INSIDE

WT-Int. Crude - $26.27
WTIC Posted - $23.00
Natural Gas - $3.570

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

TUESDAY

Home of Laurel Leucksharp

APR 23 2002



ARBOR DAY — Staci Bollinger's 5th grade class at Northeast Elementary Monday celebrated Arbor Day by planting a tree on the school's campus. Snyder Mayor Francene Noah read a proclamation and Texas Forest Service representative Matt Grubisich planted the tree with the help of Principal Lee Presswood and the students. (SDN Staff Photo)

DCOS issues statement on Lorber tax situation

Development Corporation of Snyder directors issued a statement Monday afternoon concerning abated taxes between Lorber Industries and Western Texas College, City of Snyder and Scurry County.

The board described Lorber as a good neighbor while in operation here, and that it had partnered with the city in obtaining over $2 million in grants to develop the industrial park and the workforce center at the college.

The board also expressed its hope that the entities that abated taxes would not try to pursue them at this time. The statement additionally said it is supportive of Snyder ISD's obligation to collect ad valorem taxes, but questioned the seizure of the Lorber facility without reasonable notification.

The school district issued a tax warrant on April 15 that allowed it to seize the Lorber building and contents for the collection of $130,000 in back taxes, and the 2002 taxes.

The board first met at noon and each board member gave their input on draft statements prepared by Executive Director John DeLille and Chairman Emeritus Roy Baze.

This meeting was recessed until 4 p.m. when the board approved the final draft.

A question raised as to who has liability for the building and its contents following the school district's action became a moot point Monday as DeLille said Lorber's insurance is back in effect as a security guard is back on the property.

DeLille said the security guards must remain outside the building, but this will meet the insurance company's requirements.

The DCOS' statement:

"Tax abatement is the act of postponing the placement of the assessed valuation of property on the taxing entities' tax rolls. Tax abatement is not a cost to the taxing entities. A community grants tax abatements as a way to mitigate an industry's start up costs and to put them on a profitable footing as soon as possible. Tax abatement has not cost our community anything.

"Lorber Industries has been a good partner for the community. They co-signed $2.4 million in grants that came to the City of Snyder to develop the industrial park. They served as the catalyst which provided at least $800,000 in funding for the development of the Workforce Training center at Western Texas College. Both assets will be used to create jobs in Scurry County for years to come.

"Lorber Industries made a valiant effort to keep their plant in operation. The untimely death of Arnold Lorber, the principal owner, necessitated a significant rearrangement in the conduct of the family business. At about the same time, they were the victims of falling commodity prices and the sharp increase in natural gas prices which caused their electric rates to soar. In the past year, many similar textile facilities have closed and thousands of workers have been displaced. Lorber is not an isolated instance.

"The Development Corporation of Snyder is supportive of the Snyder Independent School District's obligation to collect the ad valorem taxes owed by Lorber Industries.

"We will never recommend the abatement of taxes that support our children. However, we do have concerns about the procedure and the abrupt seizure that had no reasonable notification to Lorber Industries. We are also concerned about the lack of a prior determination regarding who has liability for the property.

"The City of Snyder, Western Texas College and Scurry County each entered into exactly the same tax abatement agreement with very good intentions. All wanted to do their part to help Lorber be a success. Lorber has now failed. There is an optional recapture provision in the remedies section of the agreement. This provision was legally mandatory at the time the agreement was drafted, but is no longer legally required. In the case of misconduct by Lorber Industries which damages our community in some way, the taxing entities have a process to mitigate those damages. There has been no damage caused by Lorber Industries to this community.

"We are in a better position to recruit new industry to our community because of our relationship with Lorber. To further financially burden Lorber Industries at a time when they are attempting to sell the facility as an operating unit invites further failure by Lorber and our community. We must continue to be supportive of efforts to get the Lorber assets back into production to create jobs and put the industrial park back on the track to success."

At the noon meeting, David Cotton presided and all board members were in attendance to include James Brown, Dayton Robertson, Mark Cypert and Mike McWilliams.

Brown presided at the 4 o'clock meeting and in attendance were Robertson and Cypert. Cotton and McWilliams were absent.

Baze was present at both meetings.

WTC formal planned tonight

Western Texas College students will enjoy "A Night In Bloom" at 7 tonight as the campus converges for its annual formal.

Festivities get under way with a Chicken Alfredo dinner in the cafeteria to be served by the college faculty.

Wadleigh Studios will begin portraits at 8 p.m. in the student center and the dance will be in the central courtyard, weather permitting.

In the event of adverse weather, the dance will move inside in the cafeteria.

A highlight of the dance each year is the naming of a king and queen. Nominees are the campus favorites chosen by the student body the first week of April.

Queen candidates are Melanie Johnson of Robert Lee, Inez Gonzales of Hamlin, Selina Salinas of Haskell and Jennifer Freeland of American Fork, Utah.

Chosen as campus favorites and nominated for formal king are Beau Blair of Robert Lee, Joe Romero of Hermleigh, Chad Middleton of Anson and Corey Knipe of Snyder.

Patty Kuhl, director of student activities, said Monday the king and queen will be named at approximately 11 p.m.

The dance, which is open only to WTC students and their guests, will conclude at midnight.

Cost of the meal for students who reside off campus is $6, while it is included in the meal plan purchased by students who live in campus housing.

Some 50 persons had purchased tickets by 5 p.m. Monday and Kuhl said a slide show of campus snapshots also will be shown during the dinner.

Top Bush aide resigns post

WASHINGTON (AP) — White House counselor Karen Hughes, one of President Bush's closest confidants and perhaps the most senior female aide to any modern American president, announced her resignation today. Bush said he will continue to seek her advice from afar.

"She may be changing addresses, but she's not leaving my inner circle," the president said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press shortly after Hughes' surprise announcement made her the first top White House aide to depart Bush's staff.

Hughes, 45, an aide to Bush since his days as Texas governor, unveiled her plans for a summertime departure at a daily White House briefing.

"Later this summer, I'm going to be changing the way in which I serve the president. My husband and I have made a difficult but we think right decision to move our family home back to Texas," she said.

"Our roots are there," she said. "I guess we're a little homesick."

Bush, in an exclusive interview, said Hughes broke the news to him last Wednesday or Thursday and he accepted the decision.

"I said, 'Karen, I've always valued your advice' and she said 'You'll have my advice.' So I said to myself as long as I have her advice, judgment and friendship, I support the move," the president said.

"This is Karen being Karen. She loves her family. She has always made it clear to me ever since I've known her that her husband and son come first in her life," Bush said.

Hughes and political aide Karl Rove were critical to Bush's rise from a two-term Texas governor to the presidency. Rove, a fellow Texan with a teen-age child of his own, has no plans to leave the White House, Bush said.

"I think there's a different set of circumstances," the president said. Hughes and Condoleezza Rice, the president's national security adviser, are two of the most influential female aides in White House history.

Fifteen months into the Bush presidency, this is the period in which senior aides generally start considering departures.

Co-Op to hold annual meeting

Big Country Electric Cooperative will hold its annual membership meeting at 5 p.m. Saturday at Hamlin High School.

Registration will be the first order of business followed by a barbecue meal served by Johnny's Barbecue of Midland.

The business meeting will follow with reports from Jerry Stapp, general manager, and the board of directors.

Three directors are to be elected at the meeting.

Unopposed District 1 nominee is John Ben Glover, while Roger Blackwelder is unopposed to represent District 5.

District 6 has two candidates - Jerry Upshaw and Andy Moore.

Throughout the evening, there will be entertainment and drawings for gifts.

Area sales tax rebates

City	April '02	April '01	+/-	Year '02	Year '01	+/-
Abilene	$1,815,377.04	$1,748,052.43	3.85%	$8,408,603.55	$8,171,963.82	2.89%
Big Spring	$258,688.01	$250,964.48	3.07%	$1,158,090.04	$1,178,236.33	-1.70%
Colorado City	$25,972.23	$28,258.83	-8.09%	$125,615.38	$141,677.81	-11.33%
Lamesa	$59,595.30	$60,474.08	-1.45%	$271,999.29	$280,467.34	-3.01%
Lubbock	$1,955,875.03	$1,966,041.99	-0.51%	$9,524,069.78	$9,252,050.56	2.94%
Post	$16,885.34	$19,444.35	-13.16%	$82,728.93	$89,482.72	-7.54%
Roby	$1,125.83	$934.01	20.53%	$6,510.97	$7,443.72	-12.53%
Rotan	$8,414.66	$6,253.46	34.56%	$39,223.04	$40,692.47	-3.61%
Snyder	$99,407.69	$121,887.13	-18.44%	$475,280.53	$473,307.60	0.41%
Sweetwater	$129,216.18	$113,156.29	14.19%	$593,140.98	$565,593.69	4.87%

SALES TAX REBATES — The sales tax rebate to the city of Snyder for April is down 18.44 percent compared to the same month in 2001. Snyder's check is $99,407.69 compared to $121,887.13 last April.

THE SDN COLUMN

By Roy McQueen

The feller on Deep Creek says, "Most folks can resist most anything except temptation."

Sometimes, to the casual observer, the police blotter can be fun and interesting.

Here's some items from one day in the San Angelo Standard-Times:

Excuses, excuses. And a bad one at that.

Police picked up a drunk too toasted to realize he's been driving with two flats. Officers ran him down after a hit-and-run and requested he perform a field sobriety test. He said he couldn't.

Bad back.

Wrong place, identical items.

A bad-alibi thief, who had sticky-fingered a package of Pillsbury Grande biscuits and a gallon of Hill Country milk to wash it down, hid from police under a mattress. Sneaky. But he didn't steal the continental-style breakfast, he said. No, he just happened to be carrying the items when the grocery manager stopped him.

This ain't the Ritz. And the towels aren't freebies.

A recent guest helped herself to more than just hand lotion and shampoo. An inn manager reported the theft of a Hotpoint refrigerator, pillow, bathroom floor mat and towels from Room 14.

Witnesses see it all.

A smashed driver spun his vehicle out of control at an intersection while police watched. Passengers said another vehicle, invisible to the officers, struck them and left no damages. One said the driver was a male. Another said female. Some said it was traveling south. Others said north. The bad lying went on and on.

The driver, three sheets to the wind, was unable to perform a field sobriety test because of "bad knees."

Bad breath was not mentioned.

Proof that silence can be golden, or green in this case…

A man in Oregon suspected of robbing a bank gave himself away when he tipped a waiter $100 in order to get a seat away from the window.

The waiter was thrilled to receive the large gratuity on a slow day, but he wasn't allowed to keep the dough.

A 33-year-old unemployed painter from California allegedly threatened a bank teller and fled with an undisclosed amount of money.

Police canvassing the neighborhood entered the restaurant and asked if anyone had seen someone matching the suspect's description.

The waiter pointed out a man at a table and mentioned the high-dollar tip.

ASK US

Q—Are there wrestling matches scheduled for Scurry County Coliseum?

A—Superstar Wrestling will present matches on May 17.

FORECAST - ALMANAC

Snyder Temps: High Monday, 82 degrees; low, 46; 7 a.m. Tuesday, 62; no precipitation; total for 2002, 5.67 inches.

Area Forecast: Tonight, partly cloudy, low around 65, S winds 5-15 mph. Wednesday, partly cloudy, high around 80; NW winds 5-15 mph.



Daniella Jaquez
Partly Cloudy

Sunset:
8:18 p.m.
Sunrise:
7:06 a.m.
Of 112 days in 2002, the sun has shone 107 days in Snyder.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

An inexhaustible good nature is one of the most precious gifts of heaven.
—Washington Irving

LA officials search for interim chief

LOS ANGELES (AP) — City officials were beginning the search for an interim police chief following the resignation of Bernard Parks, who was denied a second term after a tumultuous five years in office.

Today the Police Commission was scheduled to begin compiling a list of candidates to serve as interim chief.

The list will consist of individuals within the department who are not necessarily interested in the permanent position, said Rick Caruso, president of the commission.

Parks, who resigned Monday after a 37-year career, said he will not sue the city over the commission's refusal to reappoint him.

"Although I've been advised by my attorney that I have a strong legal case and would likely prevail, I have no intention of suing the city of Los Angeles, as I do not want the citizens of this great city to incur any economic loss," Parks said.

Earlier this month, Parks, 58, left open the possibility of legal action against the city. He claimed he was the victim of a political conspiracy and a flawed review process that was supposed to be merit-based.

Parks' departure follows an ugly rift with Mayor James Hahn, who was sharply criticized by members of the black community for refusing to support another term for the chief, who is black. Hahn relied heavily on African-American support in last year's mayoral election.

