western Texas College and Y-Z Industries. In the top photo UF president Stephen Covey presents the award to Oncor representatives L.W. Davis and Randy Ward, from left; middle photo, WTC employees Dr. Greg Williams, Dr. Ed Barkowsky; Jennifer Beard, Tammy Wesson and Carolyn Osborn; bottom photo, Y-Z Industries plant manager Dayton Robertson. The awards luncheon was held Monday at the Martha Ann Woman's Club. (Staff Photos by Jo Ann Nunley)



PIANO CONTEST — Students of Barbara Tune entered the Sonatina-Sonata Contest Feb. 15 at Texas Tech in Lubbock. Standing, from right, are third place winners Rachael Dupree, seated, Brittany Scott, and Gretchen Hollis. Others are standing, Kristen Miller, second, and in front is Audrey Miller, participant. All received superior ratings. (Contributed Photo)



BABY SHOWER HELD — Five-week-old Nate McQueen, not pictured, and his mom, Mrs. Marc McQueen, were honorees at a baby shower Saturday at Barbara Eicke's home. Other hostesses included Bobbie Combest, Bobbie Taylor, Irene Masters, Nancy Peterson, Martha Gist, Jo Ann Ham, Jane Ann Cotton, Aline Parks and Edna Anderson. From left are Bertha McQueen, Nate's great-grandmother; Leah McQueen, his mother from Midland; and Bettie McQueen, his grandmother. (Contributed Photo)

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



	North	02-27-03	
	♠ A 9		
	♥ Q 9 8 7		
	♦ 10 9		
	♣ A J 10 8 4		
West		**East**	
♠ Q 10 7 6 5 2		♠ J 8 3	
♥ 3 2		♥ K 10 6 5 4	
♦ A Q		♦ 7 3	
♣ K Q 2		♣ 9 6 5	
	South		
	♠ K 4		
	♥ A J		
	♦ K J 8 6 5 4 2		
	♣ 7 3		

Dealer: West
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
	1 ♠	Pass	Pass
2 ♦	2 ♠	3 ♣	3 ♠
4 ♦	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: ♠ 6

Thursday, Feb. 27, 2003

The old hat still fits perfectly

By Phillip Alder

David Lehman, a poet, editor and critic, wrote, "Jargon is the verbal sleight of hand that makes the old hat seem newly fashionable; it gives an air of novelty and specious profundity to ideas that, if stated directly, would seem superficial, stale, frivolous, or false. The line between serious and spurious scholarship is an easy one to blur, with jargon on your side."

Although many ruses at the bridge table have become vieux chapeau — old hat — they can usually be relied upon to deliver the goods. This deal is a good example. It occurred during the open-series match between Croatia and Ireland at the 2000 World Team Olympiad.

At first glance, four diamonds will make because the heart finesse is working. South will lose two diamonds and one club. But ...

West led a spade. The Irish declarer won with dummy's ace and ran the diamond 10. West, Pavo Marinkovic, won smoothly with the ace! A second spade went to declarer's king. Now South led a low club, West splitting his honors. In the dummy, declarer called for the diamond nine and confidently overtook with his jack. However, Marinkovic produced the queen from under his old hat, cashed the club king, and exited with a spade. South perforce ruffed in hand and ran his trumps, but East kept king and one heart, taking the last trick with his majesty: one down.

Note that if West wins trick two with the diamond queen, declarer will use his remaining dummy entry to take the heart finesse and make the contract.

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Births

Joseph and Elizabeth Hodge of Snyder announce the birth of Emilie Nicole Hodge. Their daughter was born, weighing five pounds, 13 ounces, at 12:55 p.m. on Feb. 26 in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Jim and Joann Bishop of Snyder are her grandparents.

—

Washington is also known as the Evergreen state.

Celebrity flashbacks...

That was the week that was

By The Associated Press

Entertainment highlights during the week of March 2-8:

In 1952, actor Ronald Reagan and actress Nancy Davis were married in San Fernando Valley, Calif.

In 1960, Elvis Presley was discharged from the Army.

In 1963, country singers Patsy Cline, Cowboy Copas and Hawkshaw Hawkins were killed when their small plane crashed near Camden, Tenn. They were returning to Nashville after a benefit concert.

In 1970, Diana Ross performed her first solo concert after leaving The Supremes.

In 1982, the Mamas and the Papas reformed and began a brief tour in New York.

In 1989, Madonna's Pepsi commercial premiered on TV. It was set to her new single "Like A Prayer." The ad was pulled a few days later because of its religious images.

In 1992, the last episode of "The Cosby Show" was taped in New York. New York Mayor David Dinkins and the group Boyz II Men were on hand.

In 1993, "Beavis and Butthead" premiered on MTV as a series. Previously, the characters were shown on MTV's "Liquid Television" program.

Also in 1993, singers Whitney Houston and Bobby Brown became parents of a baby girl, Bobbi Kristina Houston Brown.

In 1996, remaining Beatles Paul McCartney, George Harrison and Ringo Starr turned down a $225 million offer to tour North America, Europe and Japan.

In 2002, "The Osbournes" premiered on MTV.

—

When the first U.S. mint opened, individual citizens could take their gold and silver thre to have it made into coins, free of charge.

—

The state bird of Oklahoma is the scissor-tailed flycatcher.

Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

Warwick denies charges

NEW YORK (AP) — Dionne Warwick, who was arrested at an airport last year after authorities found marijuana in her bag, is blaming someone else for putting it there.

"Apparently, somebody that didn't want to get caught thought it would be better off in somebody else's bag," the pop singer recently told The Associated Press.

The 62-year-old was arrested in May and charged with a misdemeanor after baggage screeners at Miami International Airport said they found marijuana joints inside an empty lipstick container in her bag. Charges were dropped after Warwick agreed to a plea bargain deal, which included a drug treatment program.

Warwick says she's not a drug user.

Quilter's Retreat
5:00 p.m., Friday, February 28
thru Noon, Sunday, March 2
at the WAGON WHEEL RANCH
(Northwest of Snyder)
Instruction by Quilt Shop II of Lubbock
Bring your own sewing machine and materials
Overnight Accomodations Available
at the WAGON WHEEL RANCH
For more information
call Pam Browning
573-2348

LOWEST PRICES OF THE SEASON • FRIDAY THRU SUNDAY ONLY!
BEALLS
Spring Preview Sale
FIND STOREWIDE SAVINGS OF
30%•40%•50%
50% OFF
MEN'S SHEETING SHORTS
By Sun River®. Elastic-waist style. Waists 32-44; cotton. Reg. 20.00, SALE 9.99.
50% OFF
MISSES REBECCA MALONE® TOPS
Career crew tops in solid colors. Sizes S-XL; cotton/spandex. Reg. 20.00, SALE 10.00.
SALE 12.99
YOUNG MEN'S POLOS
By Ferruche®, Graphite®. Short-sleeved pique, jersey knit. Sizes M-XL; cotton. Reg. 20.00.
40% OFF
MISSES STRETCH CAPRIS
By Rebecca Malone®. Sizes 6-16; S-XL. Reg. 18.00-24.00, SALE 10.80-14.40.
40% OFF
KIDS BUSTER BROWN® PLAYWEAR
2 & 3-piece sets; toddlers, boys 4-7 and girls 4-6X. Reg. 20.00-24.00, SALE 12.00-14.40.
40% OFF
JUNIOR WOVEN TOPS
Solid and striped; by Halo®, Quizz® and Fang®. Reg. 20.00-28.00, SALE 12.00-16.80.
50% OFF
LADIES KEDS® CASUAL SHOES
"Kelly" canvas slip-on. Reg. 30.00, SALE 15.00.
"Keyes" canvas mule. Reg. 44.00, SALE 22.00.
60% OFF
+ EXTRA 10% OFF ALL FINE JEWELRY
Gold and sterling silver earrings, necklaces, rings, bracelets, charms and pendants.
V.I.P. OPEN A NEW ACCOUNT - GET 10% OFF ALL DAY PLUS 250 BONUS POINTS towards V.I.P. status! Exclusions may apply. Subject to credit approval.
Just a sample of the savings you will find. Interim markdowns may have been taken. Entire stocks only where indicated. Selection varies.

FEB 27 2003

ZITS ® by Scott & Borgman



THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



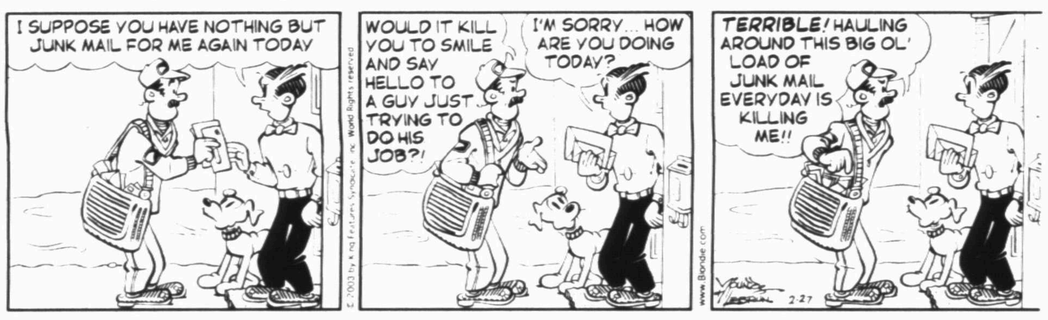
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



