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WT-Int. Crude - $29.49
WTIC Posted - $26.25
Natural Gas - $4.68

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

THURSDAY
Sept. 4, 2003
Vol. 55 No. 109
10 Pages 50¢
Home of Pat Falls

THE SDN COLUMN

MY TURN



by Leslie Schmidt

We remember the oil field days of the '70s as a time of taking things for granted. We were just teenagers, but we enjoyed the spoils of the business.

Everyone in the family had their own car, we had a new swimming pool and we lived in a wonderful two-story house at the lake. We had no idea what our parents did for a living, had some roustabout business, but we didn't know what that was. We just knew it afforded us a luxurious life, which has been unattainable in our own adult lives.

During those times the bumper sticker "Oil field trash and proud of it" was a common sight. The country club was no longer just for doctors and lawyers. The pool at the club was full of oil field kids and cronies. We were immersed in the joyful spending of money without knowing, or caring, where it came from.

While searching through the closet for some forgettable object the other day, we came across a commemorative plate from the billionth barrel dedication in 1973. We find these objects now and then amongst our belongings, but the meaning is lost as to their significance. It was just our parents' business to us.

That makes it all the harder to try to recapture what we now realize we were oblivious to. We sat right in the middle of a historical time, so full of characters and interesting stories, but we never had a clue how important it was. We just worried if we would be able to make the drag a million times on Friday night, using up that valuable resource, gasoline, that was a product of what kept us fed and clothed.

We try to pry the secret of success out of our parents, but they don't seem to think it was such a big deal. Our mother and stepfather took a faltering welding business and turned it into a thriving roustabout service. "Was it being at the right place at the right time?" we ask, "Did you plan things to happen that way?" But no secrets are revealed, because they just don't see it as something that was easily obtained. They worked hard for their gains, and lost hard when it all came to an end.

We had a big auction in 1986. They sold all those big white trucks that had become a familiar sight in our everyday lives, along with so much equipment it was boggling to the mind to see it all laid out for the public to peruse. They shut down the office that we had ran up and down the halls of as little kids and used like it was our personal space. It was truly the end of an era.

Well, we're not as spoiled these days, although the folks are still on top enough to help us out when times get tough. One of the biggest things we miss is the yearly trip to Padre Island. It seems strange that we were so familiar with the ocean and sand, yet our children have never seen a beach.

Guess that just gives us something to work toward. We've got a lot to learn from Mom and Pop.

Interest light for election

Early voting ends Friday for constitutional amendments

Early voting in the Sept. 13 constitutional amendment election, as expected, is light.

As of this morning only 66 votes had been cast along with two mail-in ballots.

Friday is the last day of early voting by mail-in ballot and Tuesday will be the last day of early voting in person at the Scurry County courthouse.

Polls will open from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 13,

The following changes in voting precincts were revealed by County Clerk Joan Bunch.

Boxes 5, 6, and 7 vote at the Scurry County library;

Boxes 8, 9, and 10 vote at the Snyder school administration building; Boxes 11, 12, and 13 vote on the south side of the Scurry County Coliseum; and Boxes 14 and 15 vote on the north side of the coliseum.

Amendments on the ballot include:

Prop. 1: Allowing Veterans' Land Board to use excess assets for veterans' homes;

Prop. 2: Two-year redemption period for mineral interests sold at tax sale;

Prop. 3: Tax exemption for property owned by religious organization for expansion;

Prop. 4: Allowing municipal utility districts to develop parks and recreational facilities;

Prop. 5: Revising the property-tax exemption for travel trailers;

Prop. 6: Allowing use of reverse mortgages to refinance a home equity loan;

Prop. 7: Requiring six-person juries in district court misdemeanor trials;

Prop. 8: Canceling election for any office if candidate is unopposed;

Prop. 9: Adopting a total-return investment strategy for Permanent School Fund;

Prop. 10: Allowing cities to donate used equipment to rural volunteer fire departments;

Prop. 11: Allowing wineries to sell wine for consumption on or off premises;

Prop. 12: Capping non-economic damages in medical and other liability cases;

Prop. 13: Freezing elderly and disabled homeowners' property taxes;

Prop. 14: Allowing borrowing by the Texas Transportation Commission;

Prop. 15: Guaranteeing benefits earned in local public retirement systems;

Prop. 16: Authorizing home equity lines of credit;

Prop. 17: Freezing school taxes on residential homesteads owned by the disabled;

Prop. 18: Canceling election for unopposed candidates in political subdivisions; Prop. 19: Abolishing

Prop. 19: Authority to create rural fire prevention districts;

Prop. 20: Authorizing general obligation bonds for military enhancement projects;

Prop. 21: Allowing college professors to be paid for serving on water district boards;

Prop. 22: Filling temporary vacancies caused by military service of public officers.

Man pleads on forgery charge

A 46-year-old Victoria man will serve three years in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice following a guilty plea entered Wednesday in 132nd District Court.

James Charles Talamo pleaded guilty to forgery, a Sept. 27, 2002 offense.

District Judge Ernie Armstrong also ordered Talamo to pay $250 in restitution to Mary Wright of Snyder.



FLAG GOES TO STATE — Pauline Walton has crocheted a U.S. Flag wall hanging that won first place at the District II meeting of Texas Education Extension Association at Hart in April. The large flag will compete in the state convention in Plano Sept. 16. Pauline is a member of the local Stargazers Club. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)



WORK PROGRESSES — Gutierrez Construction employees Jorge Anaya, left, and Joey Alvarez work on basic support bracing for the backstop cabling system for the new ballparks at Western Texas College. (SDN Staff Photo)

Ohio utility facing blackout blame

WASHINGTON (AP) — The head of the Ohio utility that has been at the center of the blackout investigation said today he's convinced a combination of events over a broad area triggered the nation's worst blackout, and he dismissed the notion that his engineers should have warned neighboring utilities of developing grid problems.

"Our system was relatively stable until the very end," FirstEnergy Corp. Chairman H. Peter Burg told a congressional hearing, the first into the Aug. 14 blackout that cascaded across all or parts of eight states from eastern Michigan to New York.

Investigators have focused on FirstEnergy because it sustained a string of high-voltage line failures during the hour before the blackout. Transcripts released by the committee showed that FirstEnergy's grid managers were struggling to try to diagnose the failures and were confused before the blackout as to what was happening in their system south of Cleveland.

While investigators have yet to determine a precise cause for the blackout, utilities and grid managers have tried to deflect blame.

Joseph Welch, president of the International Transmission Co., an independent operator of a power grid in southeastern Michigan, complained that "there was absolutely no warning" of FirstEnergy system problems.

Says Sen. Whitmire...

Redistricting debate should take place on Senate floor

HOUSTON (AP) — The first Democratic senator to break ranks with the boycotting legislators who fled to New Mexico said Wednesday that ultimately congressional redistricting will have to be debated on the Texas Senate floor.

Sen. John Whitmire, a Houston Democrat, said if Republican Gov. Rick Perry decides to continue calling special legislative sessions on the issue, the governor can outlast the 10 Senate Democrats who remain in Albuquerque, N.M.

"We cannot remain in New Mexico indefinitely. At some point in time, unless you're prepared to live in New Mexico, you have to come back and debate the issue on the Senate floor," Whitmire told The Associated Press on Wednesday during an interview in his Houston office. "I really hope they'll weigh options that allows them to have an end plan, an end game, short of being out there any additional length of time."

Whitmire, who returned Tuesday night, spent Wednesday talking with constituents, community leaders and some Democratic and Republican state senators. His staff was busy answering telephone calls, some supportive and others critical of Whitmire.

The Houston legislator said he'll spend the rest of the week talking with local and state political leaders to try and bring the two parties together on redistricting.

He said he hopes to talk with Republican Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst this week. He said he has spoken with Republican senators Jeff Wentworth of San Antonio and Florence Shapiro of Plano.

Whitmire said he doesn't expect Perry to call another special session immediately. If that were to happen, he said, he is not sure whether he would attend.

For now, he said, he doesn't believe he will be apprehended and taken back to the state Capitol by law officers.

"I don't think they want me at this stage," he said. "I'm doing them more good in the free world. But I'm monitoring it very carefully out of Austin. They're not going to slip up on me."

Dewhurst said Wednesday that he would prefer a third special session be called within the next two weeks, although he has had no indication from Perry when a third would be called.

Eleven Senate Democrats fled to New Mexico on July 28 just as Perry was about to call a second consecutive special legislative session on redistricting. Their absence blocked a quorum in the 31-member chamber, shutting down Senate business. Two-thirds must be present for there to be a quorum.

Whitmire said there is still "a close bond" between him and the Democratic senators who remain in New Mexico, even though some disagreed with his decision to return to Texas.

He said he also returned to Texas because he didn't want the Senate's so-called two-thirds rule permanently eroded, effecting other issues in the future besides redistricting.

Meanwhile, in Austin, Republican senators met behind closed doors to consider possible plans redrawing the state's congressional lines. Dewhurst said no conclusion was reached, but that senators were committed to reaching a consensus on a map by early next week.

The Democrats fled to New Mexico in part because they claimed GOP leaders violated the federal Voting Rights Act by dropping a traditional rule that requires two-thirds of the Senate to agree to debate a bill.

Chamber search committee will meet on Friday

The executive director search committee for the Snyder Chamber of Commerce will meet at 11:30 a.m. Friday at the chamber office.

The committee will pick up applicant packages from 26 individuals who are seeking the post that was held by the late Donna Fowler.

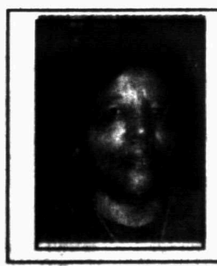
It is expected the field of applicants will be narrowed down and interviews will follow, according to chamber president Mike Thornton.

ASK US

Q — How does last year's rain total at this time compare to this year's?

A — Last year's total at this time was 15.08 inches and this year's total is 11.96.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR



Vera Newsome...

...is a 1968 Snyder High School graduate who lives in Lubbock. Her parents are Howard and Eloise Smith of Snyder.

Vera currently works for Federal Emergency Management Association and spent six months in New York City after the 9-11 attack as a FEMA representative.

Hobbies include reading mysteries, playing cards, and seeing people achieve their dreams.

TODAY'S THOUGHT

It's so much easier to suggest solutions when you don't know too much about the problem.
— Malcolm Forbes

SEP 04 2003

events

WHAT'S UP?

ONGOINGS

Gifted, talented advisory committee

There will be a meeting of the gifted and talented parent-community advisory committee from 6-8 this evening in the SJHS auditorium. Call 574-6078 for more information.

Junior high pictures

School pictures will be taken Friday at Snyder Junior High. Students have received packets and pictures must be paid for in advance.

SHS Choir stack-up dinner

The annual SHS choir stack-up dinner will be from 5-7:30 p.m. Friday in the SHS cafeteria, priro to the first home football game. Tickets can be purchased from any SHS choir student, or at the door for $5. Takeouts are welcome.

Car wash at Wal-Mart

Highland FFA will have a car wash beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday at Wal-Mart. Cost is by donation.

Home school meeting

A home school meeting will be held from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. Saturday at the Purple Sage Motel. Wear swimsuit and bring sack lunch. For more information, call 573-4136.

Women's ministry video class

The Women's Ministry of Colonial Hill Baptist Church will present Kathy Troccoli's four-week video series, "Hope for a Woman's Heart." Sunday and Monday session will be held beginning at 4:30 p.m. Sunday and 7 p.m. Monday in the Adult 5 classroom at the church. Classes will be led by Trina Rodgers and Betty Thompson. For more information, call 573-8596.

Trinity children's SS classes

Trinity United Methodist Church begins new children's Sunday School classes for all ages at 9:45 a.m. Sunday. Materials and teachers are all new.

Retired teachers meeting

The Retired Teachers Association will have an ice cream supper and meeting at 7 p.m. Monday at First United Methodist Church.

Retirement reception

A retirement reception for Barbara Owen is slated from 4-5:30 p.m. Tuesday at Northeast Elementary School.

First Baptist support group

First Baptist Church is sponsoring a support group for people facing difficulties including cancer, divorce and grief etc. on the second Thursday of each month. The group meets at 6:30 p.m. on the first floor Adult 6 Department.

Tiger Pride card

Snyder Junior High is selling Tiger Pride cards through Monday. Cost is $10. Contact any student or call the office at 573-6356.

Drivers license office

Due to vacation, the drivers license office will close at noon on Tuesday and will reopen on Wednesday, Sept. 17.

Lord's Acre fish fry

First United Methodist Church's Lord's Acre fish fry is at 5 p.m. Tuesday in Wesley Hall. Tickets are $7 for adults and $3 for children under 10. Tickets are on sale now and take-outs will be available.

4-H horse club meeting

Scurry County 4-H horse club will have its start-up meeting at 7 p.m. Tuesday in the East Elementary cafeteria.

SHS school pictures

Snyder High School school pictures will be taken Wednesday and next Thursday during English classes. Order packets will be sent home and pictures must be pre-paid.

SCA demonstration

The Society for Creative Anachronism (SCA) will hold a demonstration in Snyder on Saturday, Sept. 13. SCA is a non-profit group striving to recreate the Middle Ages with historical accuracy. Call 574-8019 for more information.

Canyon community reunion

The Canyon community reunion will be held Saturday, Sept. 20, in the fellowship hall of the Ira Baptist Church. Doughnuts and coffee will be served at 9:30 a.m. Meat, paper goods and drinks will be furnished for lunch. Bring vegetable or salad and desert. For more information cal Louise Layne at 573-2012 or Lorita Keller at 573-3825.