On April 9, the Police Commission voted 4-1 against granting Parks a second term. All but one of the commissioners were appointed by Hahn. Last week, the City Council rejected Parks' request to reconsider the commission decision.

"I know we're all going to be working on a smooth transition to a new police chief," Hahn said Monday.

Hahn has said he wants a police chief more willing to implement police reforms and community policing programs.

City and police union officials have criticized Parks for his inflexibility on those issues and on police discipline. They also blamed him for a recent rise in violent crime.



ADVANCE TO STATE — Snyder High School's drama students will get to perform *Julius Caesar* one more time —at the state contest May 3 in Austin. SHS advanced from the Region I-4A contest held Friday at Angelo State University. Front row from left are Josh Proctor, Caleb Durham, Erin Cooley, Nicole Sloboda, Sara Cantu; middle row, Bobby Sands, Joanna Burk, Justin Cox, Malorye Miller, Brandy Birkenfeld, Blake Robertson; back row, Bret McClendon, Sterling Millhollon, Paul Jackson, Tanner Beard, Eric Courtney, Hayli Henderson, Clark Reed, Jeff Scott. RJ Sanders is not pictured. Henderson was named best actress; Reed was named to the all-star cast and Beard received honorable mention. Brad Vincent is the director. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

events

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RESULTS

Cash Five

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Cash Five numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery:

10-16-36-37-39

Pick 3

AUSTIN (AP) — The winning Pick 3 numbers drawn Monday by the Texas Lottery, in order:

0-0-7

Slump pulls down Silicon Valley rents

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — In most parts of the country, Stacy Clark's monthly rent of $850 for a suburban studio apartment might seem a little outrageous.

But it seems like a bargain to Clark, given that the same San Mateo apartment — located about 20 miles south of San Francisco — rented for $200 more just six months ago.

"It's not as crazy as it was a year ago when everyone was fighting over places," Clark said. "I know a lot of people who were living in disgusting places because they couldn't find anywhere else to live."

Clark, 27, is among the thousands of renters enjoying one of the bright spots in a grim high-tech slump that has depressed the Bay Area's average rents to two-year lows — even as landlords continue to demand slightly higher prices in other major Western markets, according to a study released today.

At the end of March, the average apartment rent in the Silicon Valley heartland of Santa Clara County stood at $1,451 — a 26 percent decrease from an average of $1,951 at the same time last year, according to RealFacts, a Novato-based real estate research firm.

RealFacts surveyed 6,000 apartment complexes in 19 major markets west of the Mississippi River.

Squeezed by similar economic pressures, San Francisco apartment rents fell for the fifth consecutive quarter, dropping to an average of $1,691 in March — 16 percent below the prior year's levels.

San Francisco rents are now almost back to where they were in September 1999, when the average stood at $1,692 per month, RealFacts said. Propelled by the Internet business craze that brought thousands of well-paid workers to the city, San Francisco rents peaked at $2,036 per month in December 2000, according to RealFacts.

Nearly 8 percent of San Francisco's apartments, or about one in every 13 units, are vacant today, up from a vacancy rate of about 1 percent during the height of the Internet frenzy, RealFacts said.

Despite the recent erosion, the Bay Area's rents remained the highest in the West, according to RealFacts.

With its economy holding up better than the Bay Area, Los Angeles County rents averaged $1,233, a 4 percent increase from a year ago.

None of the apartment rents in Western markets outside California averaged more than $1,000. Seattle and Denver were the priciest markets outside California with averages of $864 and $863, respectively. The Seattle rent represented a 3 percent increase from last year while Denver's rent climbed 2 percent.

Most rent increases in the West ranged between 1 and 3 percent.

The biggest increases occurred in two of California's fastest growing regions, the Sacramento area and Riverside and San Bernardino counties east of Los Angeles.

The steady decline in Bay Area apartment rents over the past 15 months largely reflects the dot-com meltdown.

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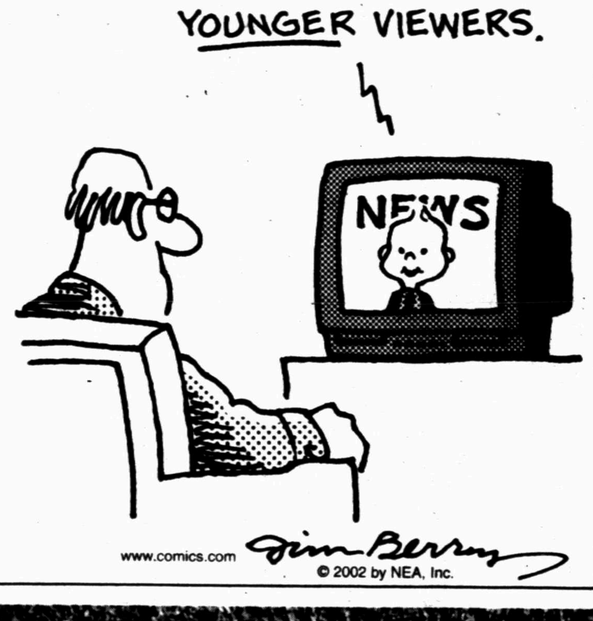
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FOUNDER'S DAY CELEBRATED — Beta Sigma Phi members met in the home of Carolyn Greene to celebrate Founder's Day. Awards were presented to, from left, Beth Bowen, Carla Allen, Marie Boone, Brenda Billingsley, Dena Ellis and Greene. (Contributed Photo)

BSP celebrated Founder's Day

Members of Xi Alpha Alpha Theta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi met Saturday in the home of Carolyn Greene to celebrate Founder's Day. The annual celebration is in honor of the sorority founder, Walter W. Ross, who founded Beta Sigma Phi in 1931.

President Greene served a brunch prior to the awards ceremony. Jacalyn Lowrance led the Opening Ritual. Greene recognized the outgoing officers and chairmen. The 2002-2003 president, Janine Schoolcraft, introduced new officers.

Brenda Billingsley gave the Founder's Day Pledge, followed by the message from International read by Lois Cave. Presentations of awards were then presented. Billingsley was the recipient of the Valentine Queen pin; perfect attendance pins were presented to Greene for two years and Dena Ellis for 21 years. Marie Boone and Ellis received their 25-year pins.

Program of the year award went to Beth Bowen; Nickie Glasscock was chosen to receive the Ms. Congeniality and Carla Allen was presented the prestigious President's Award. For her outstanding service as president, Greene was recipient of the Girl of the Year award.

Schoolcraft, the incoming president, announced the Beta Sigma Phi International theme for the coming year, "A Gate to Friendship."

Greene honored Ellis with a gift of appreciation. Greene was presented a crystal tray for outgoing president. Wanda Early, scrapbook chairman, presented Greene the 2001-2002 scrapbook.

The celebration concluded with Carolyn Limmer leading the Closing Ritual and Mizpah.

Community Calendar

TUESDAY

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

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

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

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

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

WEDNESDAY

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

THURSDAY

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.

New Horizons AA, closed meeting; for information call 573-8268, 573-4048 or 573-1141; 8 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 5731141; 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.

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MAWC game day luncheon set Wednesday

Martha Ann Woman's Club game day and luncheon is set for 11:30 Wednesday.

Women who work may come for the luncheon from 11:30 through 12:30 and others may play games of choice throughout the afternoon. The event is $7.50 and proceeds are used to maintain the woman's club. With no gratuity, a full meal is served by caterer Sandra Brace.

Reservations should be made today by calling 573-3427.

Bridge

By Phillip Alder

North 04-23-02
♠ K J 10 6
♥ Q 10 7 2
♦ 7 6 3
♣ 10 4

West
♠ 7 2
♥ 6 5
♦ A 10 4 2
♣ A K 7 6 3

East
♠ 9 8 5 4 3
♥ 3
♦ Q J 9 8
♣ Q J 2

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

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: East-West

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

Opening lead: ♣ A

Tuesday, April 23, 2002

When you cannot win the trick

By Phillip Alder

Sitting third hand, you hold Q-J-2 and it's your turn. Yesterday, we learned that if you will be going high, you should put up the jack, the bottom of equal cards. However, what happens if you cannot win the trick, because partner (or perhaps second hand) has already played the ace or king? What would you do then?

If you think it beneficial to tell partner about your honor sequence, drop the queen, the top of the touchers. This guarantees that you have either the queen and the jack (perhaps with one or more lower cards), or a singleton. Now partner knows that he may underlead at trick two and you will win the trick either by playing your jack or by ruffing. (If it is a no-trump contract, hope partner can read the position correctly.)

This agreement aided the defense in today's deal, which occurred in London — appropriate on St. George's Day.

When West overcalled, he was primarily hoping to make it harder for the opposition to reach a spade contract. However, despite the adverse vulnerability, it wasn't impossible that East-West could win the auction. South, after receiving a single raise from his partner, took an understandable shot at game.

West led the club ace, and East correctly signaled with the queen, promising the jack (or a singleton). West continued with a low club, not the king. After winning with the jack, it was the work of a moment for East to shift to the diamond queen. In another moment, the defenders had the first four tricks.

Note that without this defense, declarer has 10 major-suit winners.

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Students craft their own prom attire

SOLDIERS GROVE, Wis. (AP) — Although Shaelyn Benson and David Daniels didn't spend but about $20 each on their prom outfits.

The Wisconsin high school students crafted their Renaissance-style formals out of duct tape.

The outfits were a hit at the North Crawford High School dinner and prom. "Everyone wanted pictures," Benson said."

The couple hopes to win a Stuck at the Prom contest sponsored by Duck Brand Duct Tape. First prize includes a $2,500 scholarship for each winner, and another $2,500.

Benson created her dress over an old red prom dress that she used as backing and sewed in a zipper.

For detail, she cut out designs on the bodice in maroon colored duct tape and carried a long-stemmed rose.



DINNER FOR VOLUNTEERS — Odyssey Hospice had their caregiver dinner last month for all the local hospice families and hospice volunteers. In attendance were, from left, Bert Stahl, Mechele Stahl, Ben Odorizzi and Raymond House. A caregiver dinner will be tonight at the First Presbyterian Church. All current and former hospice families are invited. (Contributed Photo)

There is nothing more poetic in the freshness of its passions than a sixteen-year-old heart. The morning of life is like the dawn of a day, full of purity, visions and harmony.

—Chateaubraind

A strong nation, like a strong person, can afford to be gentle, firm, thoughtful and restrained. It can afford to extend a helping hand to others.

—Jimmy Carter

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Dale Huff Minister

37th Street Church of Christ
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The Overcomers

The book of Revelation begins in chapters two and three with seven letters to seven churches. Jesus gives the apostle John words to write to seven churches in Asia. The letters are fascinating as the resurrected Lord speaks to seven different churches. Jesus has words of praise for some of the churches. Some of the churches receive some correction while others are rebuked sharply. Two of the churches, Smyrna and Philadelphia, simply receive encouragement. You cannot read these letters without wondering what Jesus would write to churches today.

Each church had different strengths and weaknesses. Some were facing severe moral problems while others were facing real persecution. Some were affluent and complacent while others were poor and oppressed. There is one thing, however, that all of them had in common. At the end of each letter, Jesus makes a promise concerning eternal life. If you put all seven promises together they form a good picture of the promise of eternal glory. Each description is a little different and adds to the picture. One thing is the same. Jesus promises glory to come to "the one who overcomes." Everyone who enters into glory has to "overcome." For some it is poverty. For others it is affluence. For some it is moral temptations. For others it is false teaching. But one thing is the same for everyone. Everyone has to overcome. Jesus gives us the strength to do it. We have to accept the call.