BARNEY GOOGLE & SNUFFY SMITH © by Fred Laswell



BLONDIE © by Dean Young & Denis Lebrun



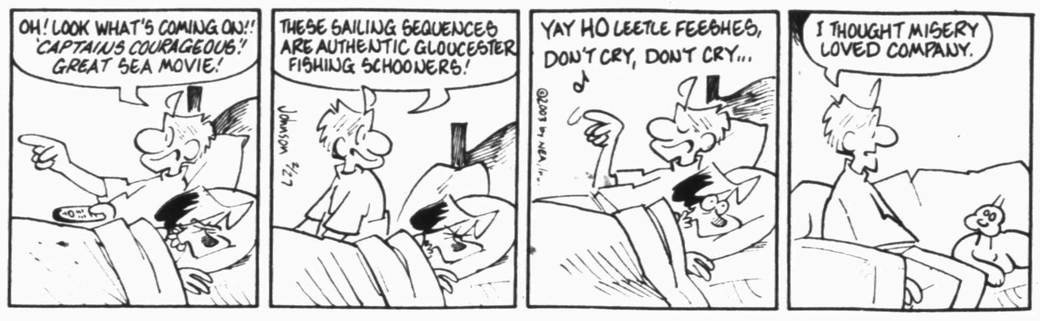
THE GRIZZWELLS ® by Bill Schorr



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves



ARLO & JANIS ® by Jimmy Johnson



BIG NATE ® by Lincoln Peirce



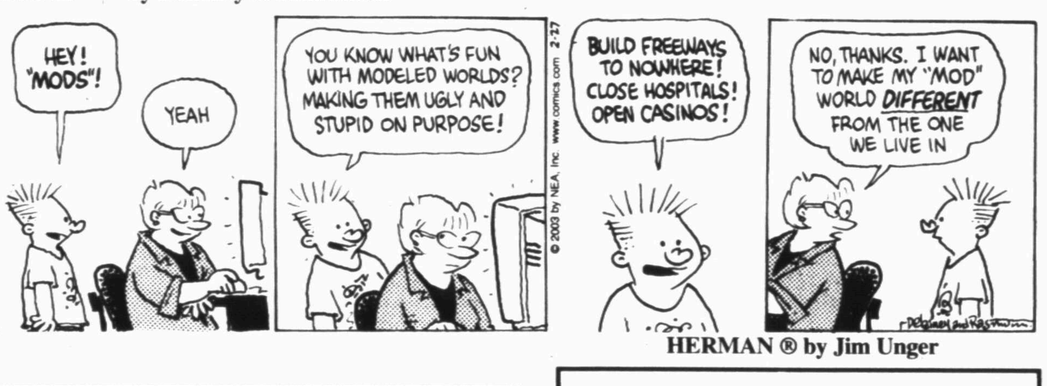
MONTY ® by Jim Meddick



ALLEY OOP ® by Dave Graue & Jack Bender



BETTY ™ by Delainey & Rasmussen



HERMAN ® by Jim Unger



NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Coffee order
6 Sports match
10 Moonshot mission
12 Sipped slowly
14 Intense enthusiams
15 Misprints
16 Outlying communities
18 St. Valentine's mo.
19 Hamlet
21 Pretentious
23 Familiar digit
24 Ore. neighbor
26 Hang five
29 Not just my
30 — -tac-toe
32 Zhivago's beloved
34 Play award
36 Mind-reader's letters
37 Telegraph signal
38 Shipbuilder's wood
40 Ad — committee
42 Elev.
43 Ripped
45 Fling
47 Toward the stern
50 Squanders
52 Breezes
54 Arched ceilings
58 Glob
59 Main drag
60 Shimmer
61 Like a cactus

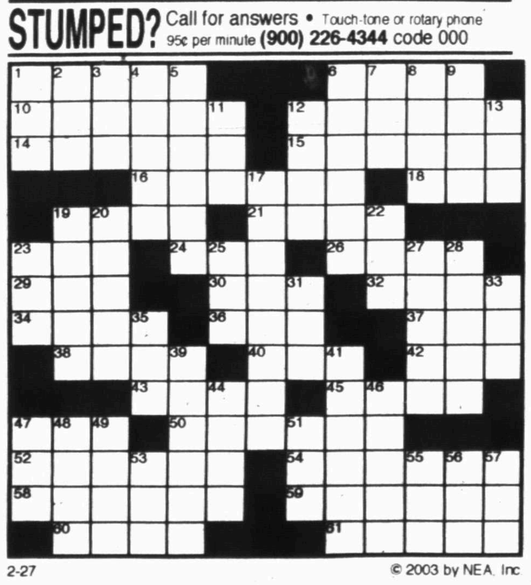
DOWN

1 TVA project
2 Emissions watchdog
3 Debate side
4 Foreign
5 Pale yellow
6 Explodes
7 Bobby —
of hockey
8 Flying grp.
9 Antoinette lost hers
11 Buckeye st.
campus
12 Kan. neighbor
13 Smidgen
17 Enthralls
19 Question
20 Condor's nest
22 "Westworld" name
23 Unduly
25 Dog days in Dijon
27 Air traffic gear
28 Ruffle
31 Navy noncom
33 LL.D. holder
35 Nibble
39 Bow down
41 Swindles
44 Say hoarsely
46 Commandeer
47 Do arithmetic
48 Lily pad sitter
49 Like redwoods
51 Appliance store display
53 "Alice" waitress
55 Luau memento
56 Decade number
57 Pigpen

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

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



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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham



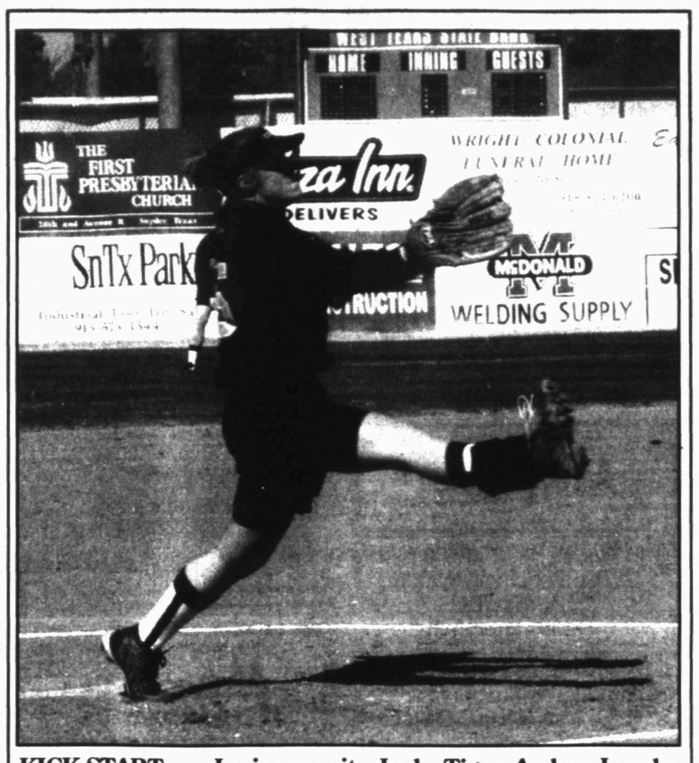
"ALL OF MY FAVORITE FOODS ARE FINGER FOOD."

"I reviewed your salary, as you requested. We're paying you too much."

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright



SPORTS



KICK START — Junior varsity Lady Tiger Amber Luecke delivers a pitch against Anson in the first inning today. The JV squad played the first game of the tourney today. (SDN Staff Photo)

Lady Tigers softball tourney underway

The Snyder Lady Tiger Invitational softball tournament got underway today, with the JV Lady Tigers kicking off the tournament at 11:15.

The JV played Anson on the west field, while Midland Greenwood and Coleman were scheduled to tangle on the east field at the same time.

The varsity squad was set to begin at 12:30 this afternoon against Grape Creek at the west field.

The team will then challenge Eula at 6:45 tonight, while the JV will square off with Coahoma at 8.

The JV will play Mineral Wells on the west field at 8:45 Friday morning.

Today and Friday will consist of pool play, with bracket play set for Friday afternoon and Saturday. There are four pools in the Snyder Invitational.

Pool play games have a one-hour dead stop time. In case of a tie, tiebreakers will be used in the following order: runners to third; runners to second; runners to first; fewest strikeouts by hitters; most walks by hitters, and a coin flip.

The first round of bracket play will begin at 3 Friday afternoon, with the last game set for 7:30 p.m.

Bracket play will resume at 9:30 Saturday morning, with the championship game scheduled for 8 p.m. Saturday.

WTC takes two from Odessa College

The Lady Dusters took a last minute trip to Odessa Wednesday, then took both games of a doubleheader against host Odessa College.

With temperatures in Snyder hovering around freezing most of the day, the teams decided to try and get the games underway at Odessa, which experienced milder conditions than Snyder this week.

The Dusters hit the ball hard all day, but could only muster three runs in the opening tilt, claiming a 3-2 victory.

Patricia Gonzales (6-1) pitched a complete game, striking out three and giving up two runs on six hits.

WTC (13-1) stranded 10 runners in the first game, and head coach Rodney McNeill said a combination of factors prevented his squad from winning big.

"We had 10 outs that were missiles," he said. "I told the girls that as long as they keep hitting the ball hard, it would find holes. We were a timely hit here or there from blowing it open."

Stephanie Wardlaw drilled a two-run double in the fourth inning, after Odessa had taken a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the third. She was two-for-two in the game.

Candace Dupree went two-for-three, and Brandy Jordan was three-for-four with a run scored.

Betsy Langdon had an RBI and scored a run. Gonzales and Crystal Martinez each collected a hit.

The Dusters jumped all over Odessa from the outset in the nightcap, plating six in the first inning to capture an 11-5 victory.

Gonzales cranked a three-run bomb in the six-run first to get the scoring started. She finished two-for-three with three RBI and two runs.

WTC rapped 13 hits in the nightcap, hitting .383 in the twin-bill.

Jordan pitched 41/3 to improve to 5-0 on the season, and Gonzales threw the final 2 2/3 to earn her first save of the year.

Jordan cruised through the first four innings — allowing just one hit, but struggled in the fifth, when Odessa scored all five of its runs.

"Brandy pitched well until the fifth," McNeill said. "We had three innings where we were on offense for a long time and it got chilly. We were on the verge of (10) run-ruling them until the fifth."

The fifth helped Odessa climb to within two runs, but Martinez launched a two-run homer for the club to put the game away in the top of the sixth. The home run was Martinez's sole hit in the second tilt.

Jordan was two-for-four with two runs scored and two driven in, while Katy Moore went two-four-four with an RBI and a run scored.

Tabitha Rodriguez scored twice, and had an RBI single.

The team will play a pair of doubleheaders at Big Spring Friday and Saturday against Howard College, then will have eight consecutive West Texas Junior College Association Conference games after that.

WTC will take on El Paso Community College next Wednesday and Thursday, then will head to Phoenix for the Maricopa College Tournament next Friday and Saturday.