1950s dance contest

A '50s dance contest will be held Saturday, Oct. 11, in conjunction with the White Buffalo Festival. Judging for the $100 prize will be 50% costume and 50% dance skills. The White Buffalo Committee also solicits 1950s yearbooks for the display. For more information call Jackie at the coliseum at 573-9811.

SHS student council Tiger T-shirts

The SHS student council has Tiger T-shirts, youth and adult sizes, day planners, book socks and lanyards for sale. Contact Christy Smith at the high school at 573-6301.

Pick up Tiger's Lair

The Tiger's Lair yearbook can be picked up at Snyder High School, in Room 229, the journalism room, before and after school. Students or parents need to bring the receipts.

2003 Bulldog annuals arrive

The 2003 Bulldog annuals have arrived and have been delivered to those who purchased one. To purchase an extra annual at a cost of $22 each, contact Becky Hudgins at Ira School.

Adult basic education

GED and ESL classes at Western Texas College resume today. Classes are 8 a.m. until noon Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 6-9 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. Certified teachers and Spanish-speaking aides teach the classes. Call 573-8511, ext. 322 for more information.



DONATION — Chad Welsh, right, executive director of the Boys and Girls Club, accepts a $500 check from Wal-Mart manager R.J. Youngclaus. Proceeds will benefit the club's Project Care slated Sunday. On that day, members of the club will help senior citizens with projects around their homes at no cost. Call the club to request help. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Ohio's rural Amish community shaken by fatal cornfield killing

MOUNT HOPE, Ohio (AP) — It's an annual prank in this tranquil Amish community, where men wear straw hats and women bonnets and plain dresses: Youngsters hide in cornfields and hurl tomatoes at passing cars.

This year, the mischief turned deadly.

A motorist who had been pelted several times on Labor Day got out of his car and fired three to five rounds into the 7-foot-high corn, killing 23-year-old Steven L. Keim.

No arrest has been made.

Residents are reeling from shock, unable to understand why anybody would retaliate so violently. Authorities say the county hadn't seen a firearm-related homicide in about three decades.

"The prank has gone on for years and years," said Marty Yoder, who owns Marty's Shoes in this town about 60 miles south of Cleveland. "All over the county it's been happening every year."

The shooting occurred just north of Mount Hope in Holmes County, where the clip-clop of horses pulling Amish buggies is just as common as the sound of passing automobiles.

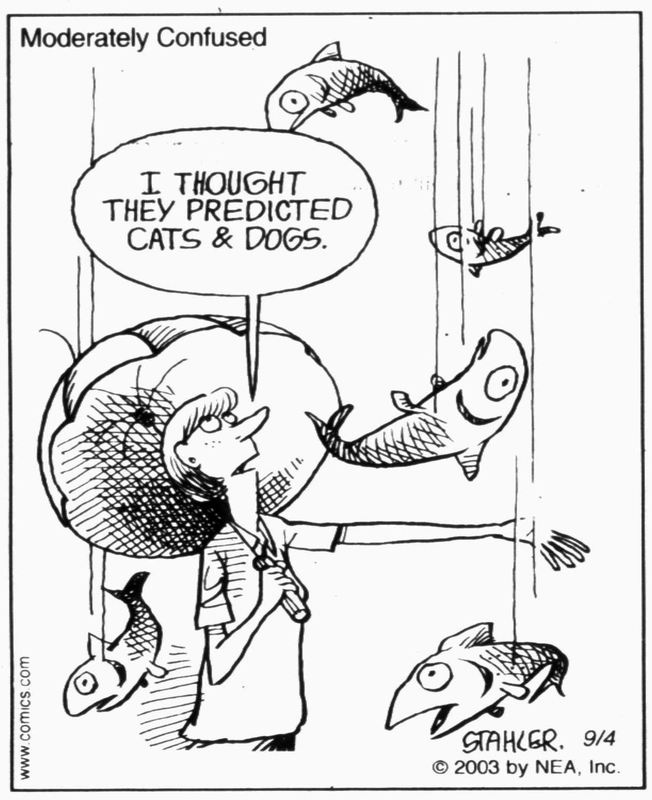
Holmes County has what is believed to be the world's largest population of Amish, who do not believe in modern conveniences such as electricity and automobiles.

Keim, 23, an Apple Creek resident of Amish heritage, died of multiple wounds to the chest, Holmes County Coroner Robert Anthony said.

Keim was with about 10 other members of the Amish community, ages 15 to 23. The group told the sheriff's office they had been throwing tomatoes and firing paintball guns at passing vehicles.

The crime scene is marked by trampled corn stalks that interrupt an otherwise uniform stretch roadside corn. About eight rows into the cornfield, well hidden from the road, two buckets of rotting, fly-covered tomatoes still sat.

According to the sheriff's department, the driver of a Lincoln or Cadillac stopped, got out and threatened to shoot whoever threw the tomatoes Monday night.



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Texas Tech professor enters plea

LUBBOCK (AP) — A researcher who triggered a terrorism scare by reporting vials of plague bacteria stolen from his lab pleaded innocent Wednesday to federal charges alleging he took money from pharmaceutical companies behind his employer's back.

Texas Tech professor Thomas C. Butler, one of the nation's top plague researchers, pleaded innocent earlier to charges he smuggled samples of the deadly bacteria from Tanzania, illegally transported them within the United States and abroad, and then lied about it to authorities.

In the latest federal indictment, unsealed Wednesday, Butler is charged with 54 federal counts of theft, embezzlement and fraud.

The new indictment alleges Butler received $320,675 from two pharmaceutical companies to conduct clinical trials on drugs to treat Type 2 diabetes and severe sepsis, an often-fatal infection of the bloodstream, without Texas Tech's knowledge.

The companies — Pharmacia and Chiron — paid him "amounts separate from and above" payments to the university's health science center for other clinical studies, according to the indictment.

Butler, who remains free on $100,000 bond until his Nov. 3 trial, declined to comment as he left the courtroom. If convicted on all counts, he could spend the rest of his life in prison and be fined millions of dollars.

Butler, 62, reported in January that 30 vials of plague bacteria had been stolen from a university lab. The report triggered a terrorism-alert plan and sent dozens of FBI agents rushing to this West Texas city.

According to court documents, Butler admitted he had accidentally destroyed the vials. The indictment alleges that Butler misled the university and its auditors to cover up his scheme with the drug companies.

Butler attorney Jonathan Turley said the new charges are "an attempt to buttress a weak criminal case by piling on any conceivable criminal charge."

Prosecutor Roger McRoberts declined to comment.

Representatives for Pharmacia, a division of New York-based Pfizer, and California-based Chiron, did not return phone calls to The Associated Press.

events

TEXAS LOTTERY RESULTS

Wednesday's Lottery Numbers
Lotto Texas

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

Winning numbers drawn: 1-2-21-29-34. Bonus Ball: 7.

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

Number matching five of five: 1. Prize: $61,493.

Number matching four of five, plus Bonus Ball: 13. Prize: $2,052.

Number matching four of five: 496. Prize: $115.

Number matching three of five, plus Bonus Ball: 545. Prize: $93.

Number matching three of five: 20,652. Prize: $5.

Number matching two of five, plus Bonus Ball: 7,030. Prize: $5.

Number matching one of five, plus Bonus Ball: 31,679. Prize: $3.

Estimated jackpot for Saturday night drawing: $11 million.

Cash Five

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

Winning numbers drawn: 3-5-14-17-33.

Number matching five of five: 1.

Prize per winner: $42,369.

Winning tickets sold in: Belton.

Matching four of five: 150. Prize: $127.

Matching three of five: 4,878. Prize: $9.

Matching two of five: 48,781. Prize: $2.

Next Cash 5 drawing: Thursday night.

Pick 3
(Day) 1-6-0
(Night) 5-4-8

Date Book

Thursday, Sept. 4, 2003

Today is the 247th day of 2003 and the 76th day of summer.

TODAY'S HISTORY: On this day in 1866, the first daily newspaper in Hawaii was published.

On this day in 1945, Ruben Fine won four simultaneous rapid chess games while playing blindfolded.

On this day in 1957, Arkansas Gov. Orval Faubus enlisted the National Guard to prevent nine African-American students from entering Central High School in Little Rock.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Richard Wright (1908-1960), author; Dick York (Richard Allen) (1928-1992), actor; Damon Wayans (1960-), actor, is 43; Mike Piazza (1968-), athlete, is 35; Beyonce Knowles (1981-), singer, is 22.

TODAY'S SPORTS: On this day in 1972, U.S. swimmer Mark Spitz won his seventh Olympic gold medal.

TODAY'S QUOTE: "Men can starve from a lack of self-realization as much as they can from a lack of bread." — Richard Wright

TODAY'S MOON: Between first quarter (Sept. 3) and full moon (Sept. 10).

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SPECIAL OLYM ident, right, pr accepted by Ton the United Way 18. (Staff Photo

Under langua

Imagine you are office. After your e tor says you have ropathy," "hype "coronary disease react? Do you k means?

What if, instea says you have "ne "high blood press disease?" You n these terms, but how they will affe Do you know how Do you understan you have to make

If your health c you with more answers, you are people want hea that is written in and easy to unde Medical words ar people to unders how much educa Tell your doctor pharmacists whe understand the ir give you. It may how to better tak self and your fami

You may not be the way your providers talk. Bu steps to help you you need:

1. Don't be shy Make a list of qu with you to your d not forget to ask nership for Clear nication-a team of care groups-has Me 3" program. gests three simpl questions people health care provi

- What is my n
- What do I ne
- Why is it imp

do this?

If you think of after your visit, w



SPECIAL OLYMPICS' GIFT — Jim Petty, Lions Club vice president, right, presents a $300 check to Special Olympics, accepted by Tommy Cotton. Lions Club members will attend the United Way campaign kick off luncheon on Tuesday, Sept. 18. (Staff Photo by Jo Ann Nunley)

Understanding medical language: simple is better

Imagine you are at the doctor's office. After your exam, your doctor says you have "diabetic neuropathy," "hypertension" or "coronary disease." How do you react? Do you know what this means?

What if, instead, your doctor says you have "nerve problems," "high blood pressure," or "heart disease?" You may recognize these terms, but do you know how they will affect your health? Do you know how to treat them? Do you understand what changes you have to make in your life?

If your health care visits leave you with more questions than answers, you are not alone. Most people want health information that is written in plain language, and easy to understand and use. Medical words are hard for many people to understand-no matter how much education they have. Tell your doctors, nurses and pharmacists when you do not understand the information they give you. It may help you learn how to better take care of yourself and your family.

You may not be able to change the way your health care providers talk. But you can take steps to help you get the answers you need:

1. Don't be shy-ask questions. Make a list of questions to bring with you to your doctor so you do not forget to ask them. The Partnership for Clear Health Communication-a team of national health care groups-has set up the "Ask Me 3" program. "Ask Me 3" suggests three simple but important questions people can ask their health care providers:

- What is my main problem?
- What do I need to do?
- Why is it important for me to do this?

If you think of more questions after your visit, write them down. Call the doctor's office when you return to your home or job to get answers to your questions.

2. Bring a family member or friend. This person may be able to help you take notes and hear the provider's instructions-in case you miss something.

3. Speak up. Tell your health care provider if you do not understand the information he or she has given you. Ask him or her to repeat the instructions until you know what you need to do.

4. Repeat instructions. After the health care provider gives you instructions, repeat them back to him or her. Make sure you've got them right.

5. Ask for more information. If your provider says you have a health problem, ask for extra information-such as a hotline number or brochure. It may help you figure out what is happening to you and how to treat it.

Work closely with your health care providers. They can advise you on ways to lead a healthy, active life. Try to understand all your medical information. This way you can be a more active partner in decisions about your and your family's health.

For more on how to talk with your health care providers, ask him or her for a free "Ask Me 3" brochure. It comes in English and Spanish. You can also go to the Partnership for Clear Health Communication Web site at www.AskMe3.org. It has information on the "Ask Me 3" program and how it can help you. It also has a checklist to help you get ready for your next health care visit.

It is not necessary for all men to be great in action. The greatest and sublimest power is often simple patience.

—Horace Bushnell

Bridge

By Phillip Alder



North 09-04-03
♠ J 10 7
♥ Q J 5
♦ A K J
♣ A Q 10 7

West
♠ 6 3
♥ 8 3
♦ 9 8 7 5 4
♣ J 5 4 2

East
♠ 9 8 5 4 2
♥ 10 9 7 6 4
♦ 10 3
♣ 3

South
♠ A K Q
♥ A K 2
♦ Q 6 2
♣ K 9 8 6

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
2 NT	Pass	7 NT	All pass

Opening lead: ♦ 9

Thursday, Sept. 4, 2003

Truly getting the count to 13

By Phillip Alder

Two days ago, I gave a deal in which declarer could have got a count of the deal to let him know how to play his club suit. Yesterday's declarer got a partial count and eventually backed his judgment as to the lie of the cards. Today, we have a deal in which you can guarantee the contract if you correctly count to 13.

How would you plan the play in seven no-trump after West has led the diamond nine?

North realized there was no need to ask his partner about aces and kings. With a combined point-count of at least 38, he bid the contract he expected his partner to claim at trick one. However, the mirror distribution left some work to be done.

South could see 12 top tricks: three in each suit. Of course, if the clubs were breaking 3-2 or an opponent had a singleton jack, there would be no problem. But what if an opponent held jack-fourth of clubs? Then the suit could be played for no losers as long as declarer worked out which opponent had the four-card length.