Dale Huff

APR 23 2002

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THE BORN LOSER ® by Art and Chip Sansom



FRANK & ERNEST ® by Bob Thaves

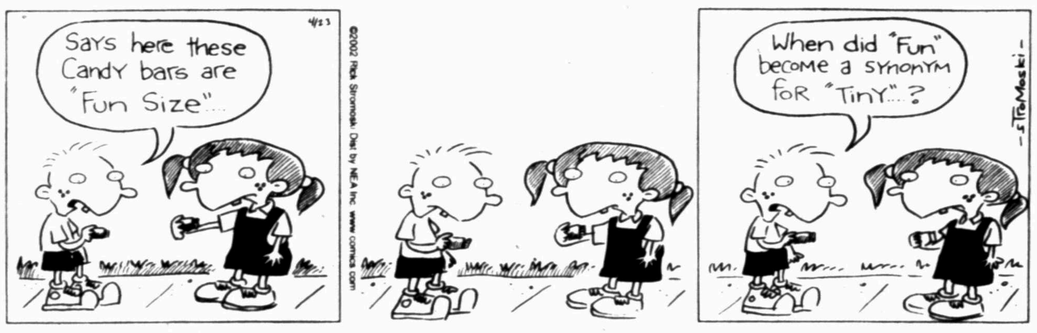


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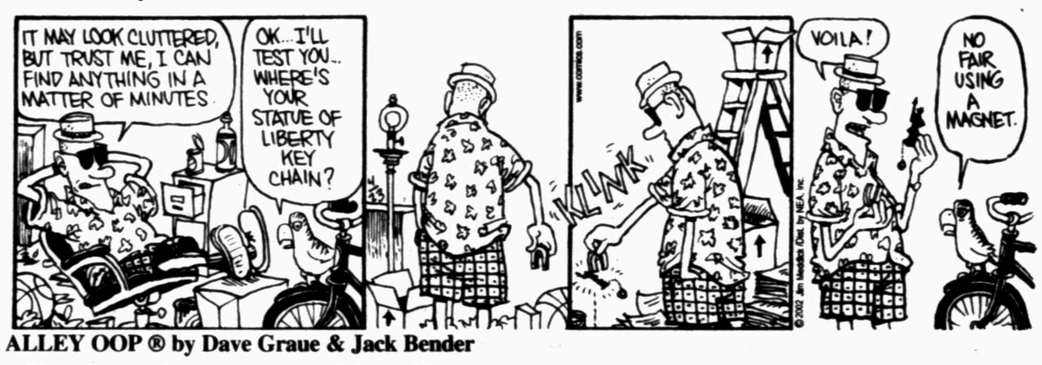
SOUP TO NUTZ ® by Rick Stromoski



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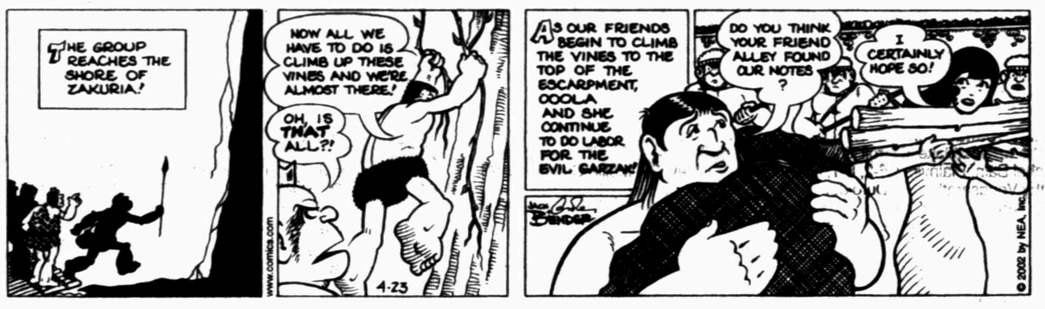
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"Members of the jury, I must ask you to disregard my last remark."

NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Resistance unit
4 JAMA readers
7 Motives
11 Smidgen
12 Bedouin
14 Coating of frost
15 Mouths, in biology
16 Amiable
17 Not even twice
18 SOS response
20 Vacation plus
22 Links goal
23 Omelet need
24 India neighbor
27 Wrestling hold
30 Flightless birds
31 "Peanuts" kid
32 — Wiedersehen
34 Singer Damone
35 Golf's — Daniel
36 Long-active volcano
37 Plains dwellings
39 Finicky
40 Dinghy's need
41 Polite address
42 Gauguin's island
45 Taps
49 Actor Montand
50 McClurg of sitcoms
52 Regret deeply
53 Metric unit
54 Bacardi products
55 Miscellany
56 Sports channel
57 — out (withdraw)
58 Dugout VIP

DOWN

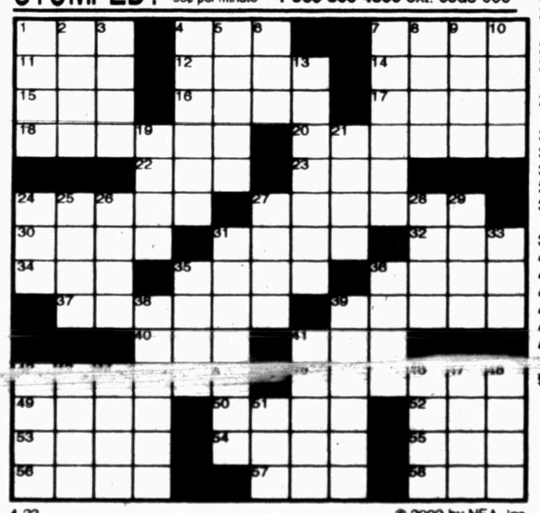
1 Hound's trail
2 Cottontail
3 CEO degrees
4 How-to book
5 Paint

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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

6 Defense org.
7 Treats badly
8 Subtle suggestion
9 Pool loc.
10 Detected
13 Implore
19 Balance-sheet gurus
21 Like gargoyles
24 Comstock Lode st.
25 Give off
26 Brownish-purple
27 Kooks
28 Feedbag morsels
29 "Sister Act" roles
31 Warier
33 Actress Wray
35 Pulse
36 Lira successor
38 Toxic substance
39 Beat
41 Be stingy
42 Little kid
43 Rara —
44 Pitch in
46 Study hard
47 — fu
50 Church
51 Laurel and Hardy

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Snyder Daily News Comics

DENNIS THE MENACE ® by Hank Ketcham

"NEED A LIFT, MR. WILSON?"

KIT 'N' CARLYLE ® by Larry Wright

SPORTS

SHS athletes in the hunt for state berths

By Eric Drennan
Sports Editor

SAN ANGELO — Heading into the second day of regional tennis and golf competition, Snyder High School is staring down three trips to Austin.

Pat Vargas and Andra Dunham are through to the semifinals in girls doubles, and the SHS girls golf team is second with the Tiger linksters locked in a four-team fight after the first day of Region I-4A competition.

Into the semis...

After sending a boys doubles tandem to the state meet each of the past three years, Snyder is vying for its first girls state tennis berth in quite some time.

Vargas and Dunham, the District 4-4A champions, rolled over their first-round opponents before holding on for a hard-fought three-set victory in the second round.

The Lady Tiger tandem was to have squared off with Allison Baker and Brenna Jackson of Wichita Falls Rider in this morning's semifinals at Bentwood Country Club..

"Pat and Andra played well, and that's what you have to do once you get to regionals," said SHS tennis coach Ted Phillips. "Down here, everybody's good so you have to play your best on every point."

Vargas and Dunham quickly disposed of Fabens' Samirah Ihmud and Alyse Ramos 6-0, 6-0 to start things off.

After breezing through the first round, the Lady Tigers got their money's worth in the second against Pampa's Tara Jordan and Ashley Jordan.

Snyder took the first set, 6-4, before Pampa stormed back to even match with a 6-3 win in the second. The deciding frame was tight with Snyder's crucial break of serve coming late in the action for a 7-5 victory.

The Lady Tigers' semifinal opponents from Rider dropped only four games in their first-round win, then posted a 6-1, 6-0 victory in the second.

The other girls semifinal was to have featured Candice Vermuellen and Lauren Graham of Southlake Carroll against Rider's other team of Mindy Arnold and Emily Leick.

While Vargas and Dunham got on a roll in the first round, their teammates on the boys side ran up against some stiff competition right off the bat.

Snyder's Curt Phillips and Adam Rodgers, runners-up from District 4-4A, fell in the opening round to Kevin Fisher and Zach Leuth of Ft. Worth Brewer, 6-1, 7-6.

The Tiger tandem fell behind early in the first set, but battled back in the second frame before falling in a tiebreaker.

The top two tandems advance to the state May 6-7 in Austin.

It's a horserace...

A year ago, the Snyder Tigers braved the wind and firm greens at Quicksand Golf Club to win the Region I-4A boys golf tournament with scores of 314 and 310.

But with calm breezes in this year's opening round, the Tigers' tally of 304 simply kept them in the race.

Snyder was in a pack of four teams separated by only six strokes heading into this morning's final round of play.

The Tigers' tally of 304 put them in fourth place overnight, six strokes back of leader Wichita Falls Rider, which became the first high school team to break 300 on the Quicksand layout during tournament competition. The Raiders posted 298.

Granbury was second at 301, followed by last year's runner-up Southlake Carroll at 303.

"In a way I'm surprised at how low the scores were, and in another way I'm not," said SHS coach Matt Glenn. "We've never seen scores that low here before, but we've never seen conditions this calm either.

"We have a great shot in this thing. We played well enough to give ourselves a chance in the second round."

The Tigers were spurred by the play of senior Britt Sharrock. Sharrock, a Snyder native who played at Abilene Cooper until moving back to Snyder late last spring, fired the third-lowest round of the day with an even-par 72.

"I really felt like I was playing better than what my score indicated," said Sharrock. "I haven't played in this regional before, so I had a lot of anticipation before we started. I wanted to show what I could do."

Sharrock made the turn at even par, before falling to 2-over through 14 holes. The highlight of the round came on his 17th hole of the day, the par-5 eighth.

After splitting the fairway with a 340-yard drive, the senior hit a 9-iron from 176 to about 25 feet past the pin. He drained the snaking, downhill putt coming back for eagle and the resulting roar could be heard from the clubhouse.

"We just have to go out in the second round and play like we're capable of playing," said Sharrock. "There's still a lot of golf left to be played."

Zach Starnes finished just four strokes behind Sharrock with a 76, while Clinton Calmes and Stafford Gray carded a pair of 78s. Brady Reed turned in an 80.

The top two teams after today's final round advance to the state tournament May 6-7 in Austin.

Nipping at their heels...

The Snyder Lady Tigers finished second to Andrews in last year's district and regional tournaments. After another runner-up finish in this year's league tourney, it looks like the Lady Tigers are ready to give the Lady Mustangs a run for their money.

Andrews set a regional tournament record Monday with a 299, only to see Snyder post a 303 to trail by just four strokes heading into this morning's final round at Riverside Golf Course.

"I asked for the girls to produce a low round and they produced," said Glenn. "We talked about breaking 300, and we were in position to do that for a good while. That's a great round Andrews put together and we're still only four strokes behind."

The Lady Tigers closest competition was from Southlake Carroll, which turned in its best round of the season with a 312.

Snyder and Andrews both posted four scores under 79.

Andra Lancaster led the Lady Tigers with a 74, quickly followed by Lauren Day with a 75. Kellie Dodson fired a 76, and Katie Kerley came in with a 78. Hailey Putnam finished with an 81.

"Everybody's playing well for us right now," said Glenn. "We had a great week of practice and it carried over into the tournament. It looks like the girls are peaking at the right time."

The Lady Tigers are gunning for their ninth consecutive trip to

Tigers visit Plainview

The Snyder Tigers look to rebound from only their second setback during district play when they continue league competition at 6 o'clock this evening at Plainview.

The Tigers (22-8-1) are coming off a 2-0 loss at Estacado on Friday, but remain atop the 4-4A standings along with Andrews at 10-2.

Victories today by the Tigers and Mustangs would set up a showdown for the district championship in Friday's regular season finale at Moffett Field.

District 4-4A Baseball

Team	District W	District L	Season W	Season L
*-Andrews	10	2	17	4
*-Snyder	10	2	22	8
*-Frenship	9	3	19	7
Big Spring	6	6	8	16
Estacado	5	7	9	14
Lake View	4	8	9	15
Levelland	2	10	6	19
Plainview	2	10	9	17

*-clinched playoff spot

Tuesday's games: Snyder at Plainview; Estacado at Andrews; Frenship at Levelland; Big Spring at Lake View.
Friday's games: Andrews at Snyder; Levelland at Estacado; Lake View at Frenship; Big Spring at Plainview.
End of regular season

Local Schedule

TODAY

Golf: Snyder boys and girls at Region I-4A tourney in San Angelo
Tennis: Snyder boys and girls at Region I-4A tourney in San Angelo
Baseball: Snyder at Plainview, 6 p.m.
Baseball: Lubb. Christian at Ira, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY

Rodeo: WTC at Tarleton rodeo

FRIDAY

Baseball: Andrews at Snyder, 5 p.m.
Track: Snyder boys at Region I-4A meet in San Angelo
Track: Ira boys and girls at Region II-A meet in Abilene
Rodeo: WTC at Tarleton rodeo

SATURDAY

Track: Snyder boys at Region I-4A meet in San Angelo
Track: Ira boys and girls at Region II-A meet in Abilene
Rodeo: WTC at Tarleton rodeo

Sports Briefs

Snyder girls softball

Snyder girls softball board of directors has voted not to hold tryouts. Teams will be selected Wednesday and players will be contacted by their coach.

For more information, call 573-6496.