Veteran's committee shuts out Hall of Fame nominees

NEW YORK (AP) — In the eyes of the Hall of Fame's remade Veterans Committee, no one was worthy.

With Hall of Famers themselves doing the voting, all 41 men on the ballot fell short of the necessary 75 percent vote total to gain enshrinement in Cooperstown, N.Y.

Gil Hodges, the former Brooklyn first baseman and New York Mets manager, came closest, getting 50 votes in totals released Wednesday, falling 11 shy.

Minnesota hitting star Tony Oliva was second among the 26 players on the ballot with 48 votes and Chicago Cubs third baseman Ron Santo was third with 46.

"It hurt me. It really hurt me," Santo said at his house in Scottsdale, Ariz. "I'm not going to kill myself, don't get me wrong. But all indications ... were giving me a feeling it was going to happen.

NL umpire Doug Harvey received 48 votes, the most among the 15 managers, umpires and executives on the "composite" ballot, where 60 votes were required for election.

Former Dodgers owner Walter O'Malley had 38 votes, and Marvin Miller, the union head who helped players gain free agency, had 35.

Miller admitted disappointment and also said he thinks there's little chance of gaining entry to the Hall in his lifetime. Under the new rules, the Vets won't vote for players again until 2005 and won't vote for the "composite" category until 2007.

The last time the old Veterans Committee failed to elect anyone was in 1993. That group, which met annually, had 15 members in most years and was criticized for cronyism. The Hall changed the system after Bill Mazeroski, a career .260 hitter with a great glove, was voted in two years ago.

The new panel included 85 eligible members: the 58 living Hall of Fame players, 25 writers and broadcasters in the Hall, and two members from the old committee whose terms had not expired. Eighty-one returned ballots for players and 79 for the "composite" category.

Hall chairman Jane Forbes Clark said she wanted to see the new system go through at least one more cycle before re-evaluating it.

"There really is no thought of changing the process," she said.

Sterling to play in All-Star game

Ira senior Celeigh Sterling, a first-team All-Region and first team All-District basketball selection, has been selected to play in the Six-Man Coaches Association All-Star game July 17.



Celeigh Sterling

Sterling was the leading scorer for the Lady Bulldogs, who improved considerably this season, finishing 18-11 overall and 6-4 in conference play.

Borden County knocked the team from postseason contention on the final game of the regular season.

Mizzou stuns OU; UT moves into second

By The Associated Press

Kansas is alone atop the Big 12 Conference, thanks to surprising Missouri's upset of Oklahoma Wednesday night.

The Sooners, ranked No. 3 in the nation, shared the lead with Kansas after beating the Jayhawks 77-70 last weekend. But playing on the road against a Missouri team that went 7-6 over its last 13 games, Oklahoma lost 67-52, falling to the Tigers for the first time since the 1997 Big 12 tournament.

Missouri's Rickey Paulding helped avoid a second-half letdown by getting eight of his 14 points in a 2:18 span as the Tigers stayed perfect on their home court.

"I think the games we've lost have helped us improve," Missouri coach Quin Snyder said.

Ricky Clemons, playing with a broken left hand, had 13 points and three assists for Missouri (17-7, 8-5 Big 12). The Tigers, who dropped out of the Top 25 last week, are 14-0 at the Hearnes Center and pulled away late to end a nine-game losing streak against the Sooners, who shot a season-low 27.3 percent.

Oklahoma (19-5, 10-3) fell to a second place tie with No. 5 Texas, which beat Baylor 82-64 Wednesday night. With three games to play, Oklahoma and Texas are one game back of No. 7 Kansas (21-6, 11-2), which breezed to an 85-45 victory over Texas A&M in Wednesday's other game.

Against Kansas on Sunday, the Sooners had built a 32-point lead, then hung on to hold off a furious Jayhawks' rally. But Wednesday, after mounting a 13-0 second-half run to take a 37-36 lead with 10:40 to go, the Sooners fell apart, losing for only the second time in their last 11 games.

Sports Briefs

Stewart tops list of NFL releases

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Pittsburgh Steelers cut Kordell Stewart, allowing the quarterback to become an unrestricted free agent and getting the Steelers under the 2003 salary cap, which kicks in this weekend.

Stewart had an up-and-down career in Pittsburgh after becoming its starter in 1997. After leading the Steelers to the AFC title game in 2001, he lost his job to Tommy Maddox early last season.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Stephen Davis, one of the NFL's top running backs for the last half-decade, was cut by the Washington Redskins in a long-expected move to help get the team under the salary cap.

The Redskins also released former starting safety Sam Shade and tight end Walter Rasby.

CLEVELAND (AP) — Dwayne Rudd, the linebacker who cost the Browns a win over Kansas City last season when he was penalized for throwing his helmet, was one of three veterans released by Cleveland.

Dallas forward suspended

NEW YORK (AP) — Dallas forward Eduardo Najera was suspended for one game by the NBA for bumping a referee during the Mavericks' loss to Orlando.

Najera was ejected for making contact with official David Jones.

Woods wins first round of Match Play

CARLSBAD, Calif. (AP) — Tiger Woods beat Carl Pettersson in the first round of the Match Play Championship.

Area Sports Calendar

TODAY

Softball: Snyder varsity in Snyder tournament.

FRIDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Frenship tourney.
WTC vs. Howard College, DH, noon.

Softball: Snyder varsity in Snyder tournament.
WTC at Howard College, DH, 1 p.m.

Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Austin.
Snyder varsity girls at Midland
Snyder JV boys at Andrews.

Tennis: Snyder varsity at regional meet, Levelland.

SATURDAY

Baseball: Snyder varsity at Frenship tourney.
WTC vs. Howard College, DH, noon.
Snyder JV vs. Wylie, DH, 1 p.m.

Softball: Snyder varsity in Snyder tournament.
WTC at Howard College, DH, 1 p.m.

Tennis: Snyder varsity at regional meet, Levelland.
Snyder jr. high at Big Spring tournament.

Golf: Snyder varsity boys at Austin
Snyder varsity girls at Midland.
Snyder JV boys at Andrews.

Track: Snyder varsity at Abilene Wylie.

National Basketball Association

EASTERN CONFERENCE				
Atlantic Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
New Jersey	38	21	.644	—
Philadelphia	32	24	.571	4½
Boston	32	25	.561	5
Orlando	29	29	.500	8½
Washington	27	29	.482	9½
New York	24	33	.421	13
Miami	19	38	.333	18
Central Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Detroit	37	20	.649	—
Indiana	37	21	.638	½
New Orleans	32	27	.542	6
Milwaukee	28	29	.491	9
Atlanta	21	37	.362	16½
Chicago	21	38	.356	17
Toronto	17	37	.315	18½
Cleveland	11	46	.193	26
WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Dallas	44	13	.772	—
San Antonio	39	17	.696	4½
Minnesota	38	21	.644	7
Utah	33	24	.579	11
Houston	30	27	.526	14
Memphis	17	39	.304	26½
Denver	12	46	.207	32½
Pacific Division	**W**	**L**	**Pct**	**GB**
Sacramento	40	18	.690	—
Portland	37	20	.649	2½
L.A. Lakers	31	25	.554	8
Phoenix	31	27	.534	9
Golden State	28	30	.483	12
Seattle	25	31	.446	14
L.A. Clippers	19	37	.339	20

Wednesday's Games

Boston 71, Indiana 69
Philadelphia 111, Memphis 107
New Jersey 105, New York 76
Phoenix 118, Milwaukee 112
New Orleans 91, Miami 82
Chicago 103, Toronto 95
Minnesota 92, Utah 85
Portland 94, Denver 84
Seattle 93, Atlanta 76
Golden State 108, L.A. Clippers 94

Thursday's Games

Houston at Washington, 7 p.m.
Sacramento at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.
Detroit at L.A. Lakers, 10 p.m.

Friday's Games

Utah at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.
Milwaukee at Indiana, 7 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Miami at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Toronto at Boston, 8 p.m.
Cleveland at Minnesota, 8 p.m.
Atlanta at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.
New Orleans at Denver, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Seattle, 10 p.m.
L.A. Clippers at Portland, 10:30 p.m.