South knew to delay playing the key suit for as long as possible. He started by cashing his nine winners in the other three suits. Concentrating on West, declarer learned that that opponent had begun with two spades, two hearts and five diamonds, which left room for exactly four clubs. The way home was clear. South led a club to dummy's queen, a club to his king, and a club to dummy's 10.

Alternatively, South could have tracked the East hand, finding out that he had started with five spades, five hearts and two diamonds, so only one club.

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Community Calendar

THURSDAY

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

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

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

FRIDAY

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

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

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

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

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

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

SATURDAY

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

SUNDAY

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

Best Sellers

By The Associated Press

Weekly charts for the nation's most popular videos as they appear in next week's issue of Billboard magazine. Reprinted with permission:

Top Music Video Sales

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)

1. "The Farewell Tour," Cher.
2. "Pink Floyd: Classic Album — The Making of the Dark Side of the Moon," Pink Floyd.
3. "Led Zeppelin," Led Zeppelin. (Platinum)
4. "Hole in the World," The Eagles.
5. "Bootlegged in L.A.," Insane Clown Posse.
6. "The New Breed," 50 Cent.
7. "NPG Music Presents: Prince Live at the Aladdin Las Vegas," Prince.
8. "En Vivo," Los Acosta.
9. "War at the Warfield," Slayer.
10. "Legend — The Best of Bob Marley and the Wailers," Bob Marley and the Wailers.
10. "Phone Booth," 20th Century Fox.

Top VHS Sales

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)

1. "Chicago," Buean Vista Home Entertainment.
2. "The Lizzie McGuire Movie," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
3. "Bringing Down the House," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
4. "Piglet's Big Movie," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
5. "What a Girl Wants," Warner Home Video.
6. "Agent Cody Banks," MGM Home Entertainment.
7. "Daredevil," 20th Century Fox.
8. "What's New Scooby Doo — Space Ape at the Cape," Warner Home Video.
9. "Jungle Book 2," Walt Disney Home Entertainment.
10. "Cradle 2 the Grave," Warner Home Video.

Top DVD Sales

(Compiled from a national sample of sales reports)

1. "Chicago (Widescreen)," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
2. "Chicago (Pan & Scan)," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
3. "The Lizzie McGuire Movie," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
4. "Bowling for Columbine," MGM Home Entertainment.
5. "Bringing Down the House (Pan & Scan)," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
6. "Bringing Down the House (Widescreen)," Buena Vista Home Entertainment.
7. "House of 1,000 Corpses," Lions Gate Home Entertainment.
8. "Cradle 2 the Grave (Widescreen)," Warner Home Video.
9. "Head of State (Widescreen)," Universal Studios Home Video.
10. "Head of State (Pan & Scan)," Universal Studios Home Video.

Billboard Magazine Chart Leaders

(Compiled from national retail sales/airplay/rental charts)

HOT POP SINGLE: "Shake Ya Tailfeather," Nelly, P. Diddy & Murphy Lee.

TOP POP ALBUM: "Love & Life," Mary J. Blige.

HOT R&B/HIP-HOP SINGLE: "Frontin'," Pharrell Featuring Jay-Z.

TOP R&B/HIP-HOP ALBUM: "Love & Life," Mary J. Blige.

HOT COUNTRY SINGLE-TRACK: "It's Five O'Clock Somewhere," Alan Jackson & Jimmy Buffett.

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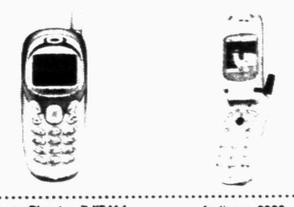
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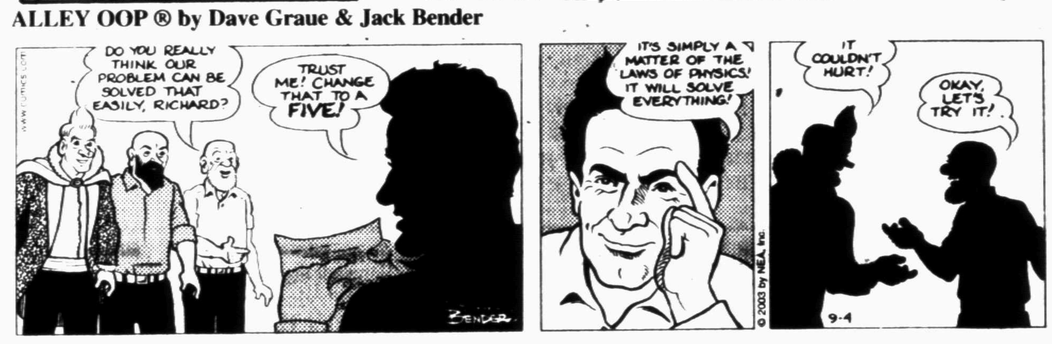
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NEA Crossword Puzzle

ACROSS

1 Unsettled
5 Boxcar riders
10 Hit dead-center
12 Fix a gash
13 Set on fire
14 Dinner course
15 Prospector's quest
16 Actress — Dawber
18 Scepter
19 Makes a comeback
23 "Bien" opposite
26 Sprinkle
27 Prunes a hedge
30 Like half-melted snow
32 Bryant or Ekberg
34 Roof part
35 Drizzled
36 In the vicinity
37 Ceiling fixture
38 Stun
39 More jolly
42 Go fast
45 Shoe color
46 Pave the way
50 Good to eat
53 Pack animals
55 Lies dormant
56 Tyrolean tunes
57 Experiments
58 Wall St. landmark

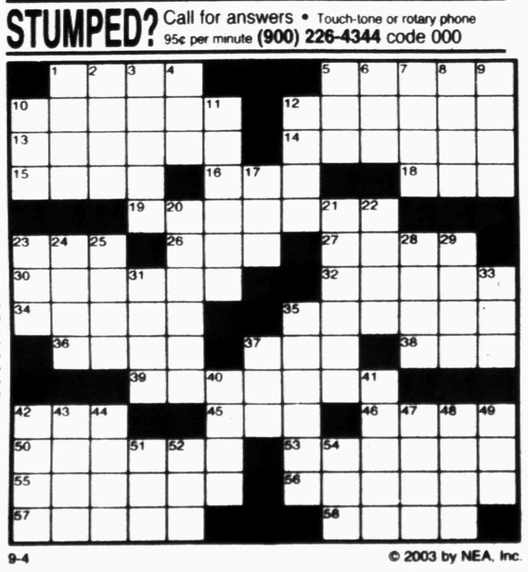
DOWN

1 Othello's foe
2 Discover
3 Ad
4 Up till now
5 Vandal
6 Homer-hitter Mel —
7 Perry Mason portrayer
8 Chocolate cookie
9 Kind of pearl
10 Zilch
11 Station, as troops
12 Partially (pref.)
17 Elev.
20 Stick to
21 Lily maid of Astolat
22 Boys
23 Food additive
24 Mr. Greenspan
25 Earring site
28 Pocket bread
29 Cook slowly
31 — dunk
33 Lemon cooler
35 Chiefly
37 Monk's title
40 66 and I-80
41 Eager and willing
42 Citrus peel
43 Loafing
44 Cake alternatives
47 "Mister Ed" actor
48 Reduction
49 Curly letter
51 Wager
52 Hi-fi records
54 Wolf Man portrayer

Answer to Previous Puzzle

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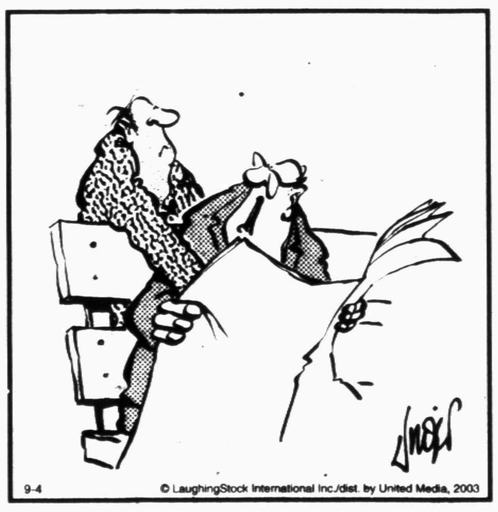
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GO





TIGERS!!!

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Anaheim
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Wednesday
Minnesota 6, Anaheim
Toronto 4, N.Y. Yanke
Baltimore 9, Oakland
Detroit 6, Cleveland 5
Boston 5, Chicago Wh
Tampa Bay 7, Seattle
Kansas City 3, Texas
Today
Cleveland (Westbrook
5), 12:05 p.m.
Anaheim (Johnson 4-7
2), 12:05 p.m.
Oakland (Hitama 3-4)
2:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Contre
12-11), 6:05 p.m.
Seattle (R.Franklin 9-
9), 6:15 p.m.

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SPORTS

New season, new attitude for Cardinals

The Hermleigh Cardinals were set to put last year's frustration behind them last Friday, but had to weather a week's delay to take the field.



Jones

Now the Cardinals will get their first test of the year at 7:30 p.m. Friday, when they travel to Lueders-Avoca.

Hermleigh is sporting nearly twice as many players as last year, and also is carrying a new attitude into the 2003 campaign.

"I think we can win ballgames this year," second-year coach Don Jones said. "And the kids believe it. We've got to prove it now."

Jones is optimistic because he sees a change in attitude in his club, one that he has worked hard to foster.

"Changing a mindset is difficult," he said. "You have to do things over and over again, and convince them that practice is important to winning games. It's about changing habits — losing can become a habit just like winning."

Jones said the competition in six-man football requires a strong work ethic from teams.

"Convincing them of the work that has to be done to get to the next level is not easy," he said.

Jones said the team should gain confidence with each successful play, but must temper it to keep from losing focus.

"In the past, we would make a great play and not capitalize on it," he said.

The Cardinals will run multiple sets on offense, and employ Jones' aggressive style of defense against Lueders, but Jones said the team needed to attack more on that side of the football.

"We're still standing around on defense and not being as aggressive as I like," he said. "The way I play defense, if you stand you're lost. We've been working on it daily. I want them to react, not think."

Jones said the team learned in its scrimmage that it can punch the ball into the end zone, and said the squad had quality practices this week.

"We're making headway on both sides of the ball," Jones said. "We had a real good practice Tuesday. Practice has been fine. We'll see how it goes on the field."

Jones said the team has tentatively filled the October 2 date, with a home game scheduled with the junior varsity from Aspermont.

The Cardinals open at home Sept. 12 against Moran.

Chiefs give Holmes lucrative extension

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Even though Priest Holmes was late to practice, he didn't get fined.

"No, but he could afford it," deadpanned Kansas City coach Dick Vermeil.

While his teammates went through their paces on the practice field Wednesday, Holmes was working out a lucrative new contract with the Chiefs.

Holmes and general manager Carl Peterson announced a four-year contract extension that will probably keep Holmes in Kansas City the rest of his career and will definitely have him on the field for Sunday's season opener.

"This is definitely an exciting time not only for me and my family, but also for the Kansas City Chiefs," said Holmes, 29, who has led the NFL in yards from scrimmage the past two seasons.

"When it comes to people like the Kansas City Chiefs, whatever they create, they definitely support. That's what we have right here with an extension on my contract."

Holmes, who is coming off surgery for a hip injury that ended his season with two games left last year, had indicated he might not play against San Diego this weekend without a new deal.

"I really believe at this time, my life is just starting. It really is," he said.

He and Peterson refused to reveal terms, but Holmes had publicly talked about wanting a $15 million extension. And he said nothing to indicate he was disappointed over not coming close to that figure.

"Let's just say that I am a happy man," he said. "You can see my smile. My kids will definitely be happy."

As word of the agreement spread through the team, players came up and hugged the Pro Bowl running back, who is very popular as a hardworking and unselfish player as well as the key to the team's hopes for success.

"Our players really love this guy. I think they're excited for him," Vermeil said.

Holmes may be the greatest free agent signing ever in the NFL. In two years since leaving Baltimore to join the Chiefs, he has totaled 4,440 yards from scrimmage, the best in the league. He had 1,615 yards rushing last year despite missing the last two games.

His remaining contract, which guaranteed him about $2.5 million base salary for each of the next three years — was unquestionably below market value.

At rain-soaked U.S. Open...
Roddick wins only completed match

NEW YORK (AP) — When Andy Roddick and Xavier Malisse walked out Wednesday night for their rain-delayed U.S. Open match, they wiped the soles of their shoes on a white towel placed near the entrance to the court.

It was like a welcome mat, greeting two players who actually were able to play tennis on a third straight day of showers and schedule shuffling at Flushing Meadows.

Powered by a dominating serve, the No. 4-seeded Roddick beat Malisse 6-3, 6-4, 7-6 (5) in a match that ended after midnight to reach the U.S. Open quarterfinals for the third straight year. Roddick has won 16 straight matches, the longest streak of 2003.

"It was tough conditions out there tonight," Roddick said in a TV interview. "The balls were huge. They were like watermelons out there. It was tough, and I was glad to get through it."

Of the more than 100 matches scheduled for Wednesday, that was the only one completed, making for a grand total of four in the books since Monday. Roddick and Andre Agassi are the only men who have quarterfinal berths secured.

Just two other matches even got under way Wednesday, before being postponed until Thursday. Top-ranked Kim Clijsters took a 3-0 lead over No. 5 Amelie Mauresmo, whose 10 unforced errors worked out to one per minute of play; and No. 12 Sjeng Schalken led No. 8 Rainer Schuettler 5-1 after 25 minutes (the winner will play Roddick).