WTC Men's Golf Association

The Men's Golf Association of Western Texas College holds a weekly event Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

SCGA weekly events

The Scurry County Golf Association holds a weekly scramble Tuesdays at 5:30. The Men's Golf Association holds an all-day MGA event each Thursday.

Region I-4A Tennis and Golf Tournaments

REGION I-4A TENNIS TOURNAMENT
At Bentwood CC, San Angelo
BOYS DOUBLES

First Round: Allen Flack-Dale Murdock, WF Rider def. Ben Samples-Drew Jennings, FW Arlington Heights, 6-0, 6-0; Kevin Fisher-Zach Leuth, FW Brewer def. Curt Phillips-Adam Rodgers, Snyder, 6-1, 7-6; Jay Gerber-David Thacker, Pampa def. Joel Bailey-Michael Crosswhite, Cleburne, 6-1, 7-6; Alvaro Chacon-Daniel Sosa, Clint def. Miguel Torres-Robert Herrera, EP Bowie, 6-4, 5-7, 6-2; Ryan Banning-Luke Beazley, Burleson def. Daniel Do-Louis Do, FW Northside, 6-1, 6-2; Derek DeHoyos-Alex Edgemon, Big Spring def. Travis Fulton-Trent Wilhelm, Grapevine, 6-3, 6-1; Mark Milner-Michael Limoges, Borger def. Michael Mayer-Rene Guerrero, EP Burges, 7-5, 6-1; David Barrett-Jared King, WF Rider def. Bobby Sotelo-Jay Donnelly, Pecos, 6-1, 6-0.

Second round: Flack-Murdock, WF Rider def. Fisher-Leuth, FW Brewer, 7-5, 7-5; Gerber-Thacker, Pampa def. Chacon-Sosa, Clint, 6-0, 6-3; DeHoyos-Edgemon, Big Spring def. Banning-Beazley, Burleson, 6-2, 7-5; Barrett-King, WF Rider def. Milner-Limoges, Borger, 6-0, 6-3.

Semifinals: Flack-Murdock, WF Rider vs. Gerber-Thacker, Pampa; DeHoyos-Edgemon, Big Spring vs. Barrett-King, WF Rider.

GIRLS DOUBLES

First round: Candice Vermuellen-Lauren Graham, Southlake Carroll def. Colti Webb-Rachel Bain, Plainview, 6-2, 6-1; Nai Inthriath-Kathy Vongsarath, Palo Duro def. Cynthia Falcon-Diana Ceniceros, Clint Mountain View, 6-2, 4-6, 6-4; Mindy Arnold-Emily Leick, WF Rider def. Amanda Jung-Brittany Roberts, Burleson, 6-3, 6-1; Holly Williams-Christy Williams, FW South Hills def. Jenny Montes-Kari Clement, EP Burges, 6-1, 6-3; Pat Vargas-Andra Dunham, Snyder def. Samirah Ihmud-Alyse Ramos, Fabens, 6-0, 6-0; Tara Jordan-Ashley Jordan, Pampa def. Brittany Rebstock-Melinda Calder, Cleburne, 6-0, 6-3; Kristin Muckleroy-Rosie Delgado, EP Burges def. Brittany Abbott-Crystal Soto, FW South Hills, 6-4, 6-4; Allison Baker-Brenna Jackson, WF Rider def. Sarah Canale-Katie Matthes, Southlake Carroll, 6-2, 6-2.

Second round: Vermuellen-Graham, Southlake Carroll def. Inthriath-Vongsarath, Palo Duro, 6-4, 6-2; Arnold-Leick, WF Rider def. Williams-Williams, FW South Hills, 6-0, 6-1; Vargas-Dunham, Snyder def. Jordan-Jordan, Pampa, 6-4, 3-6, 7-5; Baker-Jackson, WF Rider def. Muckelroy-Delgado, EP Burges, 6-1, 6-0.

Semifinals: Vermuellen-Graham, Southlake Carroll vs. Arnold-Leick, WF Rider; Vargas-Dunham, Snyder vs. Baker-Jackson, WF Rider.

REGION I-4A GIRLS GOLF TOURNAMENT
At Riverside GC, San Angelo
First Round

Team standings: 1. Andrews, 299; 2. Snyder, 303; 3. Southlake Carroll A, 312; 4. Pecos A, 323; 5. Granbury, 330; 6. Hereford, 347; 7. North Crowley, 359; 8. Ft. Worth Arlington Heights, 360; 9. Pampa, 361; 10. Wichita Falls Rider, 370; 11. Pecos B, 376; 12. Southlake Carroll B, 384; 13. Wichita Falls High, 388; 14. El Paso Ysleta, 422; 15. El Paso Burges, 429.

Individual standings: 1. Calais Gardner, Southlake Carroll, 68; 2. Vanessa Fuganti, Andrews, 71; 3. Jessica Thurston, Andrews, 73; 4. (tie) Andra Lancaster, Snyder and Christa Spedding, Granbury, 74; 6. (tie) Lauren Day, Snyder and Emily Kerlee, Southlake Carroll, 75; 8. (tie) Kellie Dodson, Snyder and Lauren Martinez, Pecos, 76; 10. Halli Richards, Andrews, 77.

Other Andrews: Ashley Robb, 78; Megan Hall, 79.
Other Snyder: Katie Kerley, 78; Hailey Putnam, 81.
Other Southlake Carroll A: Katya Mueller, 78; Meagan Carlucci, 92; Brooke Allen, 91.
Other Pecos A: Sarah McKinney, 82; Candace Hilliard, 84; Cassie Foster, 81; Brandi North, 84.
Other Granbury: Farrah Shaikh, 80; Kylee Peterson, 90; Honor Hammond, 87; Ashley Lopez, 89.
Hereford: Heather Stokes, 84; Jessica Weishaar, 84; Heather Calkins, 95; Abby Harrell, 90; Marketta Nicklaus, 89.
North Crowley: Christina Cane, 82; Jessica Travis, 96; Morgan Garttigna, 90; Allyson Wix, 91; Amber Alarza, 102.
Arlington Heights: Paige Wright, 92; Candice Wilkins, 90; Cassi Kalil, 95; Lindsay Daniell, 83.
Pampa: Cortney Locknane, 95; Megan Shannon, 84; Krissy Holman, 89; Michelle Haley, 96; Mollie Crossman, 93.
Rider: Katy Drake, 80; Katie Curl, 84; Jennifer Koch, 101; Kayla Knight, 105.
Pecos B: Bianca Mendoza, 99; Jennie Canon, 93; Dana Dutchover, 90; Kristian Aguilar, 94; Katie Davis, 106.
Southlake Carroll B: Elizabeth Hendrickson, 95; Jelayne Sessler, 104; Lauren Holloway, 101; Christy Bell, 92; Carrie Keller, 96.
Wichita Falls: Alise Bunton, 90; Meghan Hull, 116; Sarah Akers, 101; Emiley Sund, 99; Ali Holder, 98.
Ysleta: Jaelyn Juarez, 100; Christina Dominguez, 101; Karla Ramirez, 116; Jasmine Gallegos, 105; Justyn Williamson, 116.
Burges: Erica Flood, 102; Tiffanie Merritt, 102; Ruth Bohlin, 115; Angelique Clemente, 110; Erica Rodriguez, 124.
Other: Jamie Shirley, Azle, 83; Jacqueline Delbosque, FW Eastern Hills, 85; Caro Kauffman, Grapevine, 90; Leslie Beck, Stephenville, 90; Andra Boxberger, Canyon, 91; Jessica McClure, Amarillo Caprock, 93; Lisa Kiehl, El Paso Chapin, 96; Sonya Varga, El Paso Chapin, 97.

REGION I-4A BOYS GOLF TOURNAMENT
At Quicksand GC, San Angelo
First Round

Team standings: 1. Wichita Falls Rider, 298; 2. Granbury, 301; 3. Southlake Carroll A, 303; 4. Snyder, 304; 5. Ft. Worth Arlington Heights, 308; 6. Burleson, 313; 7. Canyon Randall, 315; 8. (tie) Frenship and Southlake Carroll B, 319; 10. Wichita Falls High, 321; 11. Dumas, 330; 12. Pecos A, 342; 13. El Paso Burges, 350; 14. Ft. Worth Western Hills, 360; 15. El Paso Ysleta, 387; 16. Pecos B, 398.

Individual standings: 1. (tie) Jonathan Borders, Rider and Paul Slaughter, Andrews, 71; 3. (tie)Britt Sharrock, Snyder and Owen Mahaffey, Rider, 72; 5. (tie) James Beam, Rider, Pete Pennington, Granbury, Casey Jones, Granbury, Scott Stegar, Southlake Carroll and Brandon Cain, Arlington Heights, 73; 10. (tie) Brian Mills, Burleson, Nathan Sheen, Canyon Randall, Will Osborne, Wichita Falls and Justin Davidson, Justin Northwest, 74.

Other Rider: Clay Montgomery, 82; Houston Sullivan, 84.
Other Granbury: Cole Petty, 82; Joey Donaromo, 80; Matt Finneran, 75.
Other Southlake Carroll A: Jace Moore, 76; Chris Myers, 80; Marc Campbell, 75; Sam Barnett, 79.
Other Snyder: Brady Reed, 80; Stafford Gray, 78; Clinton Calmes, 78; Zach Starnes, 76.
Other Arlington Heights: Matt Dowling, 76; Craig Wright, 77; Jason LeBlanc, 82; Chris Troxell, 82.
Other Burleson: Mitch Hendon, 79; Jonathan Cook, 81; Will Woodring, 79; Cole Howard, 85.
Other Canyon Randall: Jason Conway, 88; Chris Honea, 86; Brandon Ward, 76; Josh Longcor, 79.
Frenship: Brandon Melville, 77; Tim Martin, 84; Josh Keeton, 75; Nathan Robbins, 83; Stace Jones, 86.
Southlake Carroll B: Jeff Nietschmann, 77; Carmine Mediate, 79; Max Draper, 79; Brandon Jones, 87; Kurt Hauerkamp, 84.
Other Wichita Falls: Blake Barnett, 83; Luke Dillard, 82; Tyler Temblador, 83; Ward Kable, 82.
Dumas: Craig Riseling, 83; Todd Buse, 87; Charlie Romero, 81; Derek Nelson, 82; Josh McKenney, 84.
Pecos A: Pete Vasquez, 88; Casey Breiten, 81; David Bradley, 82; Jake McKinney, 92; Michael Nichols, 91.
Burges: Christian Sosa, 82; Stephen Sosa, 86; Gilbert Cortez, 92; Adam Yeatman, 90; Neil Novoa, 96.
Western Hills: Sean Burke, 89; Tim Hart, 90; Max Koennecke, 99; Mitch Shepard, 87; Hank Arens, 94.
Ysleta: Alexander Diaz, 86; Matthew Padilla, 96; Derek Vargas, 100; James Quintana, 105; George Ramirez, 132.
Pecos B: Sal Nichols, 92; Jack Stickels, 88; Jacob Gonzales, 101; Dustin Gulihur, 120; Abel Varela, 117.
Other: Greg Koch, Burkburnett, 75; Diego Velasquez, Granbury, 76; Jerrod Simmons, Big Spring, 77; Adam Young, Stephenville, 77; David Heuston, Pampa, 78; Ross Christy, Rider, 80; Isaac Chavez, El Paso Riverside, 83; Bryan Cordell, Ft. Worth Northside, 87; Tyler Latham, Amarillo Palo Duro, 90.

Major League Baseball

National League
By The Associated Press
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Montreal	11	8	.579	—
New York	10	9	.526	1
Atlanta	10	10	.500	1½
Florida	9	10	.474	2
Philadelphia	7	12	.368	4

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Pittsburgh	12	5	.706	—
Cincinnati	10	8	.556	2½
St. Louis	9	10	.474	4
Houston	8	10	.444	4½
Milwaukee	7	12	.368	6
Chicago	6	11	.353	6

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	12	6	.667	—
Arizona	12	7	.632	½
Los Angeles	11	8	.579	1½
San Diego	9	10	.474	3½
Colorado	6	13	.316	6½

Monday's Game
Florida 8, Atlanta 3
Tuesday's Games
Milwaukee (Sheets 1-2) at Montreal (Ohka 1-1), 7:05 p.m.
Houston (C.Hernandez 1-0) at Florida (Beckett 0-1), 7:05 p.m.
Los Angeles (Ishii 3-0) at Pittsburgh (Anderson 2-1), 7:05 p.m.
San Diego (Tollberg 0-3) at Philadelphia (Wolf 0-0), 7:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Morris 4-0) at N.Y. Mets (D'Amico 1-1), 7:10 p.m.
Colorado (Jennings 1-1) at Cincinnati (Haynes 1-2), 7:10 p.m.
[illegible] (Berg 0-0), 7:35 p.m.
San Francisco (Rueter 1-1) at Chicago Cubs (Bere 1-1), 8:05 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Arizona at Atlanta, 7:05 p.m.
Houston at Florida, 7:05 p.m.
Milwaukee at Montreal, 7:05 p.m.
Los Angeles at Pittsburgh, 7:05 p.m.
San Diego at Philadelphia, 7:05 p.m.
Colorado at Cincinnati, 7:10 p.m.
St. Louis at N.Y. Mets, 7:10 p.m.
San Francisco at Chicago Cubs, 8:05 p.m.