Little League Baseball
SIGN-UPS
Wednesday, Feb 26,
Thursday, Feb. 27, Friday, Feb 28
4:30 to 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, March 1 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
at Snyder Boys and Girls Club
Cost: $40 Bring: Birth Certificate
~~~Also~~~
Boys and Girls
T-Ball & Coach Pitch Sign-ups
Ages: 4-7 years old Cost: $40
For more information, call Boys and Girls Club
573-3344

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Two-Step Stool
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Lawmaker-soldiers in Texas may soon be forced to choose between duties

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — The 78th Texas Legislature is just nearing the halfway point, but some of its members may soon have to choose between their legislative and their military duties as the United States nears the brink of war with Iraq.

Rep. Frank Corte is a Republican who represents San Antonio in the Texas House. He chairs the House Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations Committee. He's also a lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps Reserve.

"I'd hate to have a situation where I'd have to pick between the two," Corte told the San Antonio Express-News for a story in today's editions. "I'll have to cross that bridge when I get there."

Corte is one of three state House members identified as subject to active duty. The others are Reps. Carl Isett, R-Lubbock, a lieutenant commander in the Naval Reserve, and Rick Noriega, D-Houston, a major in the Texas Army National Guard.

State law doesn't require resignation if the lawmaker is called to active military duty, according to legislative researchers.

No senators are subject to military recall, according to the secretary of the Senate. At least one appointed state official is, however — Public Utility Commission Chairwoman Rebecca Klein, a San Antonio native and a major in the Air Force Reserve.

All are aware they might be called away from their state duties, although that likelihood varies based on their military assignments.

Klein says her chances of being called up at "50-50." She said she does not expect to resign if activated, although her military assignment would then become her full-time job. Nevertheless, if recalled, she said she plans to consult with Gov. Rick Perry, who appointed her to the three-member PUC.

One factor would be how long she would be gone, she said.

"The commission is such that it has at various times in its history run with two commissioners," Klein said.

The law has no special mechanism to ensure representation if lawmakers are absent on military leave, said Steve Collins of the Texas Legislative Council. Texas Supreme Court cases and attorney general opinions from the early 1940s suggest a lawmaker could get simultaneous legislative and military pay, according to a council memorandum.

The memo, which explores the history of lawmakers' military service, notes that 18 legislators were affected by military duty in World War II.

The House, in a 1943 resolution, answered by saying the Legislature appreciated the sacrifices of its members in the armed forces and promised to "make every effort to pass their bills and measures, in so far as they merit the consideration of the Legislature."

Isett, who also is running for Congress, said the time needed to process paperwork makes it unlikely that he will be called or that he would miss part of the legislative session if that happens. The session ends June 2.

Perry, however, could call lawmakers into special sessions.

"You'd take a leave of absence, I guess," Isett said. "I don't know that I would consider resigning. If I get called up during the interim (between sessions), I wouldn't consider resigning."

Noriega also said he would not resign. "I took an oath in both venues," he said. "In either regard, we're called to duty either as citizen-legislators or citizen-soldiers."

Members of the military reserve can request an exemption if called, but Corte suggested it would be difficult to turn down a military assignment.

"I don't think I joined up to say, 'Well, I don't want to go today,'" he said.

Mayor knew about DNA lab problem

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Mayor Lee Brown said he was aware of the leaking roof at the city's police DNA lab, but he wasn't convinced that the problem compromised biological evidence as some lab workers had warned.

Brown said Wednesday that he has known about the roof for months. Now, he acknowledges that it is "a grave problem."

"But the DNA and the roof are two different issues. When it was brought to my attention that the roof was leaking, instructions were given to fix it expeditiously," he told the Houston Chronicle for a story in today's editions.

A day earlier, a spokesman for the Houston Police Department said Chief C.O. Bradford knew about the leaking roof for more than five years.

Lab workers have complained about the hazardous conditions, but their concerns were ignored until an independent audit in December revealed numerous problems with the roof and possible evidence contamination.

Brown was told about the problem by Houston City Council member Carol Alvarado, who visited the facility in June after receiving complaints from lab workers.

"When they (lab employees) said they had a leaking roof, I did not think it was a serious problem until I went over there and saw how bad the leak is," she said. "There were holes in the ceiling right over or near evidence, also in the analysis area."

Alvarado said she immediately told Brown about what she saw because she found the conditions "absurd."

Brown's assessment of the situation Wednesday was different.

"It could very well be that you have a leaking roof and that it does not affect anything," he said.

A former police department DNA analyst Jennifer LaCross resigned in May because of the problem.

"I feel that our laboratory is housed in a building that is more suited for condemnation rather than a place where sensitive scientific procedures are carried out," LaCross wrote in her May 28, 2002, letter of resignation.

"(The) leaking of water has forced the employees on the 26th floor (of HPD headquarters) to work in hazardous conditions. These hazardous conditions include uncontainable puddles of water, water leaking on to electrical wiring and lighting, and water leaking onto biological materials such as blood-soaked items. This water containment problem has at times, in my opinion, compromised the integrity of biological evidence stored in our facility."

She also characterized the lab as "severely understaffed and underfunded."

A team of forensic scientists who audited the lab in December found similar shortcomings.

"The roof leakage problem can cause contamination and/or deleterious change to the evidence and needs immediate attention," the audit said. The scientist said water can also cause cross-contamination of samples or the loss of DNA, which degrades quickly when wet.

Last month, the police department suspended work at the lab and joined the district attorney's office in ordering the review and retesting of some cases prosecuted with evidence processed at the lab.

Today's chuckle

Man takes baby, car seat along for robbery

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. (AP) — A man allegedly robbed a convenience store while toting along his 9-month-old son in a car seat.



Jarrod Devinney ran to a nearby hotel with the baby and about $120 allegedly stolen in the robbery, according to a complaint filed in court.

Without the baby, "it probably would have been a little easier for him to get away," said robbery detective John Thies, who handled Monday's incident. "He's running with that child. He kind of sticks out."

The clerk — who identified Devinney, 22, after his arrest — said a man with a baby came inside the store, bought a candy bar and left. He then returned and asked if he could stand inside because it was too cold outside for the baby, the complaint said.

After customers thinned out, the man stuck his hand inside his jacket and allegedly demanded cash. When the clerk refused, he "told her that if she didn't give him the money, he was going to shoot her," the complaint said.

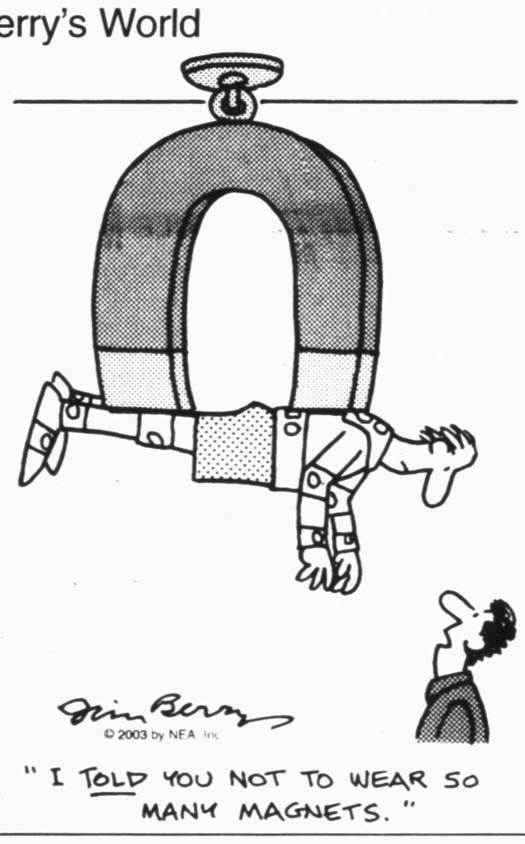
The clerk gave him all the $20 bills and was trying to give him more cash when he told her he had enough. The complaint said he then ran off with the baby, falling once in the process.

Officers who checked nearby hotels found only one tenant with a baby.

"The baby was sleeping when I got there," Thies said, adding that the mother "was a little bit upset at the whole incident."

Devinney was charged with robbery, child abuse and tampering with evidence.

Berry's World



Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Looking one's age is OK

DEAR DR. GOTT: With respect to your column about accepting aging and not using plastic surgery to look young, I take issue. You must not be aware of reality. If we look old, we women are discriminated in the work force. We won't be hired for a position, even if we are qualified, if we are in competition with someone who is young and pretty. On the other hand, as men age, they are said to look "distinguished."

DEAR READER: You quite properly remind me that the work force, despite having come a long way in the past 20 years, is still sexist and elitist. I view this as abhorrent, but people are people, and life isn't always fair.

The purpose of the column (on accepting aging as inevitable) was to point out that creams, pills, lotions, Botox, hair coloring, plastic surgery and other cover-ups do nothing more than that — cover up. Don't you think that prospective employers will see through these techniques? The boss sits there — with a paunch and gray hair combed over the top of his bald head — looking at your application. He notes your birth date and then glances up, with surprise, to view a wrinkle-free woman in a mini skirt, with mahogany hair. Ouch! Wouldn't you come across better in a more natural mode? A confident, qualified, smartly dressed, engaging, gray-haired, no-nonsense, articulate and experienced woman could skate circles around a younger candidate.

I cannot believe that age, if handled gracefully, is a negative factor in the workplace. Yes, there are exceptions I am certain. But, I sure as heck wouldn't want to take a job where my employer was primarily obsessed with youth. Wisdom and experience count. In my opinion, the process of aging should be acknowledged and dealt with, not covered up by phony means that are all too evident to the observer.

P.S. Aging men do not always appear as distinguished as they think they are. This is a power issue. Who's going to tell the boss he looks like a twerp with dyed red hair, a size 18 neck, a heavy gold necklace, tinted glasses and a beer belly? Am I having fun? You bet!