That was it.

"This is a rolling calendar at this point, which is changing by the hour," said Arlen Kantarian, the U.S. Tennis Association's chief executive for professional tennis. "We continue to make our best effort to complete this tournament on time. We are determined to make the best of a very difficult situation."

If Thursday is a washout, the men's final could be played next Monday, Kantarian said. The last time that happened at the U.S. Open was 1987; Goran Ivanisevic beat Patrick Rafter on a Monday to win the 2001 title at Wimbledon.

Roddick and Malisse started at 9:15 p.m., by which point most players had been told to head to their hotels. They played for 44 minutes before rain forced them to stop with Roddick ahead 6-3, 2-2. When they returned, they played 11 more minutes, enough time for Roddick to break to go ahead 4-3 in the second set.

But on the final point of that game, Roddick slid behind the baseline, putting a hand down to stay upright.

"It was a little slick," Roddick said. "Until I slipped, I didn't know it was that bad."

Malisse, a Wimbledon semifinalist in 2002, threw his racket over to his changeover seat, then tossed a water bottle. Tournament referee Brian Earley walked out to check the court, and action was held up for another 7 minutes.

But then, miraculously, the fourth-round match resumed — and finished.

That's because Roddick, who lost to the eventual Open champion in the quarterfinals the last two years, served brilliantly. He had fewer aces than Malisse, but with speed and placement was able to get the upper hand. Midway through the third set, Roddick had won 52 of the 56 points played on his serve, holding at love in nine of 13 games.

Rookie stifles Rangers; Royals snap losing skid

ARLINGTON (AP) — Rookie Jimmy Gobble pitched seven strong innings as the Kansas City Royals snapped a four-game losing streak with a 3-1 victory over the Texas Rangers on Wednesday night.

Mike Sweeney, Joe Randa and Carlos Beltran each had RBIs in a three-run fourth inning to help the Royals move within one game of both Chicago and Minnesota for the AL Central lead.

"We'd lost four and they were tough losses," Pena said. "But you have to be happy where we are. We're only one out. It's going to be close all the way to the end. We took some punches but we're not knocked down yet."

Gobble got off to a shaky start, giving up a leadoff homer to Michael Young, but regained his focus and retired the last seven hitters he faced in order.

"I had to get it out of my mind quick," Gobble said. "They had some tough hitters coming up. I had to work through it. I knew I had to be aggressive and just keep my team in the game."

Gobble (3-3) allowed one run and four hits, struck out six and walked two after being called up from Triple-A Omaha on Tuesday to join the expanded roster.

Astros back in first

By the Associated Press

With first place on the line in the tight NL Central race, the Houston Astros made quick work of Kevin Brown and the Los Angeles Dodgers.

The Astros scored four first-inning runs, and Jeriome Robertson set a franchise record for wins by a rookie left-hander in an 8-2 victory Wednesday night.

By winning the rubber game of the three-game series, the Astros moved back into first place in the division — a half-game ahead of St. Louis and one game in front of Chicago.

"They're all big now," Astros manager Jimy Williams said.

Earlier in the day, the Cubs beat the Cardinals 8-7 when Moises Alou's go-ahead single in the eighth inning capped a comeback from a six-run deficit.

"That was a great, great victory for us," Cubs manager Dusty Baker said.

The NL Central race is one of baseball's best this season, with Houston and St. Louis flip-flopping for the top spot and Chicago staying within a few games of the two during the past few weeks.

Carlisle takes over Pacers

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — In the end, all it took was a phone call from Larry Bird to get Rick Carlisle back into coaching.

The new Indiana Pacers president signed Carlisle to a four-year contract Wednesday to replace Isiah Thomas, who was fired last week.

Carlisle was Bird's hand-picked choice, and the move had been talked about since Bird returned to the Pacers in July. Carlisle, fired by the Detroit Pistons in June, was the only person Bird talked with about the vacancy.

Bird, Carlisle and Pacers CEO Donnie Walsh all declined comment on how much the deal was worth.

But Bird indicated Carlisle agreed to a contract worth less than the going rate for an experienced NBA coach, at least initially, because the Pacers still owe Thomas $5 million for this season.

The Pistons owe $2 million to Carlisle.

Bills ink SS Milloy

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. (AP) — Four-time Pro Bowl safety Lawyer Milloy agreed in principle to a deal with the Buffalo Bills, a day after the New England Patriots released him for salary cap reasons.

Milloy reportedly signed a four-year deal worth $15 million, including a $5 million signing bonus.

Buffalo coach Gregg Williams said he would have to first speak with Milloy before determining whether he would be ready to play in Sunday's opener against the Patriots.

Perry signs extradition order; Bliss tapes turned over to district attorney

WACO (AP) — The investigation surrounding a slain Baylor University basketball player is moving forward on two fronts, with Texas Gov. Rick Perry signing a warrant seeking extradition of Patrick Dennehy's ex-roommate and members of a university committee giving prosecutors audiotapes detailing the former head coach's attempted cover-up of the victim's finances.

A warrant signed Wednesday by Texas Gov. Rick Perry seeks the extradition of Carlton Dotson, the former roommate, from his home state of Maryland. Dotson, 21, was indicted last month by a McLennan County, Texas grand jury in the murder of Dennehy, also 21. The indictment alleges that Dotson shot Dennehy on or about June 12. The Baylor forward's body was found in a field near a rock quarry southeast of Waco on July 25, four days after Dotson's arrest.

Dennehy died of two gunshot wounds to the head, according to an autopsy report.

The Baylor committee investigating allegations of NCAA violations in Baylor's basketball program turned over the audiotapes, recorded four weeks ago by former assistant coach Abar Rouse. On the secretly recorded tapes, former Bears head basketball coach Dave Bliss is heard trying to portray Dennehy as a drug dealer in an effort to conceal questions about the player's finances.

"The last word we had is that the district attorney's office had the tapes," Waco police spokesman Steve Anderson told The Dallas Morning News. "Whether they have copies of the originals, we don't know."

McLennan District Attorney John Segrest, in an interview Wednesday with the newspaper, declined to discuss the tapes or what, if any, criminal laws might be applicable to a basketball scandal.

The district attorney's office asked Perry to seek Dotson's return from his home state. The formal extradition request was sent to Maryland Gov. Robert Ehrlich.

National Football League

National Football League
Today's Game
N.Y. Jets at Washington, 8 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Arizona at Detroit, noon
Houston at Miami, noon
St. Louis at N.Y. Giants, noon
Denver at Cincinnati, noon
Minnesota at Green Bay, noon
Baltimore at Pittsburgh, noon
New England at Buffalo, noon
San Diego at Kansas City, noon
Jacksonville at Carolina, noon
Indianapolis at Cleveland, noon
Atlanta at Dallas, 3:15 p.m.
Chicago at San Francisco, 3:15 p.m.
New Orleans at Seattle, 3:15 p.m.
Oakland at Tennessee, 7:30 p.m.
Monday's Game
Tampa Bay at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

Major League Baseball

American League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	83	54	.606	—
Boston	81	58	.583	3
Toronto	69	69	.500	14½
Baltimore	62	76	.449	21½
Tampa Bay	54	83	.394	29

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	73	66	.525	—
Minnesota	73	66	.525	—
Kansas City	71	66	.518	1
Cleveland	62	78	.443	11½
Detroit	36	102	.261	36½

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland	83	56	.597	—
Seattle	81	58	.583	2
Anaheim	67	72	.482	16
Texas	64	76	.457	19½

Wednesday's Games
Minnesota 6, Anaheim 5
Toronto 4, N.Y. Yankees 3
Baltimore 9, Oakland 0
Detroit 6, Cleveland 5, 11 innings
Boston 5, Chicago White Sox 4, 10 innings
Tampa Bay 7, Seattle 0
Kansas City 3, Texas 1

Today's Games
Cleveland (Westbrook 6-8) at Detroit (Knotts 2-5), 12:05 p.m.
Arizona (Johnson 4-7) at Kansas City (Voyles 0-2), 1:05 p.m.
Oakland (Halama 3-4) at Baltimore (Moss 1-3), 2:05 p.m.
N.Y. Yankees (Contreras 4-2) at Toronto (Lidle 12-11), 6:05 p.m.
Seattle (R.Franklin 9-11) at Tampa Bay (Sosa 4-9), 6:15 p.m.

National League

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Atlanta	87	52	.626	—
Florida	75	64	.540	12
Philadelphia	75	64	.540	12
Montreal	71	70	.504	17
New York	62	76	.449	24½

Central Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	73	66	.525	—
St. Louis	73	67	.521	½
Chicago	72	67	.518	1
Pittsburgh	63	73	.463	8½
Milwaukee	62	77	.446	11
Cincinnati	60	79	.432	13

West Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Francisco	85	53	.616	—
Los Angeles	72	66	.522	13
Arizona	70	69	.504	15½
Colorado	65	76	.461	21½
San Diego	57	82	.410	28½

Wednesday's Games
N.Y. Mets 9, Atlanta 3
Chicago Cubs 8, St. Louis 7
Philadelphia 8, Montreal 3
San Francisco 7, Colorado 6
San Diego 12, Arizona 0
Florida 3, Pittsburgh 0
Milwaukee 9, Cincinnati 6
Houston 8, Los Angeles 2

Today's Games
Pittsburgh (M.Torres 5-3) at Florida (Pavano 11-11), 12:35 p.m.
Arizona (Johnson 4-7) at Kansas City (Voyles 0-2), 1:05 p.m.
St. Louis (Tomko 11-8) at Chicago Cubs (Estes 7-11), 1:20 p.m.
N.Y. Mets (Glavine 9-12) at Philadelphia (Wolf 13-9), 5:05 p.m.

Sports Briefs

MGA monthly tournament

The Men's Golf Association will host its monthly tournament at 1 p.m. Saturday at the WTC golf course.

Golf car wash

The SHS golf program will hold a by-donation car wash from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday in the United parking lot.

Auburn hoops under NCAA investigation

AUBURN, Ala. (AP) — The NCAA formally notified Auburn it is investigating possible major rules violations in the men's basketball program, including accusations of improper offers to recruits.

The university has received a letter detailing the accusations, which involve one former and one current assistant coach, school spokesman John Hachtel said. The coaches were not identified.

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Cosby performance to boost Baylor morale

DALLAS (AP) — Less than a year ago, a sold-out crowd paid as much as $25 each to hear comedian Bill Cosby perform at Baylor University's Ferrell Center — an event that raised money for a new floor in the gold-domed basketball arena.

Today, the entertainer will return to the 14,000-student university in Waco.

But following heartache and scandal at Baylor, Cosby's mission will be different — and admission will be free.

"With full band and yell leaders, we are going to have a rally, a pep rally, not for the golfers, not for the swimmers, not for the basketball team, not for the football team — but for the students, for the faculty, for the administration, for alumni, for the town," Cosby said Wednesday night in an interview with The Associated Press.

Baylor will open Floyd Casey Stadium, home of its football team, for the 8 p.m. rally, which Cosby bills as an effort to boost morale after basketball player Patrick Dennehy's death.

Since Dennehy's death and the arrest of former teammate Carlton Dotson on murder charges, revelations of secretly paid players, failed drug tests and a tape-recorded plot by former coach Dave Bliss to cover up wrongdoing have shaken Baylor.

So, Cosby called Baylor President Robert Sloan last month and offered to host the rally.

At first, Cosby said with a chuckle, Sloan found it difficult to believe that he was offering to do the event for free.

"He kept saying to me, 'Now, let me get this straight, what you're offering is' ... and he was saying it loud too," Cosby said. "I said, 'Get a witness, put somebody on the phone.'"

Before taking the stage in September 2002, Cosby met Baylor's basketball and track teams. "Gee whiz, I probably took a picture with these guys," he said of Dennehy and Dotson.

Cosby, who also performed at Baylor in 1990, said he knows "it's been a difficult few months" for Baylor. He hopes his appearance will shed a positive light on the university and "what a great place it is."

Student body president Jeff Leach, who is to drive Cosby around the stadium in a golf cart, said Cosby's planned visit has energized students.

"We're all pumped about it," said Leach, 21. "Having someone like him come to the campus in the first place is just awesome. Under these circumstances, it's really exciting to everybody, especially the students."

Baylor spokesman Larry Brumley said the university expects up to 20,000 people to attend. "Really, the whole campus is abuzz," Brumley said.

Cosby recalled the support his family received after his son, Ennis, 27, was shot and killed on the side of a freeway when he stopped his Mercedes-Benz to change a tire in January 1997. A Ukrainian immigrant, who later described the young Cosby as a target of opportunity for a robbery, is serving a life without parole sentence in California.

"I tell you something," Cosby said. "We received more prayers in different languages all over."

Quickly changing the subject back to the Baylor situation, Cosby said he wanted to give students a break from all the news reports.

From his favorite jazz station to the television sports report, Cosby said news of the Baylor case kept coming at him. He said he felt compassion for Baylor students dealing with the constant flood.

"I began to think, 'Well, what about these students, what are they doing, are they a little down?'" he said. "This is a volunteered appearance to try and raise spirits, if they're down, to try to talk about a positive feeling on campus, and turn some thoughts to a more positive agenda."

Hormone that curbs appetite cut food intake by nearly a third

By The Associated Press

When 24 volunteers sat down for a buffet lunch, they knew every calorie would be counted. But they didn't know whether researchers gave them an extra dose of a hormone that curbs the appetite.