American League
All Times EDT

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	12	4	.750	—
New York	12	8	.600	2
Tampa Bay	7	10	.412	5½
Toronto	7	10	.412	5½
Baltimore	6	12	.333	7

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota	13	6	.684	—
Chicago	12	7	.632	1
Cleveland	12	7	.632	1
Kansas City	6	11	.353	6
Detroit	3	15	.167	9½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Seattle	16	4	.800	—
Oakland	11	8	.579	4½
Anaheim	6	13	.316	9½
Texas	5	13	.278	10

Monday's Games
Cleveland 4, Chicago White Sox 2
Kansas City 6, Detroit 0
Seattle 16, Anaheim 5
Tuesday's Games
Boston (F.Castillo 1-0) at Baltimore (Erickson 1-2), 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox (Ritchie 1-1) at Cleveland (Colon 3-1), 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota (Radke 2-1) at Tampa Bay (Kennedy 0-1), 7:15 p.m.
Toronto (Lyon 0-2) at Texas (Valdes 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
Detroit (Weaver 0-3) at Kansas City (Suppan 1-2), 8:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Ortiz [illegible]-0), 10:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (O.Hernandez 2-1) at Oakland (Hudson 2-1), 10:05 p.m.
Wednesday's Games
Detroit at Kansas City, 2:05 p.m.
Boston at Baltimore, 7:05 p.m.
Chicago White Sox at Cleveland, 7:05 p.m.
Minnesota at Tampa Bay, 7:15 p.m.
Toronto at Texas, 8:05 p.m.
Anaheim at Seattle, 10:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees at Oakland, 10:05 p.m.

NBA Playoffs

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-5)

Saturday, April 20
Indiana 89, New Jersey 83
Sacramento 89, Utah 86, Sacramento leads series 1-0
San Antonio 110, Seattle 89
Charlotte 80, Orlando 79, Charlotte leads series 1-0
Sunday, April 21
Boston 92, Philadelphia 82, Boston leads series 1-0
Dallas 101, Minnesota 94, Dallas leads series 1-0
L.A. Lakers 95, Portland 87, L.A. Lakers lead series 1-0
Detroit 85, Toronto 63, Detroit leads series 1-0
Monday, April 22
New Jersey 95, Indiana 79, series tied 1-1
Seattle 98, San Antonio 90, series tied 1-1
Tuesday, April 23
Orlando at Charlotte, 8 p.m.
Utah at Sacramento, 10:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24
Toronto at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
Philadelphia at Boston, 8 p.m.
Portland at L.A. Lakers, 10:30 p.m.
Friday, April 26
New Jersey at Indiana, 8:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 27
Charlotte at Orlando, 12:30 p.m.
Sacramento at Utah, 3 p.m.
San Antonio at Seattle, 5:30 p.m.
Detroit at Toronto, 8:30 p.m.
Sunday, April 28
Boston at Philadelphia, 12:30 p.m.
Dallas at Minnesota, 3 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Portland, 5:30 p.m.
Monday, April 29
Detroit at Toronto, TBA, if necessary
Sacramento at Utah, TBA, if necessary
Tuesday, April 30
Charlotte at Orlando, TBA, if necessary
New Jersey at Indiana, TBA
Dallas at Minnesota, TBA, if necessary
Wednesday, May 1
Boston at Philadelphia, TBA, if necessary
San Antonio at Seattle, TBA
L.A. Lakers at Portland, TBA, if necessary
Thursday, May 2
Indiana at New Jersey, TBA, if necessary
Toronto at Detroit, TBA, if necessary
Minnesota at Dallas, TBA, if necessary
Utah at Sacramento, TBA, if necessary
Friday, May 3
Philadelphia at Boston, TBA, if necessary
Orlando at Charlotte, TBA, if necessary
Seattle at San Antonio, TBA, if necessary
Portland at L.A. Lakers, TBA, if necessary

NHL Playoffs

By The Associated Press
All Times EDT
FIRST ROUND
(Best-of-7)

Wednesday, April 17
Carolina 2, New Jersey 1
Philadelphia 1, Ottawa 0, OT
Vancouver 4, Detroit 3, OT
San Jose 2, Phoenix 1
Thursday, April 18
Montreal 5, Boston 2
Chicago 2, St. Louis 1
Toronto 3, N.Y. Islanders 1
Colorado 4, Los Angeles 3
[illegible]
Vancouver 5, Detroit 2
[illegible]
Saturday, April 20
Toronto 2, N.Y. Islanders 0, Toronto leads series 2-0
Colorado 5, Los Angeles 3
Phoenix 3, San Jose 1
St. Louis 2, Chicago 0
Ottawa 3, Philadelphia 0
Sunday, April 21
New Jersey 4, Carolina 0, Carolina leads series 2-1
Boston 6, Montreal 4, series tied 1-1
St. Louis 4, Chicago, 0, St. Louis leads series 2-1
Detroit 3, Vancouver 1, Vancouver leads series 2-1
Monday, April 22
Ottawa 3, Philadelphia 0, Ottawa leads series 2-1
Los Angeles 3, Colorado 1, Colorado leads series 2-1
San Jose 4, Phoenix 1, San Jose leads series 2-1
Tuesday, April 23
Boston at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Carolina at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
[illegible]
St. Louis at Chicago, 8 p.m.
Colorado at Los Angeles, 10 p.m.
Detroit at Vancouver, 10:30 p.m.
Wednesday, April 24
Philadelphia at Ottawa, 7 p.m.
Toronto at N.Y. Islanders, 7 p.m.
New Jersey at Carolina, 7 p.m.
San Jose at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Thursday, April 25
Boston at Montreal, 7 p.m.
Vancouver at Detroit, 7 p.m.
Chicago at St. Louis, 7 p.m.
Los Angeles at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.

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Snyder's Special Olympics players bring home awards

Eleven athletes, five coaches and two chaperones attended the Special Olympics Area Track and Field Meet in Abilene Saturday, returning with medals and ribbons.

Special Olympic results:

First place: Daniel Gonzales, softball throw; Tom Crawley, softball throw; Marvin Butler, 200 meter dash; Daniel Gonzales, 50 meter dash; Susie Mullen, softball throw; Lela Stevens, softball throw; Rebekah Brown, 50 meter dash; and Cameron Brown, softball throw.

Second place: Randy Underwood, 100 meter walk; Lela Stevens, 100 meter walk; Rebekah Brown, softball throw; Michael Cotton, softball throw; and Marvin Butler, softball throw.

Third place: Tom Crawley, 100 meter walk; Susie Mullen, 50 meter dash; and Cameron Brown, 50 meter dash.

Fourth place: Michael Cotton, 50 meter dash; Randy Underwood, standing long-jump; Jimmy Wells, 50 meter dash; Marc Fisk, 50 meter dash and softball throw.

Sixth place: Jimmy Wells, softball throw.

Special Olympics coaches attending were Tommy Cotton, Jerry Tucker, Juanita Glass, John Nix and Chandra Tate. Chaperones included Kenneth and Martha Gentry.

Book about Yates to be written

NEW YORK (AP) — Andrea Yates, the Houston mother sentenced to life in prison for drowning her young children, will be the subject of a book coming out next year from Simon & Schuster.

Financial terms were not disclosed for the book, tentatively titled "The Myth of Andrea Yates," and to be written by investigative reporter Suzanne O'Malley.

O'Malley, who wrote about Yates for The New York Times and other publications, will "take a critical look at the crime, trial, medical, mental health, legal, and religious issues surrounding the tragedy," according to a statement released Monday by Simon & Schuster.

Ask Hollywood By Holly Wood

What happened to Mama and Bubba?

Q: Reruns of old shows seem to take up much of my spare time. One of my favorites is "Mama's Family." I've often wondered what happened to Vicki Lawrence, who played Mama, and the one who played Bubba. They were two of my favorites in an excellent cast of characters. **— R.K.N., Hacienda Heights, Calif.**

A: What a coincidence — reruns of old shows take up much of my spare time, too.

Both of them are still acting. You might have seen Allan Kayser (Bubba) in the recent TV movie "Double Teamed," a story of sisters who are high school athletes. Lawrence is also acting in television and on stage, as well as giving talks about women's rights. In 1995 she wrote an autobiography, with Marc Eliot, called "Vicki: The True-Life Adventures of Miss Fireball" (Simon and Schuster).

Q: Could you provide me with an address to which I can write Barbra Streisand? I mailed a letter to the address on the back of one of her records, but I didn't get a reply. **— D.D., Donora, Pa.**

A: You can write to Streisand at ICM — C/O Jeff Berg, 8942 Wilshire Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90211.

Q: Recently, I wondered about a movie I saw many years ago and was so happy to get the chance to see it again on AMC — "Enemy Mine." It is a 1985 science fiction movie starring Dennis Quaid and Louis Gossett Jr. I was hoping you could find out if it is available on VHS. I would really like to share this great movie about friendship with my children. **— M.W., Gilbert, Minn.**

A: That movie is pretty popular, so your local video store might have it on the shelf. If not, you can buy it online at CDconnection.com (http://www.cdconnection.com) for $9.19.

Q: Would you please give me all the stats on Ryan Stiles (age, marital status, children, residence, etc.)? We watch him on "The Drew Carey Show" and "Whose Line is it Anyway?" and we think he is great. **— G.F and J.F., Amarillo, Texas**

A: Stiles was born on April 22, 1959, and he splits his time between Los Angeles and his home in Seattle. He was a regular on the British version of "Whose Line is it Anyway?" from 1989 to 1998, and now he's a regular on the U.S. version hosted by Drew Carey. He started his career in comedy young, doing stand-up in comedy clubs near his home in Vancouver, British Columbia, and he dropped out of high school at 17 to make a career of it. He was a member of the Second City comedy troupes in Canada and Los Angeles, and he's had a few movie roles, including "Hot Shots!" and "Hot Shots! Part Deux." He got married in 1989, and he and his wife, Pat, have two children.

TRIVIA: Besides acting, Dennis Quaid also performs with his band, the Sharks.

(Send your questions to Ask Holly Wood, c/o Newspaper Enterprise Association, 200 Madison Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016, or write to HollyWood85@hotmail.com. Because of the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.)