DEAR DR. GOTT: In reading your recent column on aging gracefully, I was struck by your photo. Not a gray hair or wrinkle to be seen. Are you wearing a toupee? Put your money where your mouth is and publish a current picture. I can't believe you are 67.

DEAR READER: Neither can I.

The photo you referred to was taken last week. I've aged a lot in the interim.

Seriously, I don't know which photograph your newspaper carries. I do know, however, that I have submitted a relatively recent one that, in black and white, doesn't do justice to my full head of hair, my catlike movements and the golden lights that dance in my eyes. I guess it's in the genes. Or, more probably, in the lack of detail in the picture.

To answer your specific question: I don't wear a toupee.

Have you heard of the literary gentleman called Dorian Gray? His portrait aged, while he remained young and youthful in appearance. This, unfortunately, is not I.

DEAR DR. GOTT: Right after reading your column ("There's no avoiding getting old"), I taped it to my bathroom mirror, took off my glasses and said: Old gal, you ain't so bad after all!"

DEAR READER: God bless you.

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	2.77	2.50	2.59	+ .01
AOL TimeWrn	10.60	10.25	10.55	+ .28
AT&T Corp rs	18.87	18.55	18.67	+ .04
Albertsons	19.07	18.81	18.98	+ .07
Alltel	43.30	42.65	43.30	+ .38
AmEl Pw	21.55	19.80	21.35	+ 1.02
AndarkPtr	46.17	45.49	45.85	+ .02
ATMOS Egy	21.85	21.62	21.80	+ .13
Aviall	6.98	6.85	6.95	
BP PLC	38.65	38.17	38.48	— .31
BakerHughes	31.90	30.95	31.59	+ .13
Bank of Amer	69.45	68.30	69.38	+ 1.05
BellSouth	22.20	21.49	22.01	+ .63
BurlNoSFe	25.06	24.54	24.93	+ .13
Caterpillar	46.43	45.51	46.40	+ .65
CenterPoint	4.80	4.62	4.67	+ .02
ChevronTex	64.74	64.10	64.56	+ .48
Citigroup	33.05	32.20	33.01	+ .75
CocaCola	40.45	39.71	40.39	+ .67
ColgatePal	51.14	50.57	51.08	+ .27
CmclMetals s	14.00	13.86	14.00	+ .17
ConocoPhill	50.98	50.66	50.85	+ .57
Cooper Inds	37.88	37.26	37.88	+ .58
DaimlrChry	30.20	29.40	30.12	+ .78
DeltaAirl	8.80	8.17	8.53	+ .03
Dillards Inc	13.98	13.63	13.98	+ .35
DowChem	27.06	26.60	26.90	+ .09
DuPont	37.00	36.33	37.00	+ .12
EastmanChem	32.38	32.00	32.38	+ .28
EstKodak	29.50	29.10	29.29	+ .05
EDS Corp	15.92	15.54	15.75	+ .08
Entergy	45.62	45.34	45.50	+ .27
ExxonMobil	34.18	33.85	34.16	+ .32
FootLocker	10.44	10.31	10.43	+ .05
GenDynam	60.50	59.08	59.65	— .70
GenElec	23.87	23.33	23.87	+ .50
GenMills	43.77	43.17	43.69	+ .09
GenMotors	33.85	33.26	33.80	+ .42
GaPacific	15.04	14.62	14.85	+ .15
Goodrich	15.54	15.24	15.47	+ .17
Goodyear	4.13	4.01	4.06	+ .07
GtAtlPac	5.03	4.66	4.80	— .07
Halliburtn	20.50	20.00	20.38	+ .08
Hanson ADS	22.89	22.72	22.84	— .11
HarteHanks s	18.30	18.05	18.30	+ .29
HomeDepot	23.20	22.60	22.98	+ .10
Honeywellintl	23.33	22.77	23.26	+ .32
IBM	78.49	77.21	78.27	+ .87
IntlPaper	35.50	35.00	35.43	+ .49
JohnsonJn	52.88	51.80	52.77	+ .95
KinderMorg	46.45	46.19	46.37	+ .31
Kroger Co	13.59	13.33	13.57	+ .12
LockheedM	46.12	45.10	46.04	+ .26
Lowes Cos	39.50	38.40	38.90	— .10
Lubys	1.54	1.45	1.50	+ .06
LucentTech	1.65	1.54	1.61	+ .10
MarathonOil	23.00	22.68	22.95	+ .29
MayDeptStr	19.38	19.09	19.33	+ .21
Medtronic	44.90	44.51	44.80	+ .18
Motorola	8.28	8.15	8.21	+ .05
NCR Corp	19.40	19.01	19.36	+ .11
Navistar	24.28	23.75	24.28	+ .65
PNM Rescs	20.58	20.33	20.53	+ .30
Penney JC	20.30	19.60	19.98	— .17
PepBoys	8.97	8.84	8.95	+ .16
PepsiCo	38.44	37.90	38.33	+ .09
Pharmacia	40.89	40.31	40.79	+ .95
PhelpDodge	36.12	35.50	36.12	+ .67
PilgrmPrd B	7.80	7.70	7.80	+ .10
Praxair	52.26	51.42	52.12	+ .75
ProctGamb	82.82	82.10	82.63	+ .08
RadioShack	19.67	19.25	19.44	+ .02
RoyalDut	39.25	38.60	39.03	+ .02
SBC Comm	21.19	20.66	21.11	+ .45
SaraLee	19.86	19.50	19.86	+ .35
Scripps EW	80.34	79.36	80.18	+ .36
SearsRoeb	21.42	20.95	21.24	+ .14
SherwinW	26.75	26.20	26.67	+ .30
SouthernCo	28.50	28.17	28.32	+ .14
SwstAirl	12.42	12.04	12.33	
SprintFON	13.06	12.86	12.99	+ .09
SprintPCS	4.07	3.87	3.99	+ .14
Sunoco Inc	35.48	35.21	35.33	+ .05
TXU Corp	15.91	15.51	15.84	+ .27
TempleInland	42.47	41.70	42.34	+ .41
TexInd	19.76	19.60	19.71	+ .06
TexasInst	16.24	15.75	16.20	+ .45
Textron	36.09	35.70	36.08	+ .47
TrinityInds	16.18	16.09	16.15	+ .06
TylerTech	4.00	3.80	3.90	+ .04
UnionPacif	55.64	54.70	55.46	+ .21
USSteel	11.81	11.51	11.78	+ .15
UnitedTech	58.84	57.80	58.70	+ .76
Unocal	26.81	26.54	26.73	+ .24
VerizonComm	35.65	34.80	35.45	+ .47
WalMart	48.32	47.75	48.22	+ .39
WellsFargo	46.10	45.01	45.88	+ .80
WstnGasRs	33.71	33.26	33.56	+ .10
WinnDixie	12.19	11.95	12.19	+ .27
Xerox Cp	8.74	8.55	8.66	
YumBrands s	23.28	22.76	23.26	+ .65

AUCTION

Large Antique Estates Auction Sat. March 1st - 11a.m. sharp
Dawson Co. Community Bldg. 910 S. Houston Ave. Lamesa, TX
Viewing 1 Hour Before Sale
This will be a Fantastic Auction of Fine Antique Furniture, Collectibles & other items to be sold 1 day only at the Community Bldg.
Antique Victorian 3pc. M-T Bedroom Suite, Antique "Polyphon" Metal Disc Music Box, Antique Victorian Eterge, Antique Oak Curved Glass China Cabinet, Antique 9pc. Dining room Suite. Guns! Very Rare Authentic 1873 "Winchester" Hex Barrel Rifle, Antique "Colt" single action pistol. Antique German Grandfather clock, Cut glass boudoir lamp, Wave Crest, Hummel, Antique toys, "Dazey" butter churn, Antique coins, Authentic Indian made jewelry & artifacts, Bronze statues, Cut crystal & much more! We cannot stress enough the quality of items being offered this day! So plan now to attend. Take advantage - No Buyers Premium!
Auctioneer - Michael Miears TX Lic. #12703
For Reserved Seating Call 405-381-3732

FEB 27 2003

Scurry County Country

Scurrying Around Snyder

Beth Dannheim, CEA—Family and Consumer Sciences, 2605 Avenue M, Snyder, Texas 79549

STORING KITCHEN CUPBOARD FOODS
PART II

The following storage tips are based on food stored at a room temperature of about 70 F. The times are those generally cited for maintaining best food quality. A range of times and the more conservative recommendations are given to allow for age of the product when purchased, how long it has been open, etc. READ LABELS CAREFULLY — they often contain important storage information and recommended "use by" dates.

Shortening

3 to 8 months opened; 8 to 12 months unopened

Storage Tip #1: Store in a tightly closed container in a cool, dark place.

Storage Tip #2: Times reported by shortening companies and other sources vary. For more specifics, see "Kitchen Cupboard Management 101" at the end of this article for suggestions on how to contact the company for more information.

Storage Tip #3: Shortening that has been stored too long will go rancid and develop an undesirable taste and odor. If you haven't used a shortening for a while, smell it before using it in recipe.

Spices and Herbs

1 year for herbs or ground spices

2 years for whole spices

Storage Tip #1: Air, light, moisture and heat speed flavor and color loss of herbs and spices. Store in a tightly covered container in a dark place away from sunlight, such as inside a cupboard or drawer. For open spice rack storage, choose a site away from light, heat and moisture. Keep moisture out of containers by:

* Avoiding storage above or near the stove, dishwasher, microwave, refrigerator, sink or heating vent.

* Always using a dry spoon to remove spices of herbs.

* Never sprinkling directly from the container into a steaming pot.

Storage Tip #2: Refrigerate paprika, chili powder and red pepper for best color retention, especially in summer or hotter climates. Be aware herbs and spices can get wet if condensation forms when a cold container from your refrigerator or freezer is left open in a humid kitchen.

Give Spices and Herbs the "Sniff" Test: Depending on storage and quality of the spice or herb, some may last longer than others.

As a check to see if a GROUND SPICE is potent, smell it. If its aroma is immediate, strong and spicy, it should still add flavor to your foods. For a WHOLE spice, such as a clove or cinnamon stick – break, crush or scrape the spice before you smell it. DO NOT smell PEPPER or CHILI POWDER as they can irritate your nose.

For HERBS, crush a small amount in your hand and smell it. If the aroma is still fresh and pleasant, it can still flavor foods. If there's no smell or an off smell, toss it.

Get in the habit of smelling your spices and herbs periodically. You'll learn what fresh smells like so you can begin to detect if they are getting old.

Sugar

Brown sugar

4 months to 6 months for maximum flavor

Storage Tip: It's VERY important to store brown sugar in an airtight container to retain its moisture and prevent it from becoming hard. Either store it in its original plastic bag, tightly closed, or transfer to an airtight container or a heavy moisture-proof plastic bag, such as a freezer bag.

To Soften Brown Sugar: Brown sugar becomes hard when the moisture in it has evaporated. Several methods have been suggested to help restore the moisture to brown sugar; here's an overview of those mentioned most frequently:

* **Oven method**: Heat the brown sugar in a 250 F oven for a few minutes. Watch it carefully and as soon as it is soft, measure the amount you need. When the sugar cools, it will become hard again. Warning: the sugar will be very hot.

* **Microwave Method**: Place brown sugar in a microwave-safe container and cover loosely with a clean, white, wet (but not dripping wet) paper towel. Microwave on high (100 percent power) and check about every 30 seconds. When the sugar cools, it will become hard again. Warning: the sugar will be very hot.

White Granulated Sugar

2 years

Storage Tip: Store sugar in an airtight container or a heavy moisture-proof plastic bag, such as a freezer bag. Properly stored sugar keeps indefinitely.

To Soften Hardened White Sugar: When white granulated sugar absorbs moisture, it becomes hard. Here are some possible suggestions for breaking up hard sugar:

* Put hard sugar in a sturdy food-quality bag and pound it with a hammer, meat pounder or flat side of a meat mallet.

* Smash smaller pieces with a mortar and pestle.

* Break up small pieces in a spice grinder.

Tips on Buying a Sugar Storage Container: If you'd like to buy an airtight storage container for your white granulated sugar, these figures may help determine what size you'll need:

* 1 pound of sugar equals about 2 ¼ cups; and 5 pounds of sugar equals about 11 ½ cups

If the container doesn't give the number of cups it will hold, these figures may help you:

* 8 fluid ounces equals 1 cup; 1 pint equals 2 cups; 1 quart equals 4 cups; and 1 gallon equals 16 cups

Before purchasing a container, assess where you will store the food to determine whether there are any space restrictions for your container. For example, is there a limit to the height of a container needed to fit onto a certain shelf.

Select a container that is easy to access when you need to measure out ingredients. Also, check to be sure the lid is easy to open and close tightly.

Vegetable Oil