The results showed that the hormone worked, telling their brain that they were full and cutting their appetite by nearly a third.

And it worked equally well in the overweight, giving a boost to the hormone as a potential new treatment for obesity.

"Therapeutically, this could be a rather good way forward," said Dr. Stephen R. Bloom, one of the researchers at Imperial College London.

Bloom and his colleagues had previously shown that the hormone, PYY3-36, could curb the appetites of lean people. But there were doubts that it would work in the obese people because studies of another appetite-suppressing hormone had proved disappointing.

In the study, both obese and lean people ate about 30 percent less after they were given a dose of PYY. The research also showed lower natural levels of PYY in the obese, which may explain why they are hungrier and overeat, Bloom said.

The findings are in today's New England Journal of Medicine.

Bloom said long-term use of the hormone would have to be studied before it could be developed into a treatment for obesity that would consist of injections given before meals.

"We haven't yet shown you get actual weight reduction. We've only shown you eat less," Bloom said.

The findings could also point to a more natural treatment for obesity: Bloom said a high-fiber diet is believed to boost the body's production of PYY.

The research is "a hopeful step in the right direction," said obesity researcher Dr. David E. Cummings of the University of Washington in Seattle. "But there's a fairly large difference between reducing food intake for one meal and actual weight loss."

The PYY hormone, one of a number of hormones that stimulate or suppress hunger, is released by the gut as you eat. It tells the part of the brain that controls appetite when you are full.

Sixty percent of Americans are obese or overweight, and obesity contributes to about 300,000 deaths a year, according to government estimates.

Dr. Rudolph L. Leibel, an obesity researcher at Columbia University in New York, said it is unlikely that PYY alone will turn out to be the "magic bullet" against obesity, but it may prove useful in combination with other drugs. He said the body has backup systems that kick in to resist the loss of body fat — the reason so many people who lose weight gain it back.

"We can't fool Mother Nature yet," he said.

Currently, there are only a few prescription weight-control drugs, and they produce only modest weight loss. They work by suppressing the appetite through a brain chemical or by blocking fat from being absorbed.

The 12 obese and 12 lean people in the British study ate two meals, once after an intravenous dose of synthetic PYY and once after getting a harmless saline solution.

After the PYY dose, the obese ate 30 percent fewer calories than they did after the dummy solution. The lean people ate 31 percent less. The PYY continued to curb their appetites for 12 hours, but didn't affect their food consumption from 12 hours to 24 hours after the infusion, the researchers reported.

Without the extra dose, PYY levels were lower in the obese participants than in the lean, but the researchers said it is not known whether that is a cause of obesity or a consequence.

"If it's a consequence of obesity, it would explain why once people become overweight, it is very difficult for them to reverse it," Bloom said. "They don't feel as full after food as normal people do as a result of their obesity."

Chopper makes hard landing atop hospital

DALLAS (AP) — Realizing that a CareFlite helicopter was having engine problems as it attempted a takeoff from a North Texas hospital, the pilot put the chopper onto its side on the landing pad — 10 floors up.

The pilot was injured in the impact that shattered the copter's rotors Wednesday night at Methodist Dallas Medical Center.

"All the warning lights came on," said Lt. Jesse Garcia of the Dallas Fire-Rescue department. The pilot "knew he was having problems. He knew he was going to go down. So as a last effort, he yanked it back and crashed on the landing pad."

The helicopter was also carrying a paramedic and a nurse as it tried to take off at about 8 p.m. Wednesday to respond to an emergency in Crowley.



On Nutrition by Ed Blonz, Ph.D.

Eating disorders can't be resolved alone

DEAR DR. BLONZ: I am almost 18 years old, stand about 5-foot 3-inches and weigh about 102 pounds. I used to be overweight. I have not been that way for about three years, and don't think that I am overweight anymore. I have a daily ritual-type of act that I know is not normal. What I mostly eat everyday is low-calorie bread with zero-calorie spray butter. When I eat has to correspond with the hour that it is in the day. Like if it is 3:00 p.m., I must have only eaten 300 calories. I eat about 1,450 calories a day. All I think about is how fat I think that I am, and what I am going to eat next. It is a daily struggle and I hate it, but at the same time I love it. I haven't had my period for about two years. I know that it is because of the way I eat. Can you please tell me what some of the risks are to doing this, and just any other advice you might have for me? I appreciate it very much. Thank you for your time. **— R.G., no city or state given**

DEAR R.G.: You pose a question that touches on some sensitive issues. Let's begin by considering a few facts. An ideal body weight for someone of your age and height is between 105 and 134 pounds. A person would not be considered overweight unless the person was above this range. Thus, you would have to weigh at least 32 pounds more than you do right now to be overweight.

Despite this, however, you continue to harbor a belief that you are overweight. There also seems to be a fixation on the foods and calories that you consume, all centered on a fear of either being fat or doing something that might make you fat. The hour-by-hour calorie-count strategy you describe is a device that helps you stay in this self-defeating cycle. You hate the daily struggle, but you also stated that you love it. Then there is the fact that you have stopped menstruating. This is a red flag in itself and needs to be checked by your physician.

You are intelligent enough to realize that things are not quite right. You seem to understand that low-calorie bread with zero-calorie spray butter is not a healthful diet. You've also made a critical connection between your struggle and your feelings about food, body weight and the rituals connected with the way you eat. The good news is that this is a situation that you can help fix — but only if you help make the solution happen. You should be open to the idea that this has been going on for a while, so it may not be a problem that you can solve on your own.

When in school, if you don't listen, fail to take notes and refuse to do the assignments, it's likely that you are not going to pass. What you are doing with food is along the same line, only this is not school — it's life. A failure in this course leads to a rough road full of health and psychological problems, which will become more difficult the longer things continue. As for specific risks, chronic deprivation of calories and nutrients (malnutrition) can contribute to heart, liver and kidney damage, osteoporosis, infertility and immune system dysfunction.

If it is any comfort, I want to let you know that you are not alone, this situation is no fault of yours and you haven't done anything wrong. In fact, what you are doing might seem perfectly logical to you — but it is not the way it should be. I hope that you will not be afraid to take steps toward making things better. There are a number of alternative paths that lie ahead, and I trust that there are people that care who are willing to work with you to help you find a way back. It will be your job to find that special someone that you can trust — a professional experienced in dealing with eating disorders who understands your true feelings and concerns. I wish you the best. Please stay in touch and let me know how things work out.

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

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

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Markets

Midday Stocks

NEW YORK (AP)

	High	Low	Last	
AMR Corp	12.76	12.37	12.46	—.27
AOL TimeWrn	16.89	16.66	16.74	—.02
AT&T Corp rs	22.39	22.08	22.24	—.01
Albertsons	22.25	20.98	22.05	+1.09
Alltel	47.66	47.12	47.45	+.43
AmEl Pw	29.48	29.26	29.33	+.05
AndarkPtr	44.43	43.35	43.54	—.15
ATMOS Egy	24.65	24.38	24.40	—.20
Availl	13.10	12.95	12.95	—.04
BP PLC	43.20	42.96	42.98	+.10
BakerHughes	32.94	32.11	32.22	—.64
Bank of Amer	77.50	76.07	76.12	—1.88
BellSouth	25.79	25.47	25.70	+.18
BurlNoSFe	29.28	28.84	29.00	—.28
Caterpillar	71.90	70.53	70.63	—1.32
CenterPoint	9.00	8.85	8.95	+.07
ChevronTex	74.15	73.65	73.82	—.12
Citigroup	44.52	44.12	44.13	—.37
CocaCola	44.45	43.81	44.41	+.70
ColgatePal	57.10	56.42	56.51	—.04
CmclMetals	19.33	19.17	19.30	+.04
ConocoPhill	57.08	56.77	56.96	+.21
Cooper Inds	50.05	49.60	49.72	—.24
DaimlrChry	39.59	39.33	39.43	—.20
DeltaAirl	14.84	14.40	14.53	—.27
Dillards Inc	15.93	15.48	15.52	—.52
DowChem	34.32	33.93	34.05	—.80
DuPont	44.85	44.44	44.53	—.29
EastmanChem	36.22	35.61	35.71	—.50
EstKodak	29.70	29.25	29.30	—.33
EDS Corp	22.96	22.47	22.49	—.47
Entergy	54.54	54.14	54.14	—.50
ExxonMobil	38.23	37.97	38.12	+.04
FootLocker	16.92	16.52	16.70	—.18
GenDynam	87.18	85.51	85.73	—1.45
GenElec	31.31	31.01	31.16	+.04
GenMills	47.14	46.78	46.90	—.03
GenMotors	42.93	41.94	41.97	—.64
GaPacific	23.81	23.05	23.67	—.39
Goodrich	26.30	25.65	25.91	—.45
Goodyear	7.53	7.41	7.50	—.04
GtAtlPac	10.15	9.83	10.04	+.18
Halliburtn	24.68	24.00	24.22	—.38
Hanson ADS	33.12	32.92	33.11	—.99
HarteHanks	19.47	19.30	19.30	—.25
HomeDepot	33.96	32.40	33.65	+.86
Honeywellintl	30.00	29.66	29.75	—.07
IBM	86.95	85.69	86.81	+.48
IntlPaper	40.35	39.71	39.76	—.84
JohnsonJn	50.84	49.16	50.75	+.51
KinderMorg	53.47	53.10	53.32	—.08
Kroger Co	19.48	18.95	19.40	—.07
LockheedM	52.22	51.51	51.64	—.43
Lowes Cos	55.50	54.07	54.92	—.15
Lubys	2.20	2.09	2.18	—.10
LucentTech	2.20	2.13	2.15	+.03
MarathonOil	28.84	28.62	28.82	+.18
MayDeptStr	28.17	26.72	27.08	—1.09
Medtronic	49.39	48.81	48.99	—.39
Motorola	10.74	10.49	10.59	+.01
NCR Corp	30.48	30.02	30.44	+.20
Navistar	44.65	43.62	44.03	+.66
PNM Rescs	28.30	27.93	27.94	—.36
Penney JC	22.55	21.75	21.96	—.59
PepBoys	18.20	17.79	17.80	—.22
PepsiCo	44.99	44.74	44.84	—.12
PhelpDodge	49.36	48.78	49.09	+.07
PilgrmPrd B	13.49	12.99	13.26	—.13
Praxair	64.66	63.96	64.05	—.62
ProctGamb	91.38	89.82	91.35	+2.55
RadioShack	30.85	30.27	30.36	—.14
RoyalDut	45.49	45.30	45.40	—.10
SBC Comm	23.15	22.91	23.03	+.08
SaraLee	19.24	19.05	19.07	—.05
Scripps EW	88.31	87.86	88.05	—.25
SearsRoeb	46.08	45.46	45.53	—.82
SherwinW	30.74	30.49	30.52	—.20
SouthernCo	28.92	28.73	28.85	—.03
SwstAirl	17.63	17.39	17.52	+.02
SprintFON	15.20	14.90	14.96	—.04
SprintPCS	5.70	5.45	5.61	+.07
Sunoco Inc	40.19	39.88	39.89	—.18
TXU Corp	22.19	22.01	22.12	—.04
TempleInland	50.12	49.79	49.80	—.54
TexInd	26.40	26.21	26.39	—.03
TexasInst	23.97	23.60	23.71	+.06
Textron	45.61	45.10	45.19	—.34
TrinityInds	27.94	27.31	27.91	+.30
TylerTech	6.38	6.26	6.28	—.07
UnionPacif	61.38	60.47	60.65	—.65
USSteel	18.47	18.20	18.37	+.01
UnitedTech	79.76	78.90	78.90	—.80
Unocal	31.10	30.89	30.93	—.12
VerizonComm	36.69	36.20	36.58	+.33
WalMart	60.75	59.74	59.85	—.13
WellsFargo	51.50	50.91	50.91	—.56
WstnGasRs	39.19	38.65	38.65	—.40
WinnDixie	10.92	10.73	10.77	+.04
Xerox Cp	11.00	10.87	10.89	—.06
YumBrands	30.63	30.22	30.33	—.27

SEP 04 2003

Kirby visits with Ira K students

Sandy Holmes, Ira kindergarten teacher, had two extra students on a recent Friday morning.