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AT&T Corp s	14.04	13.72	13.99	+.24
Albertsons	34.79	34.45	34.69	+.25
Alltel	53.38	51.96	53.18	+.88
AmEl Pw	48.10	47.80	47.99	+.01
AndarkPtr	55.06	53.89	55.00	+.55
ATMOS Egy	24.55	24.20	24.33	+.01
Aviall	8.63	8.55	8.63	+.03
BP PLC	51.10	50.55	50.97	—.75
BakerHughes	37.40	36.42	37.33	+.33
Bank of Amer	71.44	70.80	71.32	+.26
BellSouth	32.30	30.90	32.11	+1.11
vjBeth Steel	.43	.41	.41	
BurlNoSFe	28.21	27.43	27.90	—.30
Caterpillar	54.00	53.47	53.68	—.15
ChevronTex	86.50	85.16	86.21	—.44
Citigroup	45.41	44.80	45.20	—.25
CocaCola	55.15	54.60	54.66	—.64
ColgatePal	55.24	54.46	55.05	+.40
ComclMetals	44.85	44.76	44.85	+.07
CooperIn	44.66	42.80	44.64	+.93
DaimlrChry	46.62	46.24	46.61	+.92
DeltaAirl	28.25	27.00	27.21	—.89
Dillards Inc	25.35	24.79	25.25	+.35
DowChem	32.19	31.41	32.09	+.34
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EastmanChem	46.25	45.46	45.71	—.44
EstKodak	34.80	34.20	34.61	+.50
EDS Corp	52.88	49.50	52.74	+1.44
Entergy	46.25	45.95	46.11	+.20
ExxonMobil s	41.19	40.42	41.00	—.85
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GenMills	50.20	49.94	50.12	+.22
GenMotors	65.39	64.25	65.34	+.41
GaPacific	30.50	30.02	30.31	—.04
Goodrich	33.06	32.78	33.06	+.47
Goodyear	22.80	22.50	22.76	—.02
GtAtlPac	27.25	26.90	27.21	+.01
Halliburtn	17.80	17.51	17.78	+.18
Hanson ADS	38.23	38.07	38.21	+.39
HarteHanks	32.57	32.15	32.36	+.11
HomeDepot	48.97	48.00	48.91	+.40
Honeywellntl	37.74	36.71	37.69	+.33
IBM	88.88	88.00	88.73	+.80
IntlPaper	41.14	40.60	40.80	—.10
JohnsonJn s	63.70	63.20	63.34	
vjK mart	1.36	1.32	1.36	
KinderMorg	51.85	51.50	51.68	—.22
Kroger Co	23.06	22.75	22.95	+.25
LockheedM	60.54	59.00	60.50	+1.38
Lowes Cos s	44.89	44.10	44.44	+.10
Lubys	7.15	7.00	7.14	+.08
LucentTech	4.64	4.00	4.63	+.14
MarathonOil	29.57	29.01	29.54	+.09
MayDeptStr	36.20	35.65	36.11	+.13
Medtronic	46.90	45.66	46.09	—.84
Motorola	15.70	15.23	15.30	—.35
NCR Corp	40.37	39.45	40.27	+.77
Navistar	41.85	41.02	41.54	+.48
PNM Rescs	29.75	29.40	29.75	+.30
Penney JC	21.96	21.32	21.88	+.61
PepBoys	17.84	17.65	17.82	—.04
PepsiCo	53.04	52.05	52.34	—.49
Pharmacia	43.97	43.23	43.85	+.23
PhelpDodge	37.90	37.28	37.70	+.45
PhilipPet	60.50	59.95	60.41	—.26
PilgrmPrd B	13.30	13.25	13.27	—.07
Praxair	57.20	56.50	56.88	—.25
ProctGamb	89.54	88.66	89.22	+.33
RadioShack	30.93	29.71	29.80	—.39
ReliantEngy	25.75	25.46	25.70	+.24
RoyalDut	53.39	52.86	53.32	—.56
SBC Comm	32.48	31.14	32.16	+.50
SaraLee	22.45	22.03	22.37	+.23
Scripps EW	80.66	80.32	80.35	—.17
SearsRoeb	54.29	53.64	53.84	+.04
SherwinW	30.35	30.10	30.26	—.04
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Textron	50.55	49.63	50.35	+.72
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TylerTech	5.92	5.85	5.85	—.03
UnionPacif	55.91	55.12	55.50	—.80
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UnitedTech	69.85	69.15	69.51	—.24
Unocal	38.02	37.38	38.00	—.06
VerizonComm	41.69	39.50	41.60	+1.60
WalMart	58.35	57.62	58.19	+.64
WellsFargo	50.50	49.92	50.19	—.03
WstrnGasRs	39.61	39.31	39.48	+.08
WinnDixie	17.44	17.06	17.27	+.27
Xerox Cp	9.31	9.15	9.30	+.11

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APR 23 2002

Patients want FDA to bring back risky drug

BETHESDA, Md. (AP) — When he heard Lotronex was being pulled off the market, Atlanta architect Corey Miller raced from pharmacy to pharmacy to stockpile the drug, his only relief from devastating irritable bowel syndrome.

The once-popular bowel drug is blamed for severe side effects that hospitalized more than 150 people, forced some patients to have parts of their intestines surgically removed, and even killed several.

But Miller calls it his miracle — until his hoarded stash ran out a few months ago. So today, he was joining other desperate patients to beg the Food and Drug Administration to let Lotronex sell again despite its risks.

However, to win FDA approval to resume sales, Lotronex's maker is pledging major restrictions to make sure patients like Miller can't buy it.

The pills are intended only for seriously ill women — not men — who have a certain type of irritable bowel syndrome and have exhausted other therapy, a population manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline says will benefit enough from Lotronex to chance the risks.

Under Glaxo's plan, only certain physicians experienced in treating the irritable bowel syndrome could prescribe Lotronex; women would have to sign a form swearing they understand the risks; and pharmacists could fill only prescriptions bearing a special sticker showing that happened. Patients initially could get only a 30-day supply, and would be told to try 1 milligram a day, half the originally recommended dose.

To see if the restrictions work, Glaxo would survey patients who buy it at Eckerd drugstores and monitor medical records of Lotronex users insured by United Healthcare.

But critics say the plan isn't tough enough to save lives, much less deter determined patients for whom it's not considered safe.

The FDA was seeking advice from independent scientists today, hoping to strike a balance between patients' desperation for treatment and their safety.

"There may be a way," said FDA's gastrointestinal drugs chief, Dr. Victor Raczkowski. "These viewpoints may not be mutually exclusive."

The FDA approved Lotronex in February 2000 as the first new therapy in decades for irritable bowel syndrome, a mysterious disorder that affects up to 11 percent of Americans, mostly women. Irritable bowel syndrome is not life threatening but can cause misery. It involves chronic or recurrent abdominal pain, the sudden and urgent need to go to the bathroom and either frequent diarrhea, constipation or both.

In studies, Lotronex offered modest relief to women whose main symptom of the syndrome was diarrhea. It wasn't proved to work for men, and was declared dangerous for anyone with constipation.

But nine months later, Glaxo pulled Lotronex off the market, citing a life-threatening intestinal inflammation called ischemic colitis and constipation so severe it could require surgery.

The FDA has counted 227 reports of ischemic colitis and severe constipation among Lotronex users. Some 153 were hospitalized, 41 required surgery. Of 13 reported deaths, four were probably caused by the drug, FDA says.

How big is the risk? One in 700 patients will get a serious side effect, said GlaxoSmithKline chief medical officer Dr. Peter Traber.

The FDA allows other drugs with big dangers to sell under special programs that restrict use to the people who need the medications most but are least likely to suffer the side effect. The acne drug Accutane and leprosy drug thalidomide, for instance, cause severe birth defects, so prescriptions are limited to certain physicians who promise to ensure female patients aren't pregnant and use birth control.

Aside from patients who already have constipation, it's impossible to predict who will be most at risk from Lotronex, Traber acknowledged.

But he said restricting prescriptions and educating patients to stop the drug if they have any symptoms — constipation, blood in the stool, unusual abdominal pain — should help.

It's too hard to distinguish irritable bowel syndrome symptoms from Lotronex symptoms, countered Dr. Sidney Wolfe of the consumer advocacy group Public Citizen. He says Lotronex sales should be restricted to patients enrolled in special scientific studies, which Glaxo opposes.

Under Glaxo's current plan, "it's going to cause further cases of ischemic colitis and death," Wolfe predicted. "There is no way this drug will survive."

William Berkley sentenced to death

EL PASO (AP) — William Josef Berkley, convicted last week of fatally shooting an 18-year old woman, was sentenced to death Monday after jurors deliberated for a little more than four hours.

Berkley, 23, stood silent as Judge David Guaderrama of the 243rd District Court asked him if he understood the sentence delivered for the March 10, 2000, slaying of Sophia Martinez.

Berkley said nothing, but nodded his head.

After Guaderrama announced the death sentence, Martinez's sister, Maryann, told Berkley he hadn't succeeded in destroying Sophia Martinez.

"Every time we see the sunrise, every time the stars blanket the night sky, when the clouds open up and let through golden rays of sunlight, when dew drops awaken on rose petals; we see Sophia," Maryann Martinez said, looking directly at Berkley during her victims impact statement. "So you see, you have failed. You didn't succeed in destroying Sophia's spirit or from taking her away from us. Sophia will be everywhere we go."

"The trial that awaits you with God will be more terrible than anything you can imagine," she said.

Monday's sentence ended the eight-day trial, but the capital murder case automatically will be appealed to the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals.

El Paso District Attorney Jaime Esparza said he thought the jurors came to the right decision.

"A jury tells the community the value of life and that we will not tolerate the taking of innocent victims in such a brutal way," Esparza told the El Paso Times for its today editions.

Defense lawyer Frank Macias said he was disappointed in the sentence, but believes he has a strong case for a new trial. Macias said the state failed to tell the defense team that a witness had identified another person in the case who was under a felony indictment for failure to stop and render aid.

"There are always issues that come up in trial," Esparza countered. "I don't think there's any basis for a new trial."

Martinez was attacked while withdrawing $20 from an automatic teller machine in East El Paso.

A surveillance camera caught the robbery on tape and showed a man prosecutors said was Berkley forcing his way into Martinez's red Pontiac Grand Prix. The tape then showed Martinez withdrawing an additional $200 and driving away with the man in her car.

Her body was found in Northeast El Paso two days later, with five bullet wounds to her head. DNA samples taken from semen found in Martinez's body were matched to Berkley.

Kidnapping, rape and robbery were considered aggravating factors leading to the charge of capital murder.

Berkley will remain at the El Paso County Jail until he is transferred to death row, but his sentencing does not end the legal proceedings in the case.

Michael Angelo Jacques, 24, is indicted on a charge of capital murder in the course of robbing Martinez. He allegedly helped Berkley plan the robbery and dispose of evidence after the incident.

His trial is set for September.

Date Book

Wednesday, April 24, 2002

Today is the 114th day of 2002 and the 36th day of spring.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1800, the U.S. Library of Congress was established in the Capitol building in Washington, D.C. It moved to a separate building in 1897.

On this day in 1981, IBM introduced its first personal computer, the IBM PC. Competitors raced to clone the machine after witnessing its success.

On this day in 1990, West and East Germany agreed to merge their currency and economies in July. The two nations underwent full political reunification in October.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Anthony Trollope (1815 - 1882), novelist; Robert Penn Warren (1905 - 1989), writer; Shirley MacLaine (1934 -), actress, is 68; Barbra Streisand (1942 -), actress/singer, is 60; Eric Bogosian (1953 -), actor, is 49; Cedric "The Entertainer" Kyles (1965 -), actor/comedian, is 37; Larry "Chipper" Jones (1972 -), baseball star, is 30.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1906, dueling pistols was contested as an Olympic event for the first and only time. France's Leon Moreaux took the gold in the 20-meter event, while Konstantinos Skarlatos of Greece won the 25-meter gold.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Always remember ... that when you go into an attorney's office door, you will have to pay for it, first or last." - Anthony Trollope, "The Last Chronicle of Barset" vol. 1 ch. 20 (1867)

TODAY'S MOON: Between the first quarter (April 20) and the full moon (April 26)

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Carter to open race

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Nick Carter of the Backstreet Boys will sing the national anthem before the debut of his new powerboat at the American Power Boat Association Super Vee race.

The 22-year-old will be at the race Sunday for the debut of Nick Carter Racing. Carter is entering his new 43-foot offshore racing powerboat.

Carter has asked his father, Bob Carter, to pilot the powerboat.

The race along the beach features a 4-mile course.

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Wednesday, April 24, 2002

An exciting year ahead might be in store for you in terms of your relationships both work-wise and socially. You'll be well accepted in each and can go far.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Your financial base can be considerably strengthened if you make it a priority. Even a previously unreachable luxury could be gratified. Taurus, treat yourself to a birthday gift. Send for your Astro-Graph predictions for the year ahead by mailing $2 and SASE to Astro-Graph, c/o this newspaper, P.O. Box 1758, Murray Hill Station, New York, NY 10156. Be sure to state your Zodiac sign.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Acquiring something you want for either yourself or a loved one looks very encouraging. Once you are stimulated to do so, nothing will stand in your way.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — Respond to any inner feelings you might have about a potentially attainable personal goal. Even if you can't explain it, it'll make sense to you as it unfolds.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — There's a possibility that you could meet someone who is potentially a good, close associate. The strong appeal will be obvious to both.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — This may be the right time to promote something that you've been working on. The timing could be excellent.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Although something may occur that tests your faith, it will demonstrate to you how great your self-assurance is in achieving desirable results.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Should a joint endeavor require a bit more input than was initially anticipated, you should be the one to step up to the plate. You're capable of hitting a home run.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Because each party involved in a partnership situation has solid contributions to make, success is in the offing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — No one can do a better job than you when it comes to handling people in high places. You'll work exceptionally well with the powers that be.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — You've experienced a strong rise in popularity lately — you could find yourself in much demand socially. Capitalize on it while your star is ascending.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — It doesn't matter if you start out slow or are raring to go, you will end up being strongly focused and motivated. Lost time can be made up on things you've been putting off.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Although you're a lone eagle in your thinking most of the time, ideas you develop with a collaborator may be the ones that are apt to be the most successful. Be a team player.

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Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Graduate looks for guidance on protocols of celebration

DEAR ABBY: I am a high school senior. With graduation day fast approaching, I have some pressing questions.