1 to 6 months opened; 6 to 12 months unopened

Times vary according to type of oil, method of processing, etc. Some companies recommend up to 1 year opened and 2 years unopened for certain of their oils. For oils with a shorter storage time, some companies recommend refrigerating the oil after opening.

See "Kitchen Cupboard Management 101" at the end of this article for suggestions on how to contact the company for more information. NOTE: If the container has sat unopened for the total storage time, it no longer may be fresh the entire "opened" storage time.

Storage Tip #1: Store in a tightly closed container in a cool, dark place.

Storage Tip#2: Some of the oils that may have a shorter storage life include walnut, sesame, hazelnut and almond oils.

Storage Tip #3: Oil that has been stored too long will go rancid and develop an undesirable taste and odor. If you haven't used an oil for a while, smell it before using it in a recipe.

Storage Tip #4: You can prolong the life of oils by storing them in the refrigerator. Some, such as olive oil, may become cloudy in the refrigerator but usually clear after sitting at room temperature to warm up.

Vinegar

2 years unopened, 1 year opened

Storage Tip #1: Keep vinegar tightly covered. White vinegar will maintain unchanged longer than other types of vinegar, according to the Vinegar Institute

The storage life of vinegar is "almost indefinite" because of its acidic nature, according to the Vinegar Institute.

Storage Tip #2: The length of storage time recommended by different companies varies, plus may be different for various types of vinegar. For a more specific time range, write, call (many have a toll-free number) or check if this information is on the company's Web site.

Kitchen Cupboard Management 101

Now that you've sorted, tossed, moved and/or repackaged and perhaps revived some foods, here are a few tips to take control of storing foods in your cupboard:

1. If you tossed portions of expired foods, buy a smaller container next time.

2. Keep a permanent marker pen in your kitchen and put the date – month and YEAR – you purchased the food on the container.

3. When in doubt about storage times, call the company (many have toll-free numbers), write to the address on the label, or check if the company had a Web site that might answer your questions.

4. If you can't determine how old a food is and the container contains no "use by" date, check for a production code on container.

If it's not possible to decipher the production code, call or write the company or check if this information might be given on a company Web site.

5. Practice "first in, first out." or what food service professionals refer to as FIFO, for foods. If you have purchased several containers of the same type of food, arrange the containers so you reach for the oldest package first.

6. READ LABEL CAREFULLY for storage information and possible recommended "use by" dates.

Diversified

By Greg Gruben, County Extension Agent

Garden Checklist for March

* Prepare beds for planting warm-season flowers and vegetables. For every 100 square feet of bed area, work in a 2- to 3- inch layer of organic material such as compost, pine bark, or sphagnum peat moss. Add 4 to 5 pounds of balanced fertilizer per 100 square feet of bed area, and till or spade to a depth of 8 to 10 inches.

* Select and order caladium tubers as well as geranium and coleus plants for late April and early May planting. Do not plant caladiums until soil temperature reaches 70 degrees F.

* As camellia and azalea plants finish blooming, fertilize them with 3 pounds of azalia-camellia fertilizer per 100 square feet of bed area.

* Check mulch on azalea and camellia plantings, and add more where needed. Consider using pine needles, pine bark, or similar organic materials.

* Beware of closeout sales on bare-root trees and shrubs. The chance of survival is rather low on bare-root plants this late in the season. Best bets for now are container-grown or balled-and-burlapped plants.

* Remember that many trees and shrubs are damaged or killed each year by the careless application of weed killers, including those found in mixes of fertilizers and weed killers. Always read and follow label directions very carefully. Weeds in a lawn usually indicate a poor lawn-management program, and can usually be crowded out in a healthy turf.

* Start hanging baskets of petunias and other annuals for another dimension in landscape color.

* Freeze-damaged beds of Asiatic jasmine ground cover should be sheared back just as new growth starts, to encourage new growth from the base.

* For early color in the landscape, try some of the following annuals as transplants: ageratums, cockcombs, coreopsis, cosmos, cleomes, marigolds, nasturtiums, petunias, phlox, portulacas, salvias, sweet alyssums, sunflowers, and zinnias.

* Divide existing clumps of fall-blooming perennials, such as chrysanthemums, autumn asters, Mexican marigold-mint, physotegia (obedient plant) and Mexican Bush-Sage (Salvia leucantha).

COLORADO RIVER MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT

WEEKLY LAKE AND WATER DELIVERY REPORT

LAKE J. B. THOMAS (200,604 ACRE FEET AT ELEVATION 2258.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	2-24-02	2-17-03	2-24-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	16.57	16.94	16.92
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	16,913	17,609	17,571
PERCENT FULL	8.43	8.78	8.76
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.50
IVIE TO LAKE THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0
SPENCE TO THOMAS (Gal.)		0	0

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT BIG SPRING/ODESSA INTAKE.

E.V. SPENCE RESERVOIR (517,262 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1898.00 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	2-24-02	2-17-03	2-24-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	42.86	36.63	36.57
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	50,700	32,571	32,423
PERCENT FULL	9.80	6.30	6.27
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.00	0.90

*RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT SPENCE PUMP STATION.

O.H. IVIE RESERVOIR (554,340 ACRE-FEET AT ELEVATION 1551.50 FT.)

	ONE YEAR AGO	LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK
	2-24-02	2-17-03	2-24-03
ELEVATION (FEET)	31.40	27.17	27.22
CONTENTS (ACRE-FEET)	252,079	207,931	208,423
PERCENT FULL	45.47	37.51	37.60
RAINFALL (INCHES) *		0.40	1.55

* RAINFALL MEASUREMENT AT DAM.

INFORMATION BASED ON NEW AREA CAPACITY CURVE DATA

MUNICIPAL WATER DELIVERIES IN GALLONS

	LAST WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 2-17-03 2-11-03	THIS WEEKS DAILY AVERAGE 2-24-03 2-18-03	THIS WEEKS PEAK DAY 2-24-03 2-18-03
BIG SPRING	3,608,571	3,400,000	4,210,000
ODESSA	12,302,429	12,257,429	14,314,000
SNYDER	1,480,286	1,459,714	1,742,000
MIDLAND	15,017,714	16,901,000	19,232,000
SAN ANGELO	8,112,714	4,717,429	11,000,000
STANTON	95,429	94,143	103,000

Cattle raisers to give input on issues

FORT WORTH — Members of Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association will consider several issues that have serious implications for the beef industry when they gather for their annual convention March 23-26 in San Antonio.

Proposals are country-of-origin labeling, the future of the beef checkoff, Texas/bovine tuberculosis status, state budget challenges, livestock issues in the legislature and the bovine genome initiative.

"This is an ideal opportunity for every TSCRA member to weigh in on these important issues," emphasized TSCR President John Dudley. "During the convention, grassroots input will be formulated into resolutions to direct TSCRA's programs and policies.

Keynote speaker will be Dr. Robert Gates, president of Texas A&M University and former director of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. He will speak at the kickoff luncheon Monday.

An audience participation session is scheduled for the board of directors meeting Monday afternoon.

Mark Thomas, vice president of global marketing for the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, will lead an interactive program on "Building Consumer Demands for Beef, the Current and Future Direction of Youth Checkoff Funded Marketing Programs."

Audience members who choose, on a first-come basis, to sit in on one of 250 specially equipped seats will be able to respond by keypad to questions posed during the session. Results of their responses will be immediately totaled on an overhead screen.

Also invited to address the board of directors on issues affecting cattle raisers in Washington, D.C., are U.S. Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison, and U.S. Rep. Henry Bonilla.

Monday morning State Rep. Rick Hardcastle of Vernon, chair of the Texas House Agriculture and Livestock Committee, will address the joint meeting of the Legislative and Tax and Natural Resources and Environment Committee. Hardcastle will describe budget challenges and other livestock issues being considered during the current Texas legislative session.

Dr. Larry Butler, new Texas state conservationist with the Natural Resources Conservation Service, will explain, "Changes to the EQIP Program and other NRCS Programs Useful to TSCRA Members."

Richard Traylor, chairman of the Texas Animal Health Commission, will discuss bovine tuberculosis and other current issues related to animal health and the TAHC.

Mike Vickers, DVM, will discuss anthrax and issues concerning the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. Joe Pat Hemphill, DVM, and chairman of TSCRA's Animal Health Committee will report on Johne's Disease.

Dr. Charlie DeYoung with Texas A&M University at Kingsville will discuss "White Tail Deer Management."

Several meetings are scheduled with speakers including Barry Carpenter, Mark Dopp, Eric Davis, Matt Brockman and others.

TFB chief agrees with delay

WACO — The president of Texas' largest farm organization has praised Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst for requesting a delay on a water permit application that would tie up all of the remaining available water in the San Marcos and Guadalupe rivers.

Dewhurst asked the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to delay action on a water permit application by the San Marcos River Foundation to appropriate up to 1.3 million acre-feet of state water per year from the two rivers, solely to maintain fresh inflow into the Guadalupe Estuary.

"Texas agriculture's water future is under the commission's authority and it's necessary for the legislature to consider the commission's duties and power before a powerful precedent is set," said Texas Farm Bureau President Kenneth Dierschke, a cotton and grain farmer from San Angelo.

"We agree with Lt. Gov. Dewhurst that Texas water should be allocated for beneficial uses such as agriculture, public water supplies and industrial uses, while protecting the environment."