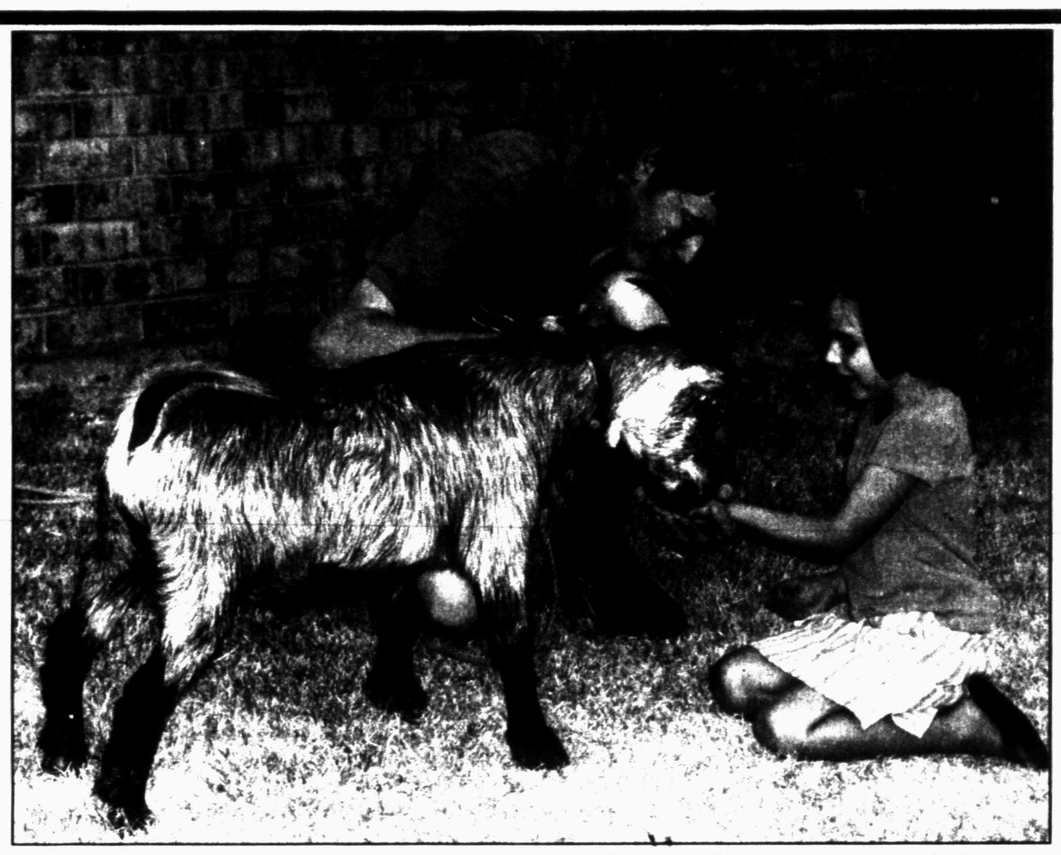
Timothy Huddleston, who graduated in May, brought Kirby, a full-grown pygmy goat for a visit.

Kirby, a member of the Huddleston family, lives next door to the school but this was his first visit to the schoolyard. The goat, a very friendly critter, likes to kiss and shake hands. And he loves to eat corn.

Tommy Huddleston said the goat was a mother's day present of his wife, Kathleen. He was so small that they thought he was a Chihuahua.

Kirby's visit was part fun and part safety education, since he lives so close to the school.

On previous Friday mornings, Mrs. Holmes said her students have brought a variety of creatures to theclassroom, including a hermit crab, tarantula, horned toad, frog, Himalayan cat and a dog.



FRIENDLY VISIT — Kirby, a pygmy goat, eats corn offered by Ragan Hollingsworth. Timothy Huddleston recently brought the family pet to visit with Ira kindergarten students. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Families protest plan to rebuild at WTC site

NEW YORK (AP) — About 15 people who lost loved ones in the World Trade Center attack tried to block a gate into ground zero in a protest against rebuilding on the footprints.

Police thwarted the demonstration Wednesday by locking the large steel gate about 30 minutes before the protesters arrived.

The protesters wore yellow clothing and held signs with messages like "3,000 people consecrated this ground with their blood." They accused Gov. George Pataki of going back on a promise to never build on the footprints.

"An irreplaceable part of our American heritage is being systematically destroyed," said protester Beverly Eckert, who lost her husband in the 2001 attacks.

"My heart goes out to the families," Pataki said when asked about the protest. "We're doing everything we can to be as respectful and supportive and understanding of the families' desires as possible."

Astro-graph

By Bernice Bede Osol



Your Birthday

Friday, Sept. 5, 2003

There's a good chance you'll go through a period of reorganizing several areas of your life in the year ahead. Even though the revisions may be tough, they'll contribute to greater success and happiness for you.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) — Should your evening plans fall through early in the day, make new ones for yourself instead of waiting for things to happen. What you conceive will turn out to be more fun anyway.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) — Today you could be a poor starter but an energetic finisher, so long as you have the resolve to stick to your game plan and see things through to their conclusion. Success can still be yours.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) — Try not to be so locked into your own thinking that you lose valuable time arguing about what should or should not be. Once you accept conditions as you now find them, all will go smoothly.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) — Keep your head if you get some early news that something you've purchased or invested in isn't all that it was represented to be. Before the day is out, you'll make up for it in some other manner.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) — Be patient if influences over which you have little control stymie some of your efforts today. Just keep plugging ahead, do as much as you can, and you'll be amazed how much you get done.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) — When it comes to anything important, don't attempt to have others do things for you that you're more capable of doing yourself. Delegates won't have your skillful touch.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) — People in general could be a bit difficult to get along with early in the day, but don't give up on the world. When the sun comes out so will all the smiles and goodwill.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) — Patience isn't necessarily one of your strong suits, but today you might have to exercise some early in the day. However, hang on, because chances are you'll get to accomplish your aims.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) — Stand on your principles today when someone with limited ideals tries to sway you from your quality thinking. Don't be taken in by pet phrases or intimidation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) — Someone with whom you are rather chummy may have a good "deal" to share with you today. Chances are, however, it may not be so great and you'll do better playing things close to the vest.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) — If you yield to doing things against your better judgment today, you'll be asking for trouble. It won't change the penalties of your mistake just because you have someone else to blame.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) — Starting off on the wrong foot today mustn't be allowed to put a damper on the rest of the day. You can regroup and perform quality work if you keep your head and a positive attitude.

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Man sentenced in sex-torture case

WAYNE, Neb. (AP) — A businessman will serve 30 days in jail for helping a former florist flee the state before he could be sentenced for sexually torturing another man.

Keith Adams also on Wednesday was fined $2,000 and ordered to pay $3,620 restitution for misdemeanor charges of attempted accessory to a felony and making a false statement under oath.

Roger Van, 56, was convicted in July 2002 of sexually assaulting, torturing and holding a Texas man captive in the basement of his Wayne flower shop.

Facing up to 85 years in prison on those convictions, Van failed to appear for his sentencing in September 2002.

Van was arrested in California in December following a chase that began in Las Vegas, where Van is accused of ramming his vehicle into a patrol car at 80 mph.

Van was scheduled for district court sentencing on Friday for the original charges.

He faces an additional five years on the failure to appear charge. A pretrial conference for that charge also is scheduled Friday.

Adams pleaded no contest in July to reduced charges of helping Van flee from the law. He was accused of funneling money to Van when he was on the lam.

FTC: Millions had their identities stolen during the past year

WASHINGTON (AP) — Identity theft cost consumers and businesses $53 billion last year, the Federal Trade Commission says in the most comprehensive government study of the increasing problem.

A survey in March and April of 4,057 randomly selected adults suggests that during that 27.3 million people were victimized during the past five years when someone made unauthorized charges on their credit cards, took money from their bank accounts, or obtained a credit card or official document in their name.

Last year, based on the survey, 9.9 million Americans were victims of identity theft, costing them $5 billion and businesses and financial institutions $48 billion.

The FTC has set up a Web site with tips on how to avoid identity theft, www.consumer.gov/idtheft, and urges consumers to carefully review their credit card statements each month, destroy charge slips rather than simply throw them in the trash, and check their accounts annually with the three credit reporting bureaus.

"The best thing to do is be careful about who you give your credit card to," Howard Beales, the FTC's consumer protection director, said Wednesday. "Keep up with your receipts."

Beales said the number of victims was higher than he expected. In 2002, for example, the FTC received 161,819 complaints about identity theft. The margin of error for the telephone survey was plus or minus 1.5 percentage points, the agency said.

Bush administration officials used the new FTC study to push for legislation to create a national fraud alert system and improve the accuracy of credit reports.

"The problem is so great and its impact on consumers so terrible that we should not delay giving consumers and law enforcers these important new tools to fight identity theft," said Wayne Abernathy, the Treasury Department's assistant secretary for financial institutions.

But consumer groups said the administration-backed legislation — the Fair Credit Reporting Act — would make things worse because it would pre-empt tougher state laws against identity theft.

"Despite the fact that millions of Americans are victimized by identity theft each year, Congress is getting ready to pass a bill that provides only weak protection for consumers and blocks states from enacting tougher reforms," said Rob Schneider of Consumers Union, which publishes Consumer Reports magazine.

One consumer organization, the U.S. Public Interest Research Group, said banks need to do a better job verifying the identities of the people they give credit cards to, and Congress needs to make it easier to sue banks who let people open accounts in someone else's name.

"The profits from issuing credit cards fraudulently outweigh the costs to the companies, so they ignore the real plight of the victims," said Ed Mierzwinski, consumer program director for the group. "They just don't care. It's a cost of doing business."

John Hall, a spokesman for the American Bankers Association, said banks have taken new steps to verify the identities of those requesting credit cards.

"Banks work diligently to reduce their fraud losses," he said.

In addition, the USA Patriot Act requires financial institutions beginning Oct. 1 to follow more stringent procedures to check the identities of anyone opening a new account, Hall said.

Beales said financial institutions should pay more attention to whom they are extending credit.

"Consumers, business, legislators, law enforcement all have vital roles and responsibilities for combating identity theft," said John Ford, chief privacy officer for Equifax, a credit reporting bureau. "It's going to take all of those working together to solve it."

On the Net:
Federal Trade Commission: http://www.ftc.gov

Dear Abby

By Abigail Van Buren



Unwary college kids can be buried under credit card debt

DEAR ABBY: I'm writing to raise awareness about a serious and widespread problem — student credit card debt. Young adults, who are often "credit card illiterate," are inundated with credit card offers once they set foot on college campuses.

Parents need to understand that their college-bound teens will be able to obtain multiple credit cards even if they have no prior credit history, no employment and no cosigner. Many students then face life-altering consequences because of excessive credit card debt, such as dropping out of school, defaulting on school loans, or graduating with a poor credit rating or looming bankruptcy. Credit card debt can also cause psychological depression and contribute to lower GPAs and increased substance abuse.

It is vital that parents educate their children about responsible credit card use BEFORE they leave for college. Financial literacy should also be taught in high schools so that young adults fully understand the costs of credit and the consequences of irresponsible credit card use. Students who graduate with poor credit ratings are likely to have difficulty renting apartments and receiving competitive-rate loans. They may even have limited employment opportunities.

Thank you for sharing this important information with your readers. — **CAROL A. CARLOAN, Ph.D., CENTER FOR STUDENT CREDIT CARD EDUCATION INC.**

DEAR DR. CAROLAN: I hope both parents and students will heed your message. An important lesson learned last year by a college senior bears repeating. **Read on:**

DEAR ABBY: In my freshman year, I was bombarded with credit card applications promising great rates and free merchandise for signing up. I couldn't resist accepting, but promised myself I would use credit cards only for emergencies.

I am now about to graduate and owe several thousand dollars on my credit cards and have nothing to show for it. If I pay only the minimum each month, it will take me 12 years to pay off what I owe. I wish I had been given the following tips:

(1) Live within your means.

(2) If you cannot pay cash for a meal at a restaurant, do not eat out. Eat at the school cafeteria or make a sandwich.

(3) The new CD or DVD you want will still be around when you can afford it. Listen to the radio or rent a movie.

(4) Rather than going to a club or movie with a group of friends, find inexpensive activities (like playing cards or board games) and spend your evening enjoying them. You'll be amazed at what you can save.

(5) If your college offers a class on managing credit and credit cards — take it! If you have already resolved never to rely on credit, it will reinforce that intelligent decision.

I hope you deem this letter important enough to print, Abby. Credit card debt is a huge problem for many college students. I should know; I'm one of them. — **COLLEGE SENIOR WHO LEARNED THE HARD WAY**

**

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

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MARTIANS INVADE — Cindy Martini and some of her students at Northeast Elementary recently dressed up like Martians: (See story) Pictured are back row from left, Brandon Medrano, Elsa Gallegos, Adrienne Gonzales-Keller, Kimberlin Willson, Blaire Toombs, Marcie Phillips; Karissa Medina, Kaitlin Bass, Shelby Grice, Emma Nunley and Mrs. Martini; middle row, Cassandra Garcia, Regina Alarcon, Jacob Tollison, Brandon Elam, Ricky Esquivel and John Ramirez; front row, Vito Martinez, Nelson Sears, Angel Guerro, Chris Ward and Michaela Jones. Bryon Elliot is not pictured. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)



MARTIANS AT NORTHEAST — Becky Jackson's fifth grade students at Northeast also dressed up like Martians (see story) Pictured front row from left are Gage Welsh, Johnna Reyes, Tara Gordon, Skye Moffett, Rosa Torres, Yesennia Villalobos, Stevie Dauphin and Carlos Aparacio. Seated on the chairs from left are Michael Realsola, Tania Rodriguez, Victor Soberon, Megan Quintana, Shawdon McVey, Xavier Malone and Joshua Stansell. Standing from left are Amanda Daves, Frida Corona, Anna Rivera, Vanessa Martinez, Eric Morin, Lizthe Olivarez, Makenna Scott and Mrs. Jackson. (Staff Photo by Shirley A. Gorman)

Universal Music to cut CD cost

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Universal Music Group, whose roster of artists includes 50 Cent, U2, Elton John and Diana Krall, will cut the price of its wholesale CDs and push for a $12.98 retail cap on its discs in an attempt to woo music fans back into record stores.

The world's largest recording company hopes retailers, who have suffered as industrywide music sales dropped 31 percent the last three years, will follow its lead and pass on the savings to consumers.

Universal wants the actual retail price of most of its CD will end up about $10 or less, comparable to the $9.99 retail price that music fans enjoyed in the early 1990s, at the height of a price war between the recording companies.

"Our new pricing model will enable U.S. retailers to offer music at a much more appealing price point in comparison to other entertainment products," said Jim Urie, president of Universal Music & Video Distribution. "We are confident this pricing approach will drive music fans back into retail stores."