First, what are the rules of etiquette regarding sending invitations/announcements? Do I have to invite all the members of my family to my graduation party that is supposed to be for my friends? (I would rather not even see most of these relatives, but my grandmother is insisting that I invite them.)

Second, what is the best way to keep track of gifts, so I can properly thank the gift-givers?

Abby, I have been reading your column since I learned how to read and would greatly appreciate your input. — **POLITE SENIOR DUDE IN AMARILLO, TEXAS**

DEAR DUDE: Ask your parents if you can have two separate gatherings — one for family and the other for your contemporaries. (Try to give family members the benefit of the doubt. As you get older, their finer qualities may emerge.)

Write what each person gives you on the card that accompanies the gift. That way, you can easily keep track of who gave what when it comes time to send thank-you notes, because it's always a nice touch to refer to the gift in your note.

P.S. Best of luck to you, grad!

**

DEAR ABBY: My sister and I have both become engaged. We are very close and are considering a double wedding. Our fiances think it's a neat idea. I've never been to a double wedding and have no idea how it works. Can you please help us? — **NEWLY ENGAGED IN EL PASO**

DEAR NEWLY ENGAGED: Double weddings are extra-special events — and they can reduce expenses.

I discuss this topic — and more — in my booklet, "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." It can be ordered by sending a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus a check or money order for $5 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby — Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

However, since you asked about double weddings, I will offer some tips from the booklet:

Two sisters or close friends may wish to be married in the same ceremony.

They may share the same attendants or each may have her own maid of honor. Each groom will, of course, have his own best man.

If they desire, each bride may serve as maid of honor to the other bride, and each groom may serve as best man to the other groom.

The brides do NOT need to dress alike.

The costumes of the attendants should harmonize, although they need not be identical.

If the brides are not sisters, church and reception invitations must be issued separately.

The reception is usually given jointly, and either one or separate receiving lines may be formed.

**

Pauline Phillips and her daughter Jeanne Phillips share the pseudonym Abigail Van Buren. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

**

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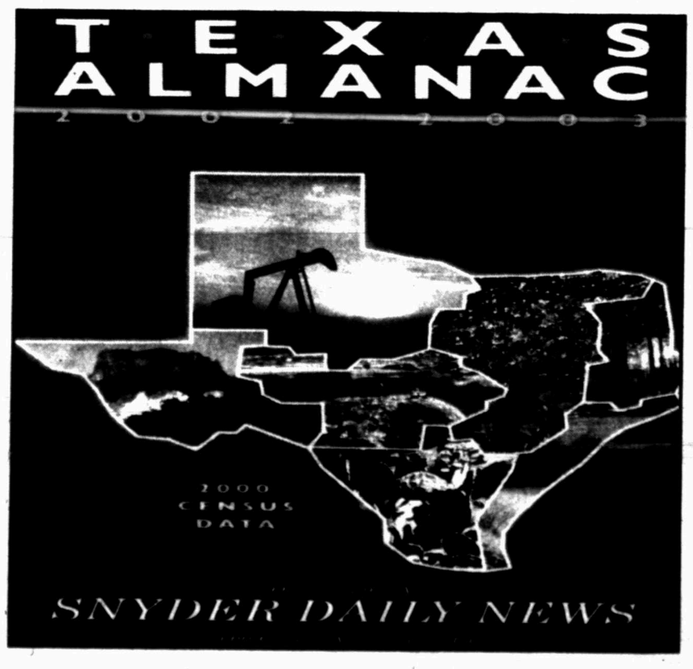
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Blake, bodyguard charged in slaying

LOS ANGELES (AP) — In a complaint that could be the script for one of Robert Blake's movies, prosecutors allege that the actor and his bodyguard plotted his wife's murder for months, visiting remote places for the killing and buying duct tape, lye and shovels.

Blake, who played the tough, street-smart detective on the 1970s series "Baretta," appeared calm Monday as he pleaded innocent to charges that could bring him the death penalty if convicted. His bodyguard, Earle Caldwell, also pleaded innocent during a five-minute arraignment.

"His defense is simple," said Blake's attorney, Harland Braun. "He didn't do it."

Blake and Caldwell are accused of hatching a complicated plot to kill Bonny Lee Bakley — a scheme that prosecutors say evolved over time from plans to have her killed and buried in the desert to her being shot behind an Italian restaurant near Blake's home.

Blake has said his wife was shot after he returned to the restaurant to retrieve a gun he accidentally left behind. He said he was carrying the weapon to protect Bakley, 44, from threats she had received.

Caldwell, 46, was charged with conspiring with Blake on or about Jan. 2, 2001, and continuing to participate in the conspiracy until Bakley was shot to death on May 4, 2001, as she sat in her husband's car after the meal.

"It was just awful after reading the complaint," Margerry Bakley, the victim's sister, said tearfully outside court. "I feel terrible. I feel absolutely terrible."

Both men said nothing in court Monday except when asked for their pleas. Blake remained held without bail. Caldwell's bail has been set at $1 million.

The 18 "overt" acts in the complaint allege that Blake approached two different people and solicited them to kill the mother of his baby daughter. Names of those two crucial witnesses were not immediately disclosed.

Prosecutors allege that Blake personally asked the two to kill his wife in different locations — Parker, Ariz., Three Rivers, Calif., and outside Vitello's Italian restaurant.

The complaint does not explain why prosecutors believe Blake ultimately decided to carry out the killing himself.

Besides murder, prosecutors have accused Blake, 68, of two counts of solicitation of murder, conspiracy and the special circumstance of lying in wait. They said they will decide later whether to seek the death penalty.

The complaint links Caldwell to a list of items characterized as murder implements, including two shovels, a small sledgehammer, crowbar, old rugs, duct tape, pool acid, lye and a solvent used to unclog drains.

Asked to explain, Braun said, "It's actually a list of supplies they used for pool cleaning and construction."

Blake and Caldwell were arrested Thursday after an investigation covering more than 900 items of evidence, more than 150 witnesses and police travel throughout the country.

Should the case go to trial, the defense is expected to focus on Bakley's past.

Blake married her after she gave birth to a child she initially said was fathered either by Blake or Christian Brando, the son of actor Marlon Brando. DNA tests showed Blake was the father of the girl, who will turn 2 in June.

Blake's attorney has suggested there could be many suspects other than the actor because Bakley ran a mail-order business soliciting money from lonely men who answered her ads in magazines and newspapers.

Police contend that Blake had the most motive because he held Bakley in "contempt" and felt "trapped" in the marriage.

On another issue, Court Commissioner Michael M. Duffey allowed TV cameras in court for the arraignment but did not rule on whether they could be present for the trial.

Irregularities in accounting could cost Enron billions

HOUSTON (AP) — Enron Corp.'s assets may lose another $14 billion in value in the fallout from its bankruptcy filing.

In a regulatory filing Monday with the Securities and Exchange Commission and U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Arthur Gonzalez in New York, Enron said it may have to write down $8 billion to $10 billion relating to commodity and energy trading operations before its Dec. 2 bankruptcy.

The report, signed by restructuring specialist and interim chief executive Stephen Cooper, said Enron is bogged down with lawsuits, shrinking resources, numerous investigations into its finances and lacks an outside auditor to file comprehensive 2001 financial statements as previously intended.

The report said Cooper and other Enron executives will focus on Enron's reorganization and leave investigation of the company's financial past to an independent examiner to be appointed by U.S. Trustee Carolyn Schwartz.

"We are disclosing what information we know today in an effort to restore financial credibility," Enron spokeswoman Karen Denne said Monday. "We want to get the issues of the past behind this company as we meet with creditors on a global plan of moving forward."

Henry T.C. Hu, a corporate and securities law professor at the University of Texas School of Law, said an assessment of Enron's true financial performance throughout 2001 could help Cooper guide a scaled-down version of the company out of bankruptcy.

"It also would be useful if it turns out it makes sense to liquidate, whether it's generated by examiner or Cooper himself," Hu said.

The estimated $14 billion writedown in assets is likely attributed to the bankruptcy filing as well as overstated values of some assets "due to possible accounting errors and irregularities," the report said.

Thousands of displaced workers do not qualify for Sept. 11 charities

NEW YORK (AP) — An estimated 50,000 New York City workers lost their jobs as an indirect result of the terrorist attacks, but do not qualify for relief set aside for Sept. 11 victims, according to a study released today.

The report by the United Way of New York City highlights the dilemma facing many displaced workers who lost their livelihoods after the attacks, yet were left behind from charity aid because they did not live or work in Lower Manhattan.

The report also says the workers have placed added pressure on the city's social service providers at a time of looming budget cuts.

The report points out that 9,000 jobs were lost in the city's aviation industry, which it calls a direct effect of the attacks. However, because most airline and airport employees worked in Queens, they were not eligible for help.

"The September 11 attack and its aftermath have affected the need for human services in the City, the public and private resources available to meet those needs, and the conditions under which human service providers operate," the report said.

The report said service organizations were likely to see significant increases in the need for rent assistance, other housing needs, and mental health services.

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



Strong pain medication may be warranted

DEAR DR. GOTT: I'm a retired nurse, 67, with severe osteoarthritis affecting all my major joints. The pain cannot be controlled with ibuprofen or over-the-counter drugs. I have not responded to non-narcotic medication. Because of a gastric ulcer, I am forbidden to take Vioxx, Celebrex and similar medicines. I can no longer lead an active life and am virtually housebound, sentenced to an existence that I never could have imagined when I was younger and vigorous. My 32-year-old doctor refuses to consider the judicious use of narcotic pain relievers, even though I have no history of drug dependence, depression or psychological problems. I'm not interested in mood-altering drugs; I simply want pain relief. Any suggestions?

DEAR READER: Young doctors, despite their enthusiasm and up-to-date training, often have difficulty putting themselves into the shoes of the elderly or patients with chronic medical problems. Pain control can be an especially difficult issue, particularly now when various federal and state governments are seriously cracking down on physicians who prescribe narcotics too freely.

However, as you have discovered, chronic pain can affect one's life in innumerable ways. I believe that in situations such as this, doctors owe their allegiances to their patients. We're not doing our jobs if we irresolutely refuse to prescribe pain relievers to patients who truly need them. Do I prescribe a handful of narcotic pills to a new patient who makes a 5 p.m. Friday appointment? Not on your life. I will usually exhaust every other alternative while I'm getting to know that patient. If, after satisfying myself that all other resources have been exhausted, narcotics are needed, I'll prescribe them — and refer the patient to a pain clinic.

From the description in your brief note, I conclude that you seem to be a responsible person who would prudently use potentially addictive pain medication. (As you know, the risk of addiction is quite low in people who take narcotics for pain relief.) Therefore, my suggestion is that you find another doctor — perhaps a more experienced practitioner — who would be more sympathetic to your plight. Such a physician would work with you, prescribe what you need and monitor your progress.

A NOTE TO READERS: For an updated and revised Health Report on "Losing Weight" (formerly "Winning the Battle of the Bulge") that includes my No Flour, No Sugar diet send $2 and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope to Newsletter, P.O. Box 167, Wickliffe, OH 44092-0167. Be sure to mention the title. Also, be on the lookout for more updated Health Reports.

DEAR DR. GOTT: If a doctor orders 0.125 milligrams of digoxin for a patient and 1,125 milligrams are injected, what are the possible side effects? Should the blood level of digoxin be checked while the patient is being digitalized?

DEAR READER: The result of such a massive dose would, in my opinion, be fatal. I cannot conceive of this scenario, however, because doctors and nurses are customarily very cautious to avoid dosing errors with the drug.

Digoxin is a time-honored therapy for heart disorders, but it has a narrow therapeutic range, meaning that the difference between beneficial effect and toxicity is small. Even a dose that barely exceeds the therapeutic level may cause nausea, vomiting, yellow vision and serious effects on the cardiac electrical system, including heart block, slow pulse and cardiac arrest. This is why patients receiving the drug for the first time should have close monitoring with serum digoxin levels. In my view, the situation you described would be all but impossible.

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Pope tells cardinals priests' sexual abuse rightly considered a crime by society

VATICAN CITY (AP) — Pope John Paul II bluntly said sex abuse by priests in the United States "was rightly considered a crime by society," telling American cardinals today that there was no place in religious life for abusers.

"To the victims and their families, wherever they may be, I express my profound sense of solidarity and concern," he told the closed-door meeting in a speech in English released by the Vatican.

It was the pope's strongest words to date since allegations of sex abuse by priests began pouring out in January, shaking the Roman Catholic Church in the United States.

The pope had summoned the American cardinals for an extraordinary two-day meeting with top Vatican officials to discuss the scandal that has shaken the confidence of the faithful, led to the resignation of one bishop, and cost the church millions of dollars in legal settlements. Church officials have been accused of covering up misconduct by priests, in some cases by moving known abusers from job to job.