Markets

Lubbock

The Lubbock Stockyards, Inc. had a run of 676 head of cattle for the Thursday, Feb. 20, sale. Cows were $2 better. Calves and yearlings were $2 to $3 better. Trading and demand were good.

Slaughter cows
(High dressing — cutters — utilities: 38-45.50
Canner and low cutters: 32-38
Slaughter bulls: 47-55
Feeder steers — choice:
300-400: 100-120
400-500: 85-107
500-600: 83-92
600-700: 78-85
700-800: 75-81
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 92-105
400-500: 85-100
500-600: 77-84
600-700: 75-81
700-800: 65-75
Feeder Bulls — good and choice:
500-600: 75-85
700-800: 68-77
Cow and calf pairs:
Good: 650-800
Grade: 600-700
Springers: 400-700
Baby calves: 150-220
Doodlers: 200-275

Colorado City

The Colorado City Livestock Auction had a run of 448 head of cattle for the Wednesday, Feb. 19, sale. Market was active and demand good. Feeder and stocker heifers and steers were steady. Packer cows and bulls were steady to $1 higher. Bred cows and pairs were steady.

Feeder steers:
300-400: 96-109
400-500: 88.50-109
500-600: 79.50-90
600-750: 74.50-78.50
Feeder heifers:
300-400: 82-88
400-500: 75.75-80
500-600: 72-75
600-750: 71-75.50
Replacement cows:
Bred cows: 600-785
Pairs: 650-790
Packer cows: 37-43.50
Packer bulls: 46-54.25

Fleming head to retire

DALLAS (AP) — Embattled grocery distributor Fleming Cos. said Wednesday its head of wholesale operations is retiring and will be replaced by another company insider.

Fleming said E. Stephen Davis, 62, would retire after 43 years with the company. He will be replaced by William May, senior vice president of operations since last year and a former distribution executive at retailer The Gap.

The announcement came one day after Fleming's stock slid 38 percent on news that the company was under a formal investigation by the Securities and Exchange Commission, would cut 1,800 jobs and take a $290 million charge to ends its business with Kmart Corp., its biggest customer.

Fleming also said Randall D. Mott, chief information officer at Dell Computer Corp. and a former executive at Wal-Mart Stores Inc., had been elected to its board.

In trading Wednesday afternoon the New York Stock Exchange, Fleming shares rose 32 cents, or 17 percent, to $2.17 each.

Host of 'Mister Rogers' Neighborhood' dies at 74

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Fred Rogers, who gently invited millions of children to be his neighbor as host of the public television show "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" for more than 30 years, died of cancer early today. He was 74.


Fred Rogers

Rogers died at his Pittsburgh home, said family spokesman David Newell, who played Mr. McFeely on the show. Rogers had been diagnosed with stomach cancer sometime after the holidays, Newell said.

"He was so genuinely, genuinely kind, a wonderful person," Newell said. "His mission was to work with families and children for television. ... That was his passion, his mission, and he did it from day one."

From 1968 to 2000, Rogers, an ordained Presbyterian minister, produced the show at Pittsburgh public television station WQED. The final new episode, which was taped in December 2000, aired in August 2001, though PBS affiliates continued to air back episodes.

Rogers composed his own songs for the show and began each episode in a set made to look like a comfortable living room, singing "It's a beautiful day in the neighborhood," as he donned sneakers and a zip-up cardigan.

"I have really never considered myself a TV star," Rogers said in a 1995 interview. "I always thought I was a neighbor who just came in for a visit."

His message remained simple: telling his viewers to love themselves and others. On each show, he would take his audience on a magical trolley ride into the Neighborhood of Make-Believe, where his puppet creations would interact with each other and adults.

Rogers did much of the puppet work and voices himself.

Rogers taught children how to share, deal with anger and even why they shouldn't fear the bathtub by assuring them they'll never go down the drain.

During the Persian Gulf War, Rogers told youngsters that "all children shall be well taken care of in this neighborhood and beyond — in times of war and in times of peace," and he asked parents to promise their children they would always be safe.

"We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility," he said in 1994. "It's easy to say 'It's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem.'

"Then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes."

Rogers came out of broadcasting retirement last year to record four public service announcements for the Public Broadcasting Service telling parents how to help their children deal with the anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks.

"They don't understand what an anniversary is, and if they see the tragedy replayed on television, they might think it's happening at that moment," he said.

Rogers' show won four Emmy Awards, plus one for lifetime achievement. He was given a George Foster Peabody Award in 1993, "in recognition of 25 years of beautiful days in the neighborhood."

On the Net: http://pbskids.org/rogers

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol

Your Birthday

Friday, Feb. 28, 2003

Changes for the better are in the offing for you in the year ahead concerning both your career and your personal relationships. The pleasant atmosphere you'll create around you will draw good things to you.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — Your chances for achievement today will be substantially enhanced if you keep your intentions to yourself. This is especially true if you're pursuing anything important.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — No one will have to tell you not to put any limitations on your imagination today. You understand that things are only as good as you are and that you alone control your destiny.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Even the simplest things that life has to offer will prove to be pleasurable experiences today if you are able to share your time and energy with the people who mean the most to you.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Let your heart rule your head today in dealings with those who are important to you. It's one of those days where everyone will benefit when they lighten up a bit.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — You have the ability today to refurbish or transform that which has been dormant or unproductive and turn it into something of value. Let your creativity dominate.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Realizing that everyone needs to be told nice things about themselves, you'll make it a point today to bolster the hearts and egos of those with whom you spend your time.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — It comes naturally to you to want to be helpful to others, and, today, doing special little things for both your co-workers or those you love will fill your day with quiet satisfaction.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Today, don't be bashful when around those you sincerely admire. If there is someone special in your presence, speak from the heart when expressing your feelings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — A long-standing desire has better than average chances of being gratified at this time. The aspects are such that it could even happen today.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Use either the spoken or written word to express what is important to you. You have a knack at this time for phrasing things pleasantly, yet driving your points home in a masterly fashion.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — That big wheel of life is constantly turning, and today its arrow could point to you for the many kind things you've done for others. Someone is eager to reciprocate.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — You won't have to remember that wise old saying "If you want to command attention, whisper, don't shout," because it will come naturally to you today. Such dignity evokes dignified responses.

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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

National terror alert lowered to yellow

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Bush administration today lowered the national terror alert from orange to yellow, suggesting the threat of an imminent terrorist attack on U.S. soil has eased somewhat.

The conclusion of the Muslim hajj holiday period played a role in the decision to lower the threat level from orange, the second-highest level on the five-part scale, Attorney General John Ashcroft and Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said in a joint statement.

Counterterrorism officials had said a significant amount of intelligence pointed toward an attack during the early February holiday.

Nevertheless, officials warned that al-Qaida still has the capability to strike in the United States.

"The lowering of the threat level is not a signal to government, law enforcement or citizens that the danger of a terrorist attack is passed," Ashcroft and Ridge said. They said that lowering the alert status "is only an indication that some of the extra protective measures enacted by government and the private sector may be reduced at this time."

Other, unspecified intelligence suggested that an attack was somewhat less imminent, officials said.

A yellow, elevated alert is the third-highest alert on a five-step scale. It means the intelligence suggests a significant risk of terrorist attacks. The orange alert is a step higher and means there's a high risk of an attack. The highest alert level is red.

New federal safety agency to investigate fire at RI nightclub

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (AP) — A new federal agency formed to look into building safety announced today it was launching a formal probe into the nightclub fire that killed 97 people last week.

The National Construction Safety Team said it will look into the conditions at The Station nightclub before the fire, including the location of windows and doors, the number of patrons, and the type of construction materials.

The team — created last year to study building disasters the way the National Transportation Safety Board looks into air crashes — will also examine whether lives could have been saved if the club had had an automatic sprinkler system.

The team would likely use its findings to make recommendations to fire safety groups for improvements in building codes, said spokesman Michael Newman. Two officials from the team had already visited the burned ruins of the nightclub over the weekend.

Fire rapidly engulfed the West Warwick nightclub last Thursday night after the heavy metal band Great White set off a pyrotechnic display.