If retailers also drop their prices, Universal's move would make CDs more competitive with online services, including Apple Computer Inc.'s popular iTunes Music Store and Buy.com's BuyMusic.com.

It was not immediately clear how retailers would respond to the move. Company officials said they had not discussed the pricing strategy with retailers, who would be notified formally today.

Kevin Milligan, vice president of merchandising at Torrance, Calif.-based record retailer Wherehouse Entertainment Inc., said he had not received notice from Universal, but that in general, the move is good news for consumers.

"Whether it will ultimately be good news for retail? I think it's still up in the air," he said.

Officials at the National Association of Recording Merchandisers did not return calls Wednesday. Officials at EMI, BMG and Warner Music Group declined to comment; Sony Music Group officials could not be reached.

Universal's current wholesale price for a CD album is $12.02, with a manufacturer suggested retail price of $18.98. Under the new pricing structure, the wholesale price would be $9.09.

The wholesale price for CDs by a handful of performers, including Eminem and Shania Twain, would be about a dollar more, said Jim Urie, president of Universal Music & Video Distribution.

The company also said it would cut wholesale prices on cassettes and change the suggested retail price to $8.98. Latin recordings and multiple disk packages or CD box sets would not be included in the pricing change.

The price changes would go into effect by Oct. 1.

The decision to cut prices underscores how badly the industry has been hurting, said Josh Bernoff, an analyst with Forrester Research, Inc. "That's basically saying 'we give up'," Bernoff said.

Revenue from album sales has declined from $14.6 billion in 1999 to $12.6 billion in 2002, according to the Recording Industry Association of America, a trade group that represents the largest recording companies.

The recording industry blames its sales slump largely on illegal music swapping over peer-to-peer networks and is expected to take legal action against hundreds of suspected file-swappers this month.

Martians invade Snyder school

Fifth grade students in Cindy Martini's and Rebecca Jackson's classes at Northeast Elementary recently dressed up like Martians to help celebrate the closest encounter with Mars since around 59,619 years ago.

Never again in their lifetime will the Red Planet be so spectacular. The next time that Mars will be this close is predicted to be in the year 2,287.

Students also read the book *Mars The Red Planet* by Patricia Demuth. According to the book, the ancient Romans named the planet after their god of war.

Even though is about half the size of Earth it is the planet most like Earth. Days last about 24 hours and it has a layer of gases around it.

Today's chuckle

Man arrested for holding cat for ransom

GILLETTE, Wyo. (AP) — Deryl Miles is accused of cat nabbing.



Miles, 55, allegedly kidnapped his neighbor's cat and held it hostage for $50 after the animal wandered into his yard.

He was arrested Tuesday on misdemeanor larceny charges for allegedly trapping the cat, named Brunswick, in a wooden shed behind his mobile home, according to court documents.

Surrounded by police, Miles called a local newspaper from his trailer and said "I've taken (the cat) legally because it was trespassing on my property."

Miles refused to release the cat, and was arrested after leading police on a brief chase around his yard, court documents stated.

The cat's owner, Leah Vader, said she called police after hearing her pet howling from the shed next door.

"You have the right to call animal control if you have an unwanted animal in your yard," she said. "You don't have the right to hold him for ransom."

Dr. Gott

By Peter Gott, M.D.



What is normal sexual frequency?

DEAR DR. GOTT: Can you help put to rest a debate that has been in our marriage for 20 years? What is the frequency of normal sex for a couple? I'm looking for an honest, reasonable answer. Is weekly, every other week or even once a month realistic?

DEAR READER: After almost 40 years in practice, I'm still unable to give a consistent answer to this question, which I am often asked. There is simply too much individual variation in behavior.

Most couples strike a balance that works for them, depending on their ages and personal needs. I know some couples in their 60s who enjoy sex several times a week. For them, this pattern is ideal; it suits them. On the other hand, I also know couples in their 30s and 40s who have sex once or twice a month. While this may not appeal much to the average person, they are happy with the arrangement.

It goes without saying that younger people usually have more frequent sex than do middle-aged couples. But, over time, this pattern changes, because of age, familiarity, illness or other factors. Some people are more "sexy" than others, who can take it or leave it. Most adults vary in their sexual activity: less when they are stressed or tired, more when they are relaxed or on vacation.

If pressed, I'd say that the majority of healthy, middle-aged adults enjoy sex once or twice a week, on average. Understandably, there are many people whose patterns fall outside this average. This is not "abnormal." Couples who can't seem to agree on an appropriate schedule can often be helped by counseling.

The important feature to remember, I suppose, is not the frequency of the sex act. Rather, it's the quality of the event and what it means to the participants. Mechanical, frequent sex is not as appealing to most of us as is the sensitive expression of emotional and physical closeness, reflecting respect, love and intimacy.

Therefore, almost any pattern of frequency is "realistic." Sorry, that's the best I can do.

Let's talk about a more manageable topic, such as how often people eat chocolate.

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

DEAR DR. GOTT: Is it possible to remove abdominal fat and use it in another area of the body, such as the calves of the legs? I suppose this is more a daydream than a possibility, but I'm interested in your opinion.

DEAR READER: Body fat can be transplanted from one part of the body to another, much as any tissue can, providing appropriate blood circulation is maintained.

Fat transplants are not routinely performed because there is no reason to do so. Fat cannot masquerade as muscle; hence, most reconstructive surgery to accentuate the chest and legs utilizes prosthetic material, such as silicone or plastic molds filled with water.

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Apache helicopter pilots start support group for hurt soldiers

FORT CAMPBELL, Ky. (AP) — Apache helicopter pilots Emanuel Pierre and Stuart Contant trained together, deployed together and then crashed together in Afghanistan.

The rehabilitation from their injuries was painful, but overcoming the mental hurdles was worse.

When wounded 101st Airborne Division soldiers started returning from Iraq — some on gurneys, others without limbs — Pierre and Contant found a way to cope: They started a support group for wounded soldiers.

Twice a month, soldiers gather at Blanchfield Army Hospital to share their fears about possibly having to find a new career and adapt to life with their injuries.

"One of the reasons I was so adamant about getting this thing off the ground is that a lot of the units are not used to dealing with this stuff," said Pierre, a chief warrant officer from New York City who has back and leg injuries. He's able to walk now, but still goes to therapy twice a week.

Contant, a chief warrant officer from Boca Raton, Fla., has a spinal cord injury and nerve damage from the waist down. He can't maintain his balance at times and goes to physical therapy six days a week.

He found himself getting grouchy and discouraged, and was surprised how much better he felt after talking to someone with the same injuries.

"I had already known a friend of mine that had a spinal cord injury, and I saw him walk the same way I walked and try to keep his balance," Contant said. "It was pretty cool to see that and we talk about what our problems are. We laugh."

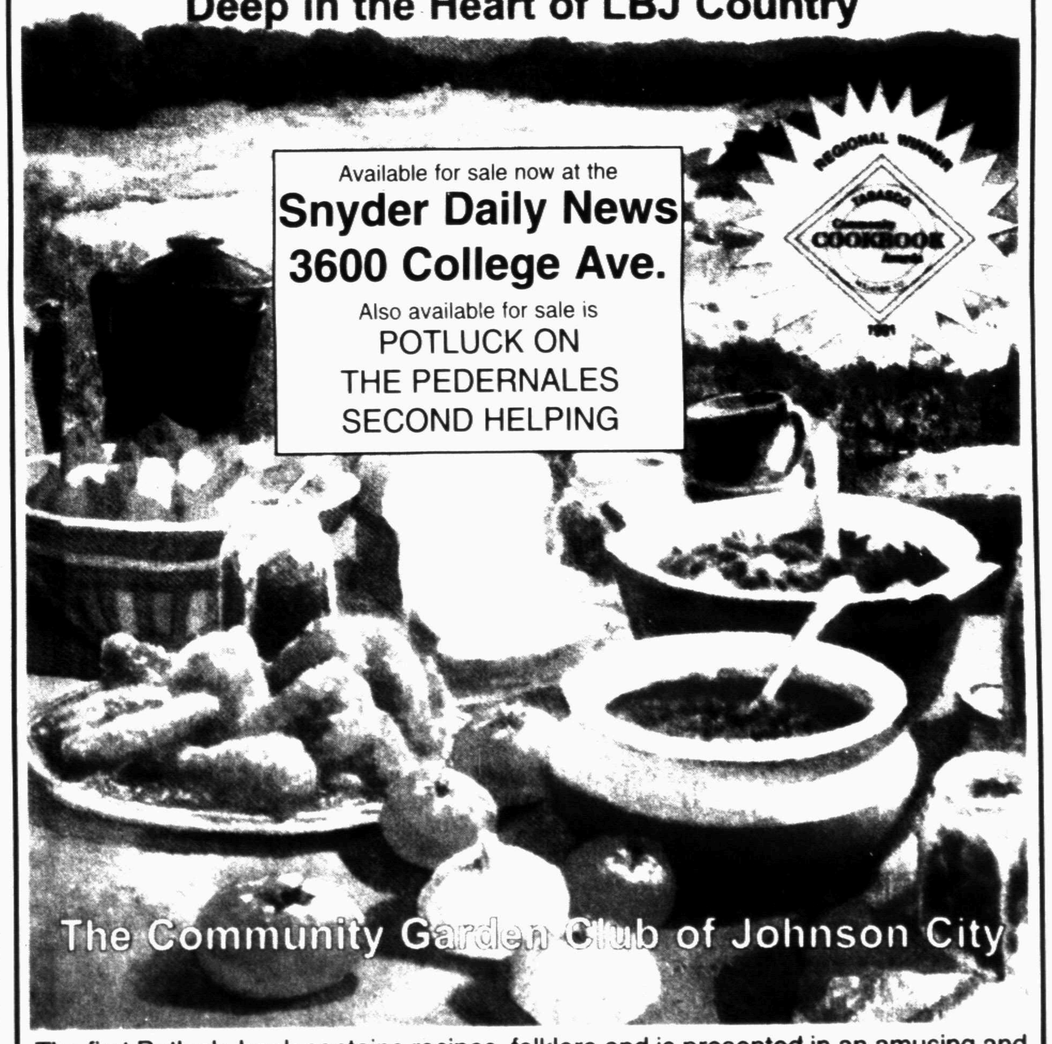
Support groups for wounded soldiers have been tried in the past, but this group is different because it also brings in people with knowledge of legal and veterans' issues, said Terry James, who served 22 years in the Army and now works at Fort Campbell as a counselor.

One of the participants is Sgt. Jenni McKinley, who drives a manual transmission car she must shift with her left hand. Her right hand was crushed in the Iraqi desert when a tire blowout on her Humvee caused it to roll over.

She's already had five hand surgeries since April and has been told she still risks having part of her arm amputated.

POTLUCK ON THE PEDERNALES

Down Home Cooking From Deep in the Heart of LBJ Country



The first Potluck book contains recipes, folklore and is presented in an amusing and informative way. Second Helping is a perfect companion recipe book to the original - more than 600 down-home recipes. No duplicates of recipes in the two books.

SEP 04 2003

2nd Front Page

THE SNYDER DAILY NEWS

Rumsfeld: Train ex-Iraqi troops for security

BAGHDAD, Iraq (AP) — The United States wants to move more quickly to bring former Iraqi soldiers into the country's new security forces, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said today.

Rumsfeld arrived in Baghdad on a visit to see for himself how the American-led occupation of Iraq is progressing. He planned to meet with U.S. military commanders and L. Paul Bremer, the American civil administrator here.

After stepping off a C-17 transport plane, Rumsfeld shook hands and posed for pictures with grinning Air Force service members on the tarmac. He then stepped over a traffic barrier and visited wounded soldiers in an air-conditioned hospital tent nearby.

One was Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert Meyerhoff of ValleCrucis, N.C. Meyerhoff was wounded in the right leg Wednesday when his mail convoy was ambushed in Baghdad.

"I'm doing a lot better today than I was yesterday," Meyerhoff said after he shook Rumsfeld's hand.

Clarification...

In Wednesday's commissioners court story, it should have read that the county treasurer, not the county attorney, transferred $350 into the travel fund, and $5,500, not $500, was transferred to part-time salaries by adult probation.

Three arrested Wednesday

•Arrests

Wednesday at 8:06 a.m. on U.S. 84, a 26-year-old man was arrested on a warrant for theft by check.

At 5:43 p.m. Wednesday, two people were arrested in the 3900 block of College Ave. A 27-year-old woman was arrested for misdemeanor driving while intoxicated and a 28-year-old man was arrested for public intoxication. Two puppies were taken from the subjects' vehicle and transported to the animal shelter.

•Suicide threat

Wednesday at 12:04 p.m. it was reported that a man had called the MHMR hotline and was threatening to kill himself with a pellet gun. The subject was located and escorted to the police department where he met with MHMR counselors. A report for threatened suicide was submitted.

•Theft

At 10:47 a.m. Wednesday, Wayne Merritt reported that some items had been stolen from the VFW. A report for Class B theft was filed.

•Criminal trespass

Wednesday at 6:48 p.m. a disturbance was reported in the 300 block of German in Hermleigh. One subject was served with a criminal trespass.

•Dog bite

At 5:36 p.m. Wednesday, Cogdell Memorial Hospital requested an officer in reference to a dog bite. A 10-year-old girl was bitten and scratched by a dog that is kept in a fenced area. The attack was unprovoked. The dog was taken to the animal shelter for quarantine.

•Gas drive off

At 8:22 p.m. Wednesday, a Rip Griffin's employee reported a gas drive off worth $39.29.