The meeting opened a day after a report that a move was afoot by fellow cardinals to force the resignation of Boston's Cardinal Bernard Law, accused of mishandling sex abuse cases.

The pope did not address that issue directly, but he did say "bishops and superiors are concerned above all else with the spiritual good of souls."

"People need to know that there is no place in the priesthood and religious life for those who would harm the young," the pope said in the speech. "I ask Catholics to stay close to their priests and bishops and support them with their prayers at this difficult time."

Acknowledging the extent to which the scandal has hurt the American church, the pope said: "Because of the great harm done by some priests and religious, the church itself is viewed as distressed and many are offended at the way in which the church's leaders are perceived to have acted in this matter."

He called the acts of sex abuse "an appalling sin in the eyes of God."

Law said last week that he would not resign, following a secret meeting with the pope and other Vatican officials in Rome.



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2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Israel pursues three-point policy

WASHINGTON (AP) — Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon said today Israel's campaign against terror on the West Bank opens the door to peacemaking with the Palestinians.

Renewing his call for an international peace conference, which President Bush is weighing, Sharon said Israel would pursue a three-point policy.

First, he said, there must be a complete cessation of violence and incitement to attack Israel. Then, he said, Israel would be prepared for a long-term armistice with the Palestinians. In a third stage, Israel and the Palestinians would reach a final settlement.

He said borders would be drawn, implying his approval of a Palestinian state, which Bush has been urging.

"Regional peace is within our grasp," Sharon said via television to the annual convention of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee, a pro-Israel lobby group. "I am optimistic about the future."

Israel's three-week incursion into Palestinian areas "has opened a window of opportunity to put the peace process back on a different moralistic track, free from the threat of terrorism," Sharon said.

The issue of an international conference to restart the Mideast peace process was raised during Secretary of State Colin Powell's trip to the region this month. Powell said such a meeting could restore hope, but the White House has not registered enthusiasm for the idea.

"I have proposed a regional peace conference to achieve this goal" of regional peace, Sharon said. "A regional peace conference sponsored by the United States can create the framework and mobilities to bring about a cessation of hostilities.

"It can foster a coalition of countries committed to peace and able to defeat the forces of terrorism and evil circling our lives."

Israel received a bipartisan boost, meanwhile, from Rep. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., and Rep. Tom DeLay, R-Texas, the House majority whip.

"You will not hear silence, you will not hear neutrality," Menendez said.

Property rites case...

Supreme Court sides with government

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court refused today to expand Americans' property rights, reaffirming that the government can temporarily block building to protect the environment or prevent overdevelopment.

Justices ruled 6-3 against a group of landowners barred from building retirement homes near Lake Tahoe because of environmental concerns.

While not unsympathetic to the aging landowners, some of whom have died during the two-decade legal battle, the Supreme Court said if the court imposes time limits on temporary ordinances, decision-makers might be too hasty in setting permanent policy.

"It would only serve to disadvantage those landowners and interest groups who are not as organized or familiar with the planning process," Justice John Paul Stevens wrote for the majority. "Formulating a general rule of this kind is a suitable task for state legislatures."

Justices had been asked to decide whether the Constitution's "takings" clause, which prohibits taking someone's land without compensation, applies to temporary government land-use bans like the one at Lake Tahoe.

The court's most conservative members said it applies.

"Because the prohibition on development of nearly six years in this case cannot be said to resemble any 'implied limitation' of state property law, it is a taking that requires compensation," Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist wrote in a dissent, joined by Justices Antonin Scalia and Clarence Thomas.

The chief justice said Lake Tahoe is a national treasure, but that a few citizens should not have to pay for its protection.

At issue were the rights of the hundreds of people who bought property on Lake Tahoe and have waited for permission to build there. The Tahoe Regional Planning Agency imposed a construction moratorium because of concerns about burgeoning development that was changing the color of Lake Tahoe, which is on the California-Nevada border.

Three thefts reported Monday around Snyder

•Thefts

A Key Energy employee reported the theft of a set of tubing elevators Monday morning valued at approximately $2,000. Deputies advised an offense report for a state jail felony theft would be submitted.

Officers responded to Bowlin Automotive just after 9 a.m. Monday and filed a report for theft after a vehicle inspection sticker was reported stolen.

An employee at Hackfeld's reported a shoplifter Monday and a report was submitted.

•Arrest

Officers arrested a 20-year-old man at 8:25 p.m. Monday on outstanding warrants for consuming alcohol as a minor.

A 22-year-old man was taken into custody from the 200 block of Ave. Y Monday evening on a warrant for failure to have liability insurance for his vehicle.

At 2:46 a.m. today, a 21-year-old man was arrested in the 5300 block of Etgen for driving with a suspended license.

•Disturbance

A woman requested an officer at her home on Jacksboro St. Monday afternoon in reference to a man refusing to leave. Officers issued a criminal trespass warning to the man.

•Close patrols

A woman reported vandalism to her flower beds and front porch Monday and a close patrol was initiated.

A man requested an officer at his daughter's house Monday night after seeing a prowler there.

•Gas drive off

A clerk at United Fuel reported a drive off Monday worth $10.03. Officers located the vehicle described by the clerk and the driver advised she would return to pay for the fuel.



CAMPAIGN TRAIL — Scott Campbell, Republican nominee for District 72 State Representative, made a campaign stop in Snyder this morning on the Western Texas College campus. Campbell was greeted by Marlin Terrell of the Farm Bureau, which endorsed the Republican candidate during the March primary. (SDN Staff Photo)

Obituaries

Roswell Rigsby

1910-2002

Roswell Rigsby, longtime Snyder businessman, died Monday, April 22, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital after a lengthy illness.

Services for Mr. Rigsby, 91, are pending at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Aug. 22, 1910 in Garland, Ark., he moved with his family to Snyder in 1931.

The family operated the Rigsby Café and an adjacent hotel for 11 years at the current site of Snyder National Bank. Rigsby Café had the first neon sign, red and blue, in Snyder.

He married Mavis Maxine Jenkins on July 4, 1936 in Big Spring. She died March 13, 1993.

Mr. Rigsby was owner of Roswell Rigsby Realtors and also had owned and operated the Traveler's Inn Court on East Highway. He was a member of the First United Methodist Church.

Survivors include two sons and daughters-in-law, Tom and Linda Rigsby of Abilene and Malcolm and Mara Rigsby of Malvern, Ark.; a brother Byrle Rigsby of Andrews; and two grandchildren, Colin Rigsby of Arlington and Jennifer Davis of Ira.

Jonathan Kelly

Infant

Graveside service for Jonathan Michael Kelly, son of Chris and Brandi Kelly of Snyder, is set for 2:30 p.m. Wednesday in the Snyder Cemetery. The Rev. David Phillips, pastor of Northside Baptist Church, will officiate.

Jonathan was stillborn Saturday, April 20, in Cogdell Memorial Hospital.

Survivors include his parents, Chris and Brandi Kelly of Snyder; paternal grandmother, Shirley Kelly of Snyder; maternal grandparents, Carol and Armando Renteria of Sweetwater; paternal great-grandmother, Opal Davis of Snyder; maternal great-grandmother, Louise Barnes of Fort Worth; an uncle, Armando Renteria Jr. of Roscoe; an aunt, Andrea Renteria of Roscoe; and three cousins, Alura Renteria, Aubrey Renteria and A.J. Renteria, all of Roscoe.

Aline Black

1921-2002

Iva Aline Black of Snyder died Monday, April 22, in Snyder Oaks Care Center.

Services for Mrs. Black, 80, is set for 1 p.m. Wednesday in Ellis Funeral Home in Midland. The Revs. Robert Kepple and Charles Day will officiate. Interment will follow in Resthaven Memorial Park.

Born July 22, 1921 in Rusk, she was reared and educated in Slocum. She married Pete Black in 1947 in Jacksonville. Mrs. Black retired after being employed 18 years for the Midland ISD food service.

Mrs. Black was a member of Ranchland Heights Baptist Church, Bee Club and Schools' Food Service Club.

Her parents, Lee and Allie Sherrard; a brother, Joe Larkin Sherrard; and a sister, Mary Francis Cupp, preceded her in death.

Survivors include her husband, Pete Black of Snyder; a son and his wife, Ronnie and Pam Black of Snyder; five grandchildren and their spouses, Jeff and Lara Black of Odessa, Michael Black of Lubbock, Michelle and Donnie Wood of Snyder, Gery and Janice Camp of Snyder, Amy and Scott Conard of Lubbock; and nine great-grandchildren.

Pallbearers will be Mrs. Black's grandsons and Mark Doty.

Memorials are suggested to Odyssey Health Care Inc., 1510 S. Gregg, Big Spring, 79720.

Family visitation is 6-8 p.m. today in Ellis Funeral Home.

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events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Gateway Family Services

Gateway Family Services has a parenting discussion group from 10:30-11:30 a.m. every Tuesday, focusing on parenting issues and special challenges. The family violence support group also meets from 6:30-7:30 p.m. every Tuesday.

Hospice caregivers dinner

Odyessy Community Care Hospice will host a caregivers dinner at 5:30 p.m. today in the First Presbyterian Church fellowship hall.

Scurry County 4-H horse club

The Scurry County 4-H horse club will hold voluntary practice from 6:30 to 8 this evening at the rodeo grounds.

FBC services televised

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

Class of '77 meeting

The SHS class of 1977 will meet at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the home of Janie McCormick at 2805 32nd to send out letters.

Bake sale

Snyder Oaks Care Center will conduct a bake sale from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart.

Seniors' parents meeting

A meeting of parents of SHS seniors will be held at 7 p.m. Monday in the student center.

SJHS showcase

Snyder Junior High will host a showcase for incoming 7th graders at 6 p.m. Monday. Parents and students are asked to meet in the auditorium and then tour the building. Various departments will have displays and information available.

Hermleigh ISD transfers

Hermleigh ISD is accepting applications for transfer for 2002-2003. Applications may be picked up in the high school office and all transfer requests must be turned in by the end of April.

CNA classes

Snyder Oaks Care Center will start free certified nurses' aide classes toward the end of this month. Go by 210 E. 37th for application. Call 573-9377 for more information.

Pyron Cemetery meeting

A Pyron Cemetery meeting will be held at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 4, in the Hermleigh community center, followed by a covered dish luncheon.

Ira sports banquet

The Ira sports banquet is set for 7 p.m. Monday, May 6. Reservations can be made at the Ira school office.

American Legion officers

The American Legion will elect officers Monday, May 13 in a 7 p.m. meeting at the Legion hall. All members are urged to make plans to attend this meeting.

SHS class of 1992 reunion

The 1992 class of Snyder High School needs addresses for classmates. Call Melanie at 573-4022, Julie at 573-1634 or Amy at 573-4793. The reunion will be held at the end of July.

Windbreak trees

The Upper Colorado Soil and Water Conservation District has windbreak trees available for sale. Extra hardwood trees are $1 each. Call 573-6317 between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Adult basic education classes

Adult basic education classes taught by certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides are held at WTC from 8 a.m. until noon Tuesday through Thursday, and from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Classes include G.E.D., E.S.L., and refresher courses. For more information call 573-8511, ext. 322.

WTC pool hours

Lap swim: M-F, 6:30-8 a.m. and noon to 1 p.m.; open swim, M-TH 7-9 p.m. Memberships for the semester: $50. The swimming pool is also available for rental, contact Lisa Christensen, ext. 290.

ESL, GED classes

Classes for E.S.L., GED and computers are held at 6 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Region 14 classroom at 4200 College Ave. For more information, call 574-6012.

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.

Two officers heard confession

KARACHI, Pakistan (AP) — Two Karachi police officers testified today they heard British-born Islamic militant Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh admit his role in the kidnap-slaying of reporter Daniel Pearl.

The courtroom inside the Karachi Central Jail remained closed to journalists and members of the public today, the second day of proceedings against Saeed and three others. All four men have pleaded innocent to charges of murder, kidnapping and terrorism; they face the death penalty if convicted.

Defense attorneys said they objected to the admissibility of the testimony from Athar Rashid and Faisal Noor, saying the officers had heard Saeed make a statement that was not under oath.

"They said they heard Sheikh Omar confessing his crime," said attorney Khawaja Naveed, who represents two of Saeed's co-defendants, Fahad Naseem and Sheikh Mohammed Adeel. Saeed is known locally as Sheikh Omar.

"They said that Sheikh Omar said number one that he masterminded the kidnapping of Mr. Pearl, number two that he will not defend himself before the court and number three that Mr. Pearl is dead," Naveed said.