A separate probe into the tragedy was launched by a grand jury. Their work began behind closed doors at a National Guard training center in East Greenwich on Wednesday, the same day family members began burying their loved ones.

After sifting through the conflicting versions of what happened, the grand jury will decide whether anyone should be held responsible.

Most of the first grand jury session was devoted to preliminary talks between prosecutors and lawyers for the heavy metal band Great White, according to two sources close to the case who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Lt. Col. Mike McNamara, a spokesman for the National Guard, told The Associated Press today that no grand jury proceedings were being held at the center that day, but the panel was expected to return Friday.

Two members of Great White went to the center where the panel was meeting but did not testify Wednesday. A legal source told The Associated Press that the band members were not immediately prepared to testify, but may be ready as soon as Friday.

Prosecutors were expected to spend today in talks with lawyers for grand jury witnesses, another source familiar with the investigation said.

Separately, the National Fire Protection Association said it has called for an immediate meeting of its top building code writers to review safety issues for buildings where large groups of people assemble.

Engineers raised concerns about shuttle wing

WASHINGTON (AP) — Newly disclosed e-mails inside NASA showed senior engineers worried a day before the Columbia disaster that the shuttle's left wing might burn off and cause the deaths of the crew, a scenario remarkably similar to the one investigators believe actually occurred.

The dozens of pages of e-mails describe a broader, internal debate than previously acknowledged about the seriousness of potential damage to Columbia from a liftoff collision with foam debris from its central fuel tank. Engineers never sent their warnings to the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's brass.

Engineers in Texas and Virginia fretted about the shuttle's safety during its final three days in orbit. One speculated whether officials were "just relegated to crossing their fingers" and another questioned why such dire issues had been raised so late.

"Why are we talking about this on the day before landing and not the day after launch?" wrote William C. Anderson, an employee for the United Space Alliance LLC, a NASA contractor, less than 24 hours before the shuttle broke apart Feb. 1 while returning to Earth.

NASA said those messages — including the few that were hauntingly prescient — were part of a "what-if" exercise by engineers convinced the shuttle would land safely despite possible damage from foam that struck insulating tiles on the spacecraft's left wing at liftoff.

"It was a surprise to us when the 'what-if' scenario played out," said Robert Doremus, head of the mechanical systems group in Mission Control. "We were not expecting that."

Damage to vehicle reported

Criminal mischief

A man in the 5500 block of Mountainview Dr. reported damage to his vehicle at 2:20 p.m. Wednesday. Officers responded and advised an offense report for Class B criminal mischief would be submitted.

Criminal trespass

At 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, a 25-year-old man was issued a criminal trespass warning to stay away from the Snyder animal shelter.

Officers ordered a man to stay away from United supermarket at 8:15 p.m. Wednesday.

Close patrol

A woman reported people driving recklessly in the 3400 block of Ave. V Wednesday and requested a close patrol of the area.

At 11:45 p.m. Wednesday, a man in the 200 block of 24th Street reported someone knocking on his front door. Officers were dispatched, but no one was in the area and a close patrol was initiated.

Obituaries

Leslie Walberg

1916-2003

Leslie A. Walberg, a former Snyder resident, died Tuesday, Feb. 25, in Meadows Nursing Home in Alvarado.

Graveside service for Mr. Walberg, 86, is set for 1 p.m. Friday in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home. The Rev. Steven Pena, pastor of First Assembly of God, will officiate.

Born on Nov. 2, 1916 in Pine City, Minn., Mr. Walberg lived in Snyder for a number of years before moving to Alvarado. He was a retired bricklayer and had worked for Red Faver's Fina Station for several years.

Survivors include his wife, Lois Walberg of Alvarado; four stepdaughters, Nancy Adams of Everton, Ark., Dorothy Malson and Linda Belt of Alvarado and Glenda McCartney of Louisiana; a stepson, David Byrd of Newcastle, Wyo.; and a brother, Allen Walberg of Pine City.

Judy Pierce

1923-2003

Hellen "Judy" Pierce, former Snyder resident, died Monday, Feb. 24, in the El Dorado Hospital in Tucson, Ariz.

Graveside service for Mrs. Pierce, 79, will be held at 11:30 a.m. Saturday in Hillside Memorial Gardens under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home. The Rev. Charles Day, pastor of Ave. D Baptist Church, will officiate.

Born June 15, 1923 in Alba, Tex., Mrs. Pierce was a homemaker. She was married to George Pierce who died Dec. 25, 1994.

She was preceded in death by one daugher and one son. Survivors include two daughters and a son-in -law, Georgeanne Van Bibber and Betti and Jerry Weaver of Tucson; one brother, Lewis Wright of Snyder; one sister, Sylvia Spivey of Roby; four grandchildren; and eight great-grandchildren.

Family visitation will be 6-7 p.m. Friday at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Royce Eiland

1916-2003

CLAYTON, N.M. — Royce Cherry Eiland, a native of Scurry County, died Monday, Feb. 24.

Funeral service for Mr. Eiland, 86, is set for 2 p.m. Friday in the First Baptist Church with the Rev. Billy Rammage, pastor, officiating. Burial will follow in the Clayton Memorial Cemetery under the direction of Hass Funeral Directors.

Born Oct. 25, 1916 in Ira to Graydon and Ethel Cherry Eiland, he was a 1934 graduate of Snyder High School and a 1939 graduate of Hardin-Simmons University.

He married Fran Largent on May 18, 1940 and they lived in the Folsom, N.M., area from 1946 until 1977 when they moved to Clayton.

In addition to his parents, Mr. Eiland was preceded in death by a grandson, Zachery Eiland Lansford.

Survivors include his wife, Fran Eiland of Clayton; a daughter, Cherry Lynne Reif of Clayton; two sons, Don Eiland of Abilene and John Eiland of Wildorado; a brother-in-law, Bill Largent of Abilene; three cousins from Scurry County, Bill Eiland, J.R. Meadows and Joe Falls; five grandchildren; and 10 great-grandchildren.

Johnnie Toland

1922-2003

AMARILLO — Johnnie Imogene Toland, sister of Gladys Rigsby of Snyder, died Monday, Feb. 24, 2003.

Funeral service for Mrs. Toland, 80, will be at 10 a.m. Friday in Boxwell Brothers Funeral Directors Ivy Chapel. Burial will be at 2 p.m. in Quanah Cemetery in Quanah.

Born March 4, 1922 in Quanah, she married Robert Othell "Bob" Toland in 1945, in Quanah. He died on Dec. 24, 2002. Mr. and Mrs. Toland had lived in Amarillo since 1946. She retired in 1975 after working many years as a school secretary. An active member of the Women's Auxiliary of Disabled American Veterans, she was a longtime member of West Amarillo Christian Church.

Survivors include a son, Randy Toland and wife, Paula, of Amarillo; and three grandsons, Paul Toland, John Toland and Mark Toland, all of Amarillo.

The family suggests memorials be to Crown of Texas Hospice Foundation, 1000 S. Jefferson St., or a favorite charity.

Roy Boles

1915-2003

PLAINVIEW — Service for Roy Boles, a Fluvanna native, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Wood-Dunning Colonial Chapel. Burial will follow in the Plainview Memorial Park.

Mr. Boles, 87, died Tuesday, Feb. 25.

He was born on June 23, 1915 in Fluvanna and married Audrey Irene House on Dec. 28, 1936 in Mount Pleasant. She died Dec. 16, 2000.

Mr. Boles moved to Plainview from Lovington, N.M., in 1946 and was involved in residential construction. He worked for Wayland Baptist University from 1954 until retiring in 1981.

He graduated from Wayland Baptist in 1951 and served in the Navy Sea Bee's in World War II. An ordained minister, Mr. Boles was a member of College Heights Baptist Church.

Survivors include a daughter, Grace Patricia Carter of Fredericksburg; two sons, Claude Boles of Wichita Falls and W.R. Boles of Borger; six grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; and a great-great-grandchild.

The family suggests memorials to a favorite charity or to the Roy and Audrey Scholarship Fund at Wayland Baptist University.

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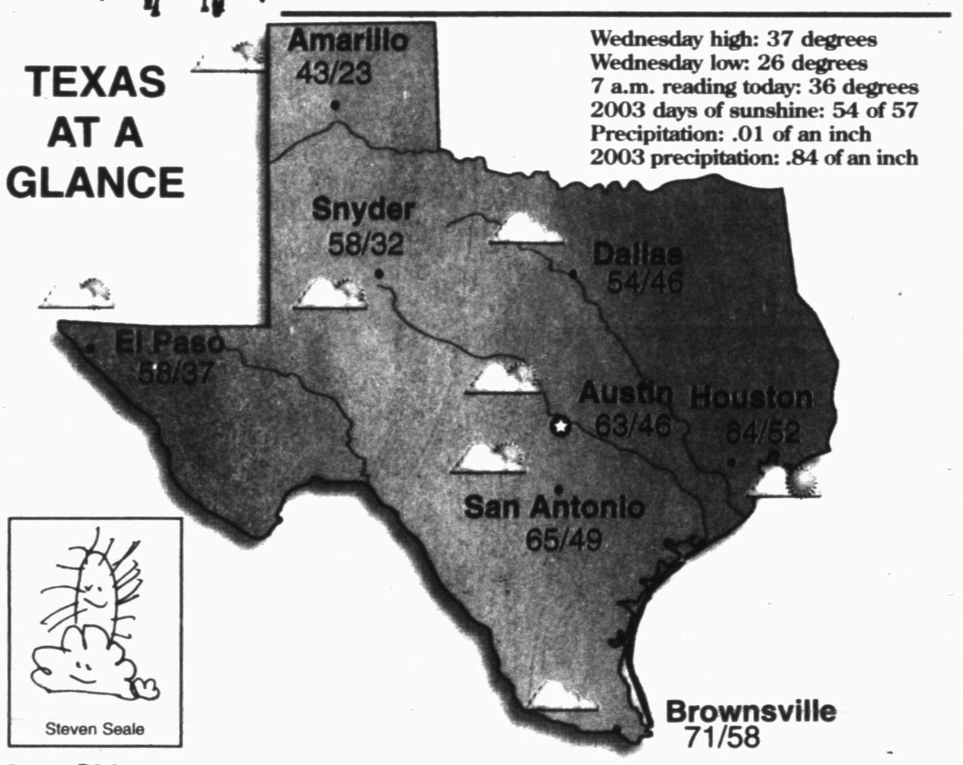
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 2/28	Sat 3/1	Sun 3/2
58/32	59/38	60/34
Partly cloudy. High 58F. Winds WSW at 10 to 20 mph.	Partial sunshine. Highs in the upper 50s and lows in the upper 30s.	Showers possible. Highs in the low 60s and lows in the mid 30s.
Sunrise 7:13 AM / Sunset 6:40 PM	Sunrise 7:12 AM / Sunset 6:41 PM	Sunrise 7:11 AM / Sunset 6:41 PM

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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Wednesday high: 37 degrees
Wednesday low: 26 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 36 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 54 of 57
Precipitation: .01 of an inch
2003 precipitation: .84 of an inch

Steven Seale

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	60	39	pt sunny	El Paso	58	37	pt sunny	Midland	63	38	mst sunny
Amarillo	43	23	pt sunny	Fort Stockton	66	41	mst sunny	Raymondville	72	53	cloudy
Austin	63	46	pt sunny	Gainesville	50	38	cloudy	Rosenberg	64	51	cloudy
Beaumont	63	50	cloudy	Greenville	51	40	cloudy	San Antonio	65	49	pt sunny
Brownsville	71	58	cloudy	Houston	64	52	cloudy	San Marcos	64	47	pt sunny
Brownwood	63	42	pt sunny	Kingsville	72	53	cloudy	Sulphur Springs	52	41	cloudy
Corpus Christi	66	54	cloudy	Livingston	63	46	cloudy	Sweetwater	61	36	pt sunny
Corsicana	55	45	cloudy	Longview	57	43	pt sunny	Tyler	57	47	cloudy
Dallas	54	46	cloudy	Lubbock	55	29	pt sunny	Weatherford	52	39	cloudy
Del Rio	71	50	pt sunny	Lufkin	62	49	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	47	35	cloudy

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Atlanta	57	36	pt sunny	Houston	64	52	cloudy	Phoenix	61	47	pt sunny
Boston	33	23	sn shower	Los Angeles	62	48	pt sunny	San Francisco	58	46	pt sunny
Chicago	35	22	cloudy	Miami	82	69	cloudy	Seattle	49	38	rain
Dallas	54	46	cloudy	Minneapolis	30	23	pt sunny	St. Louis	33	26	cloudy
Denver	34	18	sn shower	New York	34	26	sn shower	Washington, DC	35	31	snow

Moon Phases

Last	New	First	Full
Feb 23	Mar 3	Mar 11	Mar 18

UV Index

Fri 2/28	Sat 3/1	Sun 3/2
6	6	5
Moderate	Moderate	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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