Schwarzenegger passes on debate

WALNUT CREEK, Calif. (AP) — Five top candidates hoping to replace Gov. Gray Davis clashed over how they would lead the state and the best way to solve California's budget crisis during their first debate, an event some believed hurt only the candidate not present: Arnold Schwarzenegger.

The leading Democratic replacement candidate, Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, appeared to hold his ground under criticism, while Sen. Tom McClintock, the second leading Republican, improved his standing with sharp, articulate answers, political analysts said.

Five candidates participated in the debate: Bustamante, McClintock, columnist Arianna Huffington, former baseball commissioner Peter Ueberroth and the Green Party's Peter Camejo.

The candidates tried to chart out separate identities. On taxes, McClintock insisted he was the only candidate with a no-tax pledge, while Camejo said it was necessary to raise taxes on "the richest people in California."

Schwarzenegger chose not to participate, instead delivering a speech hundreds of miles away at California State University at Long Beach, where he literally came under siege — being hit by an egg.

Unfazed when the egg hit his left shoulder, the action hero peeled off his coat and went ahead with a 15-minute speech.

Obituaries

Loyd Raschke

1937-2003

Loyd Edward Raschke, longtime communications technician, died Wednesday, Sept. 3, in Covenant Medical Center in Lubbock after a brief illness.



Raschke

Rosary for Mr. Raschke, 65, is set for 6 p.m. Friday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel.

Funeral mass is set for 2 p.m. Saturday in the St. Elizabeth Catholic Church with interment to follow in Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born Oct. 20, 1937 in Lubbock County, he was reared in the Westbrook area and was a U.S. Army veteran. Mr. Raschke moved to Snyder from Fort Stockton in 1968. He was a telephone service technician for Southwestern Bell and AT&T for 32 years and was a self-employed technician for the past 10 years.

Survivors include two daughters, Shirley Scifres of Snyder and Stacie Goswick and husband Raymond of Westbrook; a son and daughter-in-law, David and Diane Raschke of San Angelo; two sisters, Margo Grant of Snyder and Laura Notgrass of Stanton; four brothers, Alvin Raschke of Lake Buchanan, E.J. Raschke of Midland, Alton Raschke of Colorado City and Larry Raschke of Austin; and eight grandchildren, Jacob and Kegan Scifres of Snyder and Wesley and Miranda Goswick of Westbrook, Mercedes and Dylan Raschke of Hollywood, Fla., and Riley and Morgan Raschke of San Angelo.

She had been a secretary for Loffland Brothers Drilling and Key Drilling, and was the personal secretary for her husband for both of those companies. She had lived and worked in Alaska, Venezuela, Columbia, Kuwait, Zaire, Nigeria and Mozambique.

She also was preceded in death by her parents, Richard Arthur and Isla Ruth Autry Hardee; and by a brother, Morris Hardee.

Survivors include three sisters, Gradine Sterling of Snyder, Pat Galyen of Tulia and Jo Johnston of Edmond, Okla.; two brothers, Billy Bob Hardee of Colorado City and D.D. Hardee of Leland, Miss.; and several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 7 to 8 this evening at Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Gerry Neithercutt

1920-2003

Geraldine "Gerry" Neithercutt, 82, died Tuesday, Sept. 2, in a Lubbock care facility after a long illness.



Neithercutt

Graveside service for Mrs. Neithercutt is set for 10:30 a.m. Friday in Hillside Memorial Gardens with Dr. Ted Spears, pastor of the First Baptist Church in Colorado City, officiating. Arrangements are under the direction of Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home.

Born Oct. 24, 1920 in the Cuthbert community, she married Ray Neithercutt on July 15, 1952 in Clovis, N.M. He died July 4, 1984.

A Baptist, Mrs. Neithercutt had lived in Lubbock since 1984.

Rudene Gladson

1921-2003

Mildred Rudene Gladson, former Snyder resident, died Friday, Aug. 29, in Prescott, Ariz.

Graveside service for Mrs. Gladson, 82, is set for 11 a.m. Saturday in the Bell-Cypert-Seale Funeral Home Chapel. Interment will follow at Hillside Memorial Gardens.

Born Aug. 1, 1921 in Lubbock, Mrs. Gladson was a homemaker and a Southern Baptist.

Survivors include three daughters, Sherene Lamb of Prescott, Ariz., Phyllis Tidwell of Carrollton and Denise Phillips of Peoria, Ariz.; two sisters, LaNell Hogan and LaFon Berryhill, both of Wimberly; eight grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Memorials may be made to Hospice Family Care Inc., 100 East Sheldon #100 in Prescott, Ariz., 86301.

Lynn Randolph

1920-2003

ROBY — Lynn M. Randolph, retired Roby postmaster, died Wednesday, Sept. 3, at his home in Roby.

Funeral service for Mr. Randolph, 82, is set for 10 a.m. Friday in the Roby Church of Christ with Richard Melton and Jimmy Brown officiating. Burial will follow in the Roby Cemetery under the direction of Weathersbee-Ray Funeral Home.

Born Sept. 5, 1920 in Bartlett, he was a 1939 graduate of Bartlett High School and served in the U.S. Air Force from 1941-45.

He married Bernice Greer on May 18, 1943. He began his career with the U.S. Postal Service in Roby as a clerk, then as a rural mail carrier and retired as postmaster in 1980. He was a member of the Church of Christ.

Mr. Randolph was preceded in death by a brother, T.M. (Mansel) Randolph; a twin brother, Donald Randolph; and a sister, Ida McFadin.

Survivors include his wife, Bernice Randolph of Roby; two sons and daughters-in-law, Craig and Lisa Randolph of Snyder and Larry and Shirley Randolph of Jonesville, La.; a daughter and son-in-law, Elaine and Larry Field of Roby; eight grandchildren, Kris Randolph, Ellisha Randolph, Dennis Smith, Noel Field, Nyle Field, Monica Mayfield, Levi Mayfield and Dillon Randolph; and seven great-grandchildren.

Visitation will be held from 6 to 9 this evening at the funeral home.

Memorials may be made to the Hendrick Hospice Center or to the Roby Cemetery Fund.

Zonetta Stiles

1918-2003

TYLER — Zonetta Stiles, the sister of Ena Carroll of Snyder, died Wednesday, Sept. 3, in a Tyler hospital.

Service for Mrs. Stiles, 85, is set for 1:30 p.m. Saturday in the Burks-Walker-Tippet Funeral Home Chapel with the Rev. B.C. McCoy officiating. Burial will be in Cathedral in the Pines in Tyler.

Born July 13, 1918 in Mineola to the Rev. and Mrs. N.V. Hamrick, she attended Arp and Tyler schools and Tyler Commercial College. A resident of Tyler since 1937, she and her husband owned and operated Stiles Refrigeration. She was a longtime member of the First Baptist Church and the Priscilla Sunday School Class.

She was preceded in death by her parents; a sister, Juanita Gatlin; and three brothers, N.V. Hamrick Jr., Carroll Truett Hamrick and James Calvert Hamrick.

Survivors include her husband of 63 years, Jake Stiles of Tyler; two sons, Tom and Jim Stiles, both of Tyler; a daughter, Sally Exelbierd of Chandler; two other sisters, Dorrace Gatlin of Dallas and Marilyn Searcy of Oklahoma City; a brother, Owen Hamrick of Arp; and three grandchildren.

The family suggests memorials to the Azelway Boys Ranch or to a charity of choice.

Kaitlyn Mae Cole

Infant

STUTTGART, Germany — Kaitlyn Mae Cole was born Sunday, Aug. 31, in Kreiskrakenhaus in Boeblinger County Hospital in Stuttgart and died the same day.

Funeral service is set for 8 a.m. (CST) Friday.

Survivors include her father, Scott M. Cole, a Snyder High School graduate and an inactive member of Colonial Hill Baptist Church serving in the U.S. Navy stationed at Naval Special Warfare Unit Two in Stuttgart; her mother Roberta Cole of Indianapolis, Ind., a photographer for the 7th Area Training Command in Stuttgart; a sister, Alexis Cullanian of the home.

Also surviving are her grandmother, great-grandmother and several family members in Indianapolis.

Survivors also include her grandparents, Bob and Mae Cole of Snyder; an aunt and uncle, Dawn and Truett Burney and cousin Audrey Poe, all of Greenville; uncle and aunt Robbie and Donna Cole and cousin Alexandra Cole, all of The Colony; and several family members in Texas and New Mexico.

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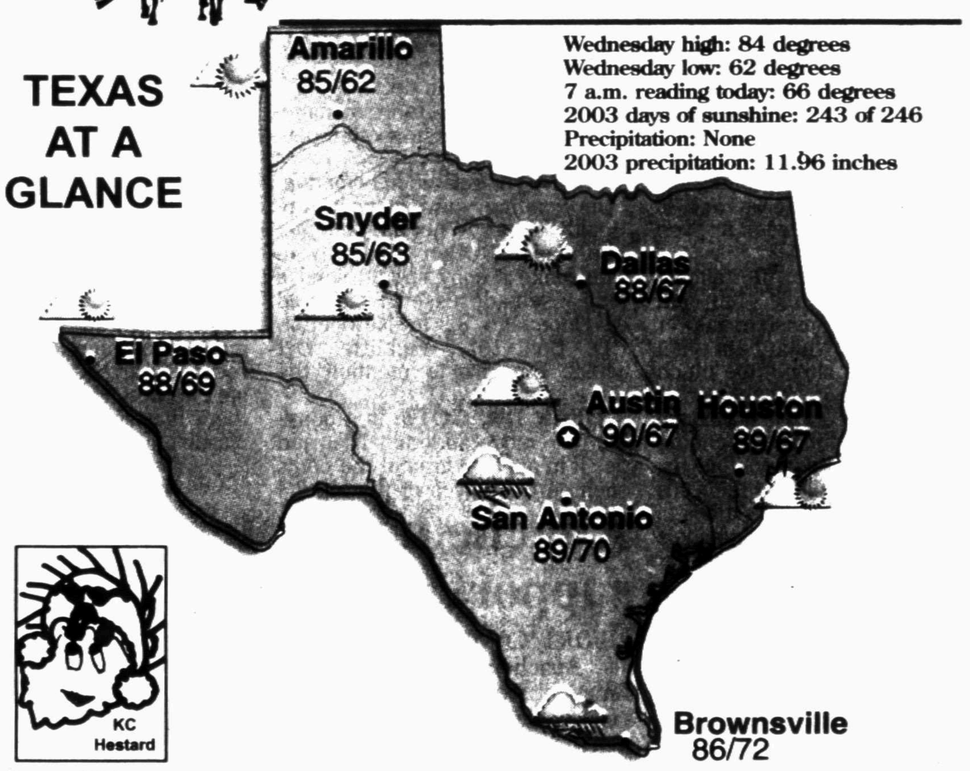
Today's Weather

Local 3-Day Forecast

Fri 9/5	Sat 9/6	Sun 9/7
85/63	88/64	77/63
A few clouds early, otherwise mostly sunny. High near 85F.	A few clouds. Highs in the upper 80s and lows in the mid 60s.	Chance of showers. Highs in the upper 70s and lows in the low 60s.
Sunrise 7:21 AM, Sunset 8:03 PM	Sunrise 7:21 AM, Sunset 8:02 PM	Sunrise 7:22 AM, Sunset 8:01 PM

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TEXAS AT A GLANCE



Wednesday high: 84 degrees
Wednesday low: 62 degrees
7 a.m. reading today: 66 degrees
2003 days of sunshine: 243 of 246
Precipitation: None
2003 precipitation: 11.96 inches

KC Hestard

Area Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.	City	Hi	Lo	Cond.
Abilene	86	66	mst sunny	El Paso	88	69	pt sunny	Midland	87	66	pt sunny
Amarillo	85	62	mst sunny	Fort Stockton	87	65	pt sunny	Raymondville	87	70	t-storm
Austin	90	67	pt sunny	Gainesville	86	61	sunny	Rosenberg	89	67	pt sunny
Beaumont	88	65	pt sunny	Greenville	87	61	mst sunny	San Antonio	89	70	t-storm
Brownsville	86	72	t-storm	Houston	89	67	pt sunny	San Marcos	92	68	pt sunny
Brownwood	90	65	mst sunny	Kingsville	88	70	t-storm	Sulphur Springs	87	60	sunny
Corpus Christi	87	71	t-storm	Livingston	90	62	pt sunny	Sweetwater	85	64	pt sunny
Corsicana	89	64	sunny	Longview	87	60	sunny	Tyler	89	63	sunny
Dallas	88	67	mst sunny	Lubbock	86	63	mst sunny	Weatherford	88	62	mst sunny
Del Rio	90	72	rain	Lufkin	90	62	pt sunny	Wichita Falls	88	63	sunny

National Cities

City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond	City	Hi	Lo	Cond
Atlanta	85	64	pt sunny	Houston	89	67	pt sunny	Phoenix	109	84	mst sunny
Boston	74	56	pt sunny	Los Angeles	85	65	sunny	San Francisco	72	56	pt sunny
Chicago	75	57	sunny	Miami	85	76	t-storm	Seattle	84	59	sunny
Dallas	88	67	mst sunny	Minneapolis	83	61	mst sunny	St. Louis	78	59	sunny
Denver	83	58	pt sunny	New York	75	60	pt sunny	Washington, DC	79	64	pt sunny

Moon Phases

First	Full	Last	New
Sep 3	Sep 10	Sep 18	Sep 26

UV Index

Fri 9/5	Sat 9/6	Sun 9/7
Very High	Very High	Very High

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